



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات

政府间海洋学委员会

UNESCO – 7 Place de Fontenoy - 75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP, France
<http://ioc.unesco.org> - contact phone: +33 (0)1 45 68 03 18
E-mail: v.ryabinin@unesco.org

IOC Circular Letter No 2891
(Available in English, French, and Spanish)

IOC/VR/JB/MQ/Ich
30 May 2022

To : Official National Coordinating Bodies for Liaison with the IOC (Member States)

cc. : Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States
National Commissions for UNESCO in IOC Member States

**Subject: Request for updated information on the status
of marine spatial planning (MSP)**

The IOC [Medium-Term Strategy 2022–2029](#) adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 31st session in June 2021, defines two key objectives related to the field of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP): firstly to assist Member States in developing the necessary capacity and ecosystem-based management tools, such as MSP; secondly to promote MSP globally.

In early 2020, in the framework of the Joint IOC-European Commission roadmap to promote MSP globally, the IOC Secretariat launched a global survey through [IOC Circular Letter, 2794](#) aimed at compiling information on the national status of MSP.

The limited number of answers received at that time were yet extremely useful to: (i) update and create new [country profiles](#) on the IOC MSPglobal website, which provides an international and recognized knowledge platform for MSP; (ii) develop the new multilingual [MSPglobal International Guide on MSP](#) published in October 2021; and (iii) develop an assessment about MSP around the world for the Pilot edition of the IOC State of the Ocean Report (StOR, 2022). In addition, the answers to the survey, including the identification of competent national authorities, have enabled the organisation of MSP activities in partnership with national, regional and international actors in the field.

The MSP field has been constantly and fast evolving. To be informed about the progress, IOC Secretariat is cordially requesting Member States to provide new and updated information on the status of marine spatial planning in your country in close consultation with the national competent authority responsible for MSP. Member States that will provide information for the first time will have a detailed country profile created on the MSPglobal website. Member States that have contributed to the preliminary survey are invited to update their information by responding to the survey offered today. The survey is available in three languages at the following addresses:

- English: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SZF6T28>
- Spanish: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RXP6PPH>

Chairperson

Mr Ariel Hernan TROISI
Technical Secretary
Navy Hydrographic Service
Av. Montes de Oca 2124
C1270ABV Buenos Aires
ARGENTINA

Executive Secretary

Dr Vladimir RYABININ
Intergovernmental Oceanographic
Commission — UNESCO
7 Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP
FRANCE

Vice-Chairpersons

Dr Marie-Alexandrine SICRE
Directrice de Recherche
Centre national de la recherche scientifique
(CNRS)
3 rue Michel Ange
75016 Paris
FRANCE

Dr Alexander FROLOV
Assistant to the President
National Research Center "Kurchatov Institute"
Academika Kurchatova pl., 1
123182 Moscow
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Mr Frederico Antonio SARAIVA NOGUEIRA
Navy Captain (Ret) Directorate
of Hydrography and Navigation
Rua Barao de Jaceguai S/N
24048-900 Niterói
BRAZIL

Dr Srinivasa Kumar TUMMALA
Director
Indian National Centre for Ocean
Information Services (INCOIS)
Pragathi Nagar (BO), Nizampet (SO)
Hyderabad 500090
INDIA

Dr Karim HILMI
Head of Oceanography Department
Institut National de Recherche
Halieutique (INRH)
02, Boulevard Sidi Abderrahmane
Ain Diab
20180 Casablanca
MOROCCO

- French: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMPFTVN>

The results of this survey will be of great use to the Secretariat in carrying out its tasks, namely:

- (i) monitor the “Joint Roadmap to accelerate Maritime/Marine Spatial Processes worldwide” ([MSProadmap](#)) adopted in 2017 and updated in 2022 by IOC-UNESCO and the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), which aims to support the achievement of at least a third of the global maritime areas under national jurisdictions covered by MSP plans by 2030;
- (ii) contribute to informing progress towards the implementation of SDG 14.2 of the 2030 Agenda, which aims to “sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts by strengthening resilience and taking action for their restoration in order to achieve a healthy and productive ocean”; and
- (iii) support Member States through the development and implementation of new MSP initiatives, including through international cooperation.

You are kindly invited to complete the online survey by 30 June 2022.

If you have any questions with regard to this survey, please do not hesitate to request clarifications or additional information to [msp-ioc@unesco.org](mailto:m-sp-ioc@unesco.org).

Looking forward to your active engagement and participation to the achievements of the important international goals mentioned above, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary