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

Cayenne, French Guiana, 14 March 2017

DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

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The Contracting Parties:

Having convened the Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS COP3) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Cayenne, French Guiana, 14 March 2017;

Taking note of the Status of Implementation of the Workplan and Budget for the AMEP sub-programme for the period 2015-2016 as contained in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.3 Rev.1;

Taking note of the Report on the Activities of the Regional Activity Centres for the LBS Protocol (LBS RACs) in Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago for the period 2015-2016 (UNEP (DEPI)/CARWG.37/INF.4 Rev.1);

Taking further note of the opportunities provided through participation of countries in projects such as the GEF IWeco, UNDP/GEF CLME+ and GEF CREW+ to assist them in meeting their obligations under the LBS Protocol;

Taking note of the ongoing regional and international efforts to raise the profile of oceans and pollution including through work to support the Sustainable Development Goal on Oceans (SDG 14);

Recognizing the efforts taken by the Secretariat to increasingly integrate the work of AMEP and SPAW including through the convening of the Joint LBS and SPAW STAC meetings in Miami, USA, the development of the Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) project for the North Brazil Shelf and the development of the State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR);

Recognising that the management of ship generated waste received at ports should be considered with the management of waste at the national level;

Having reviewed the Report of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.6 Rev. 1) including the outline for the State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR);

Having also reviewed the Recommendations of the Third 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.37/5;

Having further reviewed the draft Workplan and Budget for the activities of the AMEP sub-programme for the biennium 2017-2018, as shown in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.38/3;

Welcoming the ratification of the LBS Protocol by the Governments of Jamaica and Costa Rica during the biennium and 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; and

Further noting the progress made in finalization host agreements with the Governments of Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago as hosts for the LBS RACs.

Decide to:

1. **Endorse** the recommendations of the LBS STAC 3 with changes as provided during the meeting of the LBS COP 3.
2. **Endorse** for final approval by the Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting and Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties, the revised Work plan and Budget for the AMEP sub-programme for the 2017-2018 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.
3. **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.
4. **Extend** the mandate of the Monitoring and Assessment Working Group (WG) under the Chair of the USA to serve as a technical advisory body to the Secretariat throughout the development of the State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR).
5. **Recommend to the 17th IGM that they request** all Contracting and non-Contracting Parties to provide data and information to the Secretariat for the further development of SOCAR by April 15, 2017.
6. **Request** the Secretariat to present to the fourth LBS STAC and subsequent fourth LBS COP the final SOCAR, the status of implementation of the Communications Plan to disseminate the results of SOCAR, linkages with the State of Habitat Report to be developed through the SPAW sub-programme and the overall "State of Marine Environment and Associated Economies (SOMEE)" Report developed through the UNDP GEF CLME+ project.
7. **Recommend to the 17th IGM that they request** governments of the Region and others interested in the development of the SOCAR, including participating in the Working Group and the Data sub-group to inform the Secretariat by March 31, 2017.
8. **Request** the Secretariat to continue its efforts to integrate its work under the AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes including the completion of the AMEP/SPAW Roadmap and through activities such as the development of the SOCAR, the State of Habitat Report and implementation of EBM sub-projects for the UNDP GEF CLME+ project.
9. **Recommend** to the 17th IGM that they request Governments of the Region to actively participate in the global and regional Partnerships relating to nutrients, wastewater, solid waste and marine litter, including attending the Intergovernmental Review (IGR) organized by the UN Environment GPA scheduled to take place 23-27 October 2017 in Bali, Indonesia.
10. **Urge** Governments and the Secretariat to further engage with the private sector in pollution prevention, reduction and control efforts including the maritime sector, the IMO and the MARPOL Convention on the management of ship generated wastes.
11. **Request** the Secretariat to continue to work with the Government of Cuba to finalize its Host Country Agreement for LBS RAC CIMAB as soon as possible.
12. **Encourage** all Contracting Parties to actively promote the work of the LBS Protocol and the Secretariat at national and regional fora.
13. **Request** the Secretariat to continue efforts to mobilize funding for unfunded projects and activities within the 2017-2018 Workplan.
14. **Request** the Secretariat to continue efforts to promote collaboration between the LBS, SPAW and Oil Spills Protocols including through collaboration with their respective Regional Activity Centres.

15. **Recommend** that the Secretariat and Governments consider participation in new initiatives and campaigns involving the management of solid waste, plastics and marine litter such as the Coalition internationale contre les sacs plastiques” (Plastic Bag Coalition), Clean Seas Campaign and Trash Free Waters International Partnership.
16. The Secretariat and Parties should **explore** linkages with other relevant Conventions, Multilateral Agreements, Regional and International Organisations to support efforts in pollution control priority areas.