

Working Group
Terms of Reference • June 7, 2006

Purpose

The Working Group serves the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC) and is responsible for the:

- a. Development, implementation and evaluation of the Council's five-year Action Plan; and
- b. Strategic planning and preparation of policy options .

Organization

- a. **Membership:** Department / agency Council members shall appoint one representative to the Working Group. The Council may appoint additional members by consensus of its members. In addition, each Council committee shall designate a committee Co-chair that will serve as a member of the Working Group.
- b. **Qualifications:** Representatives of the Working Group shall:
 - Have the authority to represent the position of their agency and make decisions (e.g. recommendations for the Council on policies, work plans, and other elements of the Council's work, etc.); and
 - Work directly with his/her Councilor to brief him/her.
- c. **Chair:** The Working Group Chair will be a member of the Working Group and from the jurisdiction in which the Council Chair is located. The Chair, in consultation with the Secretariat and Management and Finance, will set meeting agendas, and conduct other business as appropriate.
- d. **Meetings:** The Working Group will meet at least three times annually. These meetings may be coincidental with the Council's semi-annual meetings. Locations of the meetings will be rotated among the member jurisdictions.

Decisions

Decisions will be made by consensus.