Terms of Reference for an Intersessional Correspondence Group on OIC deliverables to the Quality Status Report (OIC-ICG-QSR)

Background

1. The objective of QSR 2023 is to assess the environmental status of the North-East Atlantic against the objectives of the North-East Atlantic Environmental Strategy 2010-2020 (NEAES 2020), recommend any updated or additional objectives for 2020-2030, and identify the priority elements for actions to achieve OSPAR’s objectives for a clean, healthy, biologically diverse sea, used sustainably.

2. The QSR 2023 will comprise different assessments processing and analysing the data and information being brought together, ultimately into the Synthesis Report. The thematic assessments will provide the evidence base for the key conclusions/statements which will be presented in the Synthesis Report.

3. The main OIC deliverables for the QSR 2023 are the Offshore Industry Overall Assessment (OIC OA) and the Offshore Industry Thematic Assessment (OI TA). The OIC OA is JAMP product O-5 and is the basis for the OI TA. These were developed by OIC-ICG-QSR and agreed at OIC 2022.

Aim of the ICG

4. During the 2022-2023 working cycle, the OIC-ICG-QSR shall participate in the validation process of the OI TA. Also, the ICG shall ensure that the OI TA is integrated in the DAPSIR framework and reflected in the Synthesis Report.

Participants and working arrangements

5. OIC-ICG-QSR is convened by Reidunn Stokke (Norway), with the participation of the Chair, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and IOGP. The Work will be done by correspondence, and ICG-meetings will be arranged as videoconferences.

6. The Lead and the Chair will work with the ICG Eco-C to further develop the DAPSIR framework by considering pressures related to the oil and gas activities in focused biodiversity TA and the cumulative pressures, if necessary.

Timetable

7. Timeline for ICG work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks for the OIC-ICG-QSR</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Who</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finalise the BTA with ICG Eco-C</td>
<td>As soon as possible</td>
<td>Lead &amp; Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attend ICG QSR(2) 2022</td>
<td>11-13 April 2022</td>
<td>Lead &amp; Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consider the comments and feedback from ICG QSR(2) 2022 and ICG-Eco-C</td>
<td>April-May 2022</td>
<td>OIC-ICG-QSR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Responsible Party</td>
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<td>Consider the comments and feedback from CoG</td>
<td>May 2022</td>
<td>OIC-ICG-QSR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check all the pressures related to the oil and gas activities in focused biodiversity TA</td>
<td>When appropriate</td>
<td>Lead &amp; Chair</td>
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<td>If agreed the methodology for weighting activity-pressure-state</td>
<td>When appropriate</td>
<td>OIC-ICG-QSR</td>
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<td>Revise the narrative proposed for the BTA section on cumulative pressures and impacts</td>
<td>When appropriate</td>
<td>OIC-ICG-QSR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide further input and comment on the five criteria for the pressures related to the activity 'Extraction of oil and gas' for the biodiversity TAs (if agreed by ICG QSR(2) 2022)</td>
<td>When appropriate</td>
<td>OIC-ICG-QSR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interview with the Science writer</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>Lead &amp; Chair</td>
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