

13. Coastal States could establish protected areas in coastal and EEZ ecosystems which are important because of their high species diversity or role as nursery and recruitment grounds for fish in particular coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves, coastal lagoons, estuaries and other coastal wetlands, including an inventory of endangered species and critical coastal and marine habitats and, where appropriate, protect them through national legislation.(33)

- (a) Members States could support scientific research on and monitoring of resources of these marine areas; particularly in areas of high diversity, endemism, productivity and spawning, recruitment, nursery grounds and migratory stopover points.
- (b) Non-governmental organizations could assist countries in enhancing public awareness of the importance of marine biodiversity.
- (c) Countries could implement national regulations to control the introduction of new species for aquaculture, which may have adverse effects on the ecosystem.
- [(d) Limited use of resources in protected areas could be allowed statutorily if their use is justified by tradition.]

[13bis Special measures [based on the best available scientific information] to preserve the habitats of marine species and designation of areas of the marine environment for special protection in order to:

- a) Protect rare or fragile ecosystems;
- b) Preserve or restore breeding, spawning, nursery and high biodiversity areas such as coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangrove forests and other highly productive habitats.
- c) Preserve or restore their scientific, wilderness, recreational or aesthetic values.
- d) Monitor changes in the marine environment.
- e) Preserve unique opportunities for scientific research.

Monitoring of changes to coral reefs and other marine life that threaten their ecological, economic and social value.]

International and Regional Cooperation and Coordination

14. Develop Technical Capacity for preparing policy interventions in support of integrated coastal and EEZs management.(17)

- (a) International and regional organizations could help countries develop enforcement capacity for monitoring, control and surveillance. Reference is made to document entitled Global Ocean Observing System (A/CONF.151/PC/70).
- (b) The coastal States with the cooperation of the relevant United Nations bodies and non-governmental organisations, could establish geographical information systems including appropriate data bases, statistics, maps and resource inventories particularly in sensitive areas and create a coastal multi-purpose monitoring system to assess the potential of coastal areas resources and their status.
- (c) Regional programmes could organize data networks with information about a critical mass of scientists and technicians for multi-disciplinary research and management of coastal and EEZ systems.