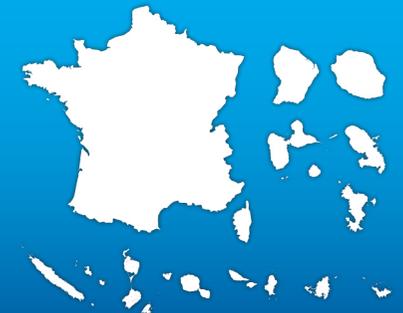




Government Offices of Sweden  
Ministry of the Environment and Energy

# SUMMARY OF EXISTING LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY MECHANISMS FOR THE PROTECTION OF CORAL REEFS AND ASSOCIATED MANGROVES AND SEAGRASSES FOR ICRI MEMBERS AND IDENTIFICATION OF GOOD PRACTICES

## Example of France



COUNTRY : FRANCE  
CORAL REEFS COVER : 8 778 KM<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>  
MANGROVES COVER : 103 426,6 HA <sup>2</sup>  
ICRI'S FOUNDING MEMBER (1994)

## 1/ INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

### 1.1. MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENT AGREEMENTS:

On the international level, France has ratified the following conventions:

Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species, (Washington Convention, CITES): 1978

Ramsar Convention: 1986

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): 1992

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): 1994

Paris Agreement: 2016

### 1.2. REGIONAL SEAS CONVENTIONS:

#### REGIONAL SEAS MEMBER (UNEP / PNUE):

- Cartagena Convention for the Caribbean (1983)
- Nairobi Convention for the Indian Ocean (1985)
- Noumea (1986) and Apia (1993) conventions for the South Pacific

1- Andréfouët S., Chagnaud N., Chauvin C., Kranenburg C.J., Atlas des récifs coralliens de France Outre-Mer, Centre IRD de Nouméa, Décembre 2008, 153 pages

2- Roussel Erwan, Ducombe Marc, et Gabrié Catherine, "Les mangroves de l'outre-mer français - Ecosystèmes associés aux récifs coralliens," Documentation Ifremer, consulté le 22 novembre 2017, <http://ifremer-doc.fr/items/show/1481>.

## 2/ NATIONAL LEVEL

### 2.1. NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS ON THE PROTECTION OF CORAL REEFS AND ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS:

#### LAW FOR THE RECONQUEST OF BIODIVERSITY

##### NATURE AND LANDSCAPE

(n° 2016-1087 of August 8, 2016)

To stop the loss of biodiversity overseas and preserve its role in the adaptation of territories to climate change, the State sets itself as objectives, with the support of its public institutions under supervision and in consultation with local authorities, concerned:

- 1° To develop and implement a territorial action program to protect 55,000 hectares of mangroves by 2020;
- 2° To develop, as part of the French initiative for coral reefs and on the basis of a review of the health status of coral reefs and associated ecosystems conducted every five years, an action plan contributing to protect 75% of coral reefs in French overseas territories by 2021. In the framework of this action plan, the State sets itself the objective of prohibiting, in areas under French sovereignty or jurisdiction, dredging operations of the seabed in which coral reefs are present, with the exception of dredging operations aimed at ensuring the continuity of the territory through maritime flows. In addition, seabed dredging operations aimed at ensuring the continuity of the territory by maritime flows must avoid the destruction of coral reefs as much as possible.

#### IFRECOR

##### THE FRENCH INITIATIVE FOR CORAL REEFS

The French initiative for coral reefs (IFRECOR), created by decree (JORF n° 159 of July 11, 2000), is the national version of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). IFRECOR aims to promote an active policy, at national, regional and local levels, favorable to the protection and sustainable management of coral reefs within the framework of the sustainable development of the overseas communities concerned: Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martin, St. Barthelemy, Mayotte, Reunion, the Scattered Islands of French Southern and Antarctic Lands, New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna. It is placed with the ministers in charge of the environment and overseas.

#### MINISTERIAL ORDONNANCE OF APRIL 25, 2017

##### SETTING THE LIST OF 16 PROTECTED CORAL SPECIES

##### IN THE WEST INDIES

For this species (list of species in Annex) :

- 1° Are prohibited in Guadeloupe, Martinique and Saint-Martin, and in marine waters under sovereignty and under French jurisdiction, and at all times:
  - The mutilation, destruction, removal of specimens from the wild;
  - Mutilation is defined as actions that cause clogging, choking, abrasion, fracturing or fragmentation, necrosis, bleaching of specimens.
- 2° Are prohibited throughout the national territory and at all times the transportation, hawking, commercial or non-commercial use, possession, offering for sale, sale or purchase of specimens taken from the natural environment of the territories mentioned in 1° after the coming into force of this decree.

## 2.2. REGULATING THE USE OF PLASTICS:

### LEGISLATIONS ON PLASTIC BAGS:

The law on the energy transition towards green growth (July 22, 2015) outlawed single-use plastic bags as of July 1st, 2016, supported by an international «stop plastic waste» initiative.

This law also prohibits the sale and distribution of plastic disposable cups, glasses and plates on January 1st, 2020. The aim is to reduce pollution because plastic takes decades to disappear in nature and is often associated with toxic products. This law is specified by two decrees:

- Decree of March 30, 2016 (n ° 2016-379) on the implementation of the limitation of single-use plastic bags
- Decree of August 30, 2016 on the details of the conditions of the prohibition

The law on the reconquest of biodiversity, nature and landscapes (August 8, 2016) prohibits the sale on the market of wadded sticks for household use whose plastic stem is called «cotton swabs» as of January 1st, 2020. This law is specified by the following decree:

- Decree of March 6, 2017 (No. 2017-291) relating to the conditions for the implementation of the ban on the placing on the market of rinsed cosmetic products for the use of exfoliation or cleaning comprising solid plastic particles and wadded sticks for domestic use whose stem is plastic

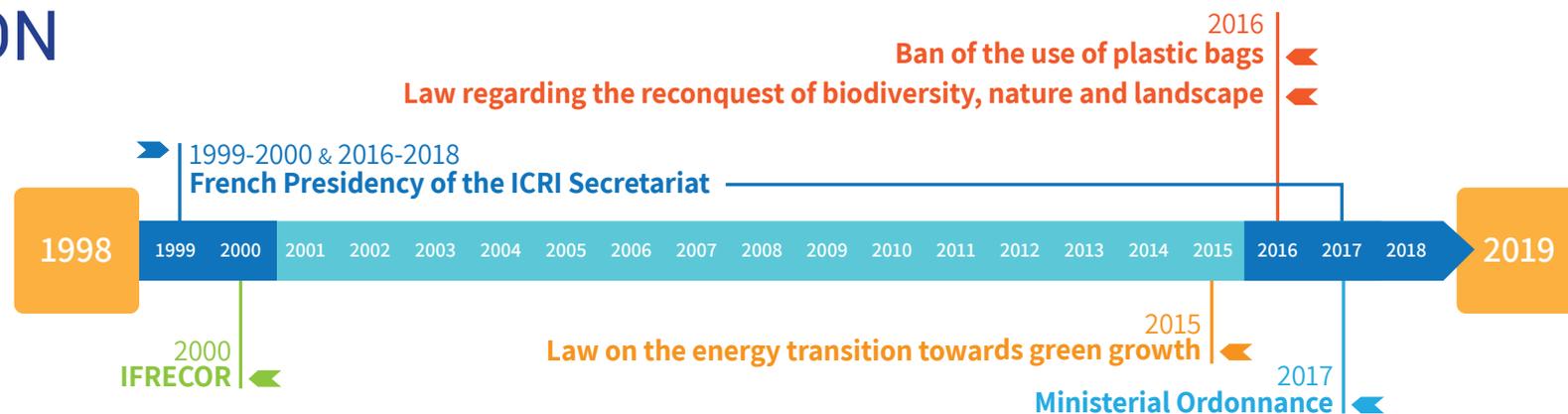
### LEGISLATIONS ON MICROBEADS:

under the recent Law regarding the reconquest of biodiversity, nature and landscape, is prohibited: (Article 124 of Law n° 2016-1087 of August 8, 2016) :

- the marketing of plastic swabs from January 1st, 2020;
- the marketing of cosmetic products rinsed with cleaning or exfoliation containing plastic microbeads as from January 1st, 2018 at the latest.

The implementation decrees are in progress. It should be noted that a process is also under way at EU level which is also involved in the fight against plastic microbeads.

## 3/ CONCLUSION



## 4/ ANNEXE : LIST OF 16 PROTECTED CORAL SPECIES IN THE WEST INDIES

FAMILY	SPECIES
<i>Acroporid</i>	<i>Acropora cervicornis</i> : Corne de cerf.
	<i>Acropora palmata</i> : Corne d'élan.
	<i>Acropora prolifera</i> : Corne de cerf diffuse
<i>Merulinid</i>	<i>Orbicella annularis</i> : Corail étoile massif.
	<i>Orbicella faveolata</i> : Corail étoile massif.
	<i>Orbicella franksi</i> : Corail étoile en bloc
<i>Agariciid</i>	<i>Agaricia grahamae</i> : Agarice de Graham.
	<i>Agaricia lamarcki</i> : Agarice de Lamarck.
	<i>Agaricia undata</i>
<i>Incertae cedis</i>	<i>Cladocora arbuscula</i> : Corail arbuscule
<i>Meandrinid</i>	<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> = <i>Dendrogyra cylindricus</i> : Corail cierge
<i>Mussid</i>	<i>Mycetophyllia aliciae</i> : Corail cactus rugueux.
	<i>Mycetophyllia danaana</i> : Corail cactus à crêtes basses.
	<i>Mycetophyllia ferox</i> : Corail cactus rugueux.
	<i>Mycetophyllia lamarckiana</i> : Corail cactus ride
<i>Oculinid</i>	<i>Oculina diffusa</i> = <i>Madrepora virginea</i> : Oculine diffuse