



**Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the
Adoption of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone
Management of the Western Indian Ocean**

and

**Final text of the
Protocol
on Integrated Coastal Zone Management
of the Western Indian Ocean**

Adopted in Antananarivo, Madagascar
on 12 September 2023



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Final Act of the

Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the Adoption of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean

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Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the Adoption of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries was convened by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in pursuance of decision CP10/3 adopted at the tenth Conference of Parties (COP10) to the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the East African Region held virtually in Virtual, 23 - 25 November 2021
2. Decision CP 6/3 (3): requested the Nairobi Convention Secretariat to support the development of an ICZM Protocol, through a consultative process and in partnership with relevant regional and international organizations and programmes/projects. Decision CP10/3 requested the Secretariat to convene a Conference of Plenipotentiaries before the eleventh meeting of the Contracting Parties to adopt and sign the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Western Indian Ocean region.
3. At the kind invitation of the Government of Madagascar the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention was convened on 11 September 2023.
4. The following Contacting Parties to the Nairobi Convention were invited to participate in the Conference: Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and United republic of Tanzania.
5. The following Contracting Parties attended and participated in the Conference: Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and United republic of Tanzania.
6. United Nations agencies, specialized agencies, convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations who attended as observers are attached as Annex I to this Final Act.
7. In accordance with Rule 16 (2) of the Rules of Procedure of Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Coastal and Marine Environment in the Eastern Africa Region (herein after referred to as “the Rules of Procedures”), the Bureau consisting of Chair (the government of Madagascar), Vice Chair (the United Republic of Tanzania), Vice Chair, Resource Mobilization (the government of Seychelles), Vice Chair, Coordination (the government of the Republic of South Africa) and Rapporteur (the government of Kenya) were re-affirmed as the Bureau for purposes of this Conference of the Plenipotentiaries.
8. The Conference, on the basis of the provisional agenda contained in document: UNEP (Ecosystems)/EAF/PPP3/1a/en and UNEP (Ecosystems)/EAF/PPP3/1a/fr adopted the following Agenda:
 - (a) Opening of the Meeting.
 - (b) Election of officers
 - (c) Presentation of Credentials of Government Representatives



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- (d) Presentation of the regional ICZM Protocol
 - (e) Examination and Adoption of the ICZM Protocol
 - Statements by Governments on ICZM Protocol
 - Statements by Partners
 - (f) Signing Ceremony of the ICZM Protocol
 - (g) Closure of Meeting
9. The Conference had before it, as a basis for its work, the following documents:
- (a) Report of the Final Negotiations Meeting on the text of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean. document: UNEP (Ecosystems)/EAF/PPP3/3/en
 - (b) The Final Text of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean. Document: UNEP (Ecosystems)/EAF/PPP3/2a/en and UNEP (Ecosystems)/EAF/PPP3/2a/fr
10. In accordance with Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedures, the Bureau, assisted by the Secretariat, examined the credentials of the representatives at the Conference.
11. The Conference approved the recommendations of the Bureau that the credentials of the representatives of the participating States, as listed in paragraph 5 above, be recognized as being in due form.
12. The Final Negotiations Meeting on the Protocol for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean was held in Dar es Salaam, on 25-27 March 2019, where the final text of the protocol was agreed upon.
13. At the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries the following countries made statements: Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and United Republic of Tanzania.
14. Minister Baomiavotse Vahinala Raharinirina (Madagascar), Chair of Bureau, formally presented the text of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean.
15. In accordance with Article 18 (1) of the Nairobi Convention, the Conference adopted, on 11 September 2023, the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean (attached as Annex II to this Final Act).
16. The Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean was opened for signature from the twelfth day of September 2023.
17. The Conference also adopted the following resolutions, which are included in this Final Act as Annex III.
- (a) Resolution I: Signature, Ratification, Acceptance and Approval of and Accession to the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Western Indian Ocean.
 - (b) Resolution II: Tribute to the Government of Madagascar.



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In Witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties have signed this Final Act.

DONE AT Antananarivo, Madagascar on this twelfth day of September two thousand and twenty three in a single copy of the English and French languages, the two texts being equally authentic. The original texts of the ICZM Protocol shall be deposited with the Depositary, The Government of the Republic of Kenya

Name of Contracting Party	Name of Contracting Party Representative	Signature	Date
UNION OF THE COMOROS			
FRANCE			
REPUBLIC OF KENYA			
REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR			
REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS			



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Name of Contracting Party	Name of Contracting Party Representative	Signature	Date
MOZAMBIQUE			
REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES			
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA			
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA			
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA			



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**RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF
PLENIPOTENTIARIES FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE
PROTOCOL ON INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT
OF THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN**

RESOLUTIONS I

The Conference,

Resolution I

Recalling past decisions of the Conference of the Parties that were calling for the development of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol, and in Particular decisions CP.6/3, CP.7/3, CP.8/3, CP .9/4 and CP.10/3;

Acknowledging the support provided by the partners, including the government of Sweden and the GEF to the participating countries related to the development of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol ;

Further acknowledging the efforts of the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat for the efforts and collaboration in the development of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol;

Desirous to ensure that the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol enhances cooperation for sustainable development in the Western Indian Ocean region;

Having regard to Articles 26, 27, 28,2 9 and 30 of the Nairobi Convention which govern the signature, ratification, acceptance and approval, accession, entry into force and the deposit of the Amended Nairobi Convention and its Protocols.

1. Adopts the text of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management.
2. Invites the Chair of the Bureau (Government of Madagascar) to open the ICZM Protocol for signature from the twelfth day of September 2023 to the eleventh day of September 2024, by all those entitled to sign the said instrument by virtue of Article 26 of the Nairobi Convention.
3. Urge the Contracting Parties to expedite the process of signing, ratification, acceptance or approval, or accession as they may be, of the ICZM Protocol, and
4. Urge the Contracting Parties to make necessary provisions for enhanced implementation of the ICZM Protocol, including through taking legislative, administrative and policy action , where appropriate.



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RESOLUTIONS II

Tribute to the Government of the Republic of Madagascar

The Conference,

Having met in Antananarivo on 11 September 2023 to 12 September 2023, at the gracious invitation of the Government of the Republic of Madagascar;

Convinced that the generous contribution made by the Government of the Republic of Madagascar greatly added to the efficient and orderly conduct of its proceedings;

Deeply appreciate the courtesy and generous hospitality extended by the Government of the Republic of Madagascar to the members of the delegations, observers and Secretariat attending the Conference.

Express its sincere and profound gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Madagascar for the cordial welcome which was accorded to the Conference and to those associated with its work and for its contribution to the successful conclusion of the Conference.



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**LIST OF UN AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS AT THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PLENIPOTENTIARIES**

Africa Union

BirdLife International

Coastal Oceans Research and Development – Indian Ocean (CORDIO) East Africa

Centre for Environmental Research, Madagascar

East African Wildlife Society

Indian Ocean Commission

IUCN Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa

Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute

Mauritius Oceanographic Institute

Maritime Centre, School of Law, University of Nairobi

South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission

United Nations Environment Programme

University of Dar es Salaam

University of Eduardo Mondlane

Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association

Wildlife Conservation Society – Kenya

World Wide Fund for Nature - Madagascar



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**Final text of the
Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management
of the Western Indian Ocean**

**Adopted in Antananarivo, Madagascar
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Table of contents

PREAMBLE	1
PART I: GENERAL PROVISIONS	2
ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS	2
ARTICLE 2 GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THE PROTOCOL	3
ARTICLE 3 PURPOSE OF THE PROTOCOL.....	3
ARTICLE 4 PRESERVATION OF RIGHTS	3
ARTICLE 5 GENERAL OBLIGATIONS.....	4
ARTICLE 6 OBJECTIVES OF INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT	5
ARTICLE 7 PRINCIPLES OF INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT	5
PART II: INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS AND INSTRUMENTS	6
ARTICLE 8 INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS.....	6
ARTICLE 9 INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT	7
ARTICLE 10 COASTAL DEVELOPMENT SETBACK LINES	7
ARTICLE 11 ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS	7
ARTICLE 12 INFORMATION SHARING, PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE	8
ARTICLE 13 AWARENESS, EDUCATION, AND CAPACITY BUILDING	8
ARTICLE 14 MONITORING AND EVALUATION	8
PART III: SPECIFIC INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ISSUES	9
ARTICLE 15 CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION OF COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS.....	9
ARTICLE 16 CLIMATE CHANGE AND VARIABILITY	9
PART IV: REGIONAL COOPERATION	10
ARTICLE 17 DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT	10
ARTICLE 18 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION.....	11
ARTICLE 19 BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION	11
PART V: INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS	12
ARTICLE 20 SECRETARIAT AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS.....	12
ARTICLE 21 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS	12
ARTICLE 22 NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS	13
ARTICLE 23 MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES	14
PART VI: FINAL PROVISIONS	15
ARTICLE 24 RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CONVENTION	15
ARTICLE 25 RELATIONSHIPS WITH THIRD PARTIES	15
ARTICLE 26 SIGNATURE, RATIFICATION, ACCESSION, AMENDMENT, DEPOSITORY, ENTRY INTO FORCE.....	15
ANNEX I	18
ANNEX II	18



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PREAMBLE

The Contracting Parties to this Protocol,

Being Parties to the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean (“the Convention”),

Recognising that the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas should be carried out, and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional, and global action in the marine sector, as recognised in Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development‘

Conscious of the socio-economic value and the services rendered by healthy coastal and marine ecosystems,

Considering that the coastal zones constitute important components of the natural and cultural heritage of the Western Indian Ocean region,

Recalling the positive developments in integrated coastal zone management in the region, including the 1993 Arusha Declaration and subsequent processes, development and implementation of projects as well as the establishment and strengthening of policies, institutions and legal frameworks,

Recognising the principles upon which integrated coastal zone management is founded, including equity, justice, good governance, right to information, right of access to coastal and marine resources, regional cooperation, polluter-pays and precautionary principles, ecosystem based management and conservation of biodiversity,

Concerned about the threats arising from increased pressures on the fragile coastal and marine areas of the Western Indian Ocean region, resulting from biodiversity loss, pollution, degradation due to growing intensity of human settlement and unsustainable socio-economic activities, natural disasters, climate change including sea level rise affecting especially low lying areas and small island States,

Concerned also about the inadequate coordination or integration of various sector activities, programmes and plans affecting the coastal and marine areas in the Western Indian Ocean region,

Concerned further about the inadequate research, sharing of information, baseline data, enforcement, monitoring and evaluation systems within the Western Indian Ocean region,

Mindful of the environmental and social impacts of developments such as bio-prospecting, waterfront development, oil and gas, as well as other extractive industries on the coastal zone,

Committed to meet the needs for better governance, integration, coordination and management of various sector activities, programmes and plans, by ensuring the sustainable development of coastal and marine areas and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services through the



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implementation of integrated coastal zone management taking into consideration issues of climate change,

Emphasising the importance of developing and strengthening legal, institutional, financial and technical capacities to enhance implementation of this Protocol, and the benefits from sustainable development of coastal resources,

Aware of existing legally binding and voluntary global and regional instruments relevant to integrated coastal zone management,

Determined to implement the Convention, as amended in 2010, in particular Article 4(1) and (2) thereof, as well as its related Protocols,

Have agreed as follows:

PART I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1 Definitions

For the purposes of this Protocol,

“Integrated coastal zone management” is a dynamic and participatory process that involves all relevant stakeholders aimed at planning, managing, conserving and protecting coastal and marine ecosystems and resources; taking into account their fragility and sensitivity, interactions, the nature of uses as well as their impacts with a view to ensuring sustainable development;

“Coastal zone” means the geomorphological area on either side of the shoreline in which the interaction between the marine and terrestrial systems occur and includes areas under national jurisdiction of each Contracting Party, pursuant to Article (2) of this Protocol;

“Coastal resources” means all living and non-living resources which have environmental and socio-economic value forming the integrated terrestrial and marine ecosystems and their services;

“Continental shelf” shall have the same meaning as provided by Article 76 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

“Contracting Party” means any state or regional economic, political or other organization, of which at least one member is a coastal state of the Western Indian Ocean region and which exercises competence in the fields covered by this Protocol, and that has become a party to this Protocol;



UNEP(Ecosystems)/EAF/PPP 3/ICZM/4a/en

“**Convention**” means the Amended Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region;

“**Exclusive Economic Zone**” shall have the same meaning as provided under Article 55 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

“**National focal point**” means the National Focal Point referred to under Article 22 of this Protocol;

“**Organization**” means the body designated as responsible for carrying out secretariat functions pursuant to Article 16 of the Convention and Article (20) of this Protocol.

ARTICLE 2

Geographical Coverage of the Protocol

1. The geographical coverage of the Protocol shall be:
 - (a) the landward limit of the coastal zone as defined by each Contracting Party; and
 - (b) the seaward limit of the coastal zone extending to the outer limits of the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf as recognized by international law.
2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 (b), a Contracting Party may define its seaward limit to an extent that is less than the outer limit of its exclusive economic zone.
3. Each Contracting Party shall notify the other Contracting Parties through the Organization of the extent of the land and seaward limits.

ARTICLE 3

Purpose of the Protocol

The purpose of this Protocol is to provide a framework for promoting regional and national integrated coastal zone management, as well as enhance cooperation for sustainable development in the Western Indian Ocean region within the geographical coverage.

ARTICLE 4

Preservation of Rights

1. Nothing in this Protocol shall affect; a) the sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction of the coastal state in areas under its national jurisdiction; b) the rights and obligations of other states in areas under the national jurisdiction of the coastal state.



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2. Nothing in this Protocol or the Convention shall affect the immunity of warships and other government ships operated for non- commercial purposes. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that its vessels and aircraft entitled to sovereign immunity under international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, act in a manner consistent with the Protocol.
3. The provisions of this Protocol shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the protection and management of the coastal zone contained in existing or future national or international instruments or programmes.
4. Nothing in this Protocol or any act adopted on the basis of this Protocol shall prejudice the rights, the present and future claims or legal views of any Party relating to the Law of the Sea, in particular the nature and the extent of marine areas, the delimitation of marine areas between States with opposite or adjacent coasts, the right and modalities of passage through straits used for international navigation and the right of innocent passage in territorial seas, as well as the nature and extent of the jurisdiction of a coastal State, a flag State or a port State.
5. No act or activity undertaken on the basis of this Protocol shall constitute grounds for claiming, contending or disputing any claim to national sovereignty or jurisdiction.
6. Nothing in this Protocol shall prejudice national security and defence activities and facilities; however, each Party agrees that such activities and facilities should be operated or established, so far as is reasonable and practicable, in a manner consistent with this Protocol.

ARTICLE 5

General Obligations

1. The Contracting Parties shall individually or jointly take appropriate measures in conformity with international law and in accordance with the Convention and this Protocol, to ensure implementation of integrated coastal zone management in the Region.
2. The Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures in conformity with international law for proper and effective discharge of their obligations under the Convention and this Protocol and may, to this end, endeavour to harmonise their programmes, policies, laws and other regulatory frameworks.
3. The Contracting Parties may co-operate with competent and relevant international, regional and sub-regional and national organizations, to promote effective implementation of this Protocol.
4. The Contracting Parties shall, as soon as possible after entry into force of this Protocol, develop and adopt procedures and mechanisms needed at the national level to facilitate compliance and enforcement of the Protocol.



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5. Each Contracting Party shall take all appropriate measures, consistent with its capabilities and relevant international obligations to comply with and enforce this Protocol at the national level, including by enacting relevant domestic legislation and establishing or strengthening institutions.

ARTICLE 6

Objectives of Integrated Coastal Zone Management

The objectives of integrated coastal zone management are to:

- (a) promote sustainable use and equitable benefit sharing of coastal and marine resources;
- (b) conserve the ecological integrity and value of coastal and marine ecosystems and their valuable ecosystem services;
- (c) provide for monitoring, preparedness, reduction, mitigation and adaptation, , and monitoring of the effects of natural risks, especially those associated with climate change;
- (d) promote the development and implementation of regional and national integrated coastal zone management frameworks;
- (e) encourage involvement of all stakeholders to participate in planning and implementation;
- (f) prevent, avoid , mitigate and where necessary offset the harmful effects of anthropogenic activities on the coastal and marine environment; and
- (g) address the emerging development activities on the coastal zone.

ARTICLE 7

Principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management

1. In implementing this Protocol, the Contracting Parties shall be guided by the principles of sustainable development.
2. In addition to the principles of sustainable development, the Contracting Parties shall be guided by the following integrated coastal zone management principles:
 - a) adoption of a broad holistic approach;
 - b) integration and coordination of management efforts across all sectors and operational levels;



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- c) use of a combination of instruments;
- d) consideration for local specificities and peculiarities;
- e) equitable access to the coastal zone, opportunities and benefits of coastal resources and services;
- f) use of adaptive management;
- g) use of participatory approaches;
- h) environmental stewardship of coastal resources;
- i) application of ecosystem based management;
- j) good governance and transparency in decision making processes involving Government, private sector and civil society stakeholders; and,
- k) cross-sectoral institutional coordination of the administrative services, and national, regional and local authorities.

PART II: INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS AND INSTRUMENTS

ARTICLE 8

Integrated Coastal Zone Management Frameworks

1. Each Contracting Party shall establish or strengthen a national and, where appropriate, sub-national, integrated coastal zone management framework to guide implementation of the Protocol, and in particular:
 - (a) strengthen or formulate a national strategy which includes, among others, the identification of priorities, the determination of measures to be taken as well as the legal, institutional and financial requirements;
 - (b) make the frameworks readily available to local authorities, stakeholders and the general public, and ensure sensitisation and awareness of its existence and relevance.
2. Each Contracting Party shall create or strengthen inter- and intra-sectoral institutional coordination mechanisms, including integrated coastal zone management committees, to ensure effective implementation of national frameworks at local, national and regional levels taking into account the interdependence of coastal and marine ecosystems.
3. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that its integrated coastal zone management



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frameworks are regularly updated.

4. The Contracting Parties shall, as soon as this Protocol enters into force, develop indicators based on the categories provided for in **Annex I** to this Protocol, to monitor the implementation of their national integrated coastal zone management frameworks.

ARTICLE 9

Instruments and Tools for Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management

1. Each Contracting Party shall adopt such instruments and tools as provided for in Annex II to this Protocol to implement integrated coastal zone management.
2. The Contracting Parties shall apply any instrument or tool, singularly or in combination, individually or in collaboration with other Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 10

Coastal development setback lines

1. Each Contracting Party shall establish, in accordance with national legislation, coastal development setback lines.
2. Each Contracting Party shall determine its own coastal development setback lines taking into account the:
 - (a) vulnerability of the coastal zones to natural risks and climate change impacts;
 - (b) need to protect landscapes, seascapes, ecosystems, habitats and species within the coastal zone;
 - (c) geographical constraints of specific territories, such as small islands;
 - (d) need to protect coastal infrastructure and other existing developments, private property, and public safety;
 - (e) need to secure public access to the coastal zone;
 - (f) need to preserve the cultural and aesthetic value of the coastal zones; and,
 - (g) need for proximity to the sea of certain developments which are dependent on water.

ARTICLE 11

Economic and Financial Instruments



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1. The Contracting Parties shall, wherever appropriate, take measures to put in place market-based policy instruments such as taxes, subsidies, tradable permits, and deposit refund systems to support local, national and regional efforts for sustainable coastal management.
2. The Contracting Parties shall eliminate, phase out or review economic and financial incentives such as taxes and subsidies that are harmful to sustainable coastal management.

ARTICLE 12

Information sharing, participation and access to justice

1. Each Contracting Party shall:
 - (a) enhance, facilitate and promote within the framework of national legislation, public access to relevant information concerning integrated coastal zone management;
 - (b) encourage participation of public, private and civil society in planning, implementation, and monitoring processes of integrated coastal zone management;
 - (c) provide access to judicial and administrative proceedings, as appropriate, including redress and remedy, for members of the public who are aggrieved by failure to allow them access to information or participation in the processes provided for under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Article; and,
 - (d) contribute to the sharing of information, experiences, lessons learnt and best practices.

ARTICLE 13

Awareness, education, and capacity building

1. The Contracting Parties shall carry out awareness raising activities on integrated coastal zone management at all levels.
2. Each Contracting Party shall organise and strengthen, and where necessary establish directly or with the assistance of the Organization and other bodies, educational programmes and capacity building on integrated coastal zone management at all levels.

ARTICLE 14

Monitoring and Evaluation

Each Contracting Party shall establish, and where appropriate, strengthen or provide for a system of regular monitoring, evaluation, inspection, control and surveillance by its competent national authorities to assess compliance with and enforcement of this Protocol.



PART III: SPECIFIC INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

ARTICLE 15

Conservation and Rehabilitation of Coastal Ecosystems

1. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is integrated into integrated coastal zone management policies, strategies, plans and programmes.
2. Each Contracting Party shall ensure the maintenance or rehabilitation of transboundary and ecological corridors that connect ecosystems to allow for species migration and transportation.
3. Each Contracting Party shall, in so far as is practicable, give priority to the restoration or rehabilitation of degraded coastal ecosystems.
4. Each Contracting Party shall ensure, through policies, legislation, planning and management, the protection of aesthetic, natural, cultural, historical and economic values of coastal landscapes and seascapes.
5. Each Contracting Party shall take into consideration the environmental and ecological safeguards including socio-economic value of ecological services, cost of loss and ecosystem degradation prior to undertaking development activities on the coastal zone.

ARTICLE 16

Climate Change and Variability

1. Each Contracting Party shall integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into all integrated coastal zone management frameworks. In this regard, each Contracting Party shall:
 - (a) take into account all climate change-induced risks to the coastal zone, such as, increase in sea surface temperature, sea level rise, coastal erosion, increase in frequency or intensity of extreme weather events, ocean acidification, and their related consequences on ecosystems and coastal human populations;
 - (b) ensure that policies contribute to building resilience of coastal and marine ecosystems, economies and human populations to climate change and variability; and



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- (c) cooperate with each other to ensure that collective regional interventions are taken where there are transboundary dimensions of climate change and variability.
2. Each Contracting Party shall enhance consultation and coordination between government sectors and other relevant stakeholders for the elaboration and implementation of relevant climate change and variability adaptation and mitigation measures and strategies at national and regional levels.
3. Each Contracting Party shall establish or strengthen institutions for scientific and technical knowledge, and promote local community knowledge on climate change and variability, its impacts and response strategies.
4. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that all policy decisions and measures related to adaptation and mitigation to climate change and variability that are implemented contribute to sustainable coastal management.
5. Each Contracting Party, based on national capabilities, shall ensure that adequate financial provision is made for climate change and variability adaptation measures for implementation of integrated coastal zone management frameworks at national and regional levels.
6. The Contracting Parties shall cooperate and collaborate directly with each other, or through the Organization and relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations, to develop and implement, where appropriate, climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

PART IV: REGIONAL COOPERATION

ARTICLE 17

Disaster Risk Management

1. The Contracting Parties shall collaborate, where appropriate, in the development of coastal disaster risk management procedures and mechanisms for extreme natural phenomena and anthropogenic activities.
2. Each Contracting Party shall, within available resources,:
 - (a) strengthen collaboration with relevant stakeholders on risk identification and assessment;
 - (b) share national experiences and best practice with other parties regarding risk mitigation and reduction;



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- (c) develop operational procedures and standards that will enable regional cooperation in disaster responses;
- (d) strengthen and where necessary establish early warning systems and adaptive measures in cooperation with all Contracting Parties and collaboration with other states; and,
- (e) strengthen and where necessary establish committees or other bodies at national level to address disaster risk management.

ARTICLE 18 Research and Innovation

1. The Contracting Parties may, within available resources, directly or through competent regional and international organizations promote research and innovation in integrated coastal zone management, and in particular:
 - a) promote co-operation among all relevant institutions including research institutions on scientific information, technological innovation and exchange of data;
 - b) establish or strengthen regional networks of research centres and institutions; and,
 - c) promote exchange of best practices, indigenous and local knowledge.

ARTICLE 19 Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation

1. The Contracting Parties may cooperate bilaterally or multilaterally, to implement this Protocol, where necessary, in:
 - a) joint management of shared ecosystems and transboundary programmes and projects;
 - b) scientific and technical assistance and exchange of information to promote compliance and enforcement; and,
 - c) areas beyond national jurisdiction to manage or monitor marine biodiversity, taking into account matters of ecosystem connectivity, and activities that may have adverse impacts on the coastal environment in cooperation with competent international organizations.



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PART V: INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

ARTICLE 20

Secretariat and Coordination Mechanisms

1. The Contracting Parties designate the Organization as the secretariat for purposes of this Protocol.
2. The Organization shall be responsible for coordinating the implementation of this Protocol as provided for in Article 17 of the Convention.
3. In addition to carrying out the functions as provided for in Article 17 of the Convention, the Organization shall perform the following secretariat functions:
 - (a) assist in raising funds for the implementation of this Protocol;
 - (b) prepare common formats as directed by the Contracting Parties to be used as a basis for reports and other communication to the Organization;
 - (c) compile and make available to the Contracting Parties and other relevant parties reports and studies which may be required for the implementation of this Protocol or upon request by the Contracting Parties;
 - (d) prepare regular reports which shall include a draft budget for the forthcoming annual, bi-annual or other period as well as an audited revenue and expenditure statement for the preceding annual, bi-annual or other period as may be agreed by the meetings of the Contracting Parties;
 - (e) assist Contracting Parties, in co-operation with competent regional and international, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, to establish and manage programmes and activities;
 - (f) assist Contracting Parties, upon request, to facilitate and coordinate capacity-building needs of contracting parties; and
 - (g) carry out any other functions that may be assigned to it by the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 21

Financial Arrangements

1. Each Contracting Party shall, taking into account its capabilities and in accordance with its obligations under Article 22 of the Convention, ensure that financial resources are available for the formulation, coordination and implementation of programmes, projects, measures and activities necessary to achieve the objectives of this Protocol.



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2. The financial resources may include voluntary contributions for the achievement of specific objectives of this Protocol made by the Contracting Parties, other governments or government agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and individuals.
3. In particular, each Contracting Party shall:
 - (a) promote and facilitate the mobilization of financial resources, including national budgetary allocations, grants and concessional loans from bilateral and multilateral funding sources and other mechanisms;
 - (b) raise and commit domestic and external financial resources based on both assessed and voluntary contributions, grants, donations and loans; and
 - (c) explore methods and incentives for mobilizing and channelling resources, including those of foundations, non-governmental organizations and private sector entities.
4. In addition to the financial contributions by the Contracting Parties provided for under this Article, the Organization may, in response to a request from any of the Contracting Parties, or on its own motion, seek additional funds or other forms of assistance in implementing the activities related to this Protocol, including voluntary contributions for the achievement of specific objectives of this Protocol made by the Contracting Parties, other governments and government agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, private sector entities and individuals.
5. For purposes of mobilizing funds, each Contracting Party shall endeavour to prioritize national policies, strategies, plans, programmes, measures and activities related to this Protocol.

ARTICLE 22

National Focal Points

1. Each Contracting Party shall designate a national focal point or points consistent with those appointed under the Convention, to liaise with the Organization on technical, scientific, and legal aspects under this Protocol.
2. The national focal points shall meet as appropriate to carry out the functions derived from the Protocol as provided for in the Terms of Reference for the focal points of the Convention.



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ARTICLE 23

Meetings of the Parties

1. Ordinary meetings of the Contracting Parties to this Protocol shall be held in conjunction with ordinary meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Convention held pursuant to Article 18 of the Convention.
2. The Contracting Parties to this Protocol may also hold extra-ordinary meetings provided for in paragraph (2) of Article 18 of the Convention.
3. It shall be the function of the meetings of the Contracting Parties to this Protocol to:
 - (a) consider the efficacy of the measures adopted and to examine the need for other measures in conformity with the provisions of this Protocol;
 - (b) adopt, review, and amend annexes in conformity with the provisions of Article 21 of the Convention;
 - (c) consider recommendations of meetings of National Focal Points established under Article (24) of this Protocol;
 - (d) consider, as appropriate, information transmitted by the Contracting Parties to this Protocol to the Organization under Article 24 of the Convention; and,
 - (e) perform all other functions or exercise such powers as specified under Article 17 of the Convention as appropriate.



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PART VI: FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 24

Relationship with the Convention

1. The provisions of the Convention relating to its Protocols shall apply *mutatis mutandis* with respect to this Protocol.
2. The rules of procedure and the financial rules provided for in Article 21 of the Convention shall apply to this Protocol, unless the Contracting Parties to this Protocol agree otherwise.

ARTICLE 25

Relationships with Third Parties

1. The provisions of this Protocol shall not affect the right of the Contracting Parties to enact relevant domestic legislation or measures for the better implementation of this Protocol.
2. The Contracting Parties may invite non-Contracting Parties to this Protocol, regional and international, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to co-operate in the implementation of this Protocol.
3. The Contracting Parties shall adopt appropriate measures, consistent with international law, to ensure that no one engages in any activity which is inconsistent with, contrary or prejudicial, to the objectives, principles or purposes of this Protocol.

ARTICLE 26

Signature, Ratification, Accession, Amendment, Depository, Entry into Force

1. This Protocol shall be open for signature from the twelfth day of September 2023 to eleventh day of September 2024 by any Contracting Party to the Convention.
2. This Protocol shall be open for accession by any non-Contracting Party to the Convention or organizations contemplated by Article 26 of the Convention, and in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of the Convention, provided that such acceding State or organization has been duly invited by the Organization upon prior approval by the Contracting Parties.



UNEP(Ecosystems)/EAF/PPP 3/ICZM/4a/en

3. The provisions of the Convention as to ratification, acceptance, approval, amendments, review, depositary, withdrawal and entry into force shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to this Protocol.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

DONE AT Antananarivo, Madagascar on this twelfth day of September two thousand and twenty three in a single copy of the English and French languages, the two texts being equally authentic.

Name of Contracting Party	Name of Contracting Party Representative	Signature	Date
UNION OF THE COMOROS			
FRANCE			
REPUBLIC OF KENYA			
REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR			



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Name of Contracting Party	Name of Contracting Party Representative	Signature	Date
REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS			
MOZAMBIQUE			
REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES			
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA			
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA			
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA			



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ANNEX I

In accordance with Article 8 sub article (4) the following are the categories of the indicators:

- a. environmental indicators;
- b. socio-economic indicators;
- c. monitoring and evaluation indicators;
- d. integration indicators; and
- e. awareness, education and capacity building indicators.

ANNEX II

In accordance with Article 9, the list of instruments and tools are as follows;

I. Instruments

- i. Legal and policy instruments, including but not limited to laws and regulations;
- ii. Institutional and administrative instruments, including national and other level institutions and bodies;
- iii. Planning instruments, including strategic environmental planning, marine spatial planning, land-use planning, urban and regional planning, disaster and risk planning at national and all levels; and
- iv. Financial and market-based instruments including environment deposit bonds, blue bonds and green bonds.

II. Tools

- i. Legal, institutional and administrative tools such as licenses, permits and guidelines;
- ii. Planning tools, including strategic environmental assessment, coastal setback lines, zoning and spatial planning, sensitivity mapping, vulnerability assessment, coastal strategies, national oil spill response contingency plans, marine protected areas; disaster risk management, geographical information systems; remote sensing;
- iii. Assessment tools, including socio-economic assessment tools, feasibility studies, cost benefit analysis, scenario planning and forecasting modelling;
- iv. Environmental assessment tools, including environmental impact assessment, environmental auditing, ecosystem valuation; integrated assessment;



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- v. Financial and market-based tools, including valuation taxes, subsidies, tradable permits, deposit refund systems.