

UNEP/WBRS.21/1



United Nations
Environment
Programme

Distr.: GENERAL
30 September 2019



Original: ENGLISH

**The 21st Global Meeting of the Regional Seas
Conventions and Action Plans
Berlin, Germany
3- 5 October 2019**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

DAY 1: 3 OCTOBER 2019

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>
8.30-9.00	Registration
9.00-9.15	Opening of the meeting Opening Statements by: (a) Monika MacDevette, Deputy Director of Ecosystems Division, UNEP and Head of Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Branch a.i. (b) Rolph Payet, Executive Secretary, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (c) Rüdiger Stempel, Executive Secretary, Helsinki Convention (HELCOM)
9.15-10.00	Round table introductions and 3 minutes statement by each Secretariat -Key achievements, upcoming events, etc.
10.00-10.05	Organization of work: Background, purpose and objectives of the meeting <i>Presenter: Habib El-Habr</i>
10.05-10.35	Coffee break

10.35- 11.35	<p>Voluntary commitments from the 2017 UN Ocean Conference</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Yegor Volovik (NOWPAP)- Few words to introduce the session and invite Yoshi from UNDESA to provide an overview on the status of implementation of the voluntary commitments from the 2017 UN Oceans Conference. This will be followed by brief presentations by UNEP HQ and representatives of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update by UNDESA on the 2017 Voluntary commitments b) Update by the UNEP HQ on the Regional Seas voluntary commitments c) Status update by each Secretariat (3 minutes each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Abidjan Convention b) Antigua Convention c) Barcelona Convention d) Black Sea e) Cartagena Convention f) COBSEA i) CPPS j) HELCOM k) Nairobi Convention l) NOWPAP m) PAME n) PERSGA o) SACEP p) SPREP q) Tehran Convention
11.35- 13.00	<p>Regional Seas input to the June 2020 UN Ocean Conference</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Gaetano Leone (Barcelona Convention)- Few words to introduce the session and invite Yoshi from UNDESA to briefly update on the preparations towards the June 2020 UN Oceans Conference. This will be followed by a brief discussion on the Regional Seas role and input to the June 2020 UN Ocean Conference, for example whether we will submit new Voluntary commitments, organize side event to launch the Regional Seas SDG 14 Outlook report. Representative from UNEP-WCMC will then be invited to present a detailed outline of the Outlook report.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Brief update on the preparations towards the June 2020 UN Ocean Conference and discussions on Regional Seas role and input b. Presentation on the outline of the Regional Seas SDG 14 Outlook report by Chris McOwen, UNEP-WCMC (followed by technical discussions on the proposed outline, regional experts to be engaged, agree on the timelines, propose date and venue for a technical workshop before end of the year)
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	<p>Regional Seas input to the June 2020 UN Ocean Conference <i>continued</i></p> <p><i>Facilitator: Gaetano Leone (Barcelona Convention) – Finalize discussions on the next steps on the Regional Seas SDG 14 Outlook report. Thereafter, invite Sebastian Unger -IASS, to provide a summary of the outcomes of the Marine Regions Forum and also invite Karen Gaynor from CITES to introduce the work of the CITES and potential areas of collaboration with the Regional Seas Programme.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Summary of the outcomes of the Marine Regions Forum – Sebastian Unger (IASS) d. Introduction on CITES and potential areas for collaboration with the Regional Seas Programme – Karen Gaynor (CITES Secretariat)
15.00-15.30	Coffee break
15.30- 17.30	<p>Communicating better the Regional Seas Programme work on Climate Change and nature-based solutions</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Soffia Gudmundsdottir (PAME International Secretariat) – Briefly introduce the session and invite Niklas Hagelberg from UNEP HQ to make an overview presentation on UNEP’s work on Climate Change. This will be followed by a presentation by Jessica Troni on UNEP’s work on Climate Change Adaptation and a brief presentation by Ole Vestergaard on Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch work on climate change.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Presentation on the status update of UNFCCC, UN Climate Action Summit and findings of the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a changing climate – by Niklas Hagelberg – Climate Change Sub-Programme Coordinator, UNEP

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Communicating Climate Change Adaptation: Lessons, opportunities and experiences from the Climate Change Adaptation Unit – by Jessica Troni, Head, Climate Change Adaptation Unit -a.i. c) Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch work on Climate Change - by Ole Vestergaard, UNEP Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch d) Plenary discussions

DAY 2: 4 OCTOBER 2019

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>
9.00-9.05	Opening day 2, recap day 1 by Habib El-Habr
9.05-10.45	<p>Progress on implementation of the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2017-2020 and new strategic guidance post 2020</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Jerker Tamelander (COBSEA)- Briefly introduce the session and invite Habib El-Habr to provide an overview on implementation of the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2017-2020. This will be followed by brief presentations by representatives of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans present.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Overview presentation on the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2017-2020 and summary of achievements b) Summary update by each Secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Abidjan Convention b) Antigua Convention c) Barcelona Convention d) Black Sea e) Cartagena Convention f) COBSEA g) CPPS h) HELCOM i) Nairobi Convention j) NOWPAP k) PAME l) PERSGA m) SACEP n) SPREP o) Tehran Convention
10.45-11.15	Coffee break
11.15- 13.00	<p>New Regional Seas Strategic Guidance Document post 2020 <i>continued</i></p> <p><i>Facilitator: Jerker Tamelander (COBSEA)- Briefly introduce the session and invite Gesine Meissner to make a presentation on EU’s priorities on Oceans and Nancy Soi to present the proposed outline of the new Regional Seas Programme Strategic Guidance Document post 2020. This will be followed by plenary discussions on the proposed EU priorities, Regional Seas Strategic Guidance post 2020 outline and next steps.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Presentation on mission on Oceans under the EU Horizon Europe – by Gesine Meissner b) Presentation on the proposed outline of the new Regional Seas Programme Strategic Guidance Document post 2020 – by Nancy Soi (Coordinator, Regional Seas Programme, UNEP) c) Plenary session
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00- 15.00	<p>Regional Seas’ input to the implementation framework of the new Marine and Coastal Strategy for UNEP 2020- 2030</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Dixon Waruinge (Nairobi Convention)- Briefly introduce the session and invite Takehiro Nakamura from UNEP HQ to present on the strategy.</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Presentation of the new Marine and Coastal Strategy for UNEP 2020-2030 and proposed Regional Seas input - by Takehiro Nakamura (Head, Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Unit, UNEP) b) Plenary session
15.00-15.30	Coffee break
15.30- 17.30	<p>Knowledge management and exchange among the Regional Seas Programme</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Rüdiger Stempel (HELCOM)- Briefly introduce the session and invite Andrusaitis Andris from BANOS CSA to make a keynote presentation followed by MAP, Grid Arendal, FAO and UNEP GRID-Arendal. This will be followed by a plenary discussion on knowledge management and sharing among the Regional Sea.s</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Keynote presentation by BANOS CSA – Lessons and experiences from the Baltic and North Sea b) Presentation on the MAP-MedPartnership Project – by Gaetano Leone, Barcelona Convention c) Presentation on Blue Solutions Project – by GRID Arendal d) Integrated Ocean Governance: FAO’s experience with Regional Fisheries Bodies and Organizations (RFBOs) and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)- by Piero Mannini, FAO e) Presentation on UNEP’s knowledge management and exchange - by Pascal Peduzzi – GRID Geneva f) Plenary session

DAY 3: 5 OCTOBER 2019

Time	Activity
9.00-9.05	Opening day 3, recap day 2 – Habib El-Habr
9.05-10.45	<p>Ecosystems assessment and indicators – Methodologies and approaches including best practices among the Regional Seas</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Christopher Corbin (Cartagena Convention) Briefly introduce the session and invite Rüdiger Stempel from Helcom, Gaetano Leone from Barcelona Convention, Prof. Zaid from Jeddah Convention and Nancy Soi UNEP HQ to make their presentations. This will be followed by plenary discussions and next steps on how strengthen Regional Seas work on Assessments.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Keynote presentation by HELCOM on its experience on ecosystems assessments and indicators-based approaches b) Presentation on experiences from the Mediterranean Sea- by Gaetano Leone c) Presentation on experiences form the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden – by Prof. Zaid Ghararah, Jeddah Convention d) Presentation experiences from the Mami Wata project- by Abou Bamba, Abidjan Convention and Christian Neumann, GRID Arendal e) Presentation on UNEP’s Ecosystems Assessment methodologies and approaches – by Nancy Soi f) Plenary session
10.45-11.15	Coffee break
11.15- 13.00	<p>New and emerging issues post 2020 and Regional Seas Programme Strategic role and input</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Amb. Mentor Villagomez (CPPS)- Briefly introduce the session and invite the speakers for presentations. The presenters for this session will most of them be joining remotely.</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 update by IOC of UNESCO – by Julian Barbieri, UNESCO-IOC b) UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 update by Tim Christophersen, Coordinator, Freshwater, Land and Climate Ecosystems Branch c) International legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) – by Alice Hicuburundi, UNDOALOS d) Progress on post 2020 Biodiversity Framework update by Joe Appiott, CBD Secretariat e) Plenary session
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	<p>Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network – Global report on the status of coral reefs</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Irina Makarenko (Black Sea)</i></p> <p><i>Presenter: Francis Staub, ICRI Secretariat</i></p>
15.00-15.30	Coffee break
15.30- 17.00	<p>Marine Litter and UNEA Resolutions</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Stuart Chape, (SPREP)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) UNEA Resolutions – status update and progress on implementation by Habib El-Habr and Takehiro Nakamura, UNEP HQ b) Presentation on progress update on Marine Litter working Group established by UNEA 4 – by Habib El-Habr, Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA), UNEP c) Partnership between Regional Seas Programme and Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Regional Centres- Outcomes of existing partnerships and lessons learnt – by Rolph Payet, BRS d) Discussion on how Regional Seas Conventions, especially those with LBA protocols can engage with the Basel Convention, in particular with the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership- by Rolph Payet, BRS
17.00-17.10	<p>Any other business</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Rüdiger Stempel, HELCOM</i></p>
17.10-17.30	<p>Closure of the meeting</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Rüdiger Stempel, HELCOM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Action points from the meeting b) Host for the next Annual meeting c) Closing remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Habib El-Habr, UNEP - Rüdiger Stempel, HELCOM