



CBD



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REPORT OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

X/29. Marine and coastal biodiversity

13. *Reaffirming* that the programme of work still corresponds to global priorities, has been further strengthened through decisions VIII/21, VIII/22, VIII/24, and IX/20, but is not fully implemented, therefore *encourages* Parties to continue to implement these programme elements, and *endorses* the following guidance, where applicable and in accordance with national capacity and circumstances, for enhanced implementation:

(e) Ensuring that no ocean fertilization takes place unless in accordance with decision IX/16 C and *taking note* of the report (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/7) and developments noted paragraphs 57–62 of this decision;

Impacts of ocean fertilization on marine and coastal biodiversity

57. *Welcomes* the report on compilation and synthesis of available scientific information on potential impacts of direct human-induced ocean fertilization on marine biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/7), which was prepared in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme - World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and the International Maritime Organization in pursuance of paragraph 3 of decision IX/20;

58. *Recalling* the important decision IX/16 C on ocean fertilization, reaffirming the precautionary approach, *recognizes* that given the scientific uncertainty that exists, significant concern surrounds the potential intended and unintended impacts of large-scale ocean fertilization on marine ecosystem structure and function, including the sensitivity of species and habitats and the physiological changes induced by micro-nutrient and macro-nutrient additions to surface waters as well as the possibility of persistent alteration of an ecosystem, and *requests* Parties to implement decision IX/16 C;

59. *Notes* that the governing bodies under the London Convention and Protocol adopted in 2008 resolution LC-LP.1 (2008) on the regulation of ocean fertilization, in which Contracting Parties declared, *inter alia*, that given the present state of knowledge, ocean fertilization activities other than legitimate scientific research should not be allowed;

60. *Recognizes* the work underway within the context of the London Convention and London Protocol to contribute to the development of a regulatory mechanism referred to in decision IX/16 C, and invites Parties and other Governments to act in accordance with the resolution LC LP.2(2010) of the London Convention and Protocol;

61. *Notes* that in order to provide reliable predictions on the potential adverse impacts on marine biodiversity of activities involving ocean fertilization, further work to enhance our knowledge and modelling of ocean biogeochemical processes is required, in accordance with decision IX/16 C and taking into account decision IX/20 and LC-LP.2 (2010) . . .

62. *Notes* also that there is a pressing need for research to advance our understanding of marine ecosystem dynamics and the role of the ocean in the global carbon cycle;