

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WIO TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON MARINE LITTER AND MICROPLASTICS

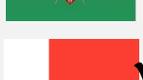
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UNEP/NAIROBI CONVENTION

UNIVERSITY OF CAPETOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

13TH TO 14TH JUNE 2019

IMPACTS OF MARINE LITTER



✓ **Loss of biodiversity** - Ingestion and entanglement of wildlife are among the most documented impacts of marine litter - recorded in over 267 species

✓ **Loss of aesthetic and recreational value** - high costs associated with the removal of beach litter

✓ **Destruction of habitats** - 70% of marine litter is thought to accumulate on coastal and marine habitats

✓ **Public health and safety impacts** - navigational hazards, injuries to recreational users and leaching of poisonous chemicals





MARINE LITTER – CALL TO ACTION

- ✓ **UNEA Resolutions 1/6 of 2014 and 2/11 in 2016 on “Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics”**
 - UN Environment to provide assistance in the development of national and regional measures to address marine litter, acknowledging local, national and regional variations.
- ✓ **UNEA Resolution UNEP/EA.3/L.20 in 2017 on “Marine Litter and Microplastics”**
 - Regional Seas Conventions, within their mandates, support prevention and reduction of marine litter and microplastics.
- ✓ **Nairobi Convention LBSA Protocol and COP Decision CP9/3 in 2019 on “Management of marine litter”**
 - Implement the GPA within the context of the LBSA Protocol with support of UN Environment
 - To develop a regional strategy or action plan or both on the management of marine litter

NAIROBI CONVENTION COP DECISIONS ON MARINE LITTER



➤ Decision CP.9/3. Management of marine litter and municipal Wastewater in the WIO region

1. in collaboration and cooperation with partners, to develop a regional strategy or action plan or both on the management of marine litter
2. in collaboration with partners, to develop capacity-building programmes on marine litter and microplastics, including microbeads, for a harmonized approach to data generation, monitoring and reporting
3. To encourage the Contracting Parties to implement action programmes on municipal wastewater and to conduct outreach and public awareness activities on the impact of municipal waste and marine litter on marine species and their habitats

WIO REGIONAL ACTION PLAN ON MARINE LITTER

Objectives:

- ✓ Guide and enhance knowledge on the identification of needs, operations and investment in management of marine litter through coordinated regional actions
- ✓ Support implementation of LBSA Protocol – monitor quantities and distribution, establish regional mechanism to address marine litter and microplastics
- ✓ Support achievement of SDG 14.1 – prevent and reduce marine pollution, particularly from LBSA, including marine debris

WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN
REGIONAL ACTION PLAN ON MARINE LITTER
(WIO-RAPMaLi)



October, 2018



WIO REGIONAL ACTION PLAN - ACTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS

1. *Establish a regional forum to coordinate stakeholder participation in marine litter management*
2. Improve port reception facilities to effectively manage ship-generated waste
3. Eliminate, change or adapt products for environmental benefits
4. Identify probable 'hotspots' of land- and sea-based sources for plastic and microplastics
5. Design standard methodologies for studying, monitoring and reporting on marine litter and microplastics for the region
6. Promote the 4 Rs (Reducing, Reusing Recycling, Recovering)
7. Promote awareness on the impacts of marine litter through education, training and knowledge exchange
8. Establish a database and information sharing mechanism on effective strategies and practices for waste management



CP.9/3.1 - ESTABLISHMENT OF A MARINE LITTER REGIONAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP



**Membership to the Group of Experts on
Marine Litters and Microplastics: Call for
expression of interest**

The Group will promote sharing and exchange of information; providing policy guidance and advice to the Nairobi Convention and other regional frameworks; and synthesizing information on the topic from different sources and produce peer-reviewed publications and other products



TORs OF THE MLMP TWG

- *Facilitate knowledge sharing, given the many initiatives to tackle the marine litter problem at national and regional and global levels.*
- *Enhance understanding of marine litter and microplastics among formal and informal stakeholders, including governments, management authorities, private sector, communities and encourage dialogue between them.*
- *Assess the current status of marine litter and microplastics knowledge in the WIO region*
- *Assess the policy landscape and institutional frameworks on marine litter in different countries*
- *Published status reports on marine litter in peer-reviewed journals*



TORs OF THE MLMP TWG

- Review the recently developed Regional Marine Litter Action Plan and through this instrument, facilitate the development of a coherent regional vision and strategy for work on marine litter and microplastics within the context of the Nairobi Convention
- Identify institutional capacity needs and possible capacity development
- Advise on the development of regional Guidelines, Best Practices, Standards and Procedures for marine litter and microplastics management.



TORS

- Provide guidance on the development and implementation of regional marine litter and a microplastics monitoring programme.
- Provide state-of-the-art science to support policy developments on marine litter and microplastics in the region through the Science to Policy Platform of the Convention
- Offer technical support in the development and review of concepts/proposals in relation to marine litter and microplastics on behalf of Nairobi Convention and WIOMSA in respect to the implementation of the Regional Marine Litter Action Plan.
- Undertake quality assurance of outputs related to marine litter and microplastics produced through the support of both Nairobi Convention and WIOMSA.



MODUS OPERANDI

- The Group of Experts for Marine Litter and Microplastics is established by the Nairobi Convention vide 'Decision CP.9/3. Management of marine litter and municipal wastewater in the Western Indian Ocean'
- TWG will be hosted by WIOMSA – close partnership.
- The core membership of the Group will comprise of experts whose selection was based on the strong regional knowledge and experience in marine litter and microplastics
- The Group will invite, consult and involve on the basis of issues representatives of partner organizations and individual experts as well.
- Since the Group will be operating under the Nairobi Convention, it will be reporting directly to the Focal Points of the Nairobi Convention as well as the relevant Regional Task Forces established under WIOSAP Project.
- Experts will get formal nomination letters from the Nairobi Convention after this PSC meeting



PROCESS OF ESTABLISHMENT

- ✓ With WIOMSA develop TORs for the Group
- ✓ Open Call for expressions of interest by regional experts.
- ✓ 30 applications received and we established a criteria for evaluation, which included technical criteria, regional balance and gender
- ✓ 9 experts selected and already communicated to
- ✓ 1st meeting of the Group in Capetown in June 13th to 14th June – TORs and priority actions



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Undertake a regional assessment on the status of marine litter and microplastics knowledge including policy and institutional frameworks
- Comment on the draft Regional Marine Litter Action Plan before the July 2019 meeting of the Working Group
- Review the WIOMSA Marine Litter Monitoring Manual and evolve as necessary given local capacity available following the first round of accumulation studies
- Explore the possibility of supporting the development of a GEF project on marine litter and microplastics for the region

SELECTED EXPERTS



	Name	Country
1	Peter Ryan	South Africa
2	Catherina J Schenck	South Africa
3	Maria Perpétua J. Scarlet	Mozambique
4	Stefan R. Knights	Seychelles
5	Linda Godfrey	South Africa
6	Lydia Gaspare Kanyairita	Tanzania
7	Eric Ochieng Okuku	Kenya
8	Zara Pardiwalla	Seychelles
9	Margot Thibault	Reunion
	OBSERVERS	
1		African Marine Waste Network
2		IUCN
3		Indian Ocean Commission
4		UNEP/GPA



REQUEST FROM THE PSC

- Advise on the TORs of the GEMLMP
- Advise on the priority actions proposed
- Advice on the reporting mechanism
- Approve the establishment and operationalization of the Working Group





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