









Therefore, invitations to consider hosting a regional workshop were circulated to States and to relevant intergovernmental organizations last December. I wish to thank all the States that have formally communicated their interest in hosting a workshop. I would also like to take the opportunity to note that there will also be the need for smaller meetings of the writing teams to focus on drafting relevant chapters of the second world ocean assessment. I therefore invite States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to consider hosting such meetings to support the Regular Process.

These regional workshops and meetings of writing teams also present an opportunity to build capacity as they will facilitate the development of the experts' skills in integrated assessment, covering environmental, social and economic aspects.

As you know, capacity-building is one of the core objectives of the Regular Process, and though the first round of regional workshops discussed capacity-building needs and opportunities, the Bureau of the Ac[. )481.92 rei10(n4(n)-3(g)v.)te wr10(o)-3(up3(g)-3( )11(o)-3



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