



To: FEC Secretariat

Email to: FEC Secretariat  
Via Dr Razieh Ghayoumi  
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14<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Dear Future Earth Coasts Colleagues

**RE: Dr Razieh Ghayoumi – Application for FEC Fellowship**

I am delighted to recommend Dr Razieh Ghayoumi to become a Fellow of Future Earth Coasts and I wholeheartedly support her application. You will see that Razieh has an excellent cv and has a career where she has already been engaged in many of the activities relevant to FEC. I consider that not only will she contribute greatly to FEC but also that she will benefit greatly from becoming a FEC Fellow.

I have seen Dr Ghayoumi's research and advisory outputs and, as importantly, I got to know her well through our joint involvement with the UN World Ocean Assessment Third Cycle. I spent time with her at the recent workshop of the UN World Ocean Assessment 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle in The Seychelles. At that workshop, I saw that Razieh played a full role in the discussions not only regarding the current threats and activities in the seas and oceans but also in cross-cutting issues on gender, equity and indigenous and traditional groups. It is pleasing to see that Razieh is on the World Ocean Assessment III Pool of Experts.

Razieh has a background in field and laboratory natural sciences and has now brought this expertise in to marine biodiversity and conservation management. She also has expertise in community engagement and outreach. She has the enviable position of working on the management and conservation of marine areas in both the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Hence, it is good to see that through her previous positions and experience in Canada and the US, Razieh is now able to take western ideas on marine management into her current government position in Iran but also show other countries the challenges of marine science and management in these wider areas.

Most importantly, I consider Dr Ghayoumi to be not only a role model for other women in marine science in many countries but especially for women from countries such as Iran. On a personal level in my role as Vice-Chair of FEC, I am sure that Razieh can help to increase the visibility of FEC in Iran and other Persian areas - to my knowledge, there are no other FEC Fellows in Iran. Through my own links with Iranian scientists and from giving workshops there, I can see the large amount of marine and coastal work being carried out in the country but also that Iranian marine scientists do need help in interacting internationally – links with FEC will help this immensely.

I hope that I have provided sufficient information but please contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely





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