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**The Seventh Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention
for the Protection, Management and Development of
the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western
Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention)**
Maputo, Mozambique 10 - 14 December, 2012

**REPORT OF THE SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARINE AND COASTAL
ENVIRONMENT OF THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN (NAIROBI CONVENTION)**

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Background

1. The Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention) entered into force in 1996. The Convention has three protocols on (Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region; and Cooperation in Combating Marine Pollution in Cases of Emergency in the Eastern African Region) and an LBSA protocol that was signed in 2010. Since entry into force, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has convened 6 Conference of parties meeting starting with the first meeting of the Contracting Parties in March 1997 in Seychelles.

2. At that first meeting of the Contracting Parties, the Parties took a number of major decisions, including:

- (a) Rules of procedures for meetings and conferences;
- (b) Terms of reference for management of trust funds;
- (c) Establishment of an ad hoc technical and legal working group to review the Convention and its Protocols;
- (d) Establishment of a regional coordinating unit in Seychelles.

3. At the second conference of parties meeting, held in Mauritius in November 1999, the Contracting Parties approved the work programme for the biennium 2000–2001, which was designed to bring the Convention into line with the decisions of the Pan-African Conference on Sustainable Integrated Coastal Management and the Cape Town Declaration on an African Process for the Development and Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. At that meeting, the Contracting Parties adopted decisions on the following:

- (a) Work programme for the biennium 2000–2001;
- (b) Joint implementation mechanism;
- (c) Sustainable financial strategy;
- (d) Amendments to the rules of procedure.

4. At their third conference of parties meeting, held in Maputo in December 2001, the Contracting Parties adopted the work programme for the biennium 2002–2003.

5. Following recommendations made during the workshop that preceded the heads of delegations meeting, and as a result of their own deliberations, the Contracting Parties arrived at decisions on the following:

- (a) New work programme for the biennium 2002–2003;
- (b) Protection of coral reefs and associated ecosystems;
- (c) Controlling shoreline changes (coastal erosion); UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/10
- (d) Protection of endangered species;
- (e) Other management measures;
- (f) Revision of the Convention and its Protocols and negotiation of a new protocol on land-based sources of pollution;
- (g) Strengthening the institutional mechanism of the Nairobi Convention;
- (h) Partnerships;
- (i) Project development;
- (j) Financial matters.

6. The fourth meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention was held in Antananarivo, Madagascar from 6 to 8 July 2004. During that meeting, a four-year (2004–2007) work programme was approved. In addition a plan of implementation of the Western Indian Ocean Land Based Activities (WIO-LaB) project 2004-2007 was endorsed, and the proposal for the WIO-LaB project to be hosted within the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention approved.

7. The meeting further adopted the following decisions:

- a. New Programme of work for 2004-2007

- b. Implementation of Nairobi Convention and Action Plan as instruments of sustainable development
- c. Measures to address invasive alien species in marine and coastal environments
- d. Protection of coral reefs, associated ecosystems and endangered species,
- e. Assessment and monitoring activities in the Region
- f. Small Island Developing States
- g. Revision of the Nairobi Convention and related Protocols and development of a New Protocol on Land Based Sources of Pollution;
- h. Enhancing access to information
- i. Strengthening partnerships and the institutional mechanism of the Nairobi Convention;
- j. Financial matters

8. The fifth meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention was held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 5 to 8 November 2007. The fifth meeting was held as a joint session with the Eighth Conference of Parties for the Abidjan Convention. During this meeting, the Contracting Parties for the Nairobi Convention reviewed progress on the plan of implementation for the WIO-LaB project, implementation of the programme of work 2004-2007, including a launch of the Consortium for Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C). The meeting also considered and adopted the following decisions:

- a. New Work Programme for 2008-2011
- b. Protection of ecosystems and endangered species
- c. Assessment and monitoring activities
- d. Revision of the Nairobi Convention and related protocols
- e. Strengthening partnerships and institutional mechanisms
- f. Small Island Developing States
- g. Support to Somalia
- h. Financial matters

9. As a follow-up to the recommendations of the fifth conference of parties held in 2007, the Secretariat for the Nairobi Convention organized a conference of Plenipotentiaries during the sixth meeting of the Contracting Parties of the Nairobi Convention held from 29 March to 1 April 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya. The conference of plenipotentiaries considered, adopted and signed two new instruments for the Nairobi Convention: *Amended Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean*; and the *Protocol for the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-Based Sources and Activities*.

10. The meeting also adopted a *Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-based Sources and Activities* (WIO-SAP). It also considered the recommendations from the meetings that proceeded the sixth Conference of Parties and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries and adopted the following decisions:

- a. Implementing the Work Programme and Budget 2008-2011
- b. Review of Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region
- c. Strengthening Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Western Indian Ocean Region
- d. Strengthening the Nairobi Convention Secretariat
- e. Contributions to the Trust Fund
- f. Partnership Arrangements
- g. Monitoring and Reporting

Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties

11. The seventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean was held in Mozambique from 10 - 14 December 2012, in Maputo, Mozambique. The COP7 was organized by UNEP as the Secretariat for the Nairobi Convention in close collaboration with the host, the Government of Mozambique, and the Chair of the Bureau for the Nairobi Convention, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), BirdLife International, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and CORDIO East Africa. The COP7 theme was “Partnering for a Healthy Western Indian Ocean”.
12. The seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention was officially opened on 12 December 2012 by Minister for Planning and National Development Dr. Aiuba Cuereneia, on behalf of the Prime Minister of the Government of Mozambique.
13. The Conference of parties was attended by over 100 participants, including Dr. Alcinda Antonio de Abreu, Minister for Coordination of Environmental Affairs (MICOA) Mozambique, and Dr. Ana Paulo Chichava, the Deputy Minister MICOA, Ms. Rejoice Mabudafhasi, Deputy Minister, Department of Water and Environmental Affairs South Africa, Ms. Chodouliati Abdou Chakour, Minister for the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Environment Comoros. The Federal Republic of Somalia was represented by Dr. Abdirizak Omar Mohamed, Minister for National Resources Federal Republic of Somalia. Dr. Terezya Huvisa Luoga, Minister of State in the Vice President Office responsible for Environment, represented Tanzania.
14. The COP7 meeting was also attended by Directors and senior representatives of the Governments of Comoros, Kenya, France, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania. Also present were the representatives of UN organizations, NGOs, IGOs, research institutions and academia including Mr. Ali Kaka, Director, IUCN Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Chair of the Consortium for the Conservation of the Marine and Coastal ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C). The list of participants is attached as Annex I.
15. The seventh conference of Parties’ Heads of Delegation meeting was preceded by four workshops:
 - a. A “Sharks conservation in the Western Indian Ocean: Implications on CITES for Fisheries Management” on 6 to 7 December 2012;
 - b. A follow-up workshop on the “UN Regular Process for the Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects” on 6 and 7 December 2012;
 - c. A “science for policy workshop” on 10 and 11 December 2012; and
 - d. A “Policy makers and experts meeting” and a “WIO-C meeting” on 12 December 2012.
16. Thereafter, the “Seventh Conference of Parties Heads of Delegation” was held on 13 and 14 December 2012.
17. Ahead of the Heads of Delegation meeting, the Bureau for the Nairobi Convention deliberated on the draft agenda for the Heads of Delegation. The Heads of Delegation were to discuss on the Executive Director’s report, new Work Programme for 2013-2017 and Budget for the Nairobi Convention, including recommendations and decisions from the Sharks conservation workshop, UN Regular Process workshop, Science for Policy workshop and the Policy makers and experts meeting including the WIO-C meeting.
18. The summary of the proceeding of the seventh Conference of Parties are presented in this report.

A. Science for Policy Workshop

1. Introduction

19. The Science for Policy workshop was held on 10 and 11 December 2012, in Maputo, Mozambique. The Science for Policy workshop was attended by over 85 participants, 41 policy experts from national government institutions, and 45 from partner organizations (NGOS, UN Agencies, research and academic institutions).
20. The workshop deliberated on key issues including oil and gas exploration, climate change, Ecosystem-based management, and valuation of ecosystem goods and services and ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs), Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), green economy, Marine protected areas, potential new marine world heritage sites, mangroves, coral reefs, sea grasses, among others.

21. A set of recommendations from the Science for policy workshop were forwarded to the experts workshop for further review and integration into the new work programme for 2013- 2017 and decisions for the Heads of Delegation meeting for the Seventh Conference of parties for the Nairobi Convention.

2. Opening of the Workshop

22. The Science for policy workshop was officially opened by Dr. Ana Paulo Chichava, Deputy Minister of the Ministry for the Coordination of Environmental Affairs (MICOA) on 10 December 2012.

3. Organizational matters

23. In accordance with rule 16 of the rules of procedure for meetings and conferences for the Nairobi Convention, representative of the Government of Mozambique, the Chair of the bureau, chaired the meeting while the Rapporteur, the Government of Tanzania, kept track of the key recommendations of the workshop.

24. The Chair outlined the agenda contained in document Annex II (UNEP (DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/2) prepared by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat. The agenda was adopted with minor amendments.

4. Issue-based discussions on emerging issues and areas requiring decisions

25. Numerous presentations and discussions on emerging issues and areas requiring decisions were made in a plenary session. In the first day of the discussions, the experts dwelled on ecosystem based management approaches, Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs). FAO introduced discussions on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) and the role of regional fisheries organization in the description of the VMEs. In the second day, the discussions mainly focused on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), critical coastal and marine ecosystems i.e. coral reefs, mangroves and sea grass beds, green economy in a blue world, climate change, oil and gas, marine protected areas and regional assessment on birds as indicators of ecosystem health, mangroves for the future, and sharks conservation in the Western Indian Ocean region

26. GRID Arendal led discussions on the Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions (ABNJ) and possible role for the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans in the discussions. In particular, the presentations highlighted the fact that what happens in the high seas will ultimately have an effect in national waters. Governments were thus urged to prepare on how to deal with the proximal impacts from ABNJ beside seabed mining activities.

27. Other presentations and discussions included proposal for the application for of an Ocean Health Index (OHI) and identification of trans-boundary World Heritage Sites in the Mozambican channel, including establishment of a conservation area akin to the coral reef triangle in the Northern Mozambican Channel. Comments on the proposal on the world heritage sites pointed out that there was a possible overlap between existing conservation efforts and the heritage sites especially in the Bazaruto Archipelago, and the need for Strategic Environmental Assessments before any areas are declared heritage sites or EBSAs.

28. The Government of Seychelles led discussions on the Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge (WIO-CC), which was defined as a platform for parties to discuss development in the context of climate change. The platform will focus on climate change and the impacts of climate change in coastal areas and resources.

29. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat led the discussions on ICZM. In the presentation, the secretariat provided a brief evolution on the concept of ICZM and the current use of ICZM as a management support tool for implementation of national and international environmental commitments such as UNCLOS. The discussions further explored ways of using the ICZM Protocol to address emerging issues on biodiversity such as oil and gas, EBSAs, VMEs as well as linking with efforts to deal with ABNJ and partnership agreements with other international organizations such as CBD, FAO, and other initiatives dealing with biodiversity issues in both the coastal zone and deep sea.

30. The Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS) led discussions on ecosystem based management and EBSAs. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is leading the process on the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs). The application of EBSAs will form an important contribution to the designation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by providing globally applied scientific guidance. IMS presented the outcomes of the regional experts workshop for the *Southern Indian Ocean to Facilitate the Description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas* (EBSAs) organised by CBD, in partnership with Nairobi Convention and FAO. The workshop facilitated the description of 39 EBSAs within territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), including transboundary areas and areas beyond national jurisdictions in the Southern Indian Ocean region. The approved EBSAs were subsequently presented during the eleventh Conference of Parties (COP11) of CBD..

31. Consequently, the COP7 was requested to endorse the partnerships between the CBD and the Nairobi Convention, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCMLAR) on scientific collaboration, development of indicators, and in the description of EBSAs in the WIO region, including in areas beyond national jurisdictions (ABNJ) in partnership with CBD, FAO and UNEP. Further, Contracting Parties were urged to support the process of creating trans-boundary MPAs in areas of outstanding biodiversity that may have been described under the EBSA process, and Marine Important Bird Areas. Contracting Parties were also requested to support the regional demonstrations for the GEF project on *Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions Deep Sea Project* in the Indian Ocean.

32. Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), University of Eduardo Mondlane and Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) led the discussions on critical coastal and marine habitats such as coral reefs, mangroves and sea grass beds. The presentations provided an overview of ongoing conservation efforts, research and project activities including networks and taskforces established and anchored within the Nairobi Convention. The presentations called for development of standardized methodologies for assessment and further collaboration with ongoing regional initiatives, projects and funding institutions to further support or strengthen these networks and taskforces.

33. The Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) led the discussions on green economy and climate change in the Western Indian Ocean region. In their presentation, WIOMSA drew the attention of the participants to the momentum that had been generated by the discussions on green economy from the Rio+ 20 Summit in June 2012; the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) held on 10-14 September 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania; and the Nairobi Convention Focal Points meeting held on 9 August 2012 in Maputo, Mozambique. The presentation also highlighted on-going regional and national initiatives on green economy in the WIO region. WIOMSA further provided an overview of the draft regional climate change strategy under development by the 'Consortium for the Conservation of the marine and coastal ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean' (WIO-C). The regional strategy seeks to bring to the attention of the policy and decision makers climate change issues facing the marine and coastal environment in the Western Indian Ocean region.

34. World Wildlife Fund (WWF) on behalf of the WIO-C led the discussions on oil and gas. WWF highlighted the major discoveries on oil and gas in the region such as Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique and Tanzania. The presentation also highlighted the potential for an overlap between the offshore and coastal areas of high biodiversity with areas oil and gas potential mainly in Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar. In the conclusions, the presentation focused on the opportunities for economic development from the oil and gas industry and the impacts including cumulative impacts that must be anticipated and addressed in the development of the oil and gas sector.

35. BirdLife International led discussions on marine protected areas and the assessment of the status of the marine and coastal environment using birds as indicators of ecosystem health. In the presentation, BirdLife International highlighted the role of birds in the marine and coastal environment such as in the Tuna fisheries industry. The assessment process followed a comprehensive review of scientific information, formation of national taskforces and in-country technical review workshops leading to the development of national and regional synthesis report and a revised list of 108 birds on Annex II of the Protocol concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region. The presentation further called for collaboration with other multilateral environmental agreements such as CBD, CMS, RAMSAR Convention and regional fisheries organizations.

36. IUCN led the discussions on the proposed regional project on the Mangroves for the Future in the WIO region. The initiative is based on the success of the Mangroves for the Future project in Asia. The proposed project will focus on sustainable management of mangroves ecosystems as well as wider coastal management to enhance resilience of coastal communities. Several objectives associated with this have been developed and a preliminary program of work designed. Field level implementation will hopefully also be accompanied by policy level changes. A situation analysis is underway to develop a full program including intensive stakeholder engagement.

37. In the second day of discussions WCS presented the outputs of the Sharks conservation workshop held on 6 and 7 December 2012 in Maputo, Mozambique. The shark's workshop had preceded the Science for policy Workshop, and the aim was to generate baseline data and information for future sharks conservation work in the WIO region

38. CORDIO led the discussion on marine world heritage sites and presented outcomes of a recent assessment of sites in the Western Indian Ocean that likely met the natural criteria of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage Site nomination. Discussions focused on how to engage the process for World

Heritage nomination for the identified sites, building capacity in the region, and the need for partnership agreements between the Nairobi Convention and the World Heritage Convention on transboundary sites such as the Mozambique Channel, and the Mascarene Plateau, among others.

5. Summary of decisions from the Science for policy Workshop and closure of the Workshop

1. A summary of the decisions from the Science for Policy workshop were presented by a representative of the Government of Tanzania. The draft decision was thereafter presented to the Experts meeting of the Seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention for their consideration.

B. Policy makers and Experts Meeting; and a parallel session of the WIO-C meeting

1. Opening of the Policy makers and experts meeting

2. Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Head, Secretariat for the Nairobi Convention called the policy makers and experts meeting to order at 9.00 am on 12 December 2012.

2. Organizational matters

3. In accordance with rule 16 of the rules of procedure for meetings and conferences, the Bureau of the Nairobi Convention assumed the role of a meeting bureau. Mozambique chaired the meeting while Rapporteur Tanzania kept track of the key decisions of the meeting that were brought forward to the Bureau meeting.

4. The Chair introduced the agenda contained in document UNEP (DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/2. The meeting adopted the agenda as presented by the Secretariat. The adopted agenda is attached as Annex II of this report.

3. Highlights of the UNEP Executive Director's report

5. Mr. Waruinge, Head, Nairobi Convention Secretariat presented the highlights of the UNEP Executive Director's report contained in the document UNEP (DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/3. The UNEP Executive Director's report is available as Annex IV of this report.

4. Discussions on key decision areas

6. The Chair invited a representative of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat to introduce the draft decisions for the following key decision areas:

- a. Draft ICZM and LBSA protocol and draft guidelines for drafters and negotiators
- b. Coordination mechanism for the Nairobi Convention and scientific and technical body for state of coast reports and the UN Regular process
- c. Draft new action strategy for the WIO region
- d. National Reporting template
- e. Financial report
- f. Draft Work Programme 2013-2017 for the Nairobi Convention

7. The chair further invited a representative from the drafting team of the Science for Policy workshop to make a presentation on the recommendations from the Science for Policy workshop for consideration by the policy makers and experts meeting for the Seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention. The recommendations included draft decisions on:

- a. Ecosystem based management and valuation of ecosystem goods and services and ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs)
- b. Climate change and policy implications for the coastal and marine environment for the WIO region
- c. Green economy in a blue world

- d. Oil and gas exploration
- e. Review of the Protocol on Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora
- f. Potential new marine World Heritage sites in the Indian Ocean
- g. Mangroves for the future
- h. Coral reefs, Sea grasses and Mangrove network in the WIO region

5. Presentation of NGOs forum by WIO-C

8. The President of WIO-C, Mr. Ali Kaka presented a draft decision as proposed by the WIO-C members for consideration by the policy makers and experts meeting of the Seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention. The proposed decisions were incorporated into the decisions that were submitted to the Bureau ahead of the Heads of Delegation session held on 13 and 14 December 2012.

6. Draft decisions for the Heads of Delegations Meeting

9. The Secretariat for the Nairobi Convention led the experts through the proposed draft decisions for the Heads of Delegations meeting highlighting the key issues for each decision. Various corrections and amendments were proposed and participants were requested to submit in writing to the Secretariat and the proposed amendments were made through a plenary session.

7. Any other business and closure of the policy makers and experts meeting

10. There being no other business, the policy makers and experts meeting closed at 4.30 pm on 12 December 2012.

C. Bureau meeting

11. The meeting of the Bureau for the Nairobi Convention was convened at 8.00pm on 12 December 2012. The meeting was attended by the outgoing Bureau for the Nairobi Convention whose composition were Chair Mozambique; Vice Chair (Work Programme) Comoros; Vice Chair (Resource Mobilization) Kenya; Vice Chair (Coordination) Seychelles and Rapporteur Tanzania.

12. The Bureau reviewed and discussed the recommendations from the policy makers and experts' workshop including the draft decisions to be considered and adopted by the Heads of Delegations for the Seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention.

D. Heads of Delegations Meeting

1. Introduction

13. The seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention was officially opened on 12 December 2012 by Minister for Planning and National Development Dr. Aiuba Cuereneia, on behalf of the Prime Minister of the Government of Mozambique. Opening statements are attached as Annex III.

14. The Conference of parties was attended by over 100 participants, including Dr. Alcinda Antonio de Abreu, Minister for Coordination of Environmental Affairs (MICOA) Mozambique, and Dr. Ana Paulo Chichava, the Deputy Minister MICOA, Ms. Rejoice Mabudafhasi, Deputy Minister, Department of Water and Environmental Affairs South Africa, Ms. Chodouliati Abdou Chakour, Minister for the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Environment Comoros. The Federal Republic of Somalia was represented by Dr. Abdirizak Omar Mohamed, Minister for National Resources Federal Republic of Somalia. Dr. Terezya Huvisa Luoga, Minister of State in the Vice President Office responsible for Environment, represented Tanzania.

15. The COP7 meeting was also attended by Directors and senior representatives of the Governments of Comoros, Kenya, France, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania. Also present were the representatives of UN organizations, NGOs, IGOs, research institutions and academia including Mr. Ali Kaka, Director, IUCN Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Chair of the Consortium for the Conservation of the Marine and Coastal ecosystems (WIO-C). List of participants is attached as Annex I.

2. Welcome remarks

a. Welcome remarks by a representative of UNEP Secretariat

16. Ms. Jacqueline Alder, Coordinator, Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI/UNEP) on behalf of the Executive Director United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) made an opening statement and welcomed the participants to the Seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention. Ms. Alder further led the meeting towards the launch of the UNEP report entitled “SIDS Focused Green Economy: An Analysis of Challenges and Opportunities”.

b. Launch of the Green Economy in the SIDS publication

17. The Seventh Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention began with the launch by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) of a report entitled “SIDS Focused Green Economy: An Analysis of Challenges and Opportunities”. The report analyses five development sectors in the Small Island States, namely; small scale fisheries and aquaculture, water, tourism, energy and solid waste in attempt to show how a transition to green economy can assist in addressing some of the most critical challenges Small Island States (SIDS) face while stimulating economic development, maintaining economic stability, facilitating job creation while conserving resources.

18. While applauding UNEP for the initiative, the representative of the Government of Mauritius Mr. Phosun Kallee stressed that it was the responsibility of the current generation to create a better future. The report was handed over to the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development for Comoros, Ms. Chodouliati Abdou Chakour.

19. While acknowledging the report, the Ms. Chakour stated that Green Economy was a relevant approach for future economic development of the nations across the world. She also stated that the report provided specific guidance for the development of Small Island States whose economy is totally dependent on coastal and marine resources. The Minister said that there was need to establish appropriate sustainable energy technologies through technological expertise and sharing mechanisms which will strengthen SIDS capacity in addressing energy constraints. She called upon developed states to assist SIDS in development of a Green Economy.

3. Statement by out-going Chair

20. The outgoing Chair of the Bureau, Dr. Alcinda Antonio de Abreu, Minister for Coordination of Environmental Affairs for Mozambique made a statement on behalf of the Bureau. The out-going Chair called on the Contracting Parties of the Nairobi Convention to ratify the Protocol on the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment from Land Based Sources and Activities. She also called for partnerships of the various organizations in the region to meet the objectives of the Nairobi Convention and its Protocols. The statement by the outgoing Chair is attached as Annex III.

4. Organizational matters

a. Election of new members of the Bureau

21. The outgoing Chair led the process of electing new members of the Bureau of the Seventh Conference of Parties. The following new members were elected:

- a) Chair- Tanzania
- b) Vice Chair (Work Programme) - Seychelles
- c) Vice Chair (Resources Mobilization) – South Africa
- d) Vice Chairperson (Coordination) -Mozambique
- e) Rapporteur - Kenya

b. Adoption of agenda and organization of work

22. The incoming Chairperson Dr. Terezya Huvisa Luoga, Minister of State in the Vice President Office responsible for Environment, Tanzania, congratulated the outgoing Chair for the able leadership. She also stated that she would endeavor to ensure that the objectives of the Nairobi Convention were met. Thereafter, she introduced the provisional agenda contained in the document UNEP (DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/2 and was adopted as was and is attached as Annex II of this report.

5. Report on the Policy makers and Experts meeting

23. A report on the Policy makers and Experts meeting held from 10th to 12th December 2012 was presented to the delegates. It was stated that delegates had discussed issues surrounding the following themes:

- a) Climate change and policy implications for the coastal and marine environment for the WIO region
- b) Green Economy in a blue world
- c) Oil and gas exploration
- d) Marine protected areas and regional synthesis report on birds as indicators of ecosystem health
- e) The Mozambique Channel
- f) Potential new marine World Heritage sites in the Indian Ocean
- g) Mangroves for the future
- h) Coral reefs, Sea grasses and Mangrove network in the WIO region.

24. Some of the key recommendations arising from the meeting included the need for the Contracting Parties to:

- a) Enhance their capacity in ecosystem based management and undertake valuations of ecosystems;
- b) Take urgent adaptation and mitigation measures to address the adverse effects of climate change on marine and coastal areas;
- c) Develop and implement green economy policies;
- d) Take into account environmental concerns during exploration and production of oil and gas, including establishing contingency plans and mitigation measures to address negative impacts on the marine and coastal environment;
- e) Create awareness on these conservation strategies at the level of managers and policy makers;
- f) Develop scientific capacity for data collection and delineation of future conservation areas;
- g) Train on climate change vulnerability, resilience and adaptation, spatial planning to be conducted;
- h) Establish alumni of trainees for continued interaction;
- i) Review the bird species list in Annex II of the Wild Fauna and Flora Protocol;
- j) Identify important marine Bird Areas (IBAs);
- k) Policies to encompass ABNJ since species resident in the region use these areas;
- l) Link conservation actions on birds to relevant international instruments/initiatives; and
- m) Establish a regional network of bird experts.

6. Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

25. Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Head, Nairobi Convention Secretariat presented a report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (Annex IV). The report detailed the progress made in the implementation of decisions of prior Conferences of Parties. The report also detailed progress and successes achieved by the Contracting Parties, key partners and stakeholders towards the implementation of the Nairobi Convention Work Program in the period 2010 to 2012. It was noted that Contracting Parties had not ratified or acceded to the Amended Nairobi Convention and the LBSA Protocol.

26. The Secretariat report on outcomes of a regional partnership UNEP-African Union Economic Commission project on *Support for Ratification and Implementation of the Protocol for the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-Based Sources and Activities* (LBSA protocol). The purpose of the project was to assist Contracting Parties to address policy, legislative and institutional issues and provide guidance and sensitize member States on the appropriate measures towards ratification and effective implementation of the LBSA Protocol. The report noted efforts by member states towards acceding or ratifying the Amended Nairobi Convention and LBSA protocol and domestication and implementation of the same.

27. The Secretariat presented the national reporting template in accordance with Decision CP6/1.7 of COP6. The template which has been prepared and reviewed by members of the Bureau and focal point will be used for compiling country reports as a means for reporting to the Convention. The National Reporting template will first be used to collect baseline data. The template was endorsed.

28. The Secretariat's report highlighted the outcomes of workshops on the "UN Regular Process for the Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects" held in August and on 6 and 7 December 2012; and the Sharks conservation workshop held on 6 and 7 December 2012. The UN Regular process workshops contribute to building the capacity of experts in the WIO region on preparation of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment; as well as facilitated dialogue between the Group of Experts of the Regular Process and experts in the WIO region on collection of data on various themes. The Sharks workshop discussed conservation of sharks in the WIO region in preparation for the upcoming CITES meeting.

29. The Secretariat reported on progress in the preparation of a comprehensive *New Action Strategy for the Western Indian Ocean region* through a partnership arrangement with members of the WIO-C. The strategy is informed by analytical reviews of environmental challenges in the region as well as other regional processes while building on the achievements of the Eastern African Action Plan. In addition, the Strategy provides a framework for addressing emerging issues identified by Contracting Parties that require policy attention including Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs), marine World Heritage Sites, ports and harbors, climate change, outcomes of RIO+20, natural blue capital, and exploration of oil and gas. The new strategy is therefore also aligned to a responsive regional coordination mechanism including a strengthened Secretariat and fund raising mechanisms in line with decision CP6/4 of COP6. The *New Action Strategy* forms the basis for defining the New Programmes of Work for the Nairobi Convention for 2013 to 2017 and beyond

30. A proposed Work Programme 2013-2017 (Annex V) was presented by the Secretariat. The Work Programme highlighted objectives, main programme elements and proposed activities on the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-SAP); Mangroves for the Future Initiative of WIO region; and new projects on Marine Protected Areas, ICZM Protocol, Mozambique Channel, and support to Somalia, as well as new partnership initiatives on EBSAs, VME, PSSAs, ABJN, marine World Heritage Sites, climate change, oil and gas exploration and green economy in a blue world. The work programme outlined various work load and funding scenarios and related staffing requirements and structures. In particular it was recommended that the Secretariat is strengthened to enable the Convention to adequately fulfil its mandate and address current, new and emerging issues.

31. While endorsing the Work Programme 2013-2017, Contracting Parties were unanimous that there was need to find mechanisms to finance the Work Programme activities including enhancing contributions to the Trust Fund and payment of arrears owed by member countries. Contracting Parties called for the support of partners including GEF and other stakeholders

32. The financial report for 2011 – 2012 and the proposed budget for 2013- 2014 was also adopted by the contracting parties as contained in the document UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/4b-en. Annex VI

7. Decisions Annex VII

33. The Secretariat presented the draft decisions to the Head of delegations. The Conference of Parties adopted the decisions with the following amendments:

- i. Decision CP7/1: *Work Programme for 2013-2017* the words “capacity building in public private partnership for blue carbon and oil and gas” be inserted after the word “strategy” in the fifth line of the third paragraph.
- ii. Decision CP7/12: *Conservation of Sharks*- the following paragraph be inserted: “Request the Secretariat in collaboration with the Contracting Parties to prepare a regional status report on the state of sharks especially on matters of institutional, legal and capacity and report to the next Conference of Parties”.
- iii. Decision CP7/15: *Contribution to the United Nations Regular Process*- the words “and actively contribute to” be inserted after the word “support” in the first line of the first paragraph.
- iv. Decision CP7/16: *Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge* the words “and encourage participation in” be inserted after the word “support” in the first line of the first paragraph.
- v. Decision CP7/18- the title of the decision be amended to read “*Support to the Federal Republic of Somalia on Management of Coastal and Marine Environment*”

34. The adopted decisions of the seventh Conference of Parties are contained in the document UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/5/en and are attached as an Annex VII to this report.

8. Remarks by Heads of Delegation and Partners

35. The Heads of Delegations for the Governments of Mauritius, Somalia, Kenya, Madagascar, France and Seychelles, including representatives of Birdlife International, CORDIO, WWF, Indian Ocean Commission (COI), issued statements during the Conference. The message from the statements was the need for Contracting Parties to unite in sustainable management of coast and marine ecosystems. The closing statements are attached as Annex VIII to this report.

9. Venue of the next meeting

36. Contracting Parties agreed that the 8th Conference of Parties to the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coast Environment of the Western Indian Ocean region (the Nairobi Convention) would be held in Seychelles in December 2014.

10. Any other business

37. WWF congratulated the Government of Mozambique for designating a new marine protected areas.

11. Closure of meeting

38. The Chair closed the meeting by thanking distinguished participants for attending the Conference. She was hopeful that the Contracting Parties and partners would support the Bureau during its tenure.

39. There being no other business, the Conference ended at 11.00 a.m. on 14th December 2012.

Annex I: List of participants



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
 Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة
 联合国环境规划署



**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE NAIROBI CONVENTION
 10-14 DECEMBER 2012**

COP7 MEETING

MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE

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Annex II: Agenda for COP7

A. Agenda for the seventh Conference of Parties: Science for policy workshop

**UNITED
NATIONS**

EP

UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/2/en



United Nations

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Programme

The Seventh Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention)
Maputo, Mozambique 10 - 14 December, 2012

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM AGENDA

CONFERENCE OF PARTIES:- SCIENCE FOR POLICY WORKSHOP¹

(10-11 DECEMBER 2012)

8.30-9.00	Registration
9.00-9.30	1. Opening of the Workshop 1.1. Statement by a representative of UNEP 2. Statement by the representative of host Government of Mozambique
9.30-9.35	3. Organisational matters: Existing Bureau from COP6
9.35-9.45	4. Adoption of the agenda
9.45-10.30	5. Issue-based discussions on emerging issues and areas requiring decisions (a) ICZM, draft ICZM protocol and draft guidelines for drafters and negotiators of the ICZM protocol to the Nairobi Convention and plenary session
10.30-11.00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.00-11.45	(b) Presentation and plenary session on Ecosystem based management and valuation of ecosystem goods and services and ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs)
11.45-12.30	(c) Presentation and plenary session on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems -FAO
12.30-14.00	LUNCH BREAK
14.00-14.45	(d) Presentation and plenary session on Areas beyond National Jurisdictions -GRID-Arendal

¹ Preconference meetings on UN Regular Process and Sharks conservation and management workshop will be held on 6 and 7 December 2012, in Maputo, Mozambique

14.45-15.30	(e) Potential new marine World Heritage sites in the Indian Ocean
15.30-16.00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
16.00-16.45	(f) Coral reefs, Sea grasses and Mangrove network in the WIO region
16.45-17.00	(g) Close of Day 1
DAY 2	
9.00-9.10	(h) Recap of Day 1 by the Chair
9.10-9.55	(i) Presentation and plenary discussion on Green economy in a blue world
9.55-10.30	(j) Presentation and plenary discussion Climate change and policy implications for the coastal and marine environment for the WIO region
10.30-11.00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.00-11.45	(k) Oil and gas exploration
11.45-12.30	(l) Marine protected areas and regional synthesis report on birds as indicators of ecosystem health
12.30-2.00	LUNCH BREAK
2.00-2.45	(m) Potential new marine World Heritage sites in the Indian Ocean
2.45-3.30	(n) Mangroves for the future
3.30-4.00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4.00-4.45	(o) Summary from the Science for policy Workshop
4.45-5.00	(p) Closure of the Workshop

B. Agenda for the Seventh Conference of Parties: Policy makers and Experts meeting

**UNITED
NATIONS**

EP

UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/2/en/Day 3



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**The Seventh Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention
for the Protection, Management and Development of
the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western
Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention)**

Maputo, Mozambique 10 - 14 December, 2012

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**CONFERENCE OF PARTIES:- POLICY MAKERS AND EXPERTS MEETING; AND A PARALLEL
SESSION OF THE WIO-C MEETING**

(12 DECEMBER)

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Organisational matters: Existing Bureau from COP6
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Highlights of the UNEP Executive Director's report
5. Discussions on key decision areas on:
 - Draft ICZM and LBSA protocol and draft guidelines for drafters and negotiators
 - Coordination mechanism for the Nairobi Convention and scientific and technical body for state of coast reports and the UN Regular process
 - Draft new action strategy for the WIO region
 - National Reporting template
 - Financial report
 - Draft Work Programme 2013-2017 for the Nairobi Convention
6. Presentation and discussion of recommendations from the Science for policy workshop on:
 - Ecosystem based management and valuation of ecosystem goods and services and ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs)
 - Climate change and policy implications for the coastal and marine environment for the WIO region
 - Green economy in a blue world
 - Oil and gas exploration

- Marine protected areas and regional synthesis report on birds as indicators of ecosystem health
 - Ports and harbours
 - Potential new marine World Heritage sites in the Indian Ocean
 - Mangroves for the future
 - Coral reefs, Sea grasses and Mangrove network in the WIO region
7. Presentation of NGOs forum by WIO-C
 8. Draft decisions for the Heads of Delegations Meeting
 9. Any other business
 10. Closure of the Meeting

B. BUREAU MEETING

C. Agenda for the seventh Conference of Parties: Heads of Delegations meeting

**UNITED
NATIONS**

EP

UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/2/en/Day4&5



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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

CONFERENCE OF PARTIES:- HEADS OF DELEGATIONS MEETING

(13-14 DECEMBER)

1. Opening of the Meeting
 - (a) Statement by a representative of UNEP Secretariat
 - (b) Statement by out-going Chair
 - (c) Statement by the representative of host Government of Mozambique
2. Organisational matters
 - (a) Election of new members of the Bureau
 - (b) Adoption of agenda and organisation of work
3. Report of the Executive Director of UNEP
4. Report on the Policy makers and Experts Meeting
5. Adoption of Decisions
6. Remarks by Heads of Delegations and partners
7. Venue of the next Meeting
8. Any other business
9. Closure of the Meeting

Annex III: Opening Statements

A. Statement by the Deputy Minister, MICOA

Representative of UNEP
CHAIRMAN OF THE WIO-C
Dear Participants
Ladies and Gentlemen

Mozambique has a very long coastline (2800 km) and therefore we appreciate most of the problems associated with the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean region.

Collectively we have a duty to our countries and our communities within the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region to protect and manage a combined coastline exceeding 15,000 km, a continental shelf area of about 450,000 square km. And we have a responsibility to lift a combined population of over 178 million out of poverty.

The coastal and marine ecosystems of the region provide a great opportunity. We know that the economic value of the goods and services provided by the marine and coastal ecosystems in the WIO region is in billions of dollars annually. The Republic of South Africa alone estimated that the value of the goods and services of its marine and coastal ecosystems is over US \$25 billion on an annual basis. Fisheries and tourism are the two main direct contributors to the economies of the region. Approximately 2.7 million people are engaged in full and part-time employment in the fisheries sector of the WIO region. The industry is generating wages of over US\$ 366 million yearly.

Many coastal communities also rely on the sector for food security, which in turn contributes to an overdependence on fisheries resources.

There are opportunities for modernization and value adding in the small-scale fisheries throughout the Western Indian Ocean region, many of which could have a significant impact on livelihoods and poverty reduction in coastal areas.

From a positive stand point, we also know that the Western Indian Ocean is among the few regions of the world that still maintains some pristine habitats (e.g. Northern Mozambican channel) that are the least ecologically disturbed on a global oceans scale

However, there are some concerns.

All countries identify overexploitation as a threat to both the fisheries sector and the livelihoods that depend on it. Lack of alternative income generating activities, destructive fishing techniques, weak law enforcement capacity and rapid population growth are constraints that contribute to environmental degradation that limits economic gains.

I am also aware that, for example extensive deforestation of catchment areas is contributing to changes in river flow regimes. As a result, coastal lowlands, deltas, estuaries and their associated ecosystems are now receiving altered freshwater flows and increased sediments loads. These changes have been witnessed in Mozambique e.g. Incomati, and Zambezi among others.

We also know that, despite the enormous potential, the importance of the marine ecosystems for human health well-being and prosperity has not yet been effectively communicated to policy and decision makers. For example; Mangrove forests provide an array of ecosystem goods and services which support the livelihoods of millions of people in the WIO region through fisheries production, wood products, coastal protection, biodiversity conservation and even cultural values. And in the context of climate change, the role of mangroves as carbon sinks has now been fully appreciated. We are also aware that mangroves sequester about five times more carbon per unit area than any forest ecosystem. However, most governments have not yet developed strategies that could stop the decline of mangrove ecosystems?

This meeting has come at the appropriate time. The RIO+20 debates on the Green Economy and Environmental Governance for the oceans provide governments in the Western Indian Ocean region a valuable opportunity to build on the momentum from Rio, and a chance to drive governance transformation towards oceans management approaches where marine biodiversity has multiple values and acts as natural blue capital for economic growth.

In view of the major discoveries of oil and gas and the potential social and economic opportunities and impacts on the economies of the WIO countries on one hand and negative environmental impacts on the other hand, this

meeting is happening at an opportune time. The discussions on oil and gas, expansion of ports and harbors, and expanding coastal mining opportunities in the region are important developments that should be guided by all stakeholders including governments, industry and the civil society through appropriate forums and mechanisms.

This two day meeting is an opportunity for you to discuss and enhance our awareness of key development needs and environmental issues as well as transboundary aspects that must be addressed in the near term.

It is my hope that at the end of the day tomorrow, we shall have policy recommendations on how the people of the Western Indian Ocean region can sustainably use the marine and coastal resources and how to address both the opportunities and challenges associated with the oil and gas exploration, expansion of ports and harbors, coastal mining within a green economic pathway.

I am sure from your collective efforts, we shall prepare and present to the member states of the Nairobi Convention during COP7 on 13-14 December 2012, carefully considered options that the secretariat in partnership with the WIO-C members can address as part of their work in the near term.

Thank you

B. Statement by the representative of Indian Ocean Commission (COI)

Allocution de la Commission de l'Océan Indien, SEPTIEME REUNION DE LA CONFERENCE DES PARTIES A LA CONVENTION POUR LA PROTECTION, LA GESTION ET LA MISE EN VALEUR DU MILIEU MARIN ET COTIER DE LA REGION DE L'OCEAN INDIEN OCCIDENTAL Maputo, Mozambique (10-14 décembre 2012)

Monsieur le Ministre de la Planification et du Développement de la République du Mozambique

Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres

Messieurs les Représentants des pays Parties de la Convention de Nairobi

Mesdames et Messieurs les participants

J'ai le grand plaisir de représenter le Secrétaire général de la COI, Monsieur Jean-Claude de l'Estrac à cette cérémonie d'ouverture de la Septième réunion de la Conférence des Parties à la Convention pour la protection, la gestion et la mise en valeur du milieu marin et côtier de la région de l'océan Indien occidental.

Je voudrais tout d'abord remercier chaleureusement le pays hôte de cette réunion, la République du Mozambique, ainsi que le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement au travers du Secrétariat de la Convention de Nairobi pour l'organisation de cette Conférence.

La gestion durable de l'environnement est une des priorités de notre organisation. La Commission de l'océan Indien, a comme vous le savez, une particularité : l'insularité de ses 5 Etats membres. Or, les îles sont un cas particulier du point de vue du développement durable et de l'environnement. Elles ont des vulnérabilités économiques et environnementales particulières, largement démontrées et reconnues par la communauté internationale depuis le Sommet de la Terre de 1992 et la Stratégie de Maurice de 2005, par exemple.

Nos îles sont particulièrement exposées aux catastrophes naturelles (cyclones, tsunamis, inondations...). Elles sont en première ligne face au changement climatique. Elles subissent une perte accélérée de la biodiversité marine et terrestre, ainsi que les conséquences de la surpêche et de la pêche illicite, non réglementée, non déclarée. Alors qu'elles se sont résolument engagées à renforcer leur résilience, leurs vulnérabilités se sont aggravées ces dernières années sous l'effet de nombreux chocs externes, notamment les répercussions des crises financière, alimentaire et énergétique.

Il s'agit donc de protéger et de conserver cet exceptionnel patrimoine naturel. Ces ressources offrent des moyens de subsistance à nos populations et contribuent à leur sécurité alimentaire. Elles alimentent des secteurs clefs de nos économies, comme la pêche et le tourisme.

Tous ces défis sont transfrontaliers. Ils appellent donc des réponses régionales et internationales, car aucun de nos pays n'est aujourd'hui en mesure d'assurer la pérennité de ses ressources, individuellement. Depuis sa création il y a 30 ans, la COI intervient à travers un large éventail d'actions dans le domaine du développement durable et de l'intégration régionale.

Grâce à la complémentarité de ses programmes, à son cadre institutionnel et à la confiance de ses bailleurs de fonds, la COI offre une plateforme efficace, coordonnée et équilibrée pour répondre aux défis du développement durable. Elle a été mandatée par ses Etats membres pour le faire et cette légitimité est régulièrement renforcée par les décisions de ses instances.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

La COI en tant qu'organisation intergouvernementale, a la responsabilité envers ses Etats membres de promouvoir la coopération régionale et d'améliorer l'intégration régionale pour le développement durable. Confrontée aux enjeux de la globalisation, de la crise financière et des défis environnementaux émergents, la COI est appelée à jouer un rôle plus important pour aider ses pays membres à trouver des solutions à ces problèmes. La COI s'est donnée comme mission prioritaire, dans le domaine de l'environnement, d'harmoniser et d'aligner ses projets et programmes afin d'aider ses pays membres à mieux remplir leurs obligations dans le cadre des Conventions et Protocoles qu'ils ont signés.

La COI, étant la seule organisation régionale composée d'îles, Etats Parties de la Convention de Nairobi, elle se doit d'accompagner ses Etats membres dans la mise en œuvre de la Convention de Nairobi. Au regard de

l'importance de l'environnement pour nos Etats membres et dans le but de mieux les soutenir sur ce sujet, la COI a signé en 2011 un accord général de partenariat avec le PNUE au titre de la Convention de Nairobi.

C'est dans cette optique que la COI s'est pleinement investie dans l'élaboration d'un Protocole de gestion intégrée des zones côtières. L'adoption d'un Protocole additionnel GIZC à la Convention de Nairobi fournira à la région un instrument déterminant, qui permettra de consolider le poids politique et la légitimité des structures et des acteurs de la GIZC, et de rendre les actions de la gestion intégrée des zones côtières efficaces. La mise en place d'un Protocole GIZC nous donne aussi l'occasion de resserrer nos liens avec nos pays riverains de l'Afrique de l'est, ce dont je me réjouis tout particulièrement.

La COI apporte aussi son soutien au *Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge*. Ce Challenge, proposé en 2007 par le Président des Seychelles, Mr James Michel a pour objectif de bâtir une plateforme destinée à galvaniser l'engagement politique, financier et technique et des actions aux niveaux national et régional sur le changement climatique, l'adaptation, la promotion de la résilience des écosystèmes marins et côtiers), les moyens d'existence durables et la sécurité humaine. Il propose de mobiliser les pays qui partagent les ressources des océans et des côtes en les réunissant et en les engageant dans l'action en faveur de la conservation des îles et des moyens de subsistance durables, y compris via des réponses à la menace posée par le changement climatique au cours des vingt prochaines années.

En mettant l'accent sur les zones côtières et marines, le WIO-CC s'appuie sur les efforts de longue date des organisations régionales, notamment la Commission de l'océan Indien et la Convention de Nairobi. Nous espérons qu'au cours de cette Conférence, nos Etats membres ainsi que les Etats côtiers de l'Afrique de l'est prendront en compte la nécessité de réunir leurs efforts et renouvèleront leurs engagements à travailler collectivement pour une bonne gestion de nos ressources marines et côtières.

Au cours de ces dernières années les deux Secrétariats ont beaucoup travaillé et échangé pour une meilleure gestion de nos espaces marins et côtiers et nous avons profité de ces excellentes relations de travail pour faire avancer le dossier de la pollution marine entre autres. La COI veut ainsi renforcer sa collaboration privilégiée avec le Secrétariat de la Convention de Nairobi en ce qui concerne la mise en œuvre du Plan d'action stratégique du projet pour l'atténuation des activités terrestres dans la région de l'océan Indien occidental et sur le Protocole de coopération dans la lutte contre la pollution marine dans les cas d'urgence dans la région de l'Afrique de l'Est.

La mise en œuvre de ce Protocole s'avère très importante vu les menaces qui pèsent sur notre région. La COI souhaite, en étroite collaboration avec le Secrétariat de la Convention de Nairobi, mobiliser les efforts des pays pour rendre opérationnel le Centre régional de coordination anti pollution, basé en Afrique du Sud, ceci dans le but de mobiliser et de mutualiser les moyens de nos pays pour une meilleure coopération dans ce domaine.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le Sommet Rio + 20 a mis l'accent sur une économie verte dans le contexte de l'éradication de la pauvreté et du développement durable. La COI agit déjà dans des domaines comme l'adaptation au changement climatique, l'agro-écologie et la gestion des terres, la conservation de la biodiversité, et le développement des énergies renouvelables (éolien, photovoltaïque, géothermique ...). C'est dans ce contexte, par exemple, que le projet ISLANDS qui vise à contribuer à l'élévation du niveau de développement social, économique et environnemental par un développement durable des Petits Etats Insulaires en Développement est porté et mis en œuvre par le Secrétariat.

Nos espaces étant insulaires, nous souhaitons que l'économie bleue soit partie intégrante l'économie verte et nous nous approprions le concept d'une *Green Economy in a Blue World*. Les océans, les mers, leurs ressources, sans oublier les îles et les zones côtières sont importants pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et pour atteindre une prospérité économique durable. Nous accordons ainsi une grande importance aux négociations futures sur la bonne gouvernance des océans.

La COI contribue déjà à l'amélioration de la gouvernance des océans, à travers la lutte contre la pollution marine et la piraterie, la surveillance des pêches, et la gestion intégrée des zones marines et côtières. Elle participe au maintien de la santé des océans, à travers un réseau d'aires marines protégées. Elle travaille sur la gestion durable des ressources halieutiques, à travers ses programmes régionaux de pêche, et le suivi de l'environnement par télédétection. Mais elle entend faire du développement durable des océans une priorité reconnue et soutenue par la communauté internationale. Là encore, il existe des opportunités pour que nos deux Secrétariats puissent travailler de concert.

Face aux enjeux économiques et environnementaux, il devient de plus en plus indispensable que nos économistes et scientifiques travaillent en collaboration avec les décideurs politiques. Les problématiques environnementales, la dégradation des côtes, la perte de la biodiversité sont des réalités dans notre région. Il est

important de reconnaître le rôle incontournable que les parlementaires des Assemblées nationales de nos pays membres doivent jouer pour une bonne gouvernance de l'environnement. A cet effet, la COI s'associe à une initiative de l'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie avec l'organisation du Séminaire des Parlementaires de l'océan Indien les 13 et 14 décembre de cette année.

Ce séminaire de sensibilisation portera sur les grands enjeux de développement durable, les accords multilatéraux sur l'environnement ; une session spécifique sera dédiée à la Convention de Nairobi et à ses Protocoles. Ce Séminaire abordera les politiques sectorielles respectueuses de l'environnement et les outils d'aide à la décision tels que l'évaluation environnementale stratégique, l'analyse de la durabilité des programmes d'investissement. Le but de ce séminaire est de fournir des informations pertinentes sur la gouvernance de l'environnement en vue d'accroître la compréhension des parlementaires sur ces sujets complexes et leur efficacité dans la gestion des dossiers environnementaux.

Avec ces mots, je vous souhaite une bonne Conférence des Parties et soyez assurés que la COI restera attentive aux conclusions et aux recommandations de cette COP. Je remercie encore toutes celles et ceux qui ont permis l'organisation de cette réunion.

Merci pour votre attention, Muito obrigado

C. Statement by a representative of the Republic of South Africa

DEPUTY MINISTER'S SPEECH TO THE HEADS OF DELEGATIONS AT COP 7: 12th December 2012

Greetings:

Honourable Minister for Planning and Development in Mozambique, Minister Aiuba Cuereneia, Minister for coordination of Environmental Affairs, His Excellency Alcinda Antonio de Abreu and Deputy minister for Environment, Her Excellency Ana Samo Gudo Chichava, who opened and chaired the experts workshop for the past two days, The Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention, Contracting Parties and Partners of the Nairobi Convention, Ladies and Gentlemen allow me to greet you this evening on behalf of more than 30 ministers of both the West Indian Ocean region under the Nairobi Convention and the East Atlantic region under the auspices of the Abidjan Convention.

It gives me tremendous joy to be addressing this august occasion today, and that is even more so given the history and the relationship that my country, South Africa, has with the Republic and the people of Mozambique. Our existence both in the Southern tip of Africa and the continent as a whole are intertwined in the rich cultural history of our beloved continent.

Perhaps it is not by chance that an opportunity of addressing this momentous occasion was given to South Africa, as it is uniquely situated in the southernmost tip of the continent straddling both the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. This geographical location gives us a vantage view of issues in both the Abidjan and the Nairobi conventions and is amazing how similar the challenges are.

This region, i.e. the Western Indian Ocean Region is among the few regions of the world that still maintain some pristine habitats for an example the Northern Mozambican channel; that is said to be the least ecologically disturbed on a global oceans scale. The other would be Isimangaliso World Heritage Park, one of the only two marine heritage parks in Africa. However, the realities on the ground are that there is an escalating pressure on marine resources. This phenomenon is either a direct result of those jostling for positions either to gain access or participate in the utilisation of those resources for commercial or self-sustenance purposes. We cannot ignore the fact that some of the key outcomes of our governments in the African continent include, but not limited to, food security, job creation and poverty eradication.

This is all in the context of a mega diverse continent in terms of natural resources. Millions of people in the West Indian Ocean region rely on the coastal environment for goods and services and as a source of livelihoods and income. Eco-tourism and specifically coastal tourism is one of the growing industries that this region must embrace. I would further encourage the contracting parties to focus on non-consumptive activities in the marine environment as this field is still underutilised. The question is how can we achieve the balance between marine biodiversity conservation and sustenance of marine livelihoods without bringing our vulnerable marine ecosystem into total collapse?

Some of the major challenges facing both the Abidjan and the Nairobi Conventions are oil and gas explorations, the coral reef degradation, as well as the decimation of mangroves. Obviously this is huge challenge and contracting parties cannot win it alone, and as the theme of this COP suggest partnerships are key for successful conservation efforts. That will include Non-Governmental Organisations, International Organisations, Environmental Protection formations, and a host of other organisations that may have the objectives as this Convention. Such partnerships are having a major impact in the successes of the Abidjan Convention as we have witnessed through reports and presentations in the recent Abidjan conference. Perhaps a special mention of UNEP and IUCN would be in order, given the fact that they are also participating in this COP of the Nairobi Convention.

What we cannot shy away from is that a new way of thinking is essential if we are to progress as the Nairobi Convention. The oceans and the coastlines are dynamic areas with a hive of human activities as already alluded to. Numerous organisations that are in essence specialist organisations of some or most of those activities need to be brought closer to our fold, to ensure that information sharing and cross pollination of ideas takes place. Regional Management Fisheries Organisation operating in the same space as the convention needs to be our partners. Shipping companies that operate in the same space as the convention need to be our partners as well, and the list is endless.

In conclusion the indications are there that we as contracting parties are prepared to embrace this new dimension in our thinking. The protocol on integrated coastal zone management in West Indian Ocean Region, and Land Based Sources and Activities Protocol, to mention only but a few are definitely the catalyst of that change in the manner with which the Convention conducts its business. I greatly wish that it will continue

towards that path so as to ensure that what we are currently protecting and utilising for self-sustenance is certainly available generations to come.

A special thank you again to the government of Mozambique for hosting this COP so brilliantly and best wishes.

D. Statement by the representative of UNEP

Honorable Minister for Planning, honorable ministers, the honorable governor of Maputo, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen on behalf of Achim Steiner the Executive Director of UNEP let me welcome you to the 7th COP of the Nairobi Convention, and he has asked me to convey his appreciation to the government of Mozambique for graciously hosting this meeting in this beautiful city of Maputo by the ocean.

This COP is a very important one as this year, 2012, has been a record one for oceans and coasts in terms of highlighting their importance to development and human well-being. The Rio+20 Conference and the outcome document *The Future We Want* highlights through 20 paragraphs the importance of oceans and coasts, as well as SIDS for sustainable development.

And the future we want document also give us guidance on meeting the challenges in ensuring that we use these marine ecosystems wisely for development - from improving governance to efficient use of resources. What is contained in the *Future We Want*, especially the paragraphs on pollution, monitoring and assessment, fisheries, acidification, coral reefs and mangroves apply well to the Nairobi Convention, in particular the LBSA Protocol, the Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora Protocol, and the ICZM discussions of this week.

Before Rio, in January of this year in Manilla, we held the 3rd IGR for the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities otherwise known as the GPA, and here member states gave UNEP as the secretariat, a clear mandate through the Manilla Declaration to focus on marine debris, nutrients and wastewater over the next five years. These three mandates also fall within the mandates of regional seas including the Nairobi Convention. UNEP had been advancing these mandates - especially for marine debris and nutrients through development of partnership Programmes, and we welcome the Nairobi Convention to these partnerships.

The marine debris partnership that was initiated at the Honolulu Conference on Marine Debris in 2010 and launched at Rio this year is gaining momentum as the partners, including the Nairobi Convention, expand and links to the private sector are made, as well as exploring how to meet the Rio+20 target for assessing this challenging and pervasive problem by 2025.

Other events such as the Yeosu World Exhibition in the Republic of Korea, which had Oceans and Coasts as its theme opened up the Blue World to millions of visitors exposing them to the opportunities it offers for economic and social development as well as the need to use its resources efficiently and sustainably. In the last week of the Yeosu Exhibition, the Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki Moon, also announced his Oceans Compact, a plan to bring UN Agencies tasked with ocean affairs to work together to address ocean issues.

And just a few weeks oceans and coasts featured prominently in the discussions of the 11th COP of the Convention for Biological Diversity - with decisions made on pollution, corals, marine spatial planning, corals and mangroves and others that link to the mandates of the Nairobi Convention.

At the operational level, during the 14th annual meeting of regional seas - UNEP with the regional seas coordinators formulated a new set of strategic directions in line with these decisions and initiatives made in 2012, and I will add that the Nairobi Convention secretariat was prominent in shaping these directions which focus on 6 key areas:

- Applying the ecosystem approach
- Implementing the GPAs Manilla Declaration
- Strengthening governance capacities for coordination and coherence with other systems such as RFMOs and LMEs
- Supporting and promoting resource efficiencies including valuation of ecosystem services
- Strengthening and supporting regional and national assessments for marine environments including p the World Ocean Assessment
- Strengthen the collaboration and implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements at global and regional levels.

These strategic directions also provide guidance to UNEP in its commitment to the Regional Seas and also reflects the many priorities in its Programme of Work. The regional seas Programme has been for many years a flagship for the organization, and there is a strong commitment in UNEP to continue this in its upcoming 2014/15 Programme of Work.

Why is UNEP so committed? It is because the regional seas whether administered or not by UNEP are the premier platforms for delivering UNEP's work and priorities at the regional and subsequently at the national level. UNEP is a small organization and can not afford offices in each country, however, the regional seas program which covers much of the worlds oceans can do it for us. And the Nairobi Convention does it very well in this region.

UNEP is extremely pleased with the growing importance of the Nairobi Convention as a platform for action on marine and coastal issues in the region. The level of participation of the parties shows this importance with the number of representatives from each country here, and we thank you for coming and for your advice on how to further strengthen the Convention and how the secretariat and its partners can support the parties.

The number of partners present here today illustrates how well the platform is working and its relevance to the region. Those of you who have been here over the first three days have seen how it brings together various programmes and partners to tackle the issues facing parties to the Convention. These strengths often result in other regional seas looking to the Convention for sharing of lessons learned. It is that spirit of collaboration and leadership that contributes to maintaining the Regional Seas Program as a UNEP flagship

In closing, I would like thank you for coming to this 7th COP, I look forward to the discussions that will shape the work of the Convention over the next two years, and I wish you fruitful deliberations over the next 2 days.

Abrigado

E. Statement by the Minister for Planning, Mozambique

INTERVENÇÃO DE SUA EXCELÊNCIA MINISTRA PARA A COORDENAÇÃO DA ACÇÃO AMBIENTAL POR OCASIÃO DA REALIZAÇÃO DA 7ª CONFERÊNCIA DAS PARTES DA CONVENÇÃO DE NAIROBI, HOTEL AVENIDA, MAPUTO, 12 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2012

Sua Excelência Ministro da Planificação e Desenvolvimento, representante do Primeiro Ministro da República de Moçambique

Suas Excelências Ministros e Vice Ministros de Moçambique,

Sua Excelência Governadora da Cidade de Maputo;

Suas Excelências Ministros e Chefes de Delegações dos Estados Partes da Convenção de Nairobi,

Senhor Representante do Programa das Nações Unidas para o Meio Ambiente (UNEP);

Distintos delegados e observadores,

Minhas Senhoras e Meus Senhores,

Todo protocolo observado,

Sentimo-nos honrados pela presença de Vexcias o que constitui motivo de orgulho e incentivo para proceussão da nossa nobre missão de assegurar o desenvolvimento sustentável em particular das zonas marinhas e costeiras da região do sudoeste do oceano indico, região essa que apresenta características singulares e uma riqueza invejável.

Mas antes de alongar gostaríamos de usar esta oportunidade para saudar e desejar as boas vindas ao nosso País e a capital Maputo a todos participantes especialmente aos que pela primeira vez pisam o solo moçambicano com intuito de connosco partilhar as experiências dos seus países na gestão do ambiente marinho e costeiro, onde todos encontramos-nos unidos através dos laços naturais que conduziram ao estabelecimento da Convenção Regional sobre a Protecção, Gestão e Desenvolvimento do Ambiente Marinho, designada por Convenção de Nairobi.

Gostaríamos também de agradecer esta oportunidade que foi dada a Moçambique para acolher esta reunião da Conferência das Partes que conta com a presença não só dos decisores políticos como Ministros, Vice Ministros e outros representantes de Governos, mas também das Organizações Intergovernamentais das Nações Unidas, dos peritos, cientistas, da sociedade civil que são os principais actores da gestão do ambiente marinho e costeiro dos Países, da região e do mundo em geral.

Como é sabido, as zonas marinhas e costeiras são regiões que enfrentam perturbações naturais e humanas mais severas que incluem os ventos fortes, ciclones, poluição, entre outros. Essa situação é mais gritante na região, em particular nos países insulares como Madagáscar, Comoros e Seycheles que vivem com maior frequência. Por estas e outras razões, a região decidiu unir os seus esforços através de um acordo (Convenção de Nairobi) para permitir melhor gestão da costa e do mar.

A Convenção de Nairobi adoptada em 1985 na Cidade Queniana do mesmo nome por dez estados da região africana do sudoeste do oceano indico é uma das 17 convenções regionais marinhas e que constitui um mecanismo regional de cooperação, coordenação e colaboração de acções entre os Estados Partes Contratantes e demais intervenientes de forma a permitir a gestão harmoniosa dos recursos naturais nela existentes e a troca de perícias tendo em vista a solução dos problemas relacionados com a gestão marinha e costeira.

Estimados presentes,

Excelências,

O órgão decisivo da convenção de Nairobi é a Conferência das Partes (COP) que se realiza no intervalo dois anos e faz a avaliação do grau de implementação das decisões tomadas nas reuniões anteriores e adopta novas. Já foram realizadas seis reuniões de Conferências das Partes e a última que foi a 6ª teve lugar em Nairobi em 2010. Nesta Conferência, Moçambique assumiu a presidência rotativa do Bureau num período de 2010 - 2012. Nesse intervalo, Moçambique com uma linha costeira de cerca de 2.770 km e uma variedade de ilhas, contando com apoios de vários intervenientes, conduziu os destinos do nosso acordo ambiental marinho da região com responsabilidade e dinamismo.

Por isso, é com essa responsabilidade e no cumprimento das decisões da Conferência das Partes que Moçambique acolhe em Maputo, de 10 a 14 de Dezembro de 2012, a Sétima Conferência das Partes (COP/7) sob lema “Criando Parcerias para um Oceano Índico Saudável” ou “Partnering for a Healthy Western Indian Ocean”.

Para assegurar a realização condigna da 7ª Conferência das Partes, nós o Governo de Moçambique e o secretariado da Convenção de Nairobi julgamos que já temos condições necessárias criadas para garantir que haja discussões frutíferas que culminarão com a tomada de decisões que irão reflectir no futuro das gerações vindouras e na vida das populações que vivem na região e dos demais beneficiários dos ricos recursos que o oceano Índico detém.

Com essas palavras, Senhor representante do Primeiro Ministro, excelência, permita-nos que através mim lhe convide para se dirigir a região através dos delegados e participantes da 7ª Conferência das Partes da Convenção sobre Protecção, Gestão e Desenvolvimento da região do sudoeste do oceano Índico, a Convenção de Nairobi.

Muito obrigada pela atenção.

Maputo, 12 de Dezembro de 2012

F. Statement by the out-going Chair of the Bureau

INTERVENÇÃO DE SUA EXCELÊNCIA VICE MINISTRA PARA A COORDENAÇÃO DA ACÇÃO AMBIENTAL POR OCASIÃO DA REALIZAÇÃO DA 7ª CONFERÊNCIA DAS PARTES DA CONVENÇÃO DE NAIROBI, HOTEL AVENIDA, MAPUTO, 13 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2012

Suas Excelências Ministros e Chefes de Delegações dos Estados Partes da Convenção de Nairobi,

Senhor Representante do Programa das Nações Unidas para o Meio Ambiente (UNEP);

Excelentíssimo Senhor Secretário Executivo da Convenção de Nairobi;

Senhor Representante da Comissão do Oceano Indico;

Distintos delegados e observadores;

Minhas Senhoras e Meus Senhores;

Todo protocolo observado;

Permitam-me, em nome do Bureau da Convenção de Nairobi, e em meu nome pessoal, desejar as boas vindas a todos os participantes, em particular aos ilustres Ministros e Chefes de delegações, que conosco vieram partilhar as suas ideias nas discussões sobre o futuro do ambiente marinho e costeiro da região africana do sudoeste do oceano indico.

Como é do vosso conhecimento, nos últimos dois anos tenho estado a presidir o Bureau da Convenção sobre a Protecção, Gestão e Desenvolvimento da região do Sudoeste do Oceano Indico, mais conhecida por Convenção de Nairobi. Durante esse periodo tive a oportunidade de acompanhar atentamente as discussões sobre as mudanças climáticas, áreas protegidas marinhas, degradação dos recifes dos corais, dos mangais e as vários outros assuntos que tem impacto directo na integridade do ambiente marinho e costeiro, incluindo algumas iniciativas de projectos e esforços regionais e nacionais para proteger o ambiente marinho.

Falando em esforços nacionais, Moçambique com longa linha de costa de cerca de 2.770 km, aliando os objectivos da Convenção de Nairobi e as metas da Convenção sobre a Diversidade Biológica adoptadas em Nagoya em 2010, declarou em Novembro de 2012, o arquipélago das Ilhas Primeiras e Segundas, como Área de Protecção Ambiental que cobre acima de um milhão de hectares. Esta constitui uma das maiores áreas marinhas protegidas na região e com essa declaracao Moçambique conseguiu atingir a meta de 10% estabelecida pela CBD para Area Marinha Protegida.

No entanto, Moçambique é um dos dez países membros da região do sudoeste do oceano indico que tem mais de 15.000 km da linha da costa e com apenas menos de 7% de área marinha protegida. E como região, enfrentamos vários problemas de natureza idêntica derivados de super exploração dos recursos marinhos e costeiros em particular pesqueiros, a poluição de várias fontes, entre outros. Como forma de minimizar esses problemas, todos nós, colectivamente temos a responsabilidade de fortalecer os esforços nos nossos países no sentido de envolver todos intervenientes da sociedade e as comunidades para assegurar uma melhor gestão dos recursos e protecção do ambiente costeiro como forma de contribuir na redução da pobreza que afecta os mais de 178 milhões da população dessa região.

A par dessa situação, sabemos o potencial marinho que a nossa região detem e que constitui uma das poucas regiões do mundo que ainda mantem habitats virgens, pelo menos não ecologicamente perturbados comparativamente a escala mundial dos oceanos, por exemplo o norte do canal de Moçambique. Mas isso é um orgulho e ao mesmo tempo um grande desafio, pois vai ser necessário conciliar o uso racional dos seus recursos combinando com a criação da riqueza nacional em beneficio das populações e das economias dos próprios Estados.

Estamos cientes também que os desafios não terminam aqui. Em todos nossos dez países temos preocupações relacionadas não só com a sobreexploração dos recursos pesqueiros que ameaçam o sector de pescas, mas também a falta de alternativas de rendimento e sobrevivência das comunidades que dependem inteiramente da pesca, uso de técnicas destrutivas na pesca, rápido crescimento populacional que contribuem para degradação ambiental, etc.

Estamos cientes ainda que as fontes e actividades baseadas em terra, que incluem desmatamento das nascentes de rios contribuem para as mudanças dos regimes e cursos dos referidos rios. E como resultado, as áreas costeiras, deltas, estuários e outros associados com os ecossistemas estão receber os cursos de água alterados por diversas causas, destacando-se o aumento dos sedimentos e as mudanças climáticas manifestado por aumento na

frequência dos ciclones, cheias, ventos fortes, incluindo a seca que agudiza a degradação ambiental, particularmente nos Estados Insulares. Como forma de assegurar a uniao dos esforços regionais, aproveito apelar para cada Estado Parte acelerar o processo de ratificação do Protocolo sobre Fontes e Actividades baseadas em terras (LBSA), a semelhança de Moçambique que já depositou na Assembleia da República.

Excelências,

Caros participantes,

A reunião da Conferência das Partes que hoje temos a oportunidade de testemunhar e hospedar, nos honra bastante como país Presidente da Convenção porque é aqui onde vamos fazer a avaliação sobre o grau de implementação das decisões que juntos tomamos em 2010, durante a 6ª Conferência das Partes como é o caso do Protocolo sobre Fontes e Actividades Baseadas em Terra da Região Ocidental do Oceano Índico (Protocolo de LBSA). Nesta reunião iremos também discutir e adoptar novas decisões que irão determinar as melhores formas de acelerar a colaboração entre as organizações nacionais, regionais e internacionais assegurando criação das parcerias entre os actores chave da região e as Partes Contratantes da Convenção na implementação do Programa de Trabalho a ser adoptado para o período de 2013 a 2017, incluindo Protocolo de Gestão Integrada da Zona Costeira, abordagem sobre assuntos emergentes, tais como alterações climáticas e impacto das políticas para o ambiente marinho e costeiro da região do Oceano Índico, impactos pesquisa e produção do petróleo e gás natural, os resultados do Rio+20 sobre a economia verde, saúde de ecossistemas marinhos e costeiros, o potencial do património mundial marinho no oceano indico, as áreas marinhas ecologicamente e biologicamente significativas, entre outros.

A Sétima Conferência das Partes da Convenção de Nairobi conta com três sessões distintas, designadamente:

- Workshop dos cientistas e experts politicos no qual foram abordados assuntos emergentes relativos ao ambiente marinho e costeiro como forma de contribuir com evidências científicas e técnicas sobre a situação real do oceano indico e sua costa, que inclui a rica biodiversidade, a singularidade dos recursos e demais aspectos especiais para depois apresentar aos decisores politicos para possivel tomada de decisões apropriadas;
- A reunião dos decisores politicos e experts discutiu e fez revisão das decisões, as quais serão hoje objecto da nossa discussão e análise.
- E finalmente a presente reunião da Conferência das Partes que hoje e amanhã tem lugar irá considerar e adoptar as recomendações feitas pelos decisores politicos e experts.

Excelências,

Estimados delegados e participantes,

Na 6ª e última Conferência das Partes (COP6) da Convenção de Nairobi realiza em Nairobi em 2010, Moçambique assumiu a presidência rotativa num intervalo de dois anos, 2010 - 2012.

Neste intervalo, como Presidente do Bureau da Convenção de Nairobi, Moçambique em colaboração com o Secretariado da Convenção, organizou e dinamizou diversas actividades em implementação da Convenção com destaque a elaboração de projectos regionais de desenvolvimento e protecção da zona marinha e costeira, das bacias hidrográficas, dos mangais, preparação da proposta de Política Regional para a Gestão Integrada da Zona Costeira, revitalizou as contribuições do Trust Fund por parte dos Estados Partes para assegurar o crescimento da convenção, trabalhou com o Fundo Global do Ambiente (GEF) no sentido de influenciar na análise e aprovação dos projectos da nossa região, cujos resultados são promissores num futuro breve.

Durante o nosso trabalho contamos com apoio técnico e financeiro de vários parceiros da região e do mundo que se preocupam com o ambiente saudável da região africana do oceano indico que alguns se encontram nesta sala, tais são os exemplos da Comissão do Oceano Índico, a WWF, WIOMSA, IUCN, CORDIO, a Rede de cientistas da região e dos países membros, BirLife Internacional, entre outros, adicionado com o empenho do Secretariado da Convenção de Nairobi e do Programa das Nações Unidas para o Ambiente (UNEP). Para esses todos e os Estados Partes que confiaram e acreditaram em nós vai o nosso muito obrigado.

Acreditamos nós que o trabalho continua e que hoje apenas estamos proceder com avaliação de meio termo e a entregar o martelo ao outro Estado que vai dar continuidade ao trabalho em curso e do Plano de Trabalho que iremos adoptar para os próximos anos. Ao novo Presidente do Bureau da Convenção, antecipadamente desejamos-lhe sucessos na sua missão e um bom trabalho. Estamos cientes que os desafios são enormes, pois cada dia que passa são acrescidos novos, principalmente se tivermos em conta que o alivio a pobreza é a prioridade número um. Mas estamos abertos para apoiar-lo no que for possivel.

Excelências,

Antes de passar ao martelo ao novo Presidente do Bureau da Convenção, permita-me dizer o seguinte:

Para permitir uma efectiva e produtividade da reunião com minimas condições de trabalho tenho a informar que Moçambique na qualidade de acolhedor e responsável pela coordenação desta conferência investiu em recursos financeiros e materiais no valor de USD 64.000 (sessenta e quatro mil dólares). Julgamos nós que essa contribuição deverá reflectir no Trust Fund da convenção e propomos que esse mecanismo seja observado por todos Estados Partes que acolhem as Conferências das Partes dessa convenção.

Com essas palavras, tenho a honra de fazer a passagem do testemunho para a Sua Excelência Ministro da República de, que desde já passa a digirir os destinos da Convenção sobre a Protecção, Gestão e Desenvolvimento do Ambiente Marinho e Costeiro da região africana do Sudoeste do Oceano Indico. Excelência,....

Muito obrigada e bom trabalho

Maputo, 13 de Dezembro de 2012

Annex IV: Report of the Executive Director

**UNITED
NATIONS**

EP

UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/3-en



United Nations

Environment

Programme



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**The Seventh Conference of the Parties
to the Convention for the Protection,
Management and Development of the
Marine and Coastal Environment
of the Western Indian Ocean Region**

Maputo, Mozambique 10 – 14 December 2012

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**FOR THE SEVENTH MEETING OF CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARINE AND COASTAL
ENVIRONMENT OF THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION**

Introduction

1. The Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean region extends from Somalia in the north to the Republic of South Africa in the south, covering 10 states, five of which are island states in the Western Indian Ocean. The Contracting Parties to the Convention include Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania and the Republic of South Africa.

2. The Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region has a combined coastline exceeding 15,000 km, a continental shelf area of about 450,000 square km, and had a combined population of over 178 million in 2007. The coastal and marine ecosystems of the region provide essential sources of livelihood and income for over 33 percent of the population (60 million people) that live within 100 km of the coastline. It is estimated that 35.9 million people who live within 25 km of the coastline depend on oceans and coastal resources and are directly impacted by the health of the coastal and marine ecosystems. The fishery and tourism industries are particularly important in terms of food security, employment and income generation.

3. Rapid population growth in the WIO region, associated with rapid urbanization has led to higher demand for ecosystem goods and services and increased resource-use pressure around major industrial coastal cities. The increasing population in poorly planned cities has led to increased rate of degradation by the generation of waste into streams and coastal waters including contamination of ground water sources. Degradation is further exacerbated by global climate change and physical alteration of marine and coastal habitats by increased land reclamation and conversion for agriculture, aquaculture and coastal development.

4. Extensive deforestation of catchment areas is also contributing to changes in river flow regimes. As a result, coastal lowlands, deltas, estuaries and their associated ecosystems are now receiving altered freshwater flows and increased sediments loads. These changes have been witnessed in the Tana, Rufiji, Ruvuma, Incomati, Tukela, Zambezi and Betsiboka rivers, among others. The cumulative impact of these changes is significant physical and ecological change in the structure and functions of marine ecosystems and deterioration of the ecosystem goods and services.

Marine and Coastal Biodiversity

5. The Western Indian Ocean region is among the few regions of the world that still maintains some pristine habitats that are the least ecologically disturbed on a global oceans scale. However, the Western Indian Ocean is increasingly under intense resource-use pressure. The two major marine ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean, i.e. the Agulhas and Somalia Currents Large Marine Ecosystems contain important critical tropical and temperate habitats such as seagrass beds, coral reefs and mangrove forests. These ecosystems are characterised by relatively high biodiversity and high species endemism as evidenced by rich and complex populations of marine plant and animal species. There are over 2,200 species of fish, including rare and endangered species such as the dugong, coelacanths, marine turtles, sharks, marine birds and over 350 species of corals and a diverse assemblage of mangrove forests and seagrass beds.

6. The Global Environment Facility (GEF), with the support of the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention and partners, have embraced an ecosystems approach to management and has invested over US \$78 million, over the period 2004 to 2012, to support projects on Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) in the Western Indian Ocean. The three main projects are: 1) The South West Indian Oceans Fisheries Project (SWIOPF) with a budget of US \$35.67 million, implemented by the World Bank; 2) the Agulhas and Somalia Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME) project with a budget of US \$ 31.186 million, implemented by UNDP; and 3) the project Addressing Land-Based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-LaB) with a budget of US \$ 11.413 million, implemented by UNEP.

7. These projects have developed Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) that have been endorsed by participating countries. The SAP prepared under the project Addressing Land-Based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-LaB), will be implemented under the project *Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Sources and Activities* (WIO-SAP). A project concept for USD 12,000,000 has been prepared and submitted to the GEF for consideration.

Environmental Governance

8. The economic value of the goods and services provided by the marine and coastal ecosystems in the WIO region excluding South Africa is estimated at over US \$25 billion on an annual basis, with fisheries and tourism

being the two main direct contributors to the economies of the region. Despite the enormous potential, the importance of these ecosystems for human health, well-being and prosperity is not effectively communicated to policy and decision makers. Consequently, the departments responsible for the management of marine and coastal resources remain under-funded. As a result, poorly developed institutional frameworks and lack of effective mechanisms for developing new comprehensive laws and regulations mean that environmental laws are not effectively enforced.

9. Effective environmental governance in the WIO region should aim at maximising ecosystem goods and services equitably across generations. It is widely acknowledged that the infrastructure required for effective environmental governance is dependent on the inter-play between governments, markets and civil societies. However, the roles played by the markets, civil society and governments are poorly defined and not well coordinated. At best their roles are antagonistic thus impacting on the sustainability of ecosystem goods and services. Poor governance therefore exacerbates environmental problems in the countries of the WIO region. The prognosis is that these problems will be compounded by natural factors e.g. climate variability and change that may lead to severe droughts, coral bleaching, sea level rise and coastal erosion. Development of governance and management frameworks that are adaptive and able to address human impacts as well as the effects of climate change will be an essential step towards long term sustainability of marine and coastal ecosystems.

The Nairobi Convention and the Regional Seas Programme

10. The Nairobi Convention is one of the 18 Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans 13 of which are administered by or assisted by UNEP. The Regional Seas Programmes were developed by UNEP as of 1974 as part of the implementation of the 1972 Stockholm Agenda and as a response to transboundary problems such as marine pollution and the need for management of the marine and coastal environment. Each Regional Seas Programme is designed to meet the priorities and needs of the countries sharing an ocean/sea, by developing; i) A legally binding convention embodying the general commitment and detailed protocols dealing with specific issues; and ii) An action plan for cooperation on environmental assessment and management. The regional seas conventions provide the legal framework for regional cooperation among governments to undertake collaborative actions towards solving interlinked problems of the coastal and marine environment.

Adoption and Ratification of the Nairobi Convention

11. The First Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region was convened by the Executive Director of UNEP at UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi from 17 to 21 June 1985. The conference was attended by the representatives of France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, the United Republic of Tanzania and the European Community. The Conference adopted the Nairobi Convention and its two protocols that were oriented towards combating marine pollution and conservation.

12. The Nairobi Convention and its two protocols including: 1) Protocol concerning protected areas and wild fauna and flora in the Eastern African region; and 2) Protocol concerning cooperation in combating marine pollution in cases of emergency in the Eastern African region, entered into force on 30 March 1996 upon accession by the sixth State Party, the United Republic of Tanzania. By May 2003, all the countries had ratified the Convention as shown in Table 1.

13. Table 1. Ratification of the Nairobi Convention

Country	Date of Ratification/Accession
Comoros	26 September 1994
France	18 August 1989
Kenya	11 September 1990
Madagascar	26 June 1990
Mauritius	03 July 2000
Mozambique	4 March 1999
Republic of South Africa	16 May 2003
Seychelles	20 June 1990
Somalia	1 March 1988

Country	Date of Ratification/Accession
Tanzania	1 March 1996

The Nairobi Convention Coordination Arrangement

14. The Convention's Work Programme is implemented through a coordination structure that constitutes the Programme Coordination Office in Nairobi which provides strategic direction; a Bureau of Contracting Parties that provides guidance in the implementation of the Convention; a network of national focal points; thematic experts groups such as Coral Reef Taskforce, and Legal and Technical Working Group; the Consortium for the Conservation of Marine Resources in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C); and the Regional Coordination Unit based in the Seychelles which is responsible for implementing activities that enhance the political visibility of the Convention.

The Bureau of Contracting Parties

15. The Bureau which is elected at every Conference of Parties is responsible for providing guidance to the Secretariat in the implementation of decisions of Contracting Parties and the Convention's work programme. The Heads of Delegations that attended the Sixth Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention (COP6) that was held on 1 April 2010 in Kenya elected the following members to the Bureau:

Chair	Mozambique
Vice-chair (work programme)	Comoros
Vice-chair (resource mobilization)	Kenya
Vice-chair (coordination)	Seychelles
Rapporteur	Tanzania

The Regional Coordination Unit

16. The Second Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Eastern African Region, held in Nairobi on 7 and 8 September 1993, established a Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) in Seychelles to undertake Eastern African projects. The First meeting of the Contracting Parties in March 1997 conferred the responsibilities of the Secretariat of the Convention on the RCU. At the outset, the plan was to support the RCU by providing the personnel including: an Interim Coordinator; a Senior Programme Officer; a Project Coordinator; and support staff such as an administrative assistant and two secretaries. However, due to inadequate funds in the Trust Fund the RCU could not meet the cost of key personnel including the cost of a director-level Interim Coordinator. Only one Senior Programme officer was posted in the RCU as a coordinator. The RCU was therefore understaffed and closed in March 1999.

17. After the expiry of the Coordinator's contract in March 1999, the Government of Seychelles, in consultation with UNEP, appointed a senior government official from the Ministry of Environment to oversee the activities of the RCU. Under this interim arrangement, the responsibilities of the RCU were devolved to two offices into; (a) UNEP based Nairobi Convention Secretariat to provide overall programmatic coordination and strategic direction, and b) Seychelles based office to implement activities that enhance the political visibility of the Nairobi Convention; and mobilization of resources. This arrangement worked well for a limited period. Consequently, in 2010 in Decision CP6/4 of the Sixth Conference of Parties (COP6) the Contracting Parties requested for a review of the current coordination structures with a view of establishing a new cost effective coordination structure to address the issue of coordination, fundraising and implementation of the protocols under the convention.

Implementation of the Decisions of Conference of Parties

18. The Nairobi Convention holds a Conference of Contracting Parties every two years. The Conference reviews the implementation of previous decisions including decisions of past COPs. For the period under review decisions for the Third Conference of Parties (COP3) specifically Decision CP3/2; the Fifth Conference of Parties (COP5) specifically Decision CP5/3 and Decision CP5/6; and the Sixth Conference of Parties (COP6) specifically Decision CP6/1; on Implementing the Work Programme and Budget 2008 – 2012 and particularly: Decision CP6/1.4; Decision CP6/1.5; Decision CP6/1.6; Decision CP6/1.7; Decision CP6/2; Decision CP6/3; Decision CP6/4; Decision CP6/5; and Decision CP6/6 were implemented and are reported below.

Implementing Decisions of Prior Conferences of Parties

Decision CP3/2 Protection of coral reefs

Eastern Africa regional Coral Reef Action Plan

19. During the Third Conference of Parties (COP3) held in 2001 in Maputo, Mozambique in Decision CP3/2 Contracting Parties requested the Executive Director UNEP to establish a Coral Reef Taskforce (CRTF) to coordinate activities that address the loss and degradation of coral reefs throughout the region. The objective of the taskforce was to develop a regional action plan with particular reference to the work programme of the Nairobi Convention and initiatives in the Eastern Africa region. The Regional Coral Reef Taskforce was established comprising of government representatives of Kenya, Seychelles, Mauritius, Tanzania, and Mozambique, UNEP, International Union for the Conservation of Nature/ Eastern Africa Region Office (IUCN/EARO), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), SEACAM, Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI), Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) and CRC. The Terms of References of the CRTF were adopted during COP4 in 2004 in Madagascar in Decision CP4/4, and national task forces constituted.

20. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and WIOMSA with support by the World Bank organized two experts meeting on coral reef ecosystems and climate change in 2011 at UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya and Maputo, Mozambique. The experts meetings were convened to prepare a Coral Reef Action Plan for the WIO region that takes into account the impact of climate change and management options. The action plan is presented as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/16. Contracting Parties of the Nairobi Convention are urged to support regional efforts to better manage and conserve coral reefs by adopting the Regional Coral Reef Action Plan and providing financial support to implement the plan.

Decision CP5/2 Protection of ecosystems and endangered species

a. The Ecosystems Approach to Management of Marine and Coastal Resources including River Basins.

21. The Nairobi Convention offers a regional framework through which the Contracting Parties can address critical national and transboundary issues and share regional expertise and experiences to protect, manage and develop the coastal and marine environment as well as to create opportunities for sustained socio-economic growth and industrial prosperity. The Contracting Parties in Decision CP5/2 made during the Fifth Conference of Parties (COP5), further endorsed the use of the ecosystem approaches to coastal and ocean management, including the involvement of up-stream countries.

b. Capacity Building for Ecosystem Based Management

22. In accordance with decision CP5/2 of COP5, Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention prioritized capacity building on Ecosystem Based Management (EBM). Also in line with Decision CP5/3.3 of COP5 and prioritised in the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the WIO region from land based activities (WIO-SAP) two regional capacity building workshops on EBM, economic valuation of ecosystem goods and services and ecosystems assessments were organized by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with WIOMSA, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs/Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS), the Government of Israel, the Government of Mozambique and the Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS) of the University of Dar es Salaam, in Mombasa, Kenya in 2008 and Maputo, Mozambique in 2011.

23. The two training courses successfully trained over 50 government officials, managers and experts in the WIO region on the concept of EBM, tools and skills; and use of strategic and other environmental assessments including valuation of ecosystem goods and services, for improved reporting and decision making. In addition, the training provided a valuable opportunity for networking and interactions among experts. The outcomes of the workshops outlined in Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/7 including recommendations on economic valuation of ecosystem goods and services as well as further capacity building needs on EBM will be presented during COP7 for consideration by the Contracting Parties. Specifically, the Contracting Parties will be requested to consider more training options on topics that are in line with emerging marine and coastal management concepts and approaches such as Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), Marine World Heritage Sites, World Ocean Assessment, and valuation of ecosystem goods and services including carbon markets for mangroves, among others.

Decision CP5/3 Assessment and monitoring activities

a. National State of Coasts (SOCs) reports, Marine Biodiversity Outlook report and Global Synthesis report on Marine Biodiversity

24. The Nairobi Convention Work Programme has prioritised assessment of coastal and marine ecosystems and habitats including status of resources; and socioeconomic issues, including economic valuation of ecosystem goods and services as an important activity towards better understanding of the complex processes and trends at work in the coastal and marine environment. The Secretariat in collaboration with the Governments for Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and Tanzania have prepared seven national state of coasts report one of which, the *Kenya State of Coast Report: Towards Integrated Management of Kenya's Coastal and Marine Resources* was launched during the COP6 in 2010.

25. The national assessments are designed to support effective decision making for the sustainable management of marine and coastal resources. Through support provided by the Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch in the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI), UNEP these assessment reports were subsequently synthesised into the regional Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook report for the Western Indian Ocean, and the Global Synthesis report on Marine Biodiversity Assessment which were disseminated during COP10 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010.

26. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with WIOMSA has prepared a regional assessment report 2012, on marine and coastal environment in the WIO region that reviews the status, threats and trends on critical marine and coastal ecosystems including biodiversity, coral reefs, mangroves, coastal forests, fisheries, seagrass beds, physical alteration and destruction of habitats, and pollution. The report which is also informed by outcomes of expert groups on coral reefs and mangroves also presents recommendations for addressing direct pressures including management options, institutional strengthening and policy measures to create a supportive framework for the sustainable management of the ecosystems. The report is presented before member States during COP7 as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/18, for noting. Contracting Parties will be requested to support the preparation of national and regional state of marine environment reports through national and regional level thematic expert groups.

b. Regional Synthesis Report on Birds as indicators of Ecosystem Health

27. Ecosystems assessments are valuable in informing management and policy decisions, including the designation of important ecosystems as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with BirdLife International have undertaken ecosystem health and vulnerability assessments in the coastal and marine environments of the Convention area including climate change impacts, using birds as indicators of the wider ecosystems. The study also provides an objective and scientific basis for reviewing the list of threatened bird species in the Annex II of the *Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern Africa Region*.

28. The national and regional assessment reports from the study outlined in Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/12 avail invaluable information on the status of the wider ecosystem in the region. Other outputs include a list of candidate priority sites for protection of birds and wider ecosystems as well as policy and management interventions required to safeguard birds and their habitats in the Convention area. Policy recommendations to scale up conservation efforts on species in the revised bird list and linkages to complementary Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands will be presented before Contracting Parties at COP7 for a decision on updating the *Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region*.

c. Climate Change and Policy Implications for the WIO region

29. In decision CP5/3 of COP5 Contracting Parties agreed to develop further projects on adaptation to climate change, and leverage funds for these projects from the international community, including the GEF and the Adaptation Fund among others. Further, Contracting Parties agreed to develop research projects and promote the sharing of experiences to determine the impact of sea level rise and cyclones on coastal habitats and the risk that these pose to the Contracting Parties.

30. Although the African continent contributes less than 4 per cent of total Green House Gas (GHG) emissions, it is one of the most vulnerable and least resilient to climate change. Climate change affects major economic sectors including fisheries and tourism of the African states, and the livelihoods of millions, with huge impact on

their ability to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). To ensure that Africa remains on the path of sustainable development the issues of climate change have to be addressed with added seriousness by the wider international community, multilateral and bilateral development agencies, and the governments. It is within this context that the Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with WIOMSA organized the first Regional *Conference on Climate Change, Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation in the WIO region: Solutions to the Crisis* in 2011 in Mauritius. The conference was organized to support and facilitate countries in the region to forge a common vision on how to deal with impacts of climate change, in relation to research, adaptation and mitigation strategies.

31. Subsequently, the Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with WIOMSA and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) under the framework of WIO-C, have prepared a WIO wide strategy informed by analysis of National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), National Climate Change Response Strategies (NCRS) and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) policies and how to use integrated coastal zone management as a tool for no regrets cost effective adaptation actions. The strategy availed as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/9 will be presented for consideration by member States during COP7 to particularly adopt adaptation and mitigation measures, support integration of coastal and marine issues in national climate change policies and strategies; and endorse the partnership between the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, WIOMSA and WCS as well as other members of WIO-C on future work on climate change.

Decision CP5/6 Small Island Developing States

UNEP-UNDP GEF-Project “Implementing IWRM and WUE in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans SIDS”

32. In decision CP5/6 of COP5 Contracting Parties agreed to develop further projects on adaptation to climate change, taking into account the specific situation of Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), and leverage funds for these projects from the international community, including the GEF and the Adaptation Fund, among others. The Project Preparation Grant phase for the project *Implementing Integrated Water Resources (IWRM) and Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Plans in the Indian and Atlantic Ocean Small Island Developing States* was successfully implemented. The Secretariat prepared and submitted a joint UNEP-UNDP GEF application for \$49,000,000 (including co-funding by participating Governments and partners) for a four year project to be implemented in Cape Verde, Comoros, Maldives, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe and Seychelles. The full project proposal was approved in December 2010.

33. The goal of the project is to ‘contribute to sustainable development in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans Small Islands Developing States through improvements in natural resource and environmental management’. The overall objective is to ‘accelerate progress on World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets on IWRM/WUE plans and water supply and sanitation MDGs through adoption and implementation of an integrated approach to water resource management and water use efficiency, including policy, institutional and legislative reforms, demonstration of more effective technologies and methodologies for the protection and utilization of ground and surface waters, and the learning and exchange of best practices’. It is expected that the project will contribute immensely towards building capacity of the SIDS which is also of great importance in the protection of the coastal and marine environment. The project is implemented by UNEP and UNDP and executed by UNOPS.

Implementing Decisions of the Sixth Conference of Parties (COP6)

34. The Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention held the Sixth Conference of Parties (COP6) and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on 29 March to 1 April 2010 at UNEP Headquarters, in Nairobi Kenya. The Conference was chaired by the Government of Mauritius represented by Mr. Sateaved Seebaluck, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Mauritius.

35. Subsequent to COP6 the Secretariat organised one Bureau meeting on 18 to 19 August 2010 in Maputo, Mozambique. The Bureau meeting was attended by Mozambique, Kenya, Seychelles and Tanzania. The Bureau provided guidance on the agreed COP6 decisions. Subsequently, the Secretariat organised three meetings of focal points to report on the implementation of the COP decisions and the Convention’s Work Programme. The meetings were held on 24 March 2011 in Mauritius, 9 December 2011 and 8 August 2012 in Maputo, Mozambique. The Secretariat closely coordinated the implementation of the decisions.

Decision CP6/1 Implementing the Work Programme 2008 – 2012

36. The Work Programme 2008–2011 was designed as a collaborative programme with many actors and diffuse sources of funding. Consequently, the Work Programme was implemented through collaborative projects with Contracting Parties, partners and key stakeholders. The Work Programme was designed as a tool for the Secretariat, Contracting Parties and the collaborating partners to catalyse change in the management of the marine and coastal environment in countries that are Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention. The structure of the Work Programme was influenced by various factors that affect the number and the mode of implementation of activities namely funding, partnerships and capacity, as outlined below.

37. The Work Programme is funded by governments, through the Eastern Africa Trust Fund, partners and donors. The assessed contributions of the Contracting Parties to the Trust Fund are outlined in Table 2 below. With the continually expanding scope of the work programs it is essential that the financing not only adequately meets the needs, but is also predictable. Contributions by Contracting Parties have, unfortunately been neither sufficient to meet the demands nor have they been predictable. Because of this challenge, the Secretariat must do most of its work through partnerships.

Table 2 Contributions to the Eastern Africa Trust Fund

Country	Assessed Annual Contributions by Contracting Parties to the East Africa Trust Fund	Contributions during 2011	Contributions during 2012 (as of Nov 2012)
Comoros	15,100	-	-
France	78,000	75,075	77,977
Kenya	45,302	275,677	90,604
Madagascar	22,651	-	-
Mauritius	30,201	30,201	30,201
Mozambique	45,302	45,302	-
Seychelles	15,100	-	-
Somalia	15,100	-	-
South Africa	37,500	37,500	37,500
Tanzania	45,302	18,463	-
Total	349,558	482,218	236,282
Payment for prior years		339,442	45,302
Pledges		142,776	190,980

38. During COP6 the Contracting Parties approved a work programme that envisaged three funding scenarios including “current”, “improved” and “optimal” funding levels. The first and the prevailing scenario, envisaged that only a few of the Contracting Parties will contribute to the Trust Fund. During the reporting period member countries made progress in payment of arrears in 2011. There was a slight increase from other sources. While the WIO-LaB project concluded in 2010, the Government of Sweden provided support for implementation of specific elements of the Nairobi Convention’s work programme accruing to a sub-optimal level of funding.

39. The support provided by the Government of Sweden, contributed to the Nairobi Convention’s Work Programme elements on Assessment; Management; Coordination and Legal Aspects. In particular, the following were achieved: a) Capacity building on Ecosystem Based Management for Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention including a leadership training course on advocacy for policy makers, and a training course on Ecosystems management, valuation and assessments; b) Ecosystems assessments of birds as indicators of ecosystem health; c) Regional expert meetings on climate change, coral reefs, and integrated coastal zone management; d) Intergovernmental consultations on implementation of the LBSA protocol and development of the protocol concerning integrated coastal zone management; and e) Analysis of policy implications for the WIO region of emerging issues including climate change, green economy, and oil and gas.

40. The sub-optimal level of funding achieved enabled the Secretariat to consider mainly normative functions of the Convention including: i) convening two Bureau meetings in August 2010 in Maputo, Mozambique and March 2011 in Mauritius; ii) convening three focal points meetings in Mauritius in March 2011, and in Maputo,

Mozambique in December 2011 and August 2012; iii) providing support to the conclusion of the WIO-LaB project, and development of the SIDS project, the UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme, the GEF application for Implementing the WIO-SAP, and Mangroves for the Future for the WIO region; and iii) coordinated the implementation of collaborative activities with partner agencies, NGOs and national institutions. Due to the limited funds the Secretariat's ability to engage in catalytic activities was constrained. Expenditure report under the Eastern Africa Trust Fund and the Sida Funds are presented in Tables 3 and 4 below. The bulk of the catalytic work of the Convention was thus limited to the Sida supported UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme.

Table 3: Expenditure Report for the Eastern Africa Trust Fund (2011 and 2012)

EXPENDITURE	2011	2012
Personnel costs: Technical support, consultants, travel	220,691.50	258,948.29
Meetings, Trainings	24,366.37	-
Miscellaneous, equipment	1,225.41	(87.52)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	245,057.87	258,860.77

Table 4: Expenditure Report for UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme Support (2011 and 2012)

EXPENDITURE	2011	2012
Technical support, consultants, travel	156,638.00	41,175.25
Sub Contracts with national and regional institutions	383,125.00	234,794.00
Meetings, Trainings	147,519.07	(823.99)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	687,282.07	275,145.26

Decision CP6/1.3 Endorsement of the WIO-SAP

41. The Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention on 1 April 2010 in Decision CP6/1.3 endorsed the *Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in the Western Indian Ocean from Land-based Sources and Activities (WIO-SAP)*. The Strategic Action Programme was thereafter launched by the President of the Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention Ms Anna Chichava the Vice Minister, Ministry for the Coordination of Environment Affairs in Mozambique. The WIO-SAP is presented as Information Document UNEP/ (DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/Inf5.

42. The 25-year program of action is based on a comprehensive region-wide Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis of transboundary problems affecting the marine environment in the WIO region. The WIO-SAP provides the frame of reference for collaborative action to address the challenges of sustainable management of the shared coastal and marine resources of the region. It aims at ensuring efficient management of the marine and coastal environment of the region by incorporating strategies for assisting countries to achieve an overall regional vision of: *"People prospering from a Healthy Western Indian Ocean."* The WIO-SAP specifically addresses challenges faced by countries in the region in dealing with increasing pollution of coastal waters, the destruction and degradation of critical habitats, changes in freshwater flow (both riverine and groundwater) as well as challenges resulting from global climate change.

Decision CP6/1.4 and CP6/1.6 Implementation of the WIO-SAP

43. The UNEP-GEF funded project entitled 'Addressing Land-based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (referred to as "WIO-LaB")' which was executed by the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention, United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) and the National Focal Points of the Nairobi Convention was concluded in June 2010. The project received a total budget of US \$13,488,635 being cash and in-kind contributions from partners including the Government of Norway, GEF, Contracting Parties, UNEP and other partners.

44. During COP6, in Decision CP6/1.4 Contracting Parties urged member States to implement the WIO-SAP including through policy legislative and institutional interventions. In Decision CP6/1.6 member States urged Contracting Parties to implement the WIO-SAP including through policy, legislative and institutional interventions, where appropriate and through national stakeholder participation. Further, in order to build on the WIO-LaB project achievements Contracting Parties requested the Secretariat to initiate and facilitate the development and implementation of follow up projects identified in the WIO-SAP and to seek new funding opportunities for the projects.

45. Subsequent to the COP6 during the Bureau and Focal Points Forum meetings Contracting Parties agreed on the components of work plan for the period 2008 – 2011 and beyond including: a) Finalise development and submit to GEF a four year Project proposal *Partnerships for the Implementation of the WIO-SAP*; b) Implementing the *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme 2010 to 2014*; c) Implementing the *UNEP-UNDP GEF Project Implementing Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Use Efficiency Plans in the Indian and Atlantic Ocean Small Island Developing States* during 2011 to 2015; and d) Development of the project *Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the WIO region*.

a. Development of the Project “Partnerships for the Implementation of the WIO-SAP”

46. The Secretariat has prepared and submitted to GEF a Project Identification Form (PIF) for US\$12,000,000 for a five year project *Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Sources and Activities* based on the WIO-SAP. The role of participating governments and partners in the development of the project has been and will continue to be very valuable. In this regard, the member States and partners provided commitment letters of endorsement and co-financing letters for the full size project for more than US \$80,000,000. The project will build on the achievements of the concluded WIO-LaB project and maintain the momentum towards the sustainable management of the shared coastal and marine resources of the WIO region. The project will also build strongly upon the partnerships with governments, organisations and institutions developed during the development of the WIO-SAP.

b. Implementing the Project “UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme 2010-2014”

47. The Secretariat prepared and submitted to the Government of Sweden an application for a four year programme namely: *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme 2010-2014, to be implemented in the Sub-Saharan Africa including Small Island Developing States in the western Indian and eastern Atlantic oceans. The Government of Sweden approved the programme in November 2010 and provided Swedish Kroner 28,000,000 (US\$4,200,000) for implementation of the programme by the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions in partnership with Contracting Parties to the two conventions, national institutions and regional organisations.*

48. The overall objective of the programme is to assist in implementing UNEP’s Marine and Coastal Strategy (2009) in Africa for ‘prosperous and healthy oceans and coasts where conservation, productivity and resource use are sustainable’. The programme is in line with UNEP’s Programme of Work, UNEP’s Medium Term Strategy (2010-2013) and the Nairobi Convention Approved Work Programme 2008 – 2012, and beyond, as guided by Africa’s priorities agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention. In particular, it aims to address identified marine and coastal environmental management and development challenges specific to Africa including ecosystems degradation, declining productivity of ecosystems, pollution and adaptation to climate change all of which significantly impact on poverty in the region. The programme thus aims to improve environmental governance, promote synergies and strengthen the coordination mechanisms of regional initiatives for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment in Africa.

49. Following the approval of the programme the Secretariat in partnership with Contracting Parties and national and regional organisations implemented the inception phase and convened meetings of Contracting Parties and stakeholders to discuss and agree on the objectives, activities and outputs as well as implementation arrangements at the regional and national level. As part of the approved work programme, the Secretariat was involved in key processes to provide clarity on specific activities, update baselines for the programme and consequently provide impetus for the implementation of components of the Programme. The processes included::

1. Conclusion of the UNEP GEF-WIO-LaB project, and development of the follow on project on *Implementation of the WIO-SAP*, initiated.
2. UNEP-AU project on *Support for ratification and implementation of the LBSA Protocol to the Nairobi Convention*.
3. UNEP-IOC partnership initiative in development of the ICZM Protocol to the Nairobi Convention.
4. Finalisation of the UNEP-UNDP GEF-Application *Implementing Integrated Water Resources Management in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in Indian and Atlantic Oceans*.
5. UNEP-WIOMSA partnership in the profiling of climate change issues in the WIO region for the development of the Regional Climate Change Strategy.
6. UNEP-IMS partnership on capacity building in leadership, EBM and integrated ecosystems assessments.

7. UNEP-Birdlife International partnership on assessment of birds as indicators of ecosystem health and reviewing of the Protocol on protected areas, wild fauna and flora in the Eastern Africa region.

c. Development of Project on “Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the WIO region”

50. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with IUCN, WIOMSA and Coastal Oceans Research and Development (CORDIO) are preparing a project proposal document for the Mangroves for the Future Initiative (MFF) in the Western Indian Ocean on *Enhancing the resilience of coastal systems in the Western Indian Ocean*. The goal of MFF is conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal ecosystems and critical coastal habitats as key natural infrastructure which support human well-being, resilience and security. The proposed project has been aligned to Components A and D of the WIO-SAP which focus on critical habitats and governance, respectively.

51. The proposed project will build on the successes and lessons learned from the MFF Initiative implemented in Asia. Experiences from Asia have shown that MFF’s strengths and uniqueness lie in the nature of the partnerships established between public and private sectors, multi-lateral agencies and civil-society organizations. The project will initially focus on three key countries including Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique with a vision to scaling out over time to include Seychelles and South Africa as dialogue countries. The project will reach out to the African Union as well as Regional Economic Commissions including the Southern African Development Community (SADC), East Africa Community (EAC) and Intergovernmental Authority for Development in Eastern Africa (IGAD). The draft project proposal (Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/15b) will be presented before member States for consideration during COP7. The Contracting Parties will be requested to support the MFF initiative for the WIO region; and endorse the partnership between the Nairobi Convention, IUCN, WIOMSA and CORDIO in the development and implementation of the project.

52. Additional new proposed project for the implementation of the WIO-SAP include: *Sustainable Financing and Management of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Ecosystems including MPAs; Capacity Strengthening and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the LBSA protocol, and National Implementation Plans in the WIO region; Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Mozambique Channel of the WIO; Integration of Climatic Variability and Change into National Strategies to Develop and Implement the ICZM protocol in the WIO region; African Mangrove Ecosystem; and Support to Somalia.*

53. The effective implementation of the above outlined projects will require a strengthened Secretariat through increased human resources and financial resources. Additional resources at the Secretariat will be required to sustain the progress so far achieved and to further the implementation of the WIO-SAP through follow up projects including: the implementation of the Sida supported *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme*, the proposed *Partnerships for Implementing the WIOSAP* and the *Mangroves for the Future Project* and other proposed projects.

Decision CP6/1.5 Adoption and Implementation of the LBSA Protocol

54. During the Conference of Plenipotentiaries and Sixth Conference of Parties (COP 6) of the Nairobi Convention, held on 29 March to 1 April in 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya the plenipotentiaries under the leadership of the Government of Mauritius as the Chair of the Bureau of the Convention negotiated and adopted texts for the: a) Amended Nairobi Convention for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean (Amended Nairobi Convention); and b) Protocol for the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities (LBSA Protocol), both presented as Information Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/Inf4. The instruments were thereafter opened for signature, ratification or accession.

55. In Decision CP6/1.5 Contracting Parties urged member States to implement the LBSA protocol, including through policy, legislative and institutional interventions, where appropriate. Pursuant to the decision, UNEP in partnership with the African Union Economic Commission implemented a regional project *Support for Ratification and Implementation of the Protocol for the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-Based Sources and Activities* (LBSA protocol).

56. The purpose of the project was to assist Contracting Parties to address policy, legislative and institutional issues and provide guidance and sensitise member States on the appropriate measures towards ratification and effective implementation of the LBSA Protocol. Based on the national policy, institutional and legal analyses a

regional policy paper was prepared entitled *State of Ratification of the LBSA Protocol to the Nairobi Convention: Challenges and Solutions for the Western India Ocean*, to guide the ratification and domestication of the protocol. The paper is presented as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/19. National reports presented at meetings of focal points reveal that each member State is at a different stage of acceding or ratifying the instruments. In particular, different states have adopted different approaches to domestication and implementation of the instruments. The policy paper is presented before member States during COP7 for noting and further action.

Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse Mechanism for Information and Awareness

57. The Convention continues to support the information sharing on the coastal and marine environment. The Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse Mechanism (NCHM) hosted at UNEP and eight national nodes in Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa and Tanzania are designed to be the first port of call for up to date information on the coastal and marine environment in the WIO region. The Secretariat has focussed on maintenance of these nodes through technical back-stopping and capacity building at the national level with the view to strengthening the management capacities of Contracting Parties towards sustainability.

Decision CP6/1.7 National Reporting Template

58. In accordance with Article 23 of the Nairobi Convention and the Terms of Reference of Focal Points of the Nairobi Convention, Contracting Parties are required to regularly transmit to UNEP information on measures adopted by them in the implementation of the Convention and its protocols in such forms as the meetings of Contracting Parties may determine. In Decision CP6/1.7 Contracting Parties requested the Secretariat to provide a template for compiling country reports as a means for reporting to the Convention. The reporting template has been prepared and reviewed by members of the Bureau and focal points. The National Reporting template will first be used to collect baseline data. The template is presented before member States as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/22 for endorsement.

Decision CP6/2 Review of Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean region

59. In Decision CP6/2.2 Contracting Parties requested the Secretariat to prepare an action strategy for the Western Indian Ocean region based on a review of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Eastern African region of 1985 (Eastern Africa Action Plan), taking into account the Amended Nairobi Convention, the LBSA Protocol, and the WIO-SAP, and present the same for adoption at the next Conference of Parties. In Decision CP6/2.4 Contracting Parties mandated the Secretariat to coordinate with all other on-going processes, programmes and projects and to reflect their contributions in the report to the Contracting Parties also noting the emerging challenges and lessons learnt over the years.

60. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with the WIO-C membership is preparing a comprehensive *New Action Strategy for the Western Indian Ocean region* that is informed by analytical reviews of environmental challenges in the region as well as other regional processes while building on the achievements of the Eastern African Action Plan. In addition, the Strategy provides a framework for addressing emerging issues identified by Contracting Parties that require policy attention including Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs), marine World Heritage Sites, ports and harbors, climate change, outcomes of RIO+20, natural blue capital, and exploration of oil and gas. The new strategy is therefore also aligned to a responsive regional coordination mechanism including a strengthened Secretariat and fund raising mechanisms in line with decision CP6/4 of COP6. The *New Action Strategy* that forms the basis for defining the New Programmes of Work for the Nairobi Convention for 2013 to 2016 and beyond is presented for information as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/23 for noting and a decision for its conclusive development including a consultative process in collaboration with partners.

Decision CP6/3: Development of a new Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management

61. The need for a legal instrument for integrated coastal zone management for the WIO region was envisaged by Contracting Parties in decision CP6/3.1 of the Sixth Conference of Parties (COP6) which was held in Nairobi, Kenya in 2010. Contracting Parties endorsed the use of ICZM approaches for long-term sustainable development of the coastal and marine environment in the WIO region. Further, in Decision CP6/3.2 Contracting Parties requested the Secretariat to strengthen the application of ICZM tools and in partnership with relevant partners develop an ICZM protocol for consideration in the next COP. Subsequently in decision CP6/3.3 Contracting Parties agreed to develop an ICZM protocol and requested the Secretariat to support the development of such an

ICZM protocol through a consultative process in partnership with relevant regional and international organizations and programmes/projects, for consideration at the next COP.

62. Pursuant to the decision the Secretariat in partnership with the Indian Ocean Commission (COI) organised seven intergovernmental meetings of the *Ad hoc* Legal and Technical Working Group (LTWG) on ICZM to develop the elements of the protocol that will provide a framework for addressing a number of threats to the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region.

63. At their seventh meeting (LTWG7) held in Maputo, Mozambique on 6 to 8 August 2012, the *Ad hoc* Legal and Technical Working Group on ICZM concluded the drafting of the protocol and prepared the *Seventh Draft ICZM Protocol to the Amended Nairobi Convention* presented as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/6a. The experts recommended the draft text for consideration by the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention during the Seventh Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention (COP7) for a decision on the next steps that will include negotiations, and adoption of the negotiated text by a Conference of plenipotentiaries. The LTWG7 also considered and approved *Draft Guidelines for Drafters and Negotiators of the Protocol on ICZM to the Nairobi Convention*. The purpose of the guidelines is to assist drafters and negotiators to have common conceptual and textual understanding of the various issues covered in the proposed protocol. It is envisaged that the guidelines will support the remaining phases of consultation, drafting and negotiation of the Protocol. The draft guidelines are presented to the COP7 for noting as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/6b.

Decision CP6/4 Strengthening the Coordination Mechanism for the Nairobi Convention Secretariat

64. In decision CP6/4.4 of COP6 member States mandated the Secretariat and the Bureau to review the coordination mechanism to provide for an appropriate mechanism for sustainably addressing current, new and emerging issues while taking into account the newly adopted legal instruments and newly endorsed WIO-SAP. The Secretariat contracted an international expert to undertake a review and propose institutional arrangement options to improve and strengthen the Secretariat. The review presented as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/20 takes into account the newly adopted Amended Nairobi Convention and the Protocol for the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean from land based sources and activities (LBSA protocol); the newly endorsed Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean from land based sources and activities (WIO-SAP); the development and implementation of the protocol on integrated coastal zone management; and the need for new Regional Activity Centres (RACs).

65. The review proposes institutional arrangements and structure, and funding mechanisms for short, medium and long-term actions to strengthen the Secretariat. The review considers the establishment of RACs to deal with climate changes issues in Small Island Developing States of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-SIDs), or focus on implementation of the WIO-SAP, including programmes on the LBSA Protocol and a new protocol on integrated coastal zone management under development.

66. Proposed institutional arrangements including establishment of a devolved structure, and funding options will be presented during COP7 for consideration by member States of the Nairobi Convention. The Contracting Parties will also be requested to endorse the establishment of Regional Activity Centres (RACs) for the three protocols. The RACs will be supported under a funding mechanism that allows national government to adopt the centres and to fund the experts nationally. The centres will have the option of; a) hiring national officers; b) taking on board seconded experts from other Contracting Parties; and/or c) accepting Junior Programme Officers from supporting countries.

Decision CP6/5 Contributions to the Trust Fund

67. The most pressing and important challenge for the Parties to the Nairobi Convention is to overcome the financial constraints that hampers the implementation of the biennial work programme. Besides the need to ensure the predictability as well as regularity of contributions to the Eastern Africa Trust Fund, there is an urgent need for a sustainable financing mechanism for the mobilization of a range of resources __ human and financial __ to support the priorities contained in the WIO-SAP as well as new and emerging themes.

68. In Decision CP6/5 Contracting Parties commended member States 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. Contracting Parties mandated the Secretariat to invoice member States for the current year's

contributions and to negotiate and deal appropriately with Contracting Parties who have arrears, on agreeable terms and schedule the payment of their arrears in full or by instalments to the Trust Fund. Contracting Parties also urged member States to ensure that their contributions to the Trust Fund are made promptly.

69. During 2011 and 2012 member States made contributions to the Trust Fund including payment of arrears as presented in Table 2. Further details are presented in the Financial report and budget in Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/4b. During the meeting of the Bureau to the Nairobi Convention held on 18 to 19 August 2010, the Bureau agreed to establish a reserve fund for the Nairobi Convention using the arrears to be paid by Contracting Parties and further advised the Secretariat to seek for collaborating partners to raise funds for the reserve. Contracting Parties will be required to make a decision for enhancing contributions to the Trust Fund and payment of arrears.

Decision CP6/6 Partnership Arrangements

70. The implementation of the Work Programme requires concerted efforts of the governments, regional organisations, private sector and civil society. In Decision CP6/6 of COP6 Contracting Parties reaffirmed the various partnerships existing between the Nairobi Convention and various partners in enhancing coherent, collaborative and mutually beneficial implementation of various policies, programmes, projects and activities. Contracting Parties mandated the Secretariat to seek new partnerships and enter into agreements as appropriate, including with the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and enhance existing partnerships arrangements in order to improve benefits to the Western Indian Ocean region.

71. The Secretariat continues to strengthen the Focal Points Forum, Focal Point offices, task forces and the Forum for Academic and Research Institutions (FARI) in the WIO region. In recognition of the multiplicity of projects and programmes in the Western Indian Ocean region the NGO led Consortium for Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C) was formed in 2007. The Consortium which is anchored in the Nairobi Convention plays an important role in providing the relevant resources and expertise to contribute to the implementation of the Work Programme. The Convention thus recognises the contributions of WWF, IUCN, UNDP, UNESCO, BirdLife International, COI, WIOMSA, WCS, and CORDIO, among others.

72. Two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the Indian Ocean Commission (COI) and the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) have been developed to provide frameworks of cooperation and understanding and to facilitate collaboration between the partners to further share goals and objectives with regard to the protection, enhancement and support of nature and natural resources including biological diversity worldwide. The MOU with COI was concluded and signed in October 2010. Other agreements have been signed with the Birdlife International, Institute of Marine Sciences and WIOMSA.

Draft New Work Programme 2013 - 2017

73. The New Work Programme 2013 – 2017 is a collaborative programme developed by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and partners that builds on the momentum achieved through the previous Work Programme 2008-2012. The key achievements of the Work Programme 2008-2012 include the successful implementation of the WIO-LAB project and the development of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean from land based sources and activities (WIO-SAP). The WIO-SAP provides a regional frame of reference for future collaborative action to address marine and coastal environmental challenges in the WIO region. The New Work Programme is therefore informed by priorities highlighted in the WIO-SAP.

74. In response to Decision CP6/1 of COP6 the Secretariat has developed three projects that will form part of the New Work Programme. The projects as outlined above include: *the UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme 2010-2014; UNEP-UNDP-GEF project Implementing IWRM and Water Use Efficiency Plans in Indian and Atlantic Oceans SIDS 2011-2015; and GEF application on Partnerships for Implementing the WIO-SAP.* In addition, a project on *Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the WIO region* is being developed. Additional proposed projects will include: *Sustainable Financing and Management of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Ecosystems including MPAs; Capacity Strengthening and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the LBSA protocol, and National Implementation Plans in the WIO region; Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Mozambique Channel of the WIO; Integration of Climatic Variability and Change into National Strategies to Develop and Implement the ICZM protocol in the WIO region; African Mangrove Ecosystems; and Support to Somalia.*

75. The new Work Programme 2013-2017 maintains the momentum by building on past successes and by strengthening and increasing linkages between partners, programmes and projects in the region. In line with the

draft New Action Strategy for the WIO region, the New Work Programme also addresses new and emerging themes prioritised by Contracting Parties.

76. The New Work Programme is focussed on interlinked themes including: Assessments; Management; Coordination and Legal aspects; Information and awareness as well as emerging themes including Climate Change, EBSAs, VMEs, PSSAs, Ports and Harbors, Oil and Gas and Green economy. The structure of the new Work Programme is influenced by various factors that affect the number and the mode of implementation of activities namely funding, partnerships and capacity. The New Work Programme will be presented before member States as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/4a for adoption and a decision on its implementation.

New and Emerging Themes

a. RIO+20 Outcomes and the Green Economy

77. The RIO+20 debates on the Green Economy and Environmental Governance for the oceans provide governments in the Western Indian Ocean region a valuable opportunity to drive governance transformation forward towards oceans management where marine biodiversity has multiple values and acts as natural blue capital for economic growth. In order to harmonise traditional economic activities and ecosystem-dependent economic values governments in the region need to shift to a green economic pathway for oceans focused on economic growth, social and environmental goals in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication as highlighted in the *Future We Want* by the RIO+20 process and the *Oceans Compact*.

78. In the Arusha Declaration on Africa's post Rio+20 strategy for sustainable development, the 14th Session of African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), held from 10-14 September 2012 in Arusha Tanzania stated that "To urge the African Union Commission, together with the United Nations Environment Program, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and other partners, to develop a marine and coastal environment strategy for Africa".

79. The proposed AMCEN Work Programme for the biennium 2013–2014 is organized in clusters of priority regional programs, processes involving environmental conventions; and related awareness and capacity building activities to be implemented in the biennium. Under Environmental conventions the Nairobi Convention is one of the key components of this cluster.

80. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat in partnership with WIOMSA and WWF are conducting a review of green economy initiatives applied to the ocean sectors including sustainable approaches focused on fisheries, renewable energy opportunities, tourism, marine transport, etc to guide governments in the WIO region, including SIDS, towards good stewardship of economies and environmental resources. Policy options outlined in Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/10 will be presented to member States of the Nairobi Convention during COP7 who will be requested to endorse established partnerships with WIOMSA and WWF to further define the regional strategies for the management of the blue capital; and urged to fast track and integrate resource valuation principles or green accounting in the economic planning.

b. Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas in the WIO

81. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) process on the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) through the application of scientific criteria forms an important contribution to the designation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by providing globally applied scientific guidance. A regional experts workshop *Southern Indian Ocean Workshop to Facilitate the Description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas* (EBSAs) organised by CBD, in partnership with Nairobi Convention and FAO facilitated the description of 39 EBSAs within territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), including transboundary areas and areas beyond national jurisdictions in the Southern Indian Ocean region. The approved EBSAs were subsequently presented during Eleventh Conference of Parties (COP11) of CBD. They will also be presented to the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and UNGA for consideration.

82. The outcomes of the regional expert workshop are presented in Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/8. Consequently, Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention will during COP7 be requested to endorse the partnerships between the CBD and the Nairobi Convention, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCMLAR) on scientific collaboration, development of indicators, and in the description of EBSAs in the WIO

region, including in areas beyond national jurisdictions (ABNJ) in partnership with CBD, FAO and UNEP. Further, Contracting Parties will be urged to support the process of creating trans-boundary MPAs in areas of outstanding biodiversity that may have been described under the EBSA process, and Marine Important Bird Areas. Contracting Parties will also be requested to consider participating in the regional demonstration for the project *Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions Deep Sea Project* in the Indian Ocean.

c. Potential new Marine World Heritage Sites in the Indian Ocean

83. The designation of marine World Heritage Sites could also form an important contribution in the designation and management of MPAs in the WIO region. Notably, the World Heritage Convention in partnership with CORDIO's recent assessment of sites in the Western Indian Ocean has revealed potential sites that likely meet the natural criteria of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage Site nomination. The potential sites include, among others, the Mozambique Channel, and the Mascarene Plateau which are transboundary sites in the Nairobi Convention area.

84. The outcomes of the assessment outlined in Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF-CP.7/12 will be presented before member States of the Nairobi Convention during COP7 for a decision to ; a) foster engagement between the Nairobi Convention and the World Heritage Convention in order to provide the appropriate intergovernmental mechanism for addressing transboundary marine World Heritage Sites, b) engage a process for World Heritage nomination for the identified sites; and c) provide institutional support and expertise necessary to bring new World Heritage Sites to fruition.

d. Mangroves in the WIO region

85. Mangrove forests provide an array of ecosystem goods and services which support the livelihoods of millions of people in the WIO region through fisheries production, wood products, coastal protection, biodiversity conservation and even cultural values. In the context of climate change, the global role of mangroves as carbon sinks has become more appreciated as they sequester about five times more carbon per unit area than any other forest ecosystem. However, the decline of these ecosystems due to multiple pressures is increasing, thus rapidly altering the composition, structure and function of these ecosystems and their capacity to provide ecosystem services. Compounding factors aggravating mangrove degradation include: overexploitation, land-use change, pollution and climate change.

86. A WIO Regional Mangrove Network has been formed to provide a forum for scientists, managers and policy makers to contribute to solutions for addressing the challenges. The network will provide valuable knowledge and information for governments in the region to support the inclusion of mangrove forests in forest sector legislations to ensure comprehensive community involvement and participation in mangrove management; strengthening institutions for mangrove management; development of national programmes for sustainable mangrove conservation and management; and supporting project level carbon sequestration and financing initiatives such as REDD+ , Blue Carbon and PES as climate change adaptation and mitigation options including training in options available for Carbon Markets. A technical paper on the network is presented as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/15a. Contracting Parties will be requested to consider anchoring the network to the Nairobi Convention.

e. Oil and Gas Exploration in the WIO

87. In view of the major discoveries in the WIO region of oil and gas and the potential social and economic impacts on the economies of the countries on one hand and negative environmental impacts on the other hand it is prudent that adequate governance mechanisms are put in place. Governments in the region recognized this as an emerging issue and requested the Nairobi Convention Secretariat to assist governments to address the issue within the framework of the Nairobi Convention. In response the Secretariat in partnership with WWF, WIOMSA and other members of the WIO-C have prepared an exploratory paper presented as Working Document UNEP/(DEPI)/EAF/CP.7/11 that outlines elements of a conducive investment environment on oil and gas.

88. The on-going discussions on oil and gas in the region are important and should involve key stakeholders including governments, industry and the civil society through appropriate forums and mechanisms. The discussions should be organised to particularly enhance awareness among stakeholders of key development and environmental issues as well as transboundary aspects. Policy recommendations on how governments in the region could address oil and gas exploration will be presented before member States of the Nairobi Convention during COP7. The member States will be requested to endorse the partnership between the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, WWF, WIOMSA and other WIO-C members on future work on oil and gas; and urged to adopt the proposed policy recommendations.

Summary of Decisions for Consideration by Contracting Parties

89. The COP7 will review progress and successes achieved by Governments, key partners and stakeholders towards the implementation of the Nairobi Convention Work Program in the period 2010 to 2012. The COP7 meeting will approve a mechanism for adjusting the Work Programme and budget in line with the draft *New Action Strategy for the Western Indian Ocean*.

90. The Contracting Parties will be requested to make a decision on the conclusive development of the *New Action Strategy for the Western Indian Ocean* including a consultative process in collaboration with partners taking into account international best practices on current, new and emerging marine environmental issues highlighted above.

91. In view of the progress made in the development of the *Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management to the Nairobi Convention*, and the *Guidelines for Drafters and Negotiators of the ICZM protocol*, the COP may wish to make a decision on remaining phases of consultation on matters arising out of the UN Conference (RIO+20) as well as areas beyond national jurisdictions, drafting and negotiation of the protocol, and adoption of the negotiated text by a Conference of Plenipotentiaries.

92. The Contracting Parties will be required to make decisions which provide a firm basis for the strengthening of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat including the strengthening of the Secretariat to ensure better and more effective implementation of the Convention; financing of the Secretariat and establishment of regional activity centres for the Convention.

93. The Contracting Parties will be required to make a decision on the adoption of the National Reporting template that has been developed to enable member States compile country reports as a means for reporting to the Convention on the implementation of the Convention and its protocols.

94. Contracting Parties will also be required to make a decision on the mechanisms to finance the work programme activities including enhancing contributions to the Eastern Africa Trust Fund and payment of arrears owed by member countries. The decision could mandate the Secretariat to establish a reserve fund for the convention based on payment of arrears, to negotiate with Contracting Parties who may have arrears to write-off the arrears.

95. Contracting Parties will be requested to endorse and support the development and implementation of the new Work Programme 2013-2016 that contributes to the implementation of the WIO-SAP through development and implementation of regional initiatives including the *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme; Implementation of the WIO-SAP; Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the WIO region*; and new projects on Marine Protected Areas, ICZM Protocol, LBSA protocol, Mozambique Channel, and Support to Somalia, as well as new partnership initiatives on EBSAs, VMEs, PSSAs, ABNJ, marine World Heritage Sites, climate change, ports and harbours development, oil and gas exploration and green economy in a blue world, in order to better manage marine and coastal resources of the WIO region.



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**The Seventh Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention
for the Protection, Management and Development of
the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western
Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention)**

Maputo, Mozambique 10 - 14 December, 2012

Draft New Work Programme 2013 – 2017

The New Work Programme 2013 – 2017 is a collaborative programme developed by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and partners that builds on the momentum achieved through the previous Work Programme, notably between 2004 and 2012. In decision CP6/1 of 1 April 2010 Contracting Parties urged member States to implement the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean from land based sources and activities (WIO-SAP); and requested the Secretariat to initiate and facilitate the development and implementation of follow-up projects identified in the WIO-SAP, and seek new funding opportunities for the projects. The New Work Programme will focus on interlinked themes including: Assessments and Capacity Building; Development and implementation of ecosystem based management including MPAs management; Environmental Governance including implementation of the protocol for the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean from land based sources and activities (LBSA protocol); development of integrated the protocol on coastal zone management to the Nairobi Convention (ICZM protocol), and Information and awareness; as well as policy options on climate change; ports and harbors development; policy options for oil and gas; policy options for green economy; and partnerships for activities on description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs). The structure of the Work Programme is influenced by various factors that affect the number and the mode of implementation of activities namely, funding, partnerships and capacity with the Contracting Parties' focal institutions. The WIO-LaB project that concluded in 2010, prepared the WIO-SAP. The WIO-SAP which was endorsed on 1 April 2010 provides a frame of reference for collaborative action to address the challenges from land based sources and activities in the Western Indian Ocean region.

In the 2010-2012 period, the Secretariat prepared several project proposals each contributing to the implementation of 2008-2012 Work Programme as well the WIO-SAP. The projects include: *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme* 2010 to 2014; UNEP-UNDP GEF project *Implementing Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Use Efficiency Plans in the Indian and Atlantic Ocean Small Islands Developing States* 2011 to 2015 ; and *Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Activities*. The project *Enhancing resilience of coastal systems under the Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the Western Indian Ocean region* is under development to address restoration, protection and management of critical habitats in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. Additional projects will focus on Financing and Management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), Capacity Strengthening for implementation of LBSA protocol, Management of Mozambique Channel, Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) for Climate Change, African Mangroves Ecosystems, and Support to Somalia. The New Work Programme 2013-2017 maintains this momentum by building on the successes, and by strengthening and increasing the linkages between partners, programmes and projects in the region. In line with the New Action Strategy, the New Work Programme also addresses new and emerging themes prioritized by

Contracting Parties. The new Work Programme will be presented before member States of the Nairobi Convention during the Seventh Conference of Parties (COP7) for adoption and a decision on its implementation.

2013–2017 work programme for the implementation of the Nairobi Convention

I. Introduction

A. The Nairobi Convention

1. Recognizing the environmental uniqueness of the coastal and marine environment of the region, the threats and the necessity for action, the countries of the Western Indian Ocean region requested UNEP to create a regional seas programme for the region. UNEP's Governing Council decision 8/13C of 29 April 1980 created the Eastern African Regional Seas Programme and further requested UNEP to assist the Governments of the region to formulate and implement a programme for the proper management and conservation of marine and coastal resources. Subsequent to the 8th session of the Governing Council of 1980, UNEP supported the development of the Eastern African Action Plan, and a Convention on the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention).
2. The countries of the region met in 1985, to adopt an action plan for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the Eastern African region. In addition, they signed the Convention and its two protocols concerning collaboration in combating pollution in cases of emergency, and concerning protected areas and wild fauna and flora. The Convention and its two protocols entered into force on 30 May 1996 and were ratified by all the signatories including South Africa by 2002.

B. Background to COP7

3. In 1985, the adoption of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention) generated great hopes for the people and communities that share the marine and coastal resources in all coastal states in Eastern and Southern Africa region. However, by 1998, due to inadequate finances and unpredictable contributions to the trust fund of the Convention, it became clear that there was need for an innovative approach to sustain the Nairobi Convention.
4. In 1998, a series of high-level intergovernmental meetings took place, including the Pan-African Conference on Sustainable Integrated Coastal Management in July 1998 in Maputo, and the Cape Town Conference on the Protection and Management of the Marine and Coastal Environment in December 1998. As a result of the two meetings, the African Governments agreed on an African process for the protection, management and development of the coastal and marine environment in the declaration which they adopted: "The Cape Town Declaration of December 1998". The Heads of State and Government Summit of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Algiers, Algeria also endorsed that process in July 1999.
5. The conclusions of the two conferences were equally clear: African governments need to take urgent measures to halt and reverse the downward trends in the implementation of the Nairobi Convention, which is a vital instrument for the protection, management and development of the coastal and marine environment in Eastern and Southern Africa.
6. There has been burgeoning commitment to the Convention, as demonstrated by the number of ratifying countries. All of the ten countries that are signatory to the Nairobi Convention have ratified the Convention. The Republic of South Africa, which had previously been excluded in the Convention, ratified the Nairobi Convention in 2002. Since the first Conference of Parties (COP), there has been an increased level of attendance by ministers as well as high-level representatives of major NGOs. In addition governments have started to contribute to the Trust Funds in a more predictable way (see Table 1. On assessed contributions since 2008). The governments therefore see the Convention as a suitable framework for managing coastal and marine issues.
7. Over the period 2008-2012, the Nairobi Convention has been able to leverage resources from various sources, including US\$3.4million from the Norwegian government, US\$4.5million from the GEF, US\$3.1million (cash and in kind) from Contracting Parties, and US\$1.8million from partners for the WIO-LaB project. The WIO-LaB project was implemented by the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention and UNOPS focusing on the degradation of the marine and coastal environment in the Western Indian Ocean due to land based activities.

8. The government of Sweden through Sida has been a very consistent partner and in the last two years has supported the convention with US\$2.2million under the UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme. Five governments from the Eastern African region have consistently contributed to the Nairobi Convention's East Africa Trust Fund, to a total of US\$818,719 over the 2008-2012 period.
9. The GEF through the Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) projects has also supported the region to address a number of cross-cutting range of transboundary coastal and marine environmental issues. The 2013-2017 Work Programme will build upon these achievements.
10. The 7th COP of the Nairobi Convention has been organised to take stock of the progress made from the multiplicity of projects and programmes that have been implemented during the 2008-2012 period and to build on this momentum and the increased political commitment. The COP7 provides an important opportunity to generate increased visibility for the Convention and increased commitment to be expressed through contributions to the Trust Funds, ratification of the amended Nairobi Convention and the LBSA protocol and ownership amongst Contracting Parties and partners of the 2013-2017 work programme that is adopted by the Contracting parties.

II. 2013–2017 Work Programme of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat

A. Overview

11. As part of a comprehensive and ambitious exercise to progressively strengthen the Nairobi Convention, one of the measures utilised by African governments was the development of a biennial work programme. The first Work Programme for the Nairobi Convention was adopted at its second Conference of the Contracting Parties, held in Mauritius in November 1999. This was followed by the 2002–2003, 2004–2007, and 2008-2012 work programmes. Based on these work programmes, the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, partners and individual countries successfully carried out a number of activities, largely with the support of the Eastern Africa Trust Fund and partners. These achievements have laid a solid foundation for continuous efforts in the same direction.
12. The 2008–2012 Work Programme covered two biennia that corresponded with other relevant ongoing programmes within UNEP and other partners. The previous work programmes focused on the following four themes: assessment; management of coastal and marine ecosystems; coordination and legal aspects; information and awareness; and cross-cutting issues. The four themes are linked and designed to provide a cohesive and integrated holistic programme. In particular, the assessment theme is closely linked to the management theme. The activities under management, coordination and legal aspects and crosscutting issues were successfully implemented through partnerships, as there was good collaboration between the Secretariat and other UN organizations IGO, NGOs and national institutions.
13. The Work Programme for 2013-2017, maintains this momentum by building on previous successes, and by strengthening and increasing the linkages between partners, programmes and projects. The Work Programme is highly collaborative in nature, reflecting the increased coordination among stakeholders working on marine and coastal issues. The Secretariat works closely with collaborating partners such as the “Consortium for Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean” referred to as the (“WIO-C”) membership, other regional NGOs and various national and research institutions.
14. Established in 2006 the “WIO-C” is a partnership between major NGOs with the support of IGOs in the Western Indian Ocean, namely WWF, IUCN, WIOMSA, EAWLS, CORDIO, IOC, WCS and BirdLife International. WIO-C is anchored in the Nairobi Convention, and is designed to improve information exchange, synergy and coordination between NGOs working on coastal and marine environment issues in the Western Indian Ocean region, and to move towards a joint programmatic approach in addressing these issues. Strengthening the WIO-C and building on this partnership is an important component of the Work Programme, as reflected by the incorporation into the Convention's Work Programme of relevant elements of the work plans and activities from partner NGOs.
15. The Work Programme will also build on a number of activities implemented over 2008 to 2012, including those activities that have received support from GEF project *Addressing Land Based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-LaB)*; Sida supported project *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme*; and the UNEP-African Economic Commission regional project *Support for Ratification and Implementation of the Protocol for the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment from Land Based Sources and Activities (LBSA protocol)*. These three projects have had tremendous impact on capacity building, maintaining momentum for the implementation of the Nairobi Convention and its protocols including and initiating the development of the protocol concerning integrated coastal zone management for the Western Indian Ocean region.

16. Under the project *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme* the Secretariat has implemented a series of activities to strengthen the implementation of the Nairobi Convention. Most activities have been undertaken in collaboration with WIO-C members, NGOs and institutions, which has enabled the Secretariat to broaden its base of partners and to secure the support of civil society in supporting the implementation of the Convention and its work programme. The Secretariat partnered with the Institute of Marine Sciences of the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on capacity building in leadership, ecosystem based management and integrated ecosystems assessments. The Secretariat partnered with the BirdLife International on assessments of birds and indicators of ecosystem health and reviewing the protocol on protected areas, wild fauna and flora in the Eastern Africa region.
17. The Secretariat worked with WIOMSA in profiling climate change issues in the WIO region for the development of the Regional Climate Change Strategy. The Secretariat partnered with WCS and WIOMSA and organized regional expert meetings on development of a Coral Reef Action Plan taking into account the impacts of climate change. The Secretariat is partnering with the Indian Ocean Commission in the development of the *ICZM protocol to the Nairobi Convention* including preparation of *Guidelines for the Drafters and Negotiators of the ICZM protocol*. The Secretariat partnered with the African Union Economic Commission to support regional consultations on ratification and implementation of the LBSA protocol. The Secretariat partnered with WIOMSA, WWF, and WCS to undertake policy analysis on emerging issues including climate change, green economy and oil and gas. In a parallel effort the Secretariat also partnered with GEF and UNDP in the development of the project on implementing integrated water resources management in Small Island Developing States.
18. Many of the coordinating structures of the Convention have been strengthened, most importantly national representation through the focal points. A focal points forum and specific terms of reference for the focal points have been established. The focal points institutions have been supported to operationalise their offices and to initiate a reporting mechanism for the Convention by compiling national status reports on the coastal and marine environment. The Secretariat has developed a national reporting template to guide national focal points in reporting. The support has also contributed to strengthening the task forces of the Convention, such as the Forum of Academic and Research Institutions (FARI) and the Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF). The national reporting mechanism for the Convention and the strengthened task forces will give guidance on national priorities within coastal and marine management in preparation for the Convention's Work Programme for 2013 and onwards.
19. The implementation of the mainly GEF funded WIO-LaB project *Addressing Land Based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (2005-2010)* within the framework of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat has provided great support for the improvement of the management of land-based activities affecting the coastal and marine environment (LBAs) in the region, and thereby also ensured the successful implementation of a large part of the Nairobi Convention work programme. Since its inception in early 2005, the project made considerable progress in establishing regional frameworks to support LBA management, providing capacity building for government officials and initiating demonstration projects for effective LBA management in the involved countries.
20. Among other activities, the project supported the Nairobi Convention Clearing House Mechanism an information system and clearinghouse mechanism to facilitate effective information exchange for improved management of the coastal and marine environment. The project also facilitated the development of the Protocol for the protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-based sources and Activities (LBSA protocol) which was adopted during COP6 on 1 April 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya as the third legal instrument under the Nairobi Convention.
21. The WIO-LaB project was concluded in 2010. The WIO-LaB project also formulated 25 year *Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean region from land-based activities* (WIO-SAP) which was endorsed by Contracting Parties during COP6 on 1 April 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya.
22. The WIO-SAP, outlines four priority areas including a) Protecting, restoring and managing critical coastal habitats, b) Ensuring water quality, c) Managing river flows wisely, and d) Environmental governance and stakeholder participation and activities to be implemented. Additional funding will be required to implement the WIO-SAP either from the Trust Fund, or from contributions by donors and partners. Therefore the implementation of the WIO-SAP is listed in the Work Programme under the optimal funding scenario (see below for descriptions on funding).

23. The Secretariat has subsequently developed new projects for the implementation of the WIO_SAP including: *Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Activities*; and the project *Enhancing resilience of coastal systems under the Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the Western Indian Ocean region* under development in partnership with IUCN, WIOMSA and CORDIO, to address restoration, protection and management of critical habitats in the WIO region.
24. Additional new projects concepts on Financing and Management of MPAs, Capacity Strengthening for implementation of LBSA protocol, Management of Mozambique Channel, ICZM and Climate Change, African Mangroves Ecosystems, and Support to Somalia are proposed as priority areas for the 2013-17 work programme.
25. The present 2013–2017 Work Programme outlines how the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention will systematically build partnerships by implementing catalytic activities funded under the Africa Marine and Coastal Programme, and programmes and projects being supported or implemented by WIO-C membership and other NGOs in the region. The Work Programme focuses on the promotion, facilitation and implementation of the objectives of the Nairobi Convention in an integrated, mainstreamed and cross-sectoral manner at regional and national levels.
26. The Work Programme, will serve as a tool for the Secretariat and the collaborating partners to catalyse change in the management of the marine and coastal environment in countries that are Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention, thereby contributing to the achievement of agreed goals and targets as they relate to the sustainable development of coasts and oceans. The structure of the Work Programme has been influenced by various factors that affect the number and the mode of implementation of activities namely funding, partnerships and capacity, as described below.
27. **Funding:** The Work Programme for the Nairobi Convention is funded by governments, through the East African Trust Fund, and by partners/donors. The assessed contributions of the Contracting Parties to the Trust Fund are outlined in Table 2 below. With the continually expanding scope of the work programs, it is essential that the financing not only adequately meets the needs, but is also predictable. Contributions by Contracting Parties have, unfortunately, been neither sufficient to meet the demands nor have they been predictable. Although a few Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention have now consistently met their obligations to the trust fund, the lack of universal participation has been a continuous challenge. Because of this, the Secretariat must do most of its work through partnerships.

Comoros	15,100
France	78,000
Kenya	45,302
Madagascar	22,651
Mauritius	30,201
Mozambique	45,302
Seychelles	15,100
Somalia	15,100
South Africa	37,500
Tanzania	45,302
Total	349,558

28. Due to this variable funding, the Work Programme presents two potential funding scenarios for the activities outlined in the Work Programme.
- (a) The “Current” level of funding, with no significant increase of funding from member countries for the upcoming period of 2013-2017. As described in the previous section, the funding over the period 2008 to 2012 has come from Sida, GEF and the Norwegian government (for the WIO-LaB project), and from a few countries contributing to the Trust Fund, bringing the total for 2008-2012 to US\$16.24 million. At this level, the proposal is to maintain 1 Programme Officer at P4/P5 level as the Head of the Secretariat, 1 Associate Project Officer at P2/ P3 level, 1 National Programme Officer (previously supported under collaborative programmes with partners), 2 UNVs, two interns at any one given time, and 1 administrative assistant G4/G5. The activities in the Work Programme will mainly consist of: preparing and convening the

meetings of Contracting Parties; co-ordinating the implementation of collaborative activities with partner agencies, NGOs and national institutions; following up on the decisions of the Contracting Parties; transmitting to the Contracting Parties any relevant notifications, reports and other information received by the Secretariat from the Contracting Parties and other partners; considering enquiries by, and information from the Contracting Parties and consulting with them on questions relating to the Convention and its protocols. Without an increase in resources, the Secretariat's ability to engage in catalytic activities will be constrained. under the current level,

- (b) The "Optimal" level of funding envisages a situation where all the Contracting Parties meet their obligations to the Trust Fund, and the Secretariat would leverage additional resources from funding agencies, e.g. GEF, donors/partners and collaborating partners, while UNEP continues to host the Secretariat. Under this scenario, the Secretariat, in collaboration with its partners, would identify and implement priority catalytic activities, based on the existing list of priorities and programmes and project concepts. Under an optimal funding scenario, the secretariat will increase the number of activities and manpower required to implement those activities. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat will become a significant agent of change and an effective partner in the management of oceans and coasts. Correspondingly, the Secretariat would increase its staffing level to one Head of the Secretariat, 2 Project Officers at P3/4, 2 National Programme Officers, 2 UN Volunteers, an administrative, and project assistant all supported by national staff to be hired by Regional Activity Centres, that may be established.

B. Main Objectives of the 2013–2017 Work Programme

29. All activities supported or undertaken by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat in 2013–2017 will be designed to achieve the overall objective of strengthening the Nairobi Convention's role as a platform for promoting synergies and coordinating implementation of regional initiatives for the protection of the marine and coastal environment. The specific objectives are as follows:

(a) Facilitate the use of the Nairobi Convention as the platform for increasing collaboration with, and implementation of the marine and coastal elements of the environment programmes of regional organisations and partnerships, such as the "Consortium for Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean" (WIO-C), the African Union, African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), and the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW).

(b) Contribute to building regional capacities for the integrated management of the coastal and marine environment within the framework of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building and facilitate interregional, South-South coordination; RIO+20 debates on the Green Economy and Environment Governance for the Oceans and Oceans Compact.

(c) Promote the recognition and integration of the provisions of the Nairobi Convention into national policy, legal, institutional and financial frameworks, and national development processes, including poverty reduction strategies, country common assessments and domestic budgets, particularly for those countries where coasts and oceans have a major impact on social and economic development or provide a major basis of such development;

(d) Provide continued guidance on the development of institutional, legal and financial mechanisms that are necessary to support the long-term implementation of the Nairobi Convention, recognizing that many countries implement the Convention in the framework of other sustainable development policies, strategies and programmes; and

(e) Promote and facilitate integrated management of coastal areas to safeguard coastal habitats and combat physical alteration of the coast, in part by building linkages with river basin and watershed management, and by using ecosystems-based management approaches, especially in the context of the connection between land based activities and the marine environment including the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the marine and Coastal environment of the Western Indian ocean region from land based sources and activities (WIO-SAP).

C. Main Elements of the 2013–2017 Work Programme

30. The elements of the Work Programme listed below are clustered under the different funding scenarios. The "Current" level envisages no significant additional funding from member countries, consequently, the secretariat will have a limited ability to engage in catalytic activities. Increasing levels of

support at optimal level would correspond to increasing levels of catalytic activities and increased impact at the regional and national levels, in order to further the implementation of the Convention.

31. The 2013–2017 Work Programme will address the following clusters, or themes, of activities, albeit to differing extents, depending on funding, availability of partnerships and capacity. These include **Assessments and Capacity Building**, **Management, Coordination and legal aspects**, and **Information and awareness**. The themes are also expanded to focus on the priorities identified in the WIO-SAP and informed by analysis of new and emerging issues identified by Contracting Parties that require attention with respect to policy decisions.
32. **Assessments and Capacity Building**. The main objective of the activities under this theme is to create better understanding and knowledge of the coastal and marine environment in order to strengthen linkages between ecosystems assessments and reporting mechanisms for informed planning and decision making processes. This covers the integrated assessments of ecosystems and habitats, and capacity building, and focuses on activities that assess: Ecosystems and resources including Environmental River Flows Assessments; Land based activities and sources of pollution; Socio-economic issues, including economic evaluation of goods and services provided by the marine and coastal environment including enhancing capacity of Contracting Parties to use the true value for decision making, socio-economic assessments of impacts of climate change on vulnerable cities and local communities including Small Island Developing States; and strategic environmental assessments for ports and harbor development and oil and gas exploration.
33. **Management**. The main objective of activities under this theme is the effective management, sustainable use and protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean region. This includes development and implementation of ecosystem based management programmes and activities that seek to reduce or prevent degradation of the coastal and marine environment and strengthen functioning and resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems. Activities under this theme are designed to contribute to a shift towards comprehensive marine and coastal management with more emphasis on ecosystem-based approaches to address interactive and cumulative human impacts on marine ecosystems including transboundary regional impacts and a green economy pathway using natural blue capital. Activities will be based on management of: Ecosystems and resources including river basins, and Land based activities and sources of pollution.
34. **Coordination and legal aspects**. The main objective of the activities under this theme is to strengthen the coordination structure within the Nairobi Convention for strengthened governance frameworks for the sustainable management of marine and coastal ecosystems including transboundary ecosystems in the WIO region. Activities under this theme are designed to develop an adequate legal and institutional framework for the effective and coordinated implementation of the Nairobi Convention in collaboration with all relevant partners. This focuses on implementing and updating existing Nairobi Convention protocols, developing new protocols, improving coordination of activities (including reporting mechanisms and information exchange), and institutional strengthening for the implementation of the Convention. Activities will be focused on: Ratification and implementing the LBSA protocol; Revising and updating the Protocol on protected areas, wild fauna and flora in the Eastern Africa region; Supporting the development, negotiation and adoption of the protocol on integrated coastal zone management; Coordination with contracting parties, partners and other organisations; Institutional strengthening; and Linkage to other relevant Multilateral Environment Agreements. Activities will support the efforts of governments to negotiate and develop national, regional and international marine related environmental conventions, protocols, policies and legislation for current, new and emerging issues such as climate change, green economy, oil and gas, ports and harbours, EBSAs, VMEs, and PSSSAs.
35. **Information and awareness**. The objective of this theme is to provide information in an easily accessible and understandable format to assist in the decision-making processes for the management of the marine and coastal resources, and to raise awareness among the public of the importance of the marine and coastal environment. This theme focuses on the exchange of information with communities, as well as public awareness raising, community empowerment and capacity building. Activities will include: Information management and exchange; Awareness, capacity building and community empowerment; and Increased visibility of the Convention.. Activities will include establishment and strengthening knowledge and data sharing mechanisms and platforms for improved dissemination and enhanced understanding of marine and coastal processes.
36. Activities in the themes have been identified at the regional and national levels. The higher levels of funding would allow, at the request of Governments, a greater emphasis on supporting national

governments in recognising, integrating and implementing the Nairobi Convention across sectors and into major development processes.

D. Main Activities of the 2013–2017 Work Programme

Assessments and Capacity Building

37. The Convention's Secretariat will only support assessments related to the implementation of the WIO-SAP project. The Secretariat will also identify gaps in the national status reports that are being provided by focal points, and then seek out partners who can help to fill those gaps.
38. At the "Current" level of funding, activities will focus on:
 - (a) Collecting and synthesizing data on coastal habitats and their threats, to support a regional analysis;
 - (b) Undertaking a preliminary assessment of ecosystem goods and services, and their economic values related to coastal habitats; Collecting and synthesizing data on coastal habitats, pollution sources, river-coast interactions; and Filling in gaps in knowledge of priority pollutants and sources, and determining coastal hot spots.
39. As the level of resources increases towards the "Optimal" level, the scope of activities will include:
 - (a) Supporting assessments that fill in the information gaps identified in the National Status Reports;
 - (b) Capacity building on valuation of ecosystem goods and services, ecosystems assessments and Environmental Flows Assessments for rivers;
 - (c) Support and promote ecosystems assessments of critical habitats, environmental flows assessments of key river basins, assessments of impoundments and dam operations on river flow variability;
 - (d) Promoting and supporting assessments and socio-economic evaluations that highlight the social and economic impacts of coastal degradation and pollution, and provide an economic valuation of the goods and services that coasts and oceans provide; and
 - (e) Socio-economic assessments for a number of critical ecosystems including impacts of climate change on most vulnerable coastal cities while paying greater attention to the vulnerable local communities.

Management

40. The Convention's Secretariat will support the development and implementation of tools and methodologies to support the sustainable management, restoration and protection of critical coastal and marine habitats as prioritized in the WIO-SAP. This will include development and implementation of integrated EBM and best practices for: marine and coastal ecosystems, river basins; ensuring water quality; management and or establishment of Marine Protected Areas, Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas; and development of strategies for community involvement in the management of critical habitats that promote benefit sharing and improves livelihoods.
41. At the "Current" level of funding, the focus will remain on the following activities:
 - (a) Providing support to development of the projects: *Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Activities*; and the project *Enhancing resilience of coastal systems under the Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the Western Indian Ocean region* under development in partnership with IUCN, WIOMSA and CORDIO, to address restoration, protection and management of critical habitats in the WIO region.
 - (b) Provide support to development of new projects on Financing and Management of MPAs, Management of Mozambique Channel, ICZM and Climate Change, African Mangroves Ecosystems, and Support to Somalia.
 - (c) Collaborating with the SWIOFP and ASCLME projects;
42. As the level of resources increases towards the "Optimal" level, further activities will include:
 - (a) Supporting the implementation of the WIO-SAP developed under the WIO-LaB project, including activities dealing with degradation of water quality, physical alteration and destruction of habitats, and changes in fresh water flows and sediment loads;

- (b) Implementation of the funded projects *UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme 2010 to 2014*; *Developing*; and *Enhancing resilience of coastal systems under the Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the Western Indian Ocean region*.
- (c) Promoting more localised activities for the management of land based activities and sources of pollution.
- (d) Implementation of the funded projects *Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Activities*; *Integrated Water Resource Management mechanisms and Water Use Efficiency strategies for Small Island Developing States*; *Financing and Management of MPAs*, *Management of Mozambique Channel, ICZM and Climate Change*; and *African Mangroves Ecosystems*.
- (e) Promoting cooperation in, and catalysing activities for the establishment and coordinated management of protected coastal and marine areas, and trans-boundary ecosystems; and
- (f) Supporting the strengthening of the management of protected coastal and marine areas, including training of technical personnel and managers in ecosystem based management approaches, spatial planning tools and mapping of critical coastal and marine habitats and trans-boundary ecosystems; conservation of wildlife and habitats, and mapping of critical coastal and marine habitats.

Coordination and Legal Aspects

43. The Regional Seas Strategic Direction 5 (“*Enhance the use of Regional Seas as a platform for the coordinated implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and global initiatives*”) has been taken one step further, by focusing increasingly on using the Convention as a platform for increased collaboration. Indeed, the development and implementation of the 2013-2017 Work Programme is a collaborative endeavour, based on partnerships between the Secretariat, governments, donors and non-governmental organisations. The Work Programme’s activities are implemented through collaborative partnerships (e.g. between the Secretariat and with regards to regional management activities), and contribute to WIO-C’s vision and work programme.
44. In conjunction with this, strengthening the WIO-C and building on this partnership will be an important component of the Work Programme, as reflected by the incorporation into the Convention’s Work Programme of relevant elements of the work plans and activities from partner NGOs.
45. Strengthening of the focal points will continue to be a priority, and will build on the momentum generated through the focal point forum, development of specific terms of reference and the initiation of a reporting mechanism for the Convention. The efforts to strengthen the task forces of the Convention, such as the Forum of Academic and Research Institutions (FARI) and the Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF), will continue as well as support the formation of new task forces such as Mangroves, seagrasses, MPAs, etc. The national reporting mechanism for the Convention and the strengthened task forces will provide the Secretariat with continual guidance on national priorities within coastal and marine management.
46. A new protocol on land-based activities and sources of pollution developed under WIO-LaB was adopted. The next stage will be the ratification process, which the Secretariat will support. A document on regional guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) has been developed within the framework of the Nairobi Convention. The Secretariat will build on this document by promoting the use of EIAs and SEAs e.g. in oil and gas exploration and exploitation. A regional guidance paper on LBSA ratification and implementation was prepared. The Secretariat will support the implementation of the recommendations. Further the Secretariat will support the development of the ICZM protocol to the Nairobi Convention while taking into account climate change impacts and the role of ICZM.
47. At the “Current” level of funding , activities will include:
- (a) Preparing and convening the meetings of Contracting Parties;
 - (b) Co-ordinating the implementation of cooperative activities agreed upon by the meetings of the Contracting Parties;
 - (c) Encouraging use of integrated and Strategic Environment Assessments;
 - (d) Maintaining the Task Forces established under the Nairobi Convention;

- (e) Promoting the recognition and implementation of the Nairobi Convention in regional development initiatives and programmes; and
 - (f) Enhancing closer collaboration between the Convention and the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the African Ministers' Council on Water in order to promote integrated coastal and river basin management, and regional economic commissions in order to promote sustainable management of coastal zones, IMO, CBD, FAO.
48. At the Optimal" level of resources, activities will include:
- (a) Continuing to support and strengthen the Focal Point Forum, Focal Point offices, Task Forces, FARI and the WIO-C and support the establishment new task forces and Regional Activity Centres.
 - (b) Working closely with development partners, including bilateral donors, UNDP, GEF and the other members of the United Nations Development Group to facilitate coordinated delivery of support and capacity-building as it relates to the Nairobi Convention;
 - (c) Organize leadership training on advocacy for policy makers, experts, Task Forces (Coral Reefs, Marine Turtle, FARI, WIO-C, MPAs, coastal forests forum, LBSA) for development of policies, legislation, institutional frameworks and strategies for marine and coastal environment at national, regional and global levels
 - (d) Support the development of a new project on capacity strengthening for implementation of LBSA protocol; and ratification and implementation of the LBSA protocol including domestication, preparation of ratification papers, etc;
 - (e) Enhancing partnerships and alliances with key actors that are particularly well equipped to participate in country-level, demand-driven processes.
 - (f) Establishing Regional Activity Centres;
 - (g) Supporting the formation of necessary LBA legislation, based on regional standards, and assisting the implementation of the LBA Protocol;
 - (h) Promoting and providing support to the development and implementation of the ICZM protocol and supporting Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management (ICARM) activities in coastal and watershed management programmes and other regional and national development processes; and
 - (i) Develop biennial regional state of marine environment reports for the Nairobi convention.

Information and Awareness

49. Visibility is a vital element for the Convention's progress, a statement that has been re-iterated by partners and NGOs in recent forums, including the LME Consultative Forum, the Bureau meeting and the WIO-C forum. In this light, the Secretariat will focus on improving visibility among Contracting Parties, partners, NGOs and communities. Much of this theme provides a foundation for this objective.
50. During the last work programme, a reporting mechanism was developed, in which focal points compiled national status reports on the coastal and marine environment. The Secretariat will follow up on this by ensuring the status reports are regularly updated and gaps identified. At higher levels of funding, the Secretariat will catalyse activities to fill those gaps (as previously mentioned under Assessment and Management themes). A national reporting template has been developed for compiling country reports as a means of reporting to the Convention.
51. The WIO-LaB project supported the establishment of an information system and clearinghouse mechanism (CHM) for the Nairobi Convention to facilitate effective information exchange for improved management of the coastal and marine environment. This will be finalised and maintained over the upcoming Work Programme. In addition, the use of this CHM will be promoted.
52. At the "Current" level, information and awareness activities will focus on:
- (a) Reporting on the progress of the Work Programme, and disseminating the results to Contracting Parties and other partners;
 - (b) Considering enquiries by, and information from, the Contracting Parties;
 - (c) Transmitting to the Contracting Parties any relevant notifications, reports and other information received by the Secretariat from the Contracting Parties and other partners;

- (d) Updating National Status reports bi-annually, and identifying information and activity gaps;
 - (e) Consulting with Contracting Parties on questions relating to the Convention and its protocols;
 - (f) Maintaining and regularly updating the Convention's website;
 - (g) Maintaining the regional Clearinghouse Mechanism; and
 - (h) Engaging in various capacity building activities addressing degradation of water quality, physical alteration and destruction of habitats and changes in fresh water flows and sediment loads.
53. At the "Optimal" level of resources, activities will include:
- (a) Facilitating information management and exchange, including sharing of results, best practices etc, through promoting the use of the Clearinghouse Mechanism and linking it to the databases of LMEs and other partners, and by contributing information to and participating in regional environmental ministerial forums, and other relevant regional and national forums;
 - (b) Developing a communication and training strategy for participation, problem solving, knowledge exchange and awareness raising;
 - (c) Promoting and supporting public awareness activities and campaigns, and community-based resource management initiatives; and
 - (d) Organize expert forums for taskforce groups and key partners, to promote scientific information sharing and exchange.

III. Financial resources

- 1) The Nairobi Convention Secretariat's Work Programme 2013–2017 starts from the premise that the current number of staff posts will be maintained at 1 Programme Officer at P4/P5 level as the Head of the Secretariat, 1 Associate Project Officer at P2/ P3 level, one National Officer, 2 UNVs, and two interns and 1 administrative assistant G4/G5. As part of the Work Programme, the Secretariat will continue to encourage Contracting Parties to meet their obligations and contribute to the East African Trust Fund. This proof of increased commitment can assist the Secretariat as it leverages additional funds from other sources. The Secretariat would also support the development of targeted regional sustainable financing mechanisms to address marine and coastal issues, and would promote and support processes that increase access to funding.
- 2) It is now fully recognized that the current budgetary resources for the Nairobi Convention are insufficient, consequently, a new funding structure must go beyond the pledges made by governments to the Conventions' Trust Funds, but also target private sector, civil society and multi/bilateral partners operating in the Conventions' areas.

THEME 1: ASSESSMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING	Partners
<p>Under “Current” level:</p> <p>a) Collecting and synthesizing data on coastal habitats and their threats, to support a regional analysis; and</p> <p>b) Undertaking a preliminary assessment of ecosystem goods and services, and their economic values related to coastal habitats; Collecting and synthesizing data on coastal habitats, pollution sources, river-coast interactions; and Filling in gaps in knowledge of priority pollutants and sources, and determining coastal hot spots.</p> <p>Under “Optimal” level:</p> <p>a) Supporting assessments that fill in the information gaps identified in the National Status Reports;</p> <p>b) Capacity building on valuation of ecosystem goods and services, ecosystems assessments and Environmental Flows Assessments for rivers;</p> <p>c) Support and promote ecosystems assessments of critical habitats, environmental flows assessments of key river basins, assessments of impoundments and dam operations on river flow variability;</p> <p>d) Promoting and supporting assessments and socio-economic evaluations that highlight the social and economic impacts of coastal degradation and pollution, and provide an economic valuation of the goods and services that coasts and oceans provide; and</p> <p>e) Socio-economic assessments for a number of critical ecosystems including impacts of climate change on most vulnerable coastal cities while paying greater attention to the vulnerable local communities.</p>	<p>Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties, UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme, WIOMSA, IMS, FARI, National Institutions, BirdLife International, SWIOFP, WCS, ASCLME.</p>

THEME 2: MANAGEMENT	Partners
<p>Under “Current” level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing support to development of the projects: <i>Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Activities</i>; and the project <i>Enhancing resilience of coastal systems under the Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the Western Indian Ocean region</i> under development in partnership with IUCN, WIOMSA and CORDIO, to address restoration, protection and management of critical habitats in the WIO region. b) Provide support to development of new projects on Financing and Management of MPAs, Management of Mozambique Channel, ICZM and Climate Change, African Mangroves Ecosystems, and Support to Somalia. c) Collaborating with the SWIOFP and ASCLME projects; <p>Under ” Optimal” level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Supporting the implementation of the WIO-SAP developed under the WIO-LaB project, including activities dealing with degradation of water quality, physical alteration and destruction of habitats, and changes in fresh water flows and sediment loads; b) Implementation of the funded projects <i>UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme 2010 to 2014</i>; <i>Developing</i>; and <i>Enhancing resilience of coastal systems under the Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the Western Indian Ocean region</i>. c) Promoting more localised activities for the management of land based activities and sources of pollution. d) Implementation of the funded projects <i>Partnerships for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land Based Activities</i>; <i>Integrated Water Resource Management mechanisms and Water Use Efficiency strategies for Small Island Developing States</i>; <i>Financing and Management of MPAs, Management of Mozambique Channel, ICZM and Climate Change</i>; and <i>African Mangroves Ecosystems</i>. e) Promoting cooperation in, and catalysing activities for, the establishment and coordinated management of protected coastal and marine areas, and trans-boundary ecosystems; and f) Supporting the strengthening of the management of protected coastal and marine areas, including training of technical personnel and managers in ecosystem based management approaches, spatial planning tools and mapping of critical coastal and marine habitats and trans-boundary ecosystems; conservation of wildlife and habitats, and mapping of critical coastal and marine habitats. 	<p>Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties, UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme, IUCN, WIOMSA, CORDIO, WWF, Nature Seychelles, National Institutions, EAWLS,</p>

THEME 3: COORDINATION & LEGAL ASPECTS	
<p>Under “ Current” level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Preparing and convening the meetings of Contracting Parties b) Co-ordinating the implementation of cooperative activities agreed upon by the meetings of the Contracting Parties; c) Encouraging use of integrated and Strategic Environment Assessments; d) Maintaining the Task Forces established under the Nairobi Convention; e) Promoting the recognition and implementation of the Nairobi Convention in regional development initiatives and programmes; and f) Enhancing closer collaboration between the Convention and the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the African Ministers’ Council on Water in order to promote integrated coastal and river basin management, and regional economic commissions in order to promote sustainable management of coastal zones, IMO, CBD, FAO. <p>Under “ Optimal” Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) Continuing to support and strengthen the Focal Point Forum, Focal Point offices, Task Forces, FARI and the WIO-C and support the establishment new task forces and Regional Activity Centres. h) Working closely with development partners, including bilateral donors, UNDP, GEF and the other members of the United Nations Development Group to facilitate coordinated delivery of support and capacity-building as it relates to the Nairobi Convention; i) Organize leadership training on advocacy for policy makers, experts, Task Forces (Coral Reefs, Marine Turtle, FARI, WIO-C, MPAs, coastal forests forum, LBSA) for development of policies, legislation, institutional frameworks and strategies for marine and coastal environment at national, regional and global levels; j) Support the development of a new project on capacity strengthening for implementation of LBSA protocol; and ratification and implementation of the LBSA protocol including domestication, preparation of ratification papers. etc k) Enhancing partnerships and alliances with key actors that are particularly well equipped to participate in country-level, demand-driven processes; l) Establishing Regional Activity Centres; m) Supporting the formation of necessary LBA legislation, based on regional standards, and assisting the implementation of the LBA Protocol; n) Promoting and providing support to the development and implementation of the ICZM protocol and supporting Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management (ICARM) activities in coastal and watershed management programmes and other regional and national development processes; o) Develop biennial regional state of marine environment reports for the Nairobi convention. 	<p>Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties, UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme, COI, FARI, CBD, FAO, IMO, WIO-C, WIOMSA</p>

THEME 4: INFORMATION & AWARENESS	Partners
<p>Under “ Current” Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reporting on the progress of the Work Programme, and disseminating the results to Contracting Parties and other partners; b) Considering enquiries by, and information from, the Contracting Parties; c) Transmitting to the Contracting Parties any relevant notifications, reports and other information received by the Secretariat from the Contracting Parties and other partners; d) Updating National Status reports bi-annually, and identifying information and activity gaps; e) Consulting with Contracting Parties on questions relating to the Convention and its protocols; f) Maintaining and regularly updating the Convention’s website; g) Maintaining the regional Clearinghouse Mechanism; and h) Engaging in various capacity building activities addressing degradation of water quality, physical alteration and destruction of habitats and changes in fresh water flows and sediment loads. <p>Under “Optimal” level;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Facilitating information management and exchange, including sharing of results, best practices etc, through promoting the use of the Clearinghouse Mechanism and linking it to the databases of LMEs and other partners, and by contributing information to and participating in regional environmental ministerial forums. and other relevant regional and national forums; b) Developing a communication and training strategy for participation, problem solving, knowledge exchange and awareness raising; c) Promoting and supporting public awareness activities and campaigns, and community-based resource management initiatives. d) Organize expert forums for taskforce groups and key partners, to promote scientific information sharing and exchange 	<p>Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties, National institutions,</p>

CROSS-CUTTING & EMERGING ISSUES	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Encourage Contracting Parties to meet their obligations and contribute to the Trust Fund, in part by meeting one-on-one with the Parties and by sending invoices b) Leverage additional funds from other sources from non- traditional partners of the Nairobi convention c) Develop targeted regional sustainable financing mechanisms to address marine and coastal issues d) Establishment of a reserve fund for the Nairobi Convention e) Promote and support processes that increase access to funding f) Identify financial sources and revenue generating mechanisms, or provide funding, for various activities 	<p>Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties,</p>

Annex VI: Financial report and budget 2013-2014

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NATIONS

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Programme

**The Seventh Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention
for the Protection, Management and Development of
the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western
Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention)**

Maputo, Mozambique 10 to 14 December, 2012

Financial Report and Budget

1. The Work Programme for the Nairobi Convention is funded by governments, through the East African Trust Fund, and by donors. The assessed contributions of the Contracting Parties to the Trust Fund over 2010 to 2012 are outlined in Table 1 below based on whose projection the annual budget for implementing the Work Programme is prepared. Find attached Annex 1 on assessed contributions from 1985 to 2012 including arrears.

Table 1 Contributions to the Eastern Africa Trust Fund for 2010 to 2012

Country	Assessed Contributions by Contracting Parties to the East Africa Trust Fund	Annual Contributions by Contracting Parties to the East Africa Trust Fund	Contributions during 2010	Contributions during 2011	Contributions during 2012 (as of November 2012)
Comoros	15,100		-	-	-
France	78,000		80,925	75,075	77,977
Kenya	45,302		130,259	275,677	90,604.00
Madagascar	22,651		1,000	-	-
Mauritius	30,201		30,201	30,201	30,201
Mozambique	45,302		45,302	45,302	-
Seychelles	15,100		41,430	-	-
Somalia	15,100		0	-	-
South Africa	37,500		37,500	37,500	37,500
Tanzania	45,302		5,715	18,463	-
Total	349,558		372,331	482,218	236,282.00
Payment for prior years			208,605	339,442	45,302
Pledges			163,726	142,776	145,678

2. Tables 2a and 2b present the expenditure report for the funds provided by the Trust Fund, Government of Sweden and other partners over the reporting period.

Table 2a: Expenditure Report over 2011 and 2012 for the Eastern Africa Trust Fund

EXPENDITURE	2011	2012
Personnel, consultants, and travel	220,691.50	258,948.29
Meetings, Trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Mozambique and South Africa to participate in Regional meeting of the Ad hoc Legal and Technical Working Group on development of the ICZM protocol • Meeting of the Bureau 	24,366.37	-
Miscellaneous, equipment	1,225.41	(87.52)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	245,057.87	258,860.77

Table 2b: Expenditure Report for 2011 and 2012 for UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme

EXPENDITURE	2011	2012
Technical support, consultants, travel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting data and information sharing on the marine and coastal environment through the Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse • Analysis of the Performance of the Project “Addressing Land Based Sources and Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-LaB). • Preparation of the protocol on integrated coastal zone management for the Nairobi Convention. • Translation of documents for LTWG meeting sessions and COP7 meetings • Comprehensive review of Coordination Mechanism of the Nairobi Convention • Support for ratification and implementation of LBSA protocol 	156,638.00	41,175.25
Sub Contracts with national and regional institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIOMSA: Sharing knowledge and experiences in the implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, programmes and projects, and subsequently deliberate on solutions for the WIO region • WIOMSA: Provide inputs to the Coastal and marine Chapter of the Third Africa Environment (AEO3) Report on Health and Environment • Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS): Capacity Building for Ecosystem Based Management for Contracting parties to the Nairobi Convention. • BirdLife International: Developing a regional synthesis report on status of birds and their habitats listed in the protocol concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern Africa region • IUCN: Project development on Mangroves for the Future Initiative in the Western Indian Ocean: <i>Enhancing the resilience of coastal systems in the Western Indian Ocean</i> • WIOMSA: National policy, legislative and institutional analyses in the WIO region, and provide guidance to Contracting Parties on the appropriate measures towards ratification and effective implementation of the LBSA Protocol in the WIO region. 	383,125.00	234,794.00
Meetings, Trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional intergovernmental consultations of the Ad hoc Legal and Technical Working Group on ICZM protocol (LTWG5, LTWG6, LTWG7) • Three meetings of Focal Points to the Nairobi Convention • Regional consultations the ratification and implementation of the LBSA protocol • Writ-shop for Drafters and negotiation of ICZM protocol • EBM Experts meeting to develop course content for EBM capacity building • Meetings of the Coral Reef Task Force • Regional Workshop on Regular Process for the Western Indian Ocean region 	147,519.07	(823.99)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	687,282.07	275,145.26

Annex: VII: Adopted Decisions for COP7**UNITED
NATIONS****EP****United Nations****Environment****Programme**Distr.: GENERAL
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**The Seventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention
for the Protection, Management and Development of
the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western
Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention)**

Maputo, Mozambique 10 to 14 December, 2012

Adopted Decisions for COP7**Preamble**

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

Noting with appreciation the Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of the Secretariat and efforts made by the Contracting Parties to implement the Work Programme for 2011 to 2012 as well as the preparation of the proposed work programme for 2013 to 2017;

Noting also the progress made in the preparation of the new action strategy for the Western Indian Ocean Region;

Noting the progress made by the Contracting Parties and partners in the development of a protocol on integrated coastal zone management including the Guidelines for drafters and negotiators;

Noting also the outcomes of various global and regional meetings and processes including the Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held in Rio de Janeiro, June 2012 and the 14th session of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment held in Arusha, September 2012;

Recalling the adoption of the Amended Nairobi Convention and the Protocol on Land Based Sources and Activities in the Western Indian Ocean Region during the sixth Conference of Parties as well as subsequent efforts to ratify and implement the Amended Convention and Protocol;

Recalling also past decisions of the Contracting Parties endorsing ecosystem approaches to coastal and marine management, particularly CP5/2 and CP5/3, and in this regard, appreciating the progress made in advancing ecosystem based marine and coastal management approaches, including the need for identification and description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, valuation of ecosystem goods and services and establishment of marine protected areas;

Acknowledging the potential for accelerated socio-economic growth following the exploration and production of oil and gas in the Western Indian Ocean region and the need for regional and national environmental and safety safeguards;

Noting the outcomes of the Climate Change Conference held in Mauritius in March 2011;

Emphasizing that the green economy pathway will enhance the countries' abilities to increase sustained economic growth, poverty eradication, job creation as well as enhancing social inclusion while maintaining a healthy environment;

Acknowledging the contribution of the Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge in galvanizing political, financial and technical commitments and actions on climate change adaptation, resilient ecosystems, sustainable livelihoods and human security.

Acknowledging the work of BirdLife International in the preparation of a report on birds as indicators of ecosystem health in the West Indian Ocean region;

Acknowledging the work of Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association, Worldwide Fund for Nature, Coastal Oceans Research and Development in the Indian Ocean, Western Indian Ocean Consortium, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Indian Ocean Commission and the World Heritage Centre for preparing technical papers for discussions and in the development and implementation of the work of the Convention and in the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the West Indian Ocean region;

Decide

Decision CP7/1: *Work Programme for 2013-2017*

1. *To adopt* the work programme for 2013-2017 and call for its implementation by Contracting Parties with the support of partners and other stakeholders.
2. *To request* the Secretariat, in collaboration with Contracting Parties and partners, to finalize, in a consultative manner and taking into account international best practices, a new strategy and action plan for the implementation of Nairobi Convention and report to the next Conference of Parties.
3. *To request* the Secretariat to develop and support implementation of priority projects, including but not limited to financing and management of, marine protected areas, capacity strengthening for implementing of the Protocol on Land Based Sources and Activities, marine governance in the Mozambique Channel, climate change adaptation using integrated coastal management as an adaptation strategy, capacity building in public private partnership for blue carbon and oil and gas, WIO mangrove ecosystems, shark conservation and in this regard, invite partners including the Global Environment Facility to support their implementation.

Decision CP7/2: *Implementation of the Amended Nairobi Convention and the Protocol on Land Based Sources and Activities*

1. *To urge* the Contracting Parties to ratify or accede to the Amended Nairobi Convention and the Protocol on Land Based Sources and Activities as well as take measures to implement the instruments.
2. *To urge* the Contracting Parties to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities within the context of the Amended Nairobi Convention and the Protocol on Land Based Sources and Activities, with the support of United Nations Environment Programme and other partners.
3. *To urge* Contracting Parties in collaboration with the Secretariat to develop a project on capacity strengthening and technical assistance for the Protocol on Land Based Sources and Activities as well as national implementation plans in the Western Indian Ocean region.

Decision CP7/3: *Development of a Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management*

1. *To agree* to negotiate a protocol on integrated coastal zone management and present an agreed text for consideration for possible adoption at the next Conference of Parties serving as the Conference of Plenipotentiaries.

2. *To request the Secretariat to facilitate meetings on negotiations on the protocol on integrated coastal zone management and its Conference of Plenipotentiaries.*

Decision CP7/4: *Review of the Protocol on Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora*

1. *To urge Contracting Parties, as appropriate, to recognize or designate important bird areas in their respective territories as a tool for conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems, and use information on birds as indicators of ecosystem health.*
2. *To request the Secretariat in collaboration with Contracting Parties and partners to initiate the process of reviewing and updating, the Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region and its annexes and report progress at the next Conference of Parties.*
3. *To request the Secretariat in collaboration with Contracting Parties and partners to facilitate the review of annex II of the Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region for consideration at the next Conference of Parties.*

Decision CP7/5: *Strengthening National Reporting*

To adopt the national reporting template annexed hereto and to agree to use the template to report to the Secretariat and Contracting Parties progress made in implementation of the Convention and its protocols.

Decision CP7/6: *Strengthening Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Based Management, Valuation of Ecosystems Goods and Services and Assessments*

1. *To urge the Contracting Parties to enhance their capacity in ecosystem based management, undertake valuations of ecosystems and in this regard, request the Secretariat to provide technical support to the Contracting Parties.*
2. *To urge Contracting Parties to apply ecosystem based management, undertake valuation of ecosystem goods and services and carry out ecosystem assessments in their efforts to manage marine and coastal resources including those with transboundary aspects.*
3. *To urge Contracting Parties in collaboration with the Secretariat to develop a project on sustainable management of mangroves forests, marine algae, coral reefs, sea grass, biodiversity conservation and associated ecosystems goods and services.*
4. *To urge all parties to support the establishment or strengthening of national and regional networks of experts including those on mangroves, coral reefs and seagrass.*

Decision CP7/7: *Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas*

1. *To urge the Contracting Parties to participate in the process of recognising and describing, within the context of Convention on Biological Diversity and in partnership with the relevant United Nations agencies, ecologically or biologically significant marine areas within their exclusive economic zones and areas beyond national jurisdiction as an approach to management of marine and coastal ecosystems.*
2. *To request the Secretariat, in partnership with the Secretariats' of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Migratory Species, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, International Maritime Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, Inter-Governmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO and other partners, to support Contracting Parties to participate in the process of recognising and describing ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, and where feasible, establish marine protected areas.*

Decision CP7/8: *Environment Management for Oil and Gas Exploration*

1. *To urge Contracting Parties to take into account environmental concerns during exploration and production of oil and gas, including establishing contingency plans and mitigation measures to address negative, chronic and accidental impacts on the marine and coastal environment.*

2. *To urge* Contracting Parties in collaboration with other governments, scientific institutions, the oil and gas industry, private sector, civil society and in particular the Consortium for the Conservation of the Marine and Coastal Ecosystems in the West Indian Ocean, and other partners to facilitate the collection and sharing of information and best practices on the management of environmental impacts of oil and gas exploration and production particularly on transboundary resources.
3. *To call upon* Contracting Parties to carry out strategic environmental assessments for oil and gas exploration and production in the marine and coastal environment, and to collaborate where transboundary assessments are needed.
4. *To request* the Secretariat in collaboration with Contracting Parties and other partners, to facilitate the development of regional guidelines addressing transboundary environmental impacts of oil and gas exploration and production for consideration at the next Conference of Parties.

Decision CP7/9: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

1. *To call upon* the Contracting Parties to take urgent adaptation and mitigation measures to address the adverse effects of climate change on marine and coastal areas.
2. *To request* the Secretariat, in collaboration with Contracting Parties, the West Indian Ocean Marine Science Association and other partners, to facilitate the finalization of the regional strategy on climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation in the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean region and report progress to the next Conference of Parties.
3. *To urge* Contracting Parties to mainstream climate change into national programmes and policies.
4. *To request* the Secretariat to develop in consultation with other partners, programmes and projects on climate change adaptation and mitigation so as to enhance ecosystem resilience, reduce vulnerability to communities and ecosystems, and enhance the adaptive capacity of affected communities and ecosystems.
5. *To urge* Contracting Parties to develop a project on integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies for implementation of integrated coastal management programmes in the Western Indian Ocean region.

Decision CP7/10: Financing and Management of Marine Protected Areas

To urge Contracting Parties in collaboration with the Secretariat to develop a project on sustainable financing and management of marine protected areas in the Western Indian Ocean.

Decision CP7/11: Marine World Heritage Sites

To encourage Contracting Parties with the support of the Secretariat the World Heritage Centre and other partners, to propose, where feasible, new marine world heritage sites and build capacity in the Western Indian Ocean region.

Decision CP7/12: Conservation of Sharks

1. *To call for* regional collaboration, in consultation with the Secretariats of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, Convention on Migratory Species, regional fisheries management organisations and other partners, on the conservation and management of sharks.
2. *Request* the Secretariat in collaboration with the Contracting Parties to prepare a regional status report on the state of sharks especially on matters of institutional, legal and capacity and report to the next Conference of Parties.

Decision CP7/13: Mangroves for the Future

To request the Contracting Parties to endorse the Mangroves for the Future Partnership and engage in dialogue to develop this initiative further in the Western Indian Ocean region.

Decision CP7/14: Green Economy

1. *To urge* the Contracting Parties to develop and implement green economy policies in accordance with national sustainable development plans, strategies and priorities taking into consideration the contribution of the natural blue capital.
2. *To request* the Contracting Parties to share information on best practices on green economy strategies, tools and methodologies that relate to marine and coastal resources.
3. *To request* the Secretariat, in collaboration with Contracting Parties and support of partners, to conduct a study on green economy tools and methodologies applicable for the Western Indian Ocean region, subject to availability of resources.

Decision CP7/15: *Contribution to the United Nations Regular Process*

1. *To agree* to support and actively contribute to the United Nations Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, Including Socio-economic Aspects by nominating national experts or institutions to be part of the Pool of Experts and by providing the necessary information for the process and the assessment of marine environment.
2. *To request* the Secretariat to facilitate the holding of regional meetings of experts for the purpose of exchanging and consolidating information in accordance with Article 18 (2) of the Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region with the aim of preparing the state of the coast reports that will contribute to the United Nations Regular Process.

Decision CP7/16: *Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge*

1. *To request* Contracting Parties and other partners to support and encourage participation in the Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge as a means to mobilise political will and resources necessary to achieve the objectives of the Challenge and its strategic work.
2. *To request* the Secretariat and invite the Indian Ocean Commission and other partners to continue supporting the Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge through their respective work programmes.

Decision CP7/17: *Science to Policy Engagements*

To request the Secretariat to hold and encourage partners to support regular science to policy dialogues to provide continuous interaction between the scientists, civil society, private sector, policy and decision makers.

Decision CP7/18: *Support to the Federal Republic of Somalia on Management of Coastal and Marine Environment*

To request the Secretariat and partners to facilitate development and implementation of programmes and projects in support of Somalia's effort to improve management of marine and coastal environment.

Decision CP7/19: *Strengthening the Operational Functioning of the Secretariat*

1. *To request* the United Nations Environment Programme to undertake a comprehensive functional review of the Secretariat in order to guide Contracting Parties on potential additional support to the Secretariat for consideration at the next Conference of the Parties.
2. *To agree* on the need to second national staff to serve in the Secretariat for the implementation of the work programme and request the Secretariat to provide information to Contracting Parties on specific staffing needs for the work programme.
3. *To request* the Secretariat to circulate in all official languages, at least six weeks prior to the session of the Conference of Parties, appropriate documentation for that session

Decision CP7/20: *Financial matters*

1. *To commend* the Contracting Parties who have made their contributions to the Trust Fund and urge Contracting Parties to make their contributions promptly.
2. *To mandate* the Secretariat to invoice Contracting Parties annually for the current year's contributions.

3. To mandate the Secretariat to negotiate with the Contracting Parties on agreeable terms and schedule the payment of arrears either in full, by installment or in kind to the Trust Fund and report to the next Conference of the Parties.
4. *To urge* Contracting Parties to enhance their contributions to the Trust Fund by providing additional voluntary contributions in cash or kind in order to stimulate implementation of the work programme.
5. *To approve* the financial report for the biennial 2010-2012, the budget for 2013-2017 and staffing structure of the Secretariat.
6. *To agree* to establish a reserve fund for the sustainability of the Nairobi Convention and request the Secretariat to work with other governments and partners in the mobilisation of funds and report at the next Conference of the Parties.
7. *To agree* that the reserve fund shall consist of (a) funds from the Trust Fund as shall be determined from time to time by the Conference of Parties, (b) such other funds as may be received from partners and other sources with the approval of the Bureau and specifically designated for the reserve fund.
8. *To request* the Secretariat to present at each Conference of the Parties a detailed report on the utilisation of the funds, work outputs and outcomes for the reporting period distinguishing activities undertaken in projects, the Trust Fund and other funds.

Annex VIII: Closing Statements**A. Statement by representative of the Government of Mauritius**

Declaration by Mauritius
Seventh Conference of Parties (COP7) to the Nairobi Convention
Maputo (10-14 December 2012)

Dear Colleagues and Friends,
Madame CHAIR,

Let me first of all, present to you the apologies of my Minister, Honorable Deva Virahsawmy, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, who has not been able to make it, owing to budgetary debates in the National Assembly. However, he has requested our delegation to convey his gratitude and sincere thoughts for a successful conference.

Allow me to congratulate the Republic of Tanzania to assume the chair of the Bureau and ensure continuity and together we will move towards an innovative and challenging programme to meet the expectations and target set of Member Countries.

Going down the memory lane, I cannot feel otherwise than Honored to express my sincere feelings, gratitude and to pay tribute to those colleagues and friends, who had the vision to bring the countries of the Western Indian Ocean Region together under the umbrella of the Nairobi Convention.

Here I would like to have a special mention for the Government of Kenya which has hosted the bureau for so many years at no extra cost. This process enabled us to lay the foundation stone of a resilient and strong block and keep the flame of a better AFRICA high. This innocent dream of ours took shape against all odds and overcame all turbulences precisely to meet the aspiration of the Coming and up growing African Generation.

By the way it is worth noting that certain colleagues are now occupy very important positions in their own countries in the example of Dr ROLPH PAYET,

Minister of environment in Seychelles, our roving ambassador for years; Magnus Ngoile and Jeremi Daffa from Tanzania, Dr Ali and Dr Ruwa from Kenya amongst others.

This new demanding generation would like to see the emergence of a united and strong Africa;

- I. an Africa where no Child will go to sleep without a decent meal;
- II. an Africa and where every child will have the possibility to go to school with no fear whatsoever, to complete the schooling calendar as a graduate and where literacy rate will be 100 % and
- III. Serve his country and the continent for advancement of Mankind with Love, Dedication, Devotion , Patriotism and in DIGNITY.

Ladies and gentleman

When I look at present facts for OUR AFRICA in form of figures, I feel very much upset and SAD as I cannot reconcile the tremendous effort done as compared to the state of affairs. This warrants a lot of thoughts and we cannot stay indifferent:

- I. 45 % of people of our continent live below the poverty line with some 300 million people living in extreme poverty;
- II. 800 million people go to bed hungry everyday
- III. 12 – 15 million people have been orphaned by AIDS
- IV. One child dies every minute due to measles
- V. One child dies every 3 seconds due to AIDS
- VI. One child out of six dies before his fifth birthday
- VII. 33 million children do not go to school

This is why, chair, I salute those friends who had thought and fought for this noble and laudable initiative.

To them I bow low and in great respect. It reminds me of those who fell in the First World war leaving behind these reflections which I will share with you:

“When you go back home,

Tell them of us

Tell them of us

For we gave (graved) our TODAY for your TOMORROW”.

Friends

The Nairobi Convention, under the able lead of a performing secretariat with very limited means, and concerted effort of all Member Countries is enabling us to strike the right balance in our quest to LEGATE a better and

strong Africa. We have adopted the path of SUSTAINABILITY, this same pledge and philosophy which has been advocated by RIO Conference in 1992.

My plea and humble request to you all is to think beyond and open up leaving our personal ego's and barriers to success behind, so as to enable a better sharing of results, experiences and achievements in a view to further consolidate our regional cooperation and in line with dreams that we all cherish. Let us now work harder to make these dreams come true.

Ladies and Gentleman,

Mauritius is committed to achieve Sustainable Development. Precisely, our Prime Minister, Hon. Navin Ramgoolam, had launched in 2008 –the concept of Maurice Ile Durable, a societal programme to make Mauritius a model of Sustainable Development, a vision that seeks to transform the Environmental, Economic and Social Landscape of the Country. It belongs to each and every Mauritian.

This new boost coming from the highest level consolidates the Welfare State launched by the Father of the Nation as from 1968, where Free Education, Free Health and Free Transport for Third Age and School Children formed the basic pillars.

The rapid rate of changes taking place in the world is far more challenging than expected. More so as an Island State with a small population, limited resources, susceptibility to natural disasters, vulnerability to external shocks and excessive dependence on international trade make the state of affairs very threatening.

In response, the Government of Mauritius has made Sustainable Development its long term strategy. Several activities aiming at greening of our economy have been undertaken with our limited means under the “Maurice Ile Durable” initiative. We are striving hard to build a strong framework by way of a consolidated Policy, Strategy and Action Plan for Sustainable Development taking into account good governance and equity.

Ladies and Gentleman,

Mauritius and Nairobi Convention is really “A Love story which is ongoing for over 25 years full of dedication, sincerity and compassion”. We have been to the expectations and shown our commitments in several ways. During this mandate we have

Hosted workshops and meetings

- Focal Points meeting held on 24 March 2011 at Balaclava Mauritius
 - Regional Experts meeting/workshop mainly the Southern Indian Ocean workshop to facilitate the description of ecologically /Biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) at Sugar beach hotel in August 2012
 - First regional Conference on Climate Change impacts, adaptation and Mitigation in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region “ Solutions to Cities” in 2011 in Mauritius
 - FAO workshop on vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) in July 2012
- (i) Attended and actively participated to invited workshops/ meetings
 - (ii) Shared information (research/ applied and pure, daily communication to enable decision making)
 - (iii) Our Financial contribution stand up to date
 - (iv) Availability for Nairobi Convention (100 %).
 - (v) Support to Secretariat (sincere and dedicated)

Ladies and gentleman

Let us today rise above all and make this AFRICAN DREAM come true under your able leadership and guidance.

Mauritius will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with you all in all circumstances and let us hope that in time we will be able to bring tears of joy and happiness , especially in the face of our children .

Friends

Remember a drop of water in the ocean may perhaps bring no change

But this same drop of water on a lotus leaf shines like a pearl and may mean everything.

Finally, let me share with you something very dear to me and dedicated to DIXON WARUINGE and the secretariat and to all those who have in a way or another contributed to the building of this convention.

To love is nothing

To be loved is something

To love and be loved is everything.

On this note, allow me to reiterate our gratitude to the Government of Mozambique for hosting this conference of parties and congratulate the government of Tanzania to assume the chair and take us a bon port. I am confident that this collaboration will continue for generations and generations to come.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Abricado, merci, daniawaad, sukriya, spaciba bolsoy, arigato gozaimach...

B. Statement by the representative of the Government of Kenya

STATEMENT BY HON. CHIRAU ALI MWAKWERE, EGH, MP, MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND MINERAL RESOURCES, KENYA

- Chairperson of the Nairobi Convention, Hon. Terezya Luoga the Minister of State for Natural Resources and Minerals, United Republic of Tanzania
- Hon. Alihda Abreu, the Minister for Coordination of Environment Affairs, Mozambique
- Colleague Ministers and Deputy Ministers
- Representatives of United Nations Environment Program and other UN agencies
- Representatives of SIDA and other Development Partners
- Representatives of Regional and International NGOs
- Permanent Secretaries
- Senior Government officials
- Distinguished delegates
- Ladies and gentlemen

It is a great pleasure to address you during this closing session of the Seventh Conference of Parties on the Amended Nairobi Convention where the contracting parties have reviewed progress made on decisions of the parties, approved new initiatives and provided policy guidance to the Convention's Secretariat

I deeply regret to join you at this time when the party is already over. The downside of this is that if the party was good one would only wish to have participated in it. I am however, glad that you had a very productive meeting. As you know Kenya celebrated its Independence Day on 12th December 2012 will be having a historic election under a new constitutional in March 4th 2013

Election as rapporteur

Indeed, Kenya being depository to the Convention and also the host country of UNEP is proud to be associated with the progress made by the contracting parties with the support of the Secretariat and partners to develop and implement instruments of the Nairobi Convention.

The Government of Kenya as you are aware, is highly committed to conserving its Coastal and Marine environment as is evidenced by measures such as establishment of Institutions, development of Legislation, policies, strategies, regulations and plans aimed at enhancing sustainable management and minimizing threats from human activities and natural phenomena such as climate change and variability.

I wish to commend the Government of Mozambique, in particular, my colleague Minister for Coordination of Environment Affairs, Hon. Alihda Abreu and her staff for their role in ably chairing the Convention and its meetings of the working groups over the last two years.

I also note that during the last two years contributions by contracting parties to the Regional Seas Trust Fund which supports the Convention's work programme have increased which is a sign of good leadership by the outgoing Chair.

Madam Chair, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to also commend the Government of Mozambique and the Nairobi Convention Secretariat for organizing the Seventh Conference of Parties to the Amended Nairobi Convention. Indeed you have set a standard that will be difficult to be maintained by other Contracting Parties

Ladies and Gentlemen; allow me to thank and commend the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, the Western Indian Ocean Marine Association (WIOMSA), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), CORDIO East Africa and Birdlife International among others for their contribution towards scientific documents aimed at informing the contracting parties on the status, opportunities and recommendations for actions on matters pertaining to coastal and marine resources management and development. The papers provide a sound scientific basis for the decisions that have been endorsed by the contracting parties.

Ladies and gentlemen, what get measured gets done. In this regard, I urge the Contracting Parties, the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and Partners to deepen the collaboration and networks to achieve the aims of the Convention.

Finally, let me congratulate Honourable Terezya Luoga, Minister of State for Natural Resources and Minerals of the United Republic of Tanzania, and also Honourable Ministers from Mozambique, South Africa and for having been elected as the new Chair and Vice chairs of the Bureau . I am convinced that the activities of

Nairobi Convention will continue to be implemented successfully during the next two years under the stewardship of the newly elected bureau.

With those few words, I wish to once again reiterate Kenya's commitment to the Nairobi Convention.

Thank You

C. Statement by the representative of the Government of France

Déclaration de la France

La France tient à remercier très chaleureusement les autorités du Mozambique pour la qualité de leur accueil qui a permis le bon déroulement de cette Conférence des Parties.

La France tient également à remercier l'ensemble des délégations présentes pour l'esprit de coopération et la bonne volonté qui ont régné pendant toute la durée de cette COP, et je soulignerai en particulier l'esprit d'entraide et la volonté commune d'aller de l'avant lors des négociations relatives à l'adoption des décisions finales.

Cet esprit de coopération, et cette volonté commune ont permis d'arriver à un résultat encourageant dont on ne peut que se féliciter tant les questions de développement durable sont vitales pour notre avenir, pour celui de nos enfants et plus généralement pour les générations futures.

La France se félicite des résultats des travaux de cette COP, sur une région pour laquelle elle se sent particulièrement concernée, et qu'elle continuera à soutenir, n'en doutez pas.

Enfin, et puisque nous parlons d'avenir, je voudrais remercier le gouvernement des Seychelles qui a accepté d'accepter d'organiser la prochaine COP, et souhaiter que sous présidence Tanzanienne, le prochain biennium soit aussi fructueux que celui que nous venons de connaître grâce au Mozambique.

Je vous remercie.

D. Statement by the representative of the Government of Madagascar

Allocution de Monsieur Le Secrétaire General du Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts à la 7^{ème} Conférence des Parties de la Convention de Nairobi

Madame la Présidente, Mesdames et Messieurs,

Nous nous joignons tout d'abord aux précédents orateurs pour adresser nos félicitations au pays hôte, le Mozambique de la haute compétence meritorique et des efforts louables qu'il a volontairement octroyé dans l'organisation et la conduite de cette 7^{ème} Conférence des Parties

Nous adressons aussi mes salutations fraternelles à toutes les délégations ici présentes à Maputo pour marquer l'importance de la lutte que devrions mener ensemble pour la protection, la gestion et la mise en valeur du milieu marin et côtier de la région occidentale de l'Océan Indien.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Madagascar, appelé aussi l'île continent de l'Océan Indien avec ses plus de 5000 Km linéaire de zone côtière, figure parmi les 17 pays dits de méga biodiversité avec un taux d'endémicité très élevé avoisinant les 90%. Néanmoins, ces ressources naturelles menacées par une déforestation avancée et une forte dégradation des forêts naturelles causées essentiellement par l'utilisation du bois comme principale source d'énergie, sans vouloir parler des exploitations abusives de nos bois précieux, subissent fortement les impacts du changement climatique.

Ainsi, pour pouvoir préserver nos ressources naturelles et particulièrement pour parvenir à la conservation de la biodiversité, nous sommes parvenus avec l'appui des partenaires techniques et financiers à tripler la superficie de nos aires protégées pour atteindre les six millions d'hectares soit plus de 10% du territoire national.

De par sa situation socio-économique et surtout comme tout pays insulaire, Madagascar est classé parmi les pays vulnérables aux effets du changement climatique. Conscient de ce contexte hautement problématique, nous avons fait la lutte contre ce fléau une de nos priorités nationales. L'année dernière, notre Gouvernement a adopté la politique nationale de lutte contre le changement climatique en tant que cadre global de référence pour toutes les actions entrant dans le cadre du développement durable et un plan d'action national pour mettre en œuvre cette politique est actuellement en cours de préparation.

En tant que pays vulnérable, la question d'adaptation nous intéresse au plus haut point. Les études menées dans le pays ont confirmé la vulnérabilité du pays notamment dans cinq secteurs à savoir l'agriculture, la biodiversité, la santé humaine, les ressources en eau et les zones côtières.

Cependant, il faut mentionner que seulement deux projets relatifs à deux secteurs, dont la riziculture et la gestion des zones côtières, ont pu bénéficier des appuis des mécanismes financiers établis sur le plan international, notamment le fonds d'adaptation et le fonds pour les PMA.

Par ailleurs, notre pays entreprend actuellement des actions entrant dans le cadre de l'atténuation liée aussi bien au développement qu'au mécanisme de marché de carbone tel que le Mécanisme de Développement Propre et le Mécanisme de Compensation Volontaire. Mais faute de moyens, les potentialités du pays en matière d'atténuation ne sont que faiblement exploitées.

Il est donc indispensable pour un pays comme Madagascar de disposer de tous les moyens nécessaires pour qu'il puisse s'adapter aux effets néfastes du changement climatique et contribuer pleinement aux efforts mondiaux de lutte contre le réchauffement de la planète.

Dans cette foulée, la délégation de Madagascar estime qu'une coopération renforcée dans le domaine des appuis financiers, du transfert de technologie et du renforcement des capacités s'avère prioritaire.

Face au changement climatique et pour la protection du milieu marin et côtier de la région occidentale de l'Océan Indien, nous devrions nous engager de manière unie et collective afin de sauvegarder la survie de tous les pays et de tous les peuples. Madagascar réitère son attachement aux principes de « responsabilité commune mais différenciée » et de « capacités distinctes ».

Nous tenons à insister sur le caractère urgent des engagements et des actions face à la gravité et de la situation sur la survie des communautés surtout pour les pays dits vulnérables comme Madagascar.

Ensemble, dans une approche de dialogue, de conciliation et de collaboration effective, il est possible d'aller de l'avant dans cette lutte commune et ce pour le bien de l'humanité et surtout pour le développement durable de chaque pays contractants.

Excellences, Mesdames et Messieurs, nous vous remercions de votre très aimable attention.

E. Statement by the representative of the Federal Republic of Somalia

Statement at the High-Level Segment

By

H.E. Abdirazak M. Omar
Minister for National Resources

Her Excellency outgoing chair,
Madam Chair
Heads of State and Government,
Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegations,
UNEP representatives, Western Indian Ocean Consortium
International NGOs
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen

Allow me Madam chair on behalf of my Government and my people to congratulate you on your new position as the chair of the bureau, let me also congratulate the outgoing chair for her leadership for the seventh Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Nairobi Convention on the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the western Indian Ocean region.

I would at the outset like to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to the Government and people of Mozambique and this great city of Moputa for hosting this Conference, and for their warm hospitality. The efforts and goodwill exerted by the Government and people with the view to ensuring the success of the seventh conference of the parties to the Nairobi convention are highly commended. We are very grateful to the government of Mozambique as well as the solidarity shown by the parties. Let me also thank the secretariat as well as the policymakers and experts for a job well done in the preparation of the documents for adoption by the delegates

Madam Chair

Somalia has just recently ended its transition, following the devastation caused by a protracted crisis. It has commenced its post-transition dispensation with a strong determination to pursue, among other important priorities, a development that is environmentally sustainable: the kind of growth and development that takes into account the needs for the future generations.

Madam Chair

The adoption of the decisions of this conference as well as ratification of the LBSA protocol in the immediate future, the adoption of other abatement technologies that curtail emissions, and the development of a long-term vision that draws on the nation's incredible solar resource and biomass in the production of renewable energy shall reduce land based pollutions and thus subsequently improve our marine resources.

But our efforts to pursue a sustainable development in our marine resources are being hampered by the continued overexploitation of our terrestrial as well as marine resources. Corrupt merchants that export our charcoal are responsible for the depletion of the mangrove forests in Somalia that play a critical role in mitigating climate change.

Madam Chair

My Government and my people are also concerned about the foreign vessels, which are engaged in looting the country's marine resources. The same vessels flush their wastes in the country's territorial waters, and go as far as dumping toxic wastes. The implications of this dumping are indeed dire: there are certainly unavoidable impacts resulting from this dumping. And according to some preliminary assessments carried out, the dumping of toxic wastes in the Somali territorial waters has led to very serious environmental disasters including marine pollution, the disappearance of certain aquatic species, ocean acidification, and possibly a rise in sea-level. We must speak with one voice and send strong signal to those illegal vessels that are looting our resources and then dumping wastes in our ocean that it is not only a Somali problem but western Indian Ocean problem

Madam Chair

The strong messages conveyed by delegates to COP7 as to the threats posed by the adverse impacts of the climate change on our marine resources do not need any further emphasis. We concur with the assertions by the policymakers and experts that we must collaborate on the management and sustainable development of our marine resources.