

INTRODUCTION OF GESAMP AND IT'S IMPORTANCE IN MARINE

GESAMP – Group of experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection. “[Science of Sustainable Oceans](#)”.

The Group of Experts on Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (**GESAMP**) is an advisory body, established in 1969, that advises the [United Nations \(UN\) system on the scientific aspects of marine environmental protection](#). At present it is jointly sponsored by [eight UN organizations](#) with responsibilities relating to the [marine environment](#) as a mechanism for coordination and collaboration among them. **GESAMP** functions are to conduct and support marine environmental assessments, to undertake in-depth studies, analyses, and reviews of specific topics, and to identify emerging issues regarding the state of the marine environment. **GESAMP** itself consists of ideally [25-30 experts](#), drawn from a wide range of relevant disciplines, who act in an independent individual capacity? Studies and assessments are usually carried out by dedicated working groups, most of whose members are not sitting members of **GESAMP** but part of the broader **GESAMP NETWORK**.

WHO ARE ITS UN SPONSORS ?

[IMO](#), [FAO](#), [UNESCO-IOC](#), [WMO](#) (since 1968), [IAEA](#) (since 1969), [UN](#) (since 1971), [UNEP](#) (since 1977), and [UNIDO](#) (since 2006).

HOW IS IT MANAGED?

GESAMP is presently managed through an Executive Committee consisting of a representative of each Sponsoring Organization (i.e. Technical Secretary) and the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of **GESAMP**. A lead organization, currently [IMO](#), hosts an Administrative Secretariat which is presently responsible for general administration on behalf of all the Sponsoring Organizations; the Administrative Secretary also chairs the Executive Committee. The primary functions of the Executive Committee are to plan and approve the **GESAMP** budget and work plan, select members of **GESAMP** from a pool of experts, propose provisional agendas for **GESAMP** sessions, and adopt terms of reference for its **WORKING GROUPS**.

ITS MISSION?

To provide authoritative, independent, interdisciplinary scientific advice to organizations and member Governments to support the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment.

ITS TASKS ?

To fulfill its mission, as part of its Work Programme it will upon request:

- Integrate and synthesize the results of regional and thematic assessments and scientific studies to support global assessments of the marine environment;
- Provide scientific and technical guidance on the design and execution of marine environmental assessments;
- Provide scientific reviews, analyses, and advice on specific topics relevant to the condition of the marine environment, its investigation, protection, and/or management.

In addition **GESAMP** will regularly:

- Provide an overview of the marine environmental monitoring, assessment, and related activities of UN agencies and advise on how these activities might be improved and better integrated and coordinated;
- Identify new and emerging issues regarding the degradation of the marine environment that are of relevance to Governments and Sponsoring Organizations.

ORGANIZATION

The Technical Secretaries of the eight UN agencies **IMO, FAO, UNESCO-IOC, WMO, IAEA, UN, UNEP, and UNIDO**, along with the Administrative Secretary, nominated by **IMO** which currently serves as the Administrative Secretariat, form the Executive Board of **GESAMP**. The Executive Board meets together with the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of **GESAMP** as the Executive Committee which is responsible for the general oversight of **GESAMP** as well as planning and approving the **GESAMP** budget and work plan, selecting the **GESAMP** Members from the Pool of Experts, proposing provisional agendas for **GESAMP** sessions, and adopting terms of reference for its working groups.

GESAMP actively seeks to work with Partner Organizations through co-sponsorship of Working Groups and other activities. Governments and organizations may initiate partnerships, for example by proposing potential work for **GESAMP**. The preferred arrangement for partnership activities is to use the **GESAMP** structure and to produce products under the **GESAMP** banner, with partner organizations as full and equal co-sponsors. If a Working Group is co-sponsored by both **GESAMP** and external partner organizations, it is preferred that Working Group Members be selected from the **GESAMP** pool and the output published in **GESAMP** Reports and Studies. Nevertheless partner organizations act equally with the Executive Committee in the selection of Working Group members, development of terms of reference and work plan, etc., and receive full recognition as equal co-sponsors of the Working Group.

The primary considerations for **GESAMP** in establishing partnerships are making **GESAMP's** activities inclusive and safeguarding the scientific credibility and independence of **GESAMP's** advice. Individual groups or **Supporting Organizations** may similarly support **GESAMP's** work while not actively participating in it through contributions to the **GESAMP** Trust Fund or by other means. Such supporters are prominently identified on the **GESAMP** web site and in promotional materials.

For more details about **GESAMP** , please visit their web site or contact as follows:-

<http://gesamp.net/>