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First Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to
the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based
Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol) in the Wider
Caribbean Region

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 24 October, 2012

DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

For reasons of economy and the environment, Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of the Working and Information documents to the Meeting, and not to request additional copies.

The Contracting Parties:

Having convened the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS COP) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 24 October 2012;

Taking note of the Status of Implementation of the Workplan and Budget for the AMEP sub-programme for the period 2010-2012 as contained in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.33/3/Rev 2;

Taking note of the Report on the Activities of the Regional Activity Centers for LBS (LBS RACs) in Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago for the period 2010-2012 (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.33/INF.4/Rev.1);

Taking further note of the opportunities provided through participation of countries in projects such as the GEF IWCAM, GEF REPCar, GEF CReW and GEF IW Eco to assist them in meeting their obligations under the LBS Protocol;

Having considered the recommendations from a panel discussion involving regional stakeholders from industry, government, NGOs and research agencies;

Having reviewed the Report of the Interim Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.33/INF.5/Rev 1) including the outline for the State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR);

Having also reviewed the Recommendations of the First Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS STAC) in the Wider Caribbean Region contained in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.33/4;

Having further reviewed the draft Workplan and Budget for the activities of the AMEP sub-programme for the biennium 2013-2014, as shown in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.33/3 Rev 2;

Noting the convening of relevant regional and global environmental meetings in the Wider Caribbean during the 2013-2014 biennium; and

Further noting the progress made by non-Contracting Parties to develop and implement pollution prevention programmes, projects and activities, as well as to ratify the LBS Protocol.

Decide to:

- 1. Endorse** the recommendations of the first LBS STAC.
- 2. Urge** the governments of the region, which have not yet done so, to become Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, including the LBS Protocol.

3. **Recommend** to the 15th IGM that the mandate of the Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment be extended and **request** the Group to continue its work under the leadership of the Government of Jamaica, to further develop the State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR), including using information provided by countries in their reporting on the implementation of the Cartagena Convention.
4. **Request** the above-mentioned Working Group to present a report on progress achieved to the Second LBS STAC meeting and **request** that the Secretariat, together with LBS RACs, coordinate and supports the work of the Group.
5. **Decide** to recommend to the IGM that additional topics for discussion of the Working Group could include: the dissemination of sensitive data in particular on recreational water quality; development of assessment ranges, standards and methodologies for the SOCAR outline and inclusion of financial or cost-benefit analysis.
6. **Endorse** for final approval by the Fifteenth Intergovernmental Meeting and Eleventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties, the revised Workplan and Budget for the AMEP sub-programme for the 2013-2014 Biennium, with modifications and priorities introduced by the Meeting, and **note** that the AMEP sub-programme of work should give priority to Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol, taking into consideration regional pollution prevention needs, as well as donor partnerships that may, on occasion, necessitate the participation of non-Parties.
7. **Support** the Secretariat's efforts to further enhance the use of decision-support tools and the Clearing House Mechanism to improve exchange of data, information and experiences among countries in all languages.
8. **Request** the Secretariat to continue close collaboration with the UNEP GPA and other UNEP offices on the further development and implementation of global and regional Partnerships relating to nutrients, wastewater, solid waste and marine litter as well as the further implementation of NPAs and the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAPMaLi).
9. **Encourage** active participation of governments in AMEP projects so as to better take advantage of the opportunities afforded for supporting their ratification and implementation of the LBS Protocol.
10. **Acknowledge** the Secretariat's initiative to collaborate with World Bank's Global Partnership for Oceans (GPO) and **recommend** that the Secretariat seek the assistance of the World Bank in the development of a financial analysis in relation to pollution prevention activities.
11. **Request** the Secretariat to continue efforts to mobilize funding for unfunded projects and **investigate** the possibility of funding for pesticide related projects in the Wider Caribbean Region through UNEP Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management (SAICM).

- 12. Request** the Secretariat to include an activity/ project to address nutrients as per Annex IV of the LBS Protocol, and taking into consideration the activities of the Global Programme of Action (GPA).

- 13. Request** the Secretariat to explore and conduct activities in conjunction with the SPAW Protocol that links management of LBS pollution to adjacent protected areas, either those that are listed under SPAW or being considered for SPAW listing.