



WORKSHOP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE AREA OF THE NORTHWEST PACIFIC

26 – 30 October, 2-6 November 2020

Virtual Workshop

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Submission of nomination of experts to participate in the workshop

Members of ISA, in particular sponsoring States, as well as contractors and relevant international and regional organizations, projects/programs and initiatives, and relevant academic institutions/scientific groups, are invited to nominate experts to participate in this workshop. A description of the workshop background, objectives and expected outputs is available in the Terms of Reference of the workshop for ease of reference.

Nomination of experts should be prepared recognizing the scientific and technical nature of the workshop in which participants will be expected to provide and analyze scientific data and information related to the workshop objectives through teamwork with other workshop participants. In light of this, participants should be scientists or individuals able to understand and interpret scientific data, and/or should have access to relevant ecological and biological data on marine ecosystems, habitats and species, and/or physical/oceanographic /geological data of the Northwest Pacific area.

The maximum number of participants will be limited to 60 to enable the workshop participants to effectively undertake specific tasks of the scientific analysis and synthesis process in small groups. The selection of experts by the Secretariat of ISA will be based on scientific and technical expertise and experience, taking into account balanced geographic representation and gender balance.

The selection of experts will be made on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1) Good scientific knowledge and research experience, with peer-reviewed publications, in deep-sea biodiversity, biogeography, ecology and/or seamounts and abyssal plain of the Northwest Pacific;
- 2) Experts with access to unpublished, high quality biodiversity, environmental, and physical/geological data in the Northwest Pacific region;
- 3) Good experience and expertise in the scientific design of area-based management tools, including areas of particular environmental interests (APEIs);
- 4) Good experience in environmental management of seabed activities; and
- 5) Good knowledge and experience in resource exploration and exploitation activities/technologies of cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts and polymetallic nodules.

Nominations should include the name and full contact details of nominee/s and should be submitted via an official letter addressed to the Director of Office of Environmental Management and Mineral Resources of ISA, and signed by the heads of the relevant authorities, contractors, organizations/institutions, and programmes/initiatives/scientific groups. All nominations must be accompanied by a curriculum vitae clearly indicating the areas of expertise and experience of the nominee, relating to the above-noted selection criteria. Nominations should be sent as soon as possible, **but no later than 17 August**, via e-mail to oeemr-secretariat@isa.org.jm.

The results of selection of the experts will be available on the ISA website by **7 September 2020**. Meeting documents will be also posted on the ISA website in due course.

Submission of information to support the objectives of the workshop

Members of ISA, in particular sponsoring States, as well as contractors and relevant international and regional organizations, projects/programs and initiatives, and relevant academic institutions/scientific groups, are also invited to provide relevant information in support of the objectives of the workshop.

In terms of data/information, particular needs have been identified in relation to:

- biodiversity (e.g. species/taxon richness and evenness);
- community structure (e.g. abundance/diversity of different components of the biota, species/Operational Taxonomic Unit (OTU) structure);
- biogeography (e.g. species range, degree of species overlap, community similarity);
- genetic connectivity (e.g. shared haplotypes, spatial scales of genetic connectivity);
- ecosystem functions and drivers (e.g. C-cycling, nutrient fluxes, geomorphology, slopes);
- habitat (e.g. habitat diversity) and ecosystem modelling;
- oceanography; and
- distribution of seamounts and nodule areas along the Northwest Pacific.

Submission can be made in the form of peer-reviewed articles, reports/documents, datasets, maps or any other appropriate forms.

In order to allow the Secretariat to prepare necessary scientific and technical input for the abovementioned workshop in a timely manner, information should be submitted to the ISA Secretariat as soon as possible, **but no later than 15 September 2020**, via an email addressed to oeemr-secretariat@isa.org.jm. For those who can provide datasets, the Secretariat will arrange a necessary modality of data transfer, upon receiving the indication of data provision via email.