

**Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction.**

**3 June 2011**

The Working Group recommends to the General Assembly that:

1. A process be initiated, by the General Assembly, with the view to ensure that the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction effectively addresses those issues by identifying gaps and ways forward, including through the implementation of existing instruments and the possible development of a multilateral agreement under UNCLOS.;
2. This process would address the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, in particular, together and as a whole, marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits, measures such as area-based management tools, including marine protected areas, and environmental impact assessments, capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology;
3. This process would take place:
  - i) in the existing working group; and
  - ii) in a format of intersessional workshops, aimed at improving understanding of the issues and clarifying key questions as an input to the work of the working group;
4. The mandate of the Working Group be reviewed and, as appropriate, amended with a view to undertaking the tasks entrusted by these recommendations;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of the Working Group in 2012 to make progress on all issues under examination within the Working Group and to provide recommendations to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

See also: Earth Negotiations Bulletin, SUMMARY OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON MARINE BIODIVERSITY BEYOND AREAS OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION: 31 MAY - 3 JUNE 2011, <http://www.iisd.ca/oceans/marinebiodiv4/>