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**The Conference of Plenipotentiaries and
the Sixth Meeting of Contracting Parties
to the Convention for the Protection,
Management and Development of the
Marine and Coastal Environment
of the Eastern African Region**

Nairobi, Kenya 29 March – 1 April 2010

Decisions

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters, Gigiri,

Nairobi, Kenya

Theme: Sustaining Progress

The Decisions of the Sixth Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention)

Preamble

The Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention),

Noting with appreciation the Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the work of the Secretariat and efforts made to implement the Work Programme for 2008 to 2011, including the achievements of the WIO-LaB Project such as the development of the Protocol to the Nairobi Convention Concerning Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBSA Protocol) and the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) on land based sources and activities, among others;

Acknowledging the continued political and financial support of the Contracting Parties and the contributions of national and regional institutions and other frameworks, as well as the numerous efforts and actions by the respective Contracting Parties and other partners to implement programmes and projects at national and regional levels to promote the aims of the Nairobi Convention;

Further acknowledging the support provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other international financial institutions and development partners, specifically the governments of Sweden, Norway and Belgium, the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) and the European Union in supporting the implementation of the []the Nairobi Convention and other programmes, projects and activities for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region;

Also acknowledging the importance of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and the work being done by the Contracting Parties and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) on ICZM and the progress achieved in implementation of ICZM in the Western Indian Ocean Region, including the considerable investment and contribution made by the Regional Programme for the Sustainable Management of the Coastal Zones of the Countries of the Indian Ocean (ReCoMaP);

Noting the priorities identified in the various projects and other interventions being implemented in the Western Indian Ocean Region, including the SAP developed under the WIO-LaB Project, Agulhas-Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME), South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP), Implementing Integrated Water Resource and Waste Water Management in the Atlantic and Indian Ocean Developing States Project, ReCoMaP; and the work being done by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East Africa Community (EAC), among others;

Also acknowledging the contributions and work of other partners with whom the Secretariat has ongoing arrangements, including regional and international NGOs such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the Consortium for Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C), and others in supporting programmes and projects for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment in the Western Indian Ocean Region;

Further acknowledging the contribution of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) through its various programmes and projects supporting the implementation of the programme of work and objectives of the Nairobi Convention;

Reiterating the importance of the Nairobi Convention, its Protocols and Action Plan as important instruments for the promotion of sustainable development in the Western Indian Ocean Region and the need for their continuous review in order to better achieve their objectives and purposes; and noting in this regard the need to review the Action Plan;

Noting the increased workload and need for increased human and financial resources to support the implementation of the SAP and the LBSA Protocol;

Recalling the decisions of previous Conference of Parties concerning review of the Nairobi Convention and its Protocols, as well as the development of the LBSA Protocol;

Hereby decide as follows:

Decision CP 6/1: Implementing the Work Programme and Budget 2008-2011

1. *To commend* the support provided by the partners, including the Government of Norway and the GEF, to the participating countries in the implementation of the WIO-LaB Project;
2. *To further commend the* work of the Secretariat, the Contracting Parties, various partner institutions and individuals in finalizing the LBSA Protocol, the SAP and amendments to the Nairobi Convention;
3. *To endorse* the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) concerning Land-Based Sources and Activities for the Western Indian Ocean Region;
4. *To urge* the Contracting Parties to implement the SAP, including through policy, legislative and institutional interventions, where appropriate and through national stakeholder participation;
5. *To further urge* the Contracting Parties to implement the LBSA Protocol, including through policy, legislative and institutional interventions, where appropriate;
6. *To request* the Secretariat to initiate and facilitate the development and

implementation of follow-up projects identified in the SAP, and seek new funding opportunities for the projects;

7. *To request* the Secretariat to provide by the end of 2010 Contracting Parties with a template for compiling country reports;
8. *To further request* the Contracting Parties to compile by the end of 2011 a synthesis report on the activities undertaken under the implementation of the Nairobi Convention and its Protocols;
9. *To request* the Secretariat to prepare a detailed report on the use of the budget, work outputs and outcomes during the 2008-2011 period, distinguishing particularly activities undertaken under different projects from activities undertaken under the Trust Fund.

Decision CP6/2: Review of Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region

1. *To request* the Secretariat to undertake a comprehensive review of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region of 1985, taking into account the Amended Nairobi Convention, the LBSA Protocol, the SAP, other regional processes, and also noting the emerging challenges and lessons learnt over the years and to report on the progress to the next Conference of Parties.
2. *To further request* the Secretariat to, following the review of the Action Plan, prepare an Action Strategy for the Western Indian Ocean Region and present the same for adoption at the next Conference of Parties.
3. *To further request* the Secretariat to coordinate with all other on-going processes, programmes⁰ and projects and to reflect their contributions in the report to the Contracting Parties.

Decision CP 6/3: Strengthening Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Western Indian Ocean Region

1. *To endorse and support* the use of the integrated coastal zone management approach for the long-term sustainable development of the coastal and marine areas of the Western Indian Ocean Region;
2. *To request* the Secretariat to promote and strengthen the application of ICZM tools, and in this regard work in collaboration with Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and other partners;
3. *To develop* an ICZM protocol and request the Nairobi Convention Secretariat to support the development of such an ICZM Protocol, through a consultative process

and in partnership with relevant regional and international organizations and programmes/projects, for consideration at the next COP.

Decision CP 6/4: Strengthening the Nairobi Convention Secretariat

1. *To commend* the Executive Director for appointing a coordinator for the Secretariat of the Abidjan Convention and for revitalizing the Abidjan Convention;
2. *To request* the Executive Director to strengthen the Nairobi Convention Secretariat by providing additional human and financial resources taking into account the implementation of the SAP and LBSA protocol, the pending review of the current protocols and the development of new instruments, among others;
3. *To urge* Contracting Parties to explore seconding staff to strengthen the Nairobi Convention Secretariat;
4. *To mandate* the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and Bureau to review the regional coordination mechanism of the Nairobi Convention, implement short-term actions and propose to the next COP medium- and long-term solutions to improve and strengthen the Secretariat.

Decision CP6/5: Contributions to the Trust Fund

1. *To commend* the Contracting Parties that have made their contributions to the Trust Fund, including those that make regular contributions and those that have paid and/or reduced their outstanding arrears;
2. *To mandate* the Secretariat to invoice Contracting Parties annually for the current year's contributions ;
3. *To mandate* the Secretariat to negotiate and deal appropriately with Contracting Parties who have arrears, on agreeable terms and schedule the payment of their arrears either in full or by instalment to the Trust Fund;
4. *To urge* the Contracting Parties to ensure that their contributions to the Trust Fund are made promptly.

Decision: CP 6/6: Partnership Arrangements

1. *To reaffirm* the various partnership arrangements existing between the Nairobi Convention and various partners in enhancing coherent, collaborative and mutually beneficial implementation of various policies, programmes, projects and activities;
2. *To mandate* the Secretariat to seek new partnerships and enter into agreements as appropriate, including with the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) and Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), and enhance existing partnership arrangements in order to improve benefits to the Western Indian Ocean Region.

Decision: CP 6/7: Monitoring and Reporting

1. *To request* the Secretariat to review the existing monitoring and reporting system applying to Contracting Parties and the Secretariat with a view to improving monitoring and reporting undertaken by Contracting Parties and the Secretariat at COP meetings and upon completion of projects, programmes, Action Plans, Strategic Action Plans; or similar;
2. *To further request* the Secretariat to table the monitoring and reporting system review report, including recommendations, for considering by the Contracting Parties at the next COP.