

MILG meeting minutes

Tuesday 8th November 2016, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, SW1P 3JR

Chair

Dr Steve Freeman (Renewable Consulting Group)

Secretariat

Dr Julius Piercy (Defra)

Attendance

1. Peter Barham (SUDG)
2. Sean Bell (Ultra-SONAR)
3. Mark Calverley (FUGRO- GEOS)
4. Adam Cook (MMO)
5. Phil Durrant (Gardline Environmental)
6. Angus Garrett (Seafish)
7. Rufus Howard (Royal Haskoning)
8. Peter Joyce (BEIS)
9. Bev MacKenzie (IMarEST)
10. Steve Millward (Cefas)
11. Caron Montgomery (Defra)
12. John Murray (SMI / MILC)
13. Robert o'Brien (BP)
14. Mike Osborne (Oceanwise/MEDIN)
15. Mark Russell (BMAPA)
16. Russ Wynn (NOC)

Apologies

Fiona Lord, Anna Ziou, Richard Burt, Mark James, Kevin Forshaw, Adrian Muddin, Stephen Hall, Judith Shapiro, Sian John (deputised) , Jon Upton, Tom Pickerell (deputised), Barrie Stephens

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1. Welcomes and Introduction

1.1 Chair welcomed Members to our first November meeting following the decision of the MILG to hold meetings twice a year rather than three times a year to focus on quality and fit into the MSCC reporting timeline and improve attendance. John Murray informed the Secretariat that Richard Burt would be moving on from his post as Chair of the Association for Maritime and Scientific Industries and that Terry Sloane had replaced him. The Chair would extend an invitation and welcomed a review of the MILG membership.

ACTION 12: Secretariat to invite Chair of AMSI Terry Sloane to MILG

ACTION 13: Chair and Secretariat to review MILG membership to ensure it covers an appropriate range of industries.

1.2 The minutes from the last meeting were agreed and apologies were noted.

1.3 The Chair informed Members that the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) had to cancel attendance so Agenda Item 4 on the Future of the Ocean Economy would not go ahead as planned, but members views and comments

would be welcomed and information would be circulated to members with regards to options for participation.

ACTION 14: Secretariat to circulate information on participation options to OECD Future of the Ocean Economy programme.

2. Action points

2.1 All actions are noted as either ongoing or complete.

2.2 Action 1: Members were informed that the Compendium of Marine Science being developed by the National Oceanography Centre is ready to be launched and those who have contributed will be given a link to review their entries if needed. MILG members who have not yet contributed and wish to do so can contact NOC.

ACTION 15: Secretariat to re-circulate compendium request e-mail from NOC.

2.3 Action 2: MILG were informed that the Cumulative Impacts group has been put on hold whilst resource has had to be diverted to other priority areas following Brexit. Members stressed the importance of continuing the Cumulative Impacts work as Industry needs better guidance. Rufus Howard informed the MILG that the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA) might be pick keen to pick up the Cumulative Impacts Assessment work stream if the resource was lacking in Defra.

ACTION 16: Royal Haskoning to scope the potential for the IEMA to progress work on the Cumulative Impacts Assessment.

2.4 Action 3-4: Presentations on Ecosystem Modelling and on Underwater Noise postponed to May 2017 meeting. Action 4 closed as it is now a new Action 12.

2.5 Action 5: The Defra's Marine and Fisheries Evidence Plan is now due for completion in December 2016, will not be an outward facing document to start with but could be shared with the MILG.

2.6 Action 6: Caron was to issue JPI Oceans Co-fund list but it hasn't been published. Action closed until more information becomes available.

2.7 Action 7: Members to build on the recommendations in the Maritime Growth Study to increase visibility of UK Science. John Murray informed the group that the membership of Maritime UK has broadened and Maritime Growth now has a dedicated ministerial group which will meet bi-annually. Ben Murray now manages Maritime UK and there could be scope for the MILG to question how UK Marine Science will be branded overseas.

ACTION 17: Secretariat to invite Ben Murray from Maritime UK to May meeting to give a presentation on the branding of UK Marine Science.

2.8 Action 8: David Elson to engage with ORE Catapult with the proposal to find a solution to reducing the error rate in Underwater Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

identification. This action was raised in David Elson's absence and the secretariat has not received responses from David. John Murray has contacts with the Renewable Energy Catapult which could be invited to present at a future meeting and provide a platform for engagement with the UXO community

ACTION 18: Secretariat to request contact from John Murray for Renewable Energy Catapult and invite representative to give presentation at MILG

2.9 Action 9: Production of factsheets. The UXO factsheet draft was presented to the MILG by way of example for consideration of how the factsheets should be presented. Members questioned the audience for the factsheets and were informed that the broader industry were the main audience but that the factsheets could also be used as briefing documents for regulators and policymakers. Members discussed the value of the documents and what they were trying to achieve. There was recognition that it was necessary to improve how the work of the MILG was communicated, but the documents needed to be re-shaped to captivate their audience stating clearly why they had been produced and how they could benefit the reader.

2.10 Suggestions to improve the documents included:

- clearly stating that they presented a risk landscape for each topic area
- feed the outcomes into the UK Marine Science Strategy refresh being undertaken by the MSCC and signposting to the original factsheets
- use documents to inform discussions at breakout workshops in Marine events

2.11 Members agreed to set up small working groups to improve and update the existing draft factsheets with meetings to be held by teleconference. Members agreed to contribute in the following areas:

- UXO (Simon Cooke, Phil Durrant)
- Biofouling (Tom Vance)
- Ballast Water (Tom Vance)
- Carbon Capture and Storage (Judith Shapiro) to bring up to date
- Cumulative Effects (Rufus Howard and Rob o'Brien)
- Deep Sea Mining
- Seabed Mapping
- Decommissioning

ACTION 19: Members to indicate to Secretariat if they have an interest in driving the completion for factsheet drafts in the areas indicated above.

2.12 Action 10: GEBCO report circulated to members.

2.13 Action 11: *The data capture and projects that MEDIN funds will be completed in next few months which involve both industry and public data. Mike Osborne offered to give a presentation at the next meeting.*

ACTION 20: Secretariat to arrange presentation by MEDIN at next MILG meeting.

2.15 Action 12: mentioned in Action 4 earlier

2.16 Action 13: mentioned in Action 5 earlier

2.17 Action 14: To be picked up at next item on Agenda re UK Marine Science Strategy Refresh

2.18 Action 15: Steve Hall has attended the UNCLOS meeting on a new legal tool for Deep Sea Mining. Action closed but it would be good to have feedback from Steve who was unable to attend this meeting as he is abroad.

2.19 Actions 16-22 and 24-26: Actions either ongoing and awaiting response or complete. Updates on the Action list.

2.20 Action 23: Not many comments were received by Members on items to change/add/remove on the MILG Action Plan. The Marine Science Brand will be removed following the update from Phil Durrant if Members agree.

ACTION 21: Secretariat to remove Marine Science Brand from MILG Action Plan

3. MSCC and UK Marine Science Strategy

3.1 Julius presented the main updates from the MSCC meeting in September the discussions on the UK Marine Science Strategy refresh. A discussion slide is available in the Discussion Pack (**MILG/2016/10**) and the proposed contents list for the Strategy refresh can be found in the accompanying paper for information (**MILG/2016/11**).

3.2 The Plenary meeting took place in Southampton over 2 days. The MSCC commended the work of the MILG which is viewed as one of the success stories of the MSCC. The MSCC requested further clarity on the potential synergies between offshore Oil and Gas and renewables in decommissioning operations and policies that were discussed by MILG at their meeting in June. An opportunity to do this was identified via an update to the Decommissioning factsheet which currently covers Offshore Oil and Gas decommissioning only.

ACTION 22: Secretariat and Chair to organise the update of the Decommissioning factsheet with Oil and Gas (e.g. Jon Upton) and Renewables stakeholders and circulate outcomes to MSCC.

3.3 Members were informed that the MSCC did not feel it could support responses to consultations from MILG as a group, but that members were of course free to respond as individual organisations and that the MILG could act as a forum for notifying industry of any relevant consultations.

3.4 The MSCC also asked MILG to add food production to its works streams in 2017. Members noted the wide scope of this topic and that it would need to be refined further. Angus Garrett agreed it to produce a paper for discussion for the next meeting to discuss the boundaries of this work stream

ACTION 23: Angus to liaise with Secretariat to produce a paper for discussion at the MILG meeting in May.

3.5 Julius reported that the MSCC was keen that MILG and the Productive Seas Evidence Group (PSEG) develop stronger ties and look into the option for merging the groups if needed. MILG members agreed that the purposes of the two groups were different and that there were strong ties already through members who were active in both groups, including the PSEG Secretary Peter Barham.

3.6 There was also agreement that there were likely to be some overlaps and there was an opportunity for PSEG to review its remit and terms of reference together with MILG after the new PSEG Chair was elected [Secretariat update: at the time of writing PSEG now has two Co-Chairs – Adrian Judd (Cefas) and Christopher Maxwell (MMO) – and a Vice Chair, Andrew Birchenough (Cefas)].

ACTION 24: Secretariat to liaise with new PSEG Chairs to review opportunities for closer join-up between PSEG and MILG in their Terms of Reference.

3.7 Julius presented the outcomes of the MSCC workshop on how it could improve its relevance to broader stakeholder groups and other Government Departments with an interest in Marine issues. The refresh of the UK Marine Science Strategy and the GO-Science Future of the Sea project and more MSCC-branded workshops on key issues were seen as the best opportunities to achieve this.

3.8 A greater focus on marine industry science and innovation was a central argument for prompting the UK Marine Science Strategy refresh. Julius presented the key changes envisaged in the refreshed strategy that would be of relevance to marine industries.

3.9 Julius informed the MILG that Steve Freeman would provide initial industry input as part of the Strategy Refresh Steering Group and that a first draft of the Strategy Refresh would be circulated to Members for comment once it had been completed in April 2017.

ACTION 25: Secretariat to circulate first draft of UK Marine Science Strategy refresh to the MILG for comment once completed in April 2017.

3.10 Members welcomed this opportunity and stressed the importance of using the correct terminology (e.g. costs & investments) if it is to achieve buy-in from industry.

Measuring success and filling skills gaps were also emphasised as critical to the success for this group.

ACTION 26: Julius to compile a list of the MILG comments on the UK Marine Science Strategy Refresh for the Chair to articulate at the steering group meetings.

4. Future of Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 for UK

4.11 Peter Joyce presented the deadlines for funding applications to the H2020 programme calls and opportunities to steer future development of the programme. He also stressed the continued importance of H2020 programme to the UK Government and reminded members that funds for this programme will be underwritten by Government whatever the outcome of the Brexit negotiations.

4.12 The most relevant calls to marine industries are for [Blue Growth](#) (deadline February 14th 2017 Stage 1 and Single stage) and [Transport](#) (deadlines of 26th January 2017 for First stage and 19th October 2017 for Second stage). There is also an opportunity to influence the call for Societal Challenge 2 (SC2) calls by contacting BEIS.

ACTION 27: Secretariat to circulate presentation slides to MILG.

ACTION 28: Peter Joyce to provide contacts for comments on SC2.

4.13 A discussion ensued about how marine industries can secure EU funding more broadly and the challenges presented by the willingness of other EU countries to collaborate on joint programmes with UK marine businesses post Brexit. The wider funding situation for marine industries beyond Brexit remains unclear and members felt a horizon scanning exercise on funding opportunities and models was needed at the next MILG meeting in May 2017. Support for export and innovation was seen as critical to maintain the competitiveness of the UK. Academic institutions rank high on the research and innovation agenda for the marine sector in the EU, but not marine industries do not, which was blamed on the lack of big marine businesses in the UK compared to other sectors (e.g. Glaxo Smith Kline and Astro Zeneca for the medical sector).

ACTION 29: Secretariat to prepare a horizon scanning exercise on funding opportunities and models at the May 2017 meeting.

5. GOScience Future of the Sea workshop

5.1 Julius Piercy and Caron Montgomery ran a workshop on behalf of GOScience for the Future of the Sea Foresight Project. Julius introduced the background of the project.

5.2 The Foresight programme sits within GO-Science and develops projects using the latest scientific evidence and futures analysis to address complex issues and provides strategic options for policy. Foresight projects examine public policy issues where science might be part of the solution, or a scientific topic where potential applications and technologies are yet to be realised. This provides Government with evidence to help them

think systematically about the future and provides signposts for policymakers in tackling future challenges.

5.3 The Foresight Future of the Sea project was launched in June 2016 by Sir Mark Walport with Ministerial support from the Department for Food and Rural Affairs, the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

5.4 The Foresight project considers the role that science and technology can play in understanding and providing solutions to the long-term issues affecting the sea focussing broadly on resources and economic potential of the sea, environmental issues, and governance of the sea.

5.5 MILG Members were divided into 4 subgroups to address the following questions:

- What do you see as the most exciting opportunities and challenges in your industry over the next 10-30 years?
- What skills are needed to realise the potential of this opportunity? Are these already present in your workforce?
- How could government encourage innovation in this area of opportunity

This was followed by an open discussion session on challenges to the maritime industry sector, focussing on those that government is able to address.

5.6 A wide ranging list of opportunities were identified with technological advances in areas such as computing and autonomous systems, but there were also challenges to fulfilling the potential of these opportunities, mainly driven by lack of co-ordination on marine policy and low investor confidence due to uncertain political and funding commitment.

ACTION 30: Secretariat to collate workshop outputs, circulate to members for final comment and feed back the outputs to GO-Science.

6. AOB

6.1 Julius informed members that Georgina Mace from the Natural Capital Committee would be interested in coming to a MILG meeting to talk about natural capital accounting. Members welcomed the offer from Georgina Mace to present at the next meeting.

ACTION 31: Secretariat to invite presentation from the Natural Capital Committee at the next MILG meeting in May.

Action table

Paragraph	Action number	Responsibility
Actions carried forward from previous meetings		
	<p>1. Follow through on MILG AP items at next meeting (refer to Strategic Action discussion and MILG AP discussion at MILG 20th January 2015 meeting for more info as required) and specifically: Access to industry data (updates); Seabed Mapping (see agenda item below – update on paper for BIS); Cumulative Impacts (savings / benefits); Decommissioning (invite speaker); Deep Sea Mining (invite speaker)</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>Presentations on Deep Sea Mining and Decommissioning Complete</p> <p>Seabed mapping updates Ongoing</p> <p>Cumulative impacts input Ongoing</p>
	<p>2. Invite Presentation on Ecosystem modelling at next meeting (Secretariat) and ensure MILG representation at Bioeconomics Workshop</p>	<p>Secretariat/Members</p> <p>Bioeconomics Workshop attendance confirmed by Filippo Locatelli.</p> <p>Presentation postponed to May 2017 meeting</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>3. Secretariat to circulate slides of Defra Marine EAP presentation to Members</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>New update to Evidence Action Plan- now the Marine and Fisheries Evidence Plan to be completed by early 2017</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>4. Secretariat to invite USF representative to give a presentation at the next MILG meeting.</p>	<p>Secretariat / USF</p> <p>Invitation postponed to May 2017 meeting</p>

		Ongoing
	5. Julius to circulate EAP document when it is finalised	Secretariat Document expected to be completed by December 2016 Ongoing
	6. The secretariat will request question list from Forum of the Future on the perceived gaps as identified by stakeholders and ask members if the information would be useful for furthering MILG action plan.	Secretariat / Giles Bristow / Members Question list requested by Secretariat. Ongoing
	7. Clarify the date for meeting the next OSPAR meeting in order to set a timeline for MILG's contribution on evidence submission for changes in the OSPAR guidance.	Secretariat / Giles Bristow Awaiting response from Giles Ongoing
	8. Kevin Forshaw to contact the National Composite Centre to identify materials currently being recycled that could be used for wind farm turbine blades to avoid disposal costs.	Kevin Forshaw Awaiting response from Kevin Ongoing
	9. Steve Freeman to liaise with Giles Bristow and contact GoScience Future of the Sea leads about cross-cutting industry interest on decommissioning and opportunities for a strategic approach to better coordination within the industry	Steve Freeman / Giles Bristow / GoScience Ongoing
	10. MILG will keep a watching brief on the NERC call on Decommissioning developments and identify a strategic pathway for industry science to secure	Members / Secretariat Ongoing

	ODA money. Members to alert the Secretariat of any development in NERC calls and consider how to secure the ODA funds for presentation at the next meeting.	
	11. Members to send comments on the ToR to Secretariat	Members / Secretariat Secretariat to request comments following Nov 2017 meeting. Ongoing
Actions from November 2016 meeting		
Paragraph	Action number	Responsibility
1.1 Welcomes and Introduction	12. Invite Chair of AMSI Terry Sloane to MILG	Secretariat
	13. Review MILG membership to ensure it covers an appropriate range of industries	Secretariat and Chair
1.3 Welcomes and Introduction	14. Circulate information on participation options to OECD Future of the Ocean Economy programme	Secretariat Circulated on 29/11/2016 Complete
2.2 June 2016 Action Points	15. Re-circulate e-mail from NOC to request responses to the Marine Science compendium	Steve Hall / Secretariat
2.3 June 2016 Action Points	16. Scope the potential for the IEMA to progress work on the Cumulative Impacts Assessment	Royal Haskoning
2.7 June 2016 Action Points	17. Invite Ben Murray from Maritime UK to May meeting to give a presentation on the branding of UK Marine Science	Secretariat
2.8 June 2016 Action Points	18. Request contact from John Murray for Renewable Energy Catapult and invite	Secretariat / John Murray

	representative to give presentation at MILG	
2.11 June 2016 Action Points	19. Indicate to Secretariat if you have an interest in driving the completion for factsheet drafts in the areas indicated at paragraph 2.11	Members
2.13 June 2016 Action Points	20. Arrange presentation from Mike Osborne (MEDIN) at next MILG meeting in May 2017.	Secretariat
2.20 June 2016 Action Points	21. Remove Marine Science Brand from MILG Action Plan	Secretariat
3.2. MSCC Plenary meeting	22. Organise the update of the Decommissioning factsheet with Oil and Gas (e.g. Jon Upton) and Renewables stakeholders and circulate outcomes to MSCC.	Secretariat and Chair
3.4 MSCC Plenary meeting	23. Produce a paper for discussion on setting the scope for a seafood production work stream at the MILG meeting in May	Secretariat / Angus Garrett (Seafish)
3.6 MSCC Plenary meeting	24. Liaise with new PSEG Chairs to review opportunities for closer join-up between PSEG and MILG in their Terms of Reference	Secretariat
3.9 UK Marine Science Strategy refresh	25. Circulate first draft of UK Marine Science Strategy refresh to the MILG for comment once completed in April 2017	Secretariat
3.10 UK Marine Science Strategy refresh	26. Compile a list of the MILG comments on the UK Marine Science Strategy Refresh for the Chair to articulate at the steering group meetings	Secretariat
4.12 Future of H2020	27. Circulate presentation slides to MILG	Secretariat

	28. Provide contacts to Members for comments on SC2	Peter Joyce
4.13 Future of H2020	29. Organise a horizon scanning exercise on funding opportunities and models at the May 2017 meeting.	Secretariat
5.6 GOScience Future of the Sea workshop	30. Collate workshop outputs, circulate to members for final comment and feed back the outputs to GO-Science	Secretariat Outputs circulated to members for comment on and fed back to GO-Science on 29/11/16. Complete
6.1 AOB	31. Invite presentation from the Natural Capital Committee at the next MILG meeting in May	Secretariat