

Approved Work Programme for 2013-2017**UNITED
NATIONS****EP****United Nations**Distr.: GENERAL
16 May 2015**Environment**

Original: ENGLISH

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

Mahe, Seychelles 22-24 June 2015

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 Island 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Collecting and synthesizing data on coastal habitats and their threats, to support a regional analysis; and 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>Under “Optimal” level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<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 	<p>Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties, UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme, IUCN, WIOMSA, CORDIO, WWF, Nature Seychelles, National Institutions, EAWLS,</p>

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

<p>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;</p> <p>b) Implementation of the funded projects <i>UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme 2010 to 2014</i>; Developing; and <i>Enhancing resilience of coastal systems under the Mangroves for the Future Initiative for the Western Indian Ocean region</i>.</p> <p>c) Promoting more localised activities for the management of land based activities and sources of pollution.</p> <p>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>; 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.</p> <p>e) Promoting cooperation in, and catalysing activities for, the establishment and coordinated management of protected coastal and marine areas, and trans-boundary ecosystems; and</p> <p>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>	
---	--

THEME 3: COORDINATION & LEGAL ASPECTS	
<p>Under “ Current” level</p> <p>a) Preparing and convening the meetings of Contracting Parties</p> <p>b) Co-ordinating the implementation of cooperative activities agreed upon by the meetings of the Contracting Parties;</p> <p>c) Encouraging use of integrated and Strategic Environment Assessments;</p> <p>d) Maintaining the Task Forces established under the Nairobi Convention;</p> <p>e) Promoting the recognition and implementation of the Nairobi Convention in regional development initiatives and programmes; and</p> <p>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> <p>Under “ Optimal” Level</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties, UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme, COI, FARI, CBD, FAO, IMO, WIO-C, WIOMSA</p>

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
---	--

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 	<p>Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties, National institutions,</p>

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

<p>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> <p>Under “Optimal” level;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>b) Developing a communication and training strategy for participation, problem solving, knowledge exchange and awareness raising;</p> <p>c) Promoting and supporting public awareness activities and campaigns, and community-based resource management initiatives.</p> <p>d) Organize expert forums for taskforce groups and key partners, to promote scientific information sharing and exchange</p>	
--	--

CROSS-CUTTING & EMERGING ISSUES	Partners
<p>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</p> <p>b) Leverage additional funds from other sources from non- traditional partners of the Nairobi convention</p> <p>c) Develop targeted regional sustainable financing mechanisms to address marine and coastal issues</p> <p>d) Establishment of a reserve fund for the Nairobi Convention</p> <p>e) Promote and support processes that increase access to funding</p> <p>f) Identify financial sources and revenue generating mechanisms, or provide funding, for various activities</p>	<p>Nairobi Convention Secretariat, Contracting Parties,</p>