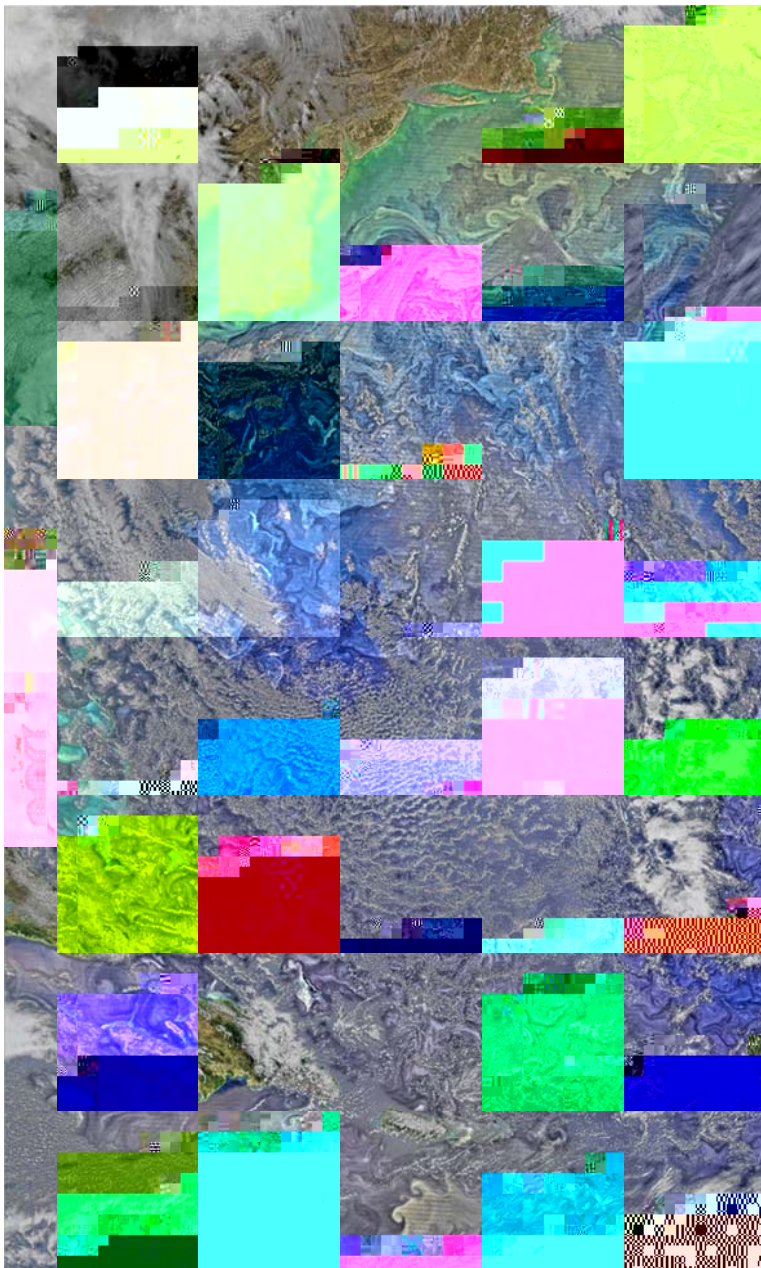




# Marine Protected Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

Report of the workshop on Marine Protected Areas in Area  
Jurisdiction, 16 – 17 May, IUCN Headquarters, Gland,





The designation of geographical entities in  
whatsoever on the part of IUCN concerns  
delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The views expressed in this publication do

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## Acknowledgements

The editors gratefully acknowledge the support of Biodiversité, Partenariat France L'Environnement Mondial in the work of François Simard, with Dan LaFollette and Christophe Lefebvre.

The experts attending the workshop bring a wide range of perspectives and views from beyond national jurisdiction. The workshop was held in Houserules. Therefore, the workshop does not represent the overall reflection of any individual expert listed in the report.

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## 1. Introduction

This workshop report outlines the results of the workshop entitled *Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction: Area based Management Tools, including Marine Protected Areas* (Workshop) which took place from 16–17 May 2017 at IUCN Headquarters in Gland, Switzerland.

The purpose of the Workshop was for leading science and policy experts to provide guidance to IUCN on area based management tools, including marine protected areas, in the context of consideration of a new implementing treaty (Agreement) pursuant to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 69/292<sup>1</sup> (UNGARes.69/292)<sup>2</sup>. Pursuant to UNGARes.69/292, the preparatory committee produced a report, adopted by a consensus of the Member States, which provides the draft elements of the Agreement<sup>3</sup> to be considered at an intergovernmental conference, which could commence in 2018.

This workshop report provides reflections in the form of

means to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.<sup>4</sup>

MPA categories: There could be several categories of MPAs with varying levels of protection to meet nature conservation objectives, ranging from a strictly protected marine reserve to a marine area managed to achieve a specific conservation objective.<sup>5</sup>

An MPA system or network: An MPA system or network is a "collection of individual MPAs operating cooperatively and synergistically at various spatial scales and with a range of protection levels, in order to fulfill ecological aims more effectively and comprehensively than individual sites could alone."<sup>6</sup>

Role of networks: A comprehensive, adequate and representative system of MPA networks can provide protection for all major ecosystem components in conjunction with their characteristic habitats and species at an appropriate scale within and across each bioregion. Such networks should have adequate levels of management to ensure their effectiveness.

referred to in the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) Aichi Target 11 should only be used when the measure provides similar long term protection as an MPA, but without formal designation.

Integrated application of existing and new tools: To achieve the long term *in*

indicative and not exhaustive. There is room to expand the list of criteria based on experience and values in other agreements and regions.

The Agreement provides an *opportunity to embrace criteria from a wide range of values*, based on experience including representativity and social/economic importance as well as scientific, cultural and



knowledge, skills, or resources in validating the recommended set of criteria for *multi sectoral* MPAs.

#### 4.2 Building a coherent network of MPAs and other measures to secure in situ conservation of biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction

MPA networks are the foundation for *in situ* conservation of biodiversity but need to be complemented by a sea of sustainability. A *living long term strategic plan* (Strategic Plan) focused on developing a coherent global system of MPAs in ABN and other measures could provide guidance on the overall conservation process. A Scientific/Technical Body could have a role to play in helping shape the Strategic Plan.

Rationale A Strategic Plan could lay out science based global priorities for

### 4.3 Nature and shape of the Scientific/Technical Body

#### 4.4 Structure, composition, role and skills/competencies of the Scientific/Technical Body

Structure and composition: A *flexible* structure and composition rather than a rigid approach, potentially involving a small standing Scientific/Technical Body, with a mandate to *call in extra experts or expert panels* to give depth to advice when required, depending on the topics under consideration may be preferable.

Rationale: Ecosystem based management will require substantially greater scientific input than sectoral management. A core group of

Rationale As discussed above in a. and b., sophisticated analysis will be needed and the above listed skills and competencies would be necessary to address increasing complexity in ocean governance.

## 5. Conclusion

This report outlines the results of the workshop which took place from 16–17 May 2017 at IUCN Headquarters in Gland, Switzerland.

The purpose of the workshop was for leading science and policy experts to provide guidance to IUCN on area based management tools, including marine protected areas, in the context of consideration of the Agreement.

This report provides reflections in the form of various options for the Agreement that Member States could consider, leading up to and during the intergovernmental conference, which could take place in 2018.



Annex B. CBD Decision IX/20 Annex 1

*Annex 1*

SCIENTIFIC CRITERIA FOR IDENTIFYING ECOLOGICAL OR BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANT MARINE AREAS IN NEED OF PROTECTION IN OPEN OCEAN WATERS AND DEEP SEAHABITATS

Criteria	Definition	Rationale	Examples	
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Criteria	Definition	Rationale	Examples	Consideration in application
Vulnerability, fragility, sensitivity, or slow recovery	Area that contains a relatively high proportion of sensitive habitats, biotopes or species that are functionally fragile (highly susceptible to degradation or depletion by human activity or by natural events) or with slow recovery.	The criteria indicate the degree of risk that will be incurred if human activities or natural events in the area or component cannot be managed effectively, or are pursued at an unsustainable rate.	<p><i>Vulnerability of species</i>  Inferred from the history of how species or populations in other similar areas responded to perturbations.  Species of low fecundity, slow growth, long time to sexual maturity, longevity (e.g. sharks, etc).  Species with structures providing biogenic habitats, such as deep water corals, sponges and bryozoans; deep water species.</p> <p><i>Vulnerability of habitats</i>  Ice covered areas</p>	

a

Criteria	Definition	Rationale	Examples	Consideration in application
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Diversity indices are indifferent to which species may be contributing to the value of the index, and hence would not pick up areas important to species





## Annex C. ECOLOGICAL, SOCIOECONOMIC OR SCIENTIFIC CRITERIA FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF A PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE SEA AREA

Extract from: A 24/Res.982 Resolution A.982(24) REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE IDENTIFICATION AND DESIGNATION OF PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE SEA AREAS (2005)

4.4 In order to be identified as a PSSA, the area should meet at least one of the criteria listed below and information and supporting documentation should be provided to establish that at least one of the criteria exists throughout the entire proposed area, though the same criterion need not be present throughout the entire area. These criteria can be divided into three categories: ecological criteria; social, cultural, and economic criteria; and scientific and educational criteria.

### Ecological criteria

4.4.1 Uniqueness or rarity – An area or ecosystem is unique if it is “the only one of its kind”. Habitats of rare, threatened, or endangered species that occur only in one area are an example. An area or ecosystem is rare if it only occurs in a few locations or has been seriously depleted across its range. An ecosystem may extend beyond country borders, assuming regional or international significance. Nurseries or certain feeding, breeding, or spawning areas may also be rare or unique.

4.4.2 Critical habitat – A sea area that may be essential for the survival, function, or recovery of fish stocks or rare or endangered marine species, or for the support of



perturbations or has been in such a state for a long period of time such that it is considered to be in a natural or near natural condition.

4.4.17 Education – An area that offers an exceptional opportunity to demonstrate particular natural phenomena.

## Annex D. 'CONSERVATION MEASURE' 01 04 (2011) General framework for the establishment of CCAMLR Marine Protected Areas

<https://www.ccamlr.org/sites/drupal.ccamlr.org/files/9104.pdf>

2. CCAMLR MPA shall be established on the basis of the best available scientific evidence and shall contribute, taking full consideration of Article II of the CAMLR Convention where conservation includes rational use, to the achievement of the following objectives:

- (i) the protection of representative examples of marine ecosystems biodiversity and habitats at an appropriate scale to maintain their viability and integrity in the long term;
- (ii) the protection of key ecosystem processes, habitats and species including populations and life history stages;
- (iii) the establishment of scientific reference areas for monitoring natural variability and long term change or for monitoring the effects of harvesting and other human activities on Antarctic marine living resources and on the ecosystems of which they form part;
- (iv) the protection of areas vulnerable to impact by human activities, including unique, rare or highly biodiverse habitats and features;
- (v) the protection of features critical to the function of