



# General Assembly

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### Oceans and the law of the sea

#### **Letter dated 1 March 2019 from the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity addressed to the Secretary-General**

At its fourteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted decision 14/9, entitled “Marine and coastal biodiversity: ecologically or biologically significant marine areas”.

In paragraph 1 of that decision, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the scientific and technical information contained in the summary reports prepared by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-second meeting, as contained in annex I to the decision, based on the reports of the two regional workshops for describing ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, and in the Baltic Sea, and requested the Executive Secretary to include the summary reports in the repository of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, and to submit them to the General Assembly and its relevant processes, as well as to parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations, in line with the purpose and procedures set out in decisions X/29, XI/17, XII/22 and XIII/12.

Pursuant to those requests, I have the honour to transmit to you the summary reports on the description of areas that meet the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, which comprise the tables in the annex to decision 14/9. This decision, including its annex containing the summary reports, is available in all the official languages of the United Nations on the website of the Convention at: <http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop/?m=cop%2014>.

The present letter is in line with similar previous communications ([A/67/838](#), [A/69/794](#) and [A/72/491](#)), whereby the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity transmitted to the Secretary-General the summaries of the results of previous regional workshops on the description of areas that meet the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 78.

(Signed) **Cristiana Pașca Palmer**  
Executive Secretary

