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Ninth Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Amended Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region
Mombasa, 30 and 31 August 2018

Progress in the implementation of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region

Report of the Executive Director

Introduction

1. The Western Indian Ocean region, which is also the area of the Amended Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region (hereinafter referred to as the Nairobi Convention), has a total coastline of more than 15,000 kilometres, a continental shelf area of some 450,000 square kilometres and, in 2014, a combined population of over 208 million. The region extends from Somalia in the north to South Africa in the south and covers 10 Contracting Parties, five of which are island States: Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania.
2. As described in the comprehensive 2015 publication *Regional State of the Coast Report: Western Indian Ocean*,¹ the coastal and marine ecosystems of the region provide essential sources of livelihoods and income for over 30 per cent of the population (60 million people) who live within 100 kilometres of the coastline. It is estimated that 35.9 million people living within 25 kilometres of the coastline depend directly on oceans and coastal resources for food, employment and income generation, primarily from fishing and tourism. Accordingly, the livelihoods of these population groups are largely dependent on the health of the coastal and marine ecosystems.
3. The vision of the Nairobi Convention is to achieve a prosperous Western Indian Ocean region with healthy rivers, coasts and oceans. In the last decade, much progress has been made by the Contracting Parties to the Convention towards achieving the vision, in partnership with non-State entities, including significant investments from the Global Environment Facility and other key partners which have contributed towards the implementation of solutions to a range of environmental stresses caused by land-based sources, marine pollution, and the over-reliance on and over-exploitation of marine resources such as fisheries and mangroves.
4. Although the Western Indian Ocean region is still one of the least ecologically disturbed areas of the global ocean, it is increasingly threatened as the region's coastal and marine environment has started showing signs of degradation, attributed to both natural factors, such as climate change and

¹ UNEP-Nairobi Convention and WIOMSA, *Regional State of the Coast Report – Western Indian Ocean. A Summary for Policy Makers*, United Nations Environment Programme and WIOMSA, Nairobi 2015.

variability, leading to coral bleaching, sea-level rise, flooding and other effects, and a variety of human activities.

5. The process for integrating ecosystem services into ecosystem-based management is currently one of the greatest challenges in the management of the marine and coastal resources in the Western Indian Ocean region. Priorities for the programme of work for the Nairobi Convention therefore include: integrated ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal ecosystems including transboundary resources; assessments and capacity development on the valuation of coastal and marine ecosystems to contribute to regional and global assessments; adaptation to climate change to reduce vulnerability and build resilience; and environmental governance to strengthen regional instruments for intergovernmental dialogue and the development of policies and laws for transboundary ecosystems.

6. Other regional challenges include the rapid urbanization and population growth that has led to higher demand for ecosystem goods and services and increased resource-use pressure around major industrial coastal cities. The growing population of poorly planned urban and peri-urban areas has led to an increased rate of degradation of the coastal and marine environments and habitats by the disposal of waste into streams and coastal waters including contamination of ground water sources. Degradation is further exacerbated by the physical alteration of marine and coastal habitats through increased land reclamation and conversion for agriculture, aquaculture and coastal development.

7. The Western Indian Ocean also suffers from the impacts of global climate change on natural and human systems on coasts and oceans. According to the 2014 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), ocean warming dominates the increase in energy stored in the climate system, accounting for more than 90 per cent of the energy accumulated between 1971 and 2010, with only about 1 per cent stored in the atmosphere. Since the beginning of the industrial era, oceanic uptake of carbon dioxide has resulted in acidification of the ocean and the pH value of ocean surface water has decreased by 0.1, corresponding to a 26 per cent increase in acidity.

8. Thus, many marine species have shifted their geographic ranges, seasonal activities, migration patterns, abundances and species interactions in response to continuing climate change. These latter conditions, which have been extensively studied and measured in the Western Indian Ocean and elsewhere, suggest likely ecosystem phase shifts, for example, that coral reefs will become dominated by macroalgae (brown algae such as *Turbinaria* and *Sargassum spp.*).

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

10. The Contracting Parties have, over the years, developed capacities across a broad range of technical, management and policy themes. The institutional infrastructure necessary for adaptive management, in other words management that involves an incremental learning process that is informed by continuous feedback from assessments and research, is still under development, however, and the interplay between Governments, markets and civil society for collaborative environmental management remains weak in some coastal States.

I. Marine and coastal biodiversity: threats and response measures

11. The Western Indian Ocean region is among the few regions of the world that still maintain pristine habitats and those of the Western Indian Ocean region are the least ecologically disturbed. Thus, the two major marine ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean – the large marine ecosystems of the Agulhas and Somali currents – contain critical tropical and subtropical habitats such as seagrass beds, coral reefs and mangrove forests. These ecosystems are characterized by relatively high biodiversity and high species endemism, as evidenced by their rich and complex populations of marine plant and animal species. The region has 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. At the same time, however, the Western Indian Ocean is facing increasing pressure from the exploitation of its marine and coastal resources.

12. Coral reefs dominate the coastal ecosystems of the Western Indian Ocean. They are typically shallow fringing reefs, often enclosing a lagoon, and often closely associated with seagrass beds. Corals are threatened by sea surface temperature rise caused by global warming, which bleaches corals

and eventually kills them if higher temperatures persist. This threat was well documented following the 1998 El Niño event and the subsequent recovery of coral reefs has been tracked and quantified in the Western Indian Ocean, demonstrating that recovery rates and resilience to bleaching vary considerably within the region, with the northern Mozambique and southern Tanzanian coral reefs appearing to be the most resilient.

13. Over the last 50 years, some 30 per cent of the world's mangroves have been lost. In the Western Indian Ocean region, mangrove decline is estimated at about 8 per cent, over the period from 1980 to 2005. While the mangrove systems of the Western Indian Ocean have suffered less and are in relatively good health compared to those in the rest of the world, they face a grave threat in the shape of oil and gas extraction. The largest gas reserves in the world have been discovered off Cabo Delgado in Mozambique and extensive exploration is under way in the offshore waters throughout the Western Indian Ocean region. This is likely to have an impact on its marine and coastal resources, including mangroves, coral reefs and seagrass beds.

14. The Global Environment Facility, with the support of the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention and their partners, has embraced an ecosystems approach to management of marine and coastal ecosystems. Over the last decade, the Facility has invested over \$78 million to support large marine ecosystem projects in the Western Indian Ocean. The three main projects are the South-West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project, with a budget of \$35.67 million, implemented by the World Bank; the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems project, with a budget of \$31.186 million, implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and the project on addressing land-based activities in the Western Indian Ocean, referred to as the WIO-LaB project, with a budget of \$11.413 million, implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

15. These three projects developed strategic action programmes that were then endorsed by participating countries, with the aim of reducing impacts from land-based sources of pollution and activities and sustainably managing critical coastal-riverine and marine ecosystems through the implementation of the programme priorities, for the purpose of achieving effective long-term ecosystem management in the Western Indian Ocean large marine ecosystems.

16. The strategic action programme for the protection of the coastal and marine environment of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources of pollution and activities has been completed at a time when it is most needed. The programme is designed to help the Governments in the Western Indian Ocean region jointly or individually to tackle the challenges associated with the increasing demand for coastal and marine resources and the consequent destruction and degradation of critical habitats, changes in freshwater flow and sediment loads, and also challenges resulting from global climate change.

17. Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-based Sources and Activities (2016–2021), referred to as WIO-SAP, is a five-year Global Environment Facility-funded project launched in response to a request by countries implementing the strategic action programme developed under the 2004–2009 WIO-LaB project. The WIO-SAP project presents an opportunity for Governments in the region and their conservation partners jointly to implement strategies to protect the coastal and marine ecosystems from land-based sources of pollution and activities, with the aim of providing essential goods and services on a sustainable basis. The project is being implemented by UNEP and administered by the Nairobi Convention secretariat, with funding of \$10,867,000.

18. The WIO-SAP project has four objectives: first, to ensure the sustainable management of critical habitats through the protection, restoration and management of critical coastal habitats and ecosystems; second, to improve water quality in the Western Indian Ocean region to international standards by the year 2035; third, to effect the sustainable and sound management of river flows in selected river basins in the Western Indian Ocean region; and, fourth, to provide governance and regional collaboration by strengthening governance systems and raising awareness in the region.

19. The strategic action programme for the sustainable management of the Western Indian Ocean large marine ecosystems is the product of joint activities under two projects. The first of these was the South-West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project, implemented by the World Bank. The project dealt with offshore and near-shore commercial fisheries issues related to the Western Indian Ocean large marine ecosystems and tackled issues pertaining to the coastal and offshore areas of the large marine ecosystems that were not within the remit of the WIO-LaB project. The second, the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems project, implemented by UNDP, addressed all other coastal and oceanic activities, including offshore ecosystem assessment, coastal livelihoods and community engagement, coastal artisanal and subsistence fisheries, larval transport, marine pollution, marine invasive species and others.

20. The Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonization and Institutional Reforms, known as the WIO LME SAPPHERE project, is a six-year project (2017–2022) funded by the Global Environment Facility that seeks to implement the strategic action programme developed jointly under the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems project and the South-West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project in the Western Indian Ocean region. The SAPPHERE project will support and assist the appropriate and formally mandated government institutions and intergovernmental bodies in the region to implement the activities necessary for implementation of the strategic action programme and to ensure the sustainability of efforts and actions undertaken for the long-term management of activities within the large marine ecosystems and to ensure the sustainability of associated institutional arrangements and partnerships. The project is being implemented by UNDP and administered by the Nairobi Convention secretariat, with funding of \$8,766,500.

21. In particular, the WIO LME SAPPHERE project will pursue the following four objectives: first, to support policy harmonization and management reforms in order to improve ocean governance; second, to reduce stress through community engagement and empowerment in sustainable resource management, including stress reduction through the commitment of the private sector and industries to transformations in their operations and management practices; third, to deliver best practices and lessons through innovative ocean governance demonstration; and, fourth, capacity development to realize improved ocean governance in the Western Indian Ocean region.

22. In order to ensure a comprehensive large marine ecosystem management approach (from watershed to outer offshore boundaries), the two strategic action programmes – that of the WIO-LaB programme and that of the joint Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems project and the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries programme – will be implemented collaboratively and administered by the Nairobi Convention secretariat through a cooperative understanding, while recognizing and respecting the mandates of the various management bodies and institutions. The approach will effectively tackle the five following issues: first, marine biodiversity loss, degradation and conservation, including in the adjacent waters of areas beyond national jurisdiction; second, offshore and on-shore oil and gas and mining of other extractives; third, pollution of the marine environment from marine litter and microplastics; fourth, the need to promote regional ocean governance through marine spatial planning for the blue economy; and, fifth, fulfilment of Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals relevant to the coastal and marine environment.

II. Environmental governance

23. The economic value of the goods and services provided by the marine and coastal ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean region excluding South Africa is estimated at over \$25 billion on an annual basis, with fisheries and tourism being the two main direct contributors to the economies of the region. In 2014, South Africa predicted that the oceans have the potential to contribute up to 177 billion rand (\$14.8 billion) to the country's gross domestic product and to create over 1 million jobs by 2033. A further analysis in 2017 by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Coastal Oceans Research and Development – Indian Ocean (CORDIO) East Africa came up with a figure, considered conservative, for the natural assets of the Western Indian Ocean of \$333.8 billion. This represents the total asset base of the ocean, from which annual economic production (in other words, the gross marine product) is drawn. The Governments of Mauritius, Mozambique and Seychelles have established blue or ocean economy ministries or departments in recognition of the potential of their ocean sectors. Economic sectors such as coastal tourism, marine transport, and manufacturing activities, including coastal shipping, trans-shipment, boat building, repair and refurbishment; offshore oil and gas exploration; aquaculture and marine protection services and ocean governance can potentially unlock the ocean economy and contribute to poverty eradication in the Western Indian Ocean region.

24. Despite their enormous potential, the importance of marine ecosystems for human health, well-being and prosperity is not effectively communicated to policymakers and decision makers. Consequently, the departments responsible for the management of marine and coastal resources remain underfunded. Thus, poorly developed institutional frameworks and lack of effective mechanisms for developing new comprehensive laws and regulations mean that environmental laws are not effectively enforced.

25. Effective environmental governance in the Western Indian Ocean, in the long run, will aim to maximize ecosystem goods and services equitably across generations. It is widely acknowledged that the infrastructure required for effective environmental governance is dependent on the interplay between Governments, markets and civil society. The roles played by these markets, civil society and

Governments are poorly defined, however, and not well coordinated. At best their roles are antagonistic, thus impeding the sustainability of ecosystem goods and services. Poor oceans governance is therefore exacerbating environmental problems in the countries of the Western Indian Ocean region. The prognosis is that these problems will be compounded by natural factors, such as climate variability and change, that may lead to severe droughts, coral bleaching, sea-level rise and coastal erosion. Development of adaptive governance and management frameworks that can surmount human impacts along with the effects of climate change will be an essential step towards long-term sustainability of marine and coastal ecosystems.

III. Nairobi Convention and the Regional Seas Programmes

26. The Nairobi Convention is one of the 18 regional seas conventions and action plans, 6 of which are administered by UNEP. The regional seas programmes were developed by UNEP in 1974 as part of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in 1972 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 or sea, by developing, first, a legally binding convention embodying the general commitment and detailed protocols dealing with specific issues; and, second, 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 action towards solving interlinked problems of the coastal and marine environment.

A. Adoption and ratification of the Nairobi Convention

27. 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 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 and it adopted the Nairobi Convention and its two protocols, the Protocol concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region and the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Combating Marine Pollution in Cases of Emergency in the Eastern African Region.

28. In 2010 the Nairobi Convention was revised and a new Protocol for the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBSA Protocol) was adopted. The LBSA Protocol provides the framework upon which Contracting Parties seek to address the principal source of pollution of marine and coastal environment, namely: pollution from substances and energy entering the marine environment by run-off from land, rivers, pipelines and other outfall structures; and pollution from the atmosphere, generated from land-based activities.

Table 1
Ratification of the Nairobi Convention

<i>Country</i>	<i>Date of ratification or accession</i>
Comoros	26 September 1994
France	18 August 1989
Kenya	11 September 1990
Madagascar	26 June 1990
Mauritius	03 July 2000
Mozambique	4 March 1999
Seychelles	20 June 1990
Somalia	1 March 1988
South Africa	16 May 2003
United Republic of Tanzania	1 March 1996

B. Nairobi Convention coordination arrangements

29. At their first meeting, held in Seychelles in 1997, the Contracting Parties adopted their rules of procedure and the terms of reference for the Bureau, in decision CP.1/2 on institutional matters. By decision CP.1/5 on financial matters, the Contracting Parties approved the financial rules for the

management of the Regional Seas Trust Fund for the Eastern African Region as provided for under article 21 of the Convention.

30. The Convention's work programme is implemented through a coordination structure comprising the Programme Coordination Office in Nairobi, which provides strategic direction; a Bureau of Contracting Parties, which provides guidance in the implementation of the work programme; a network of national focal points; thematic expert groups such as the Coral Reef Task Force, the Mangroves Network, and the Legal and Technical Working Group; the Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Resources in the Western Indian Ocean; and other partners.

1. Bureau of Contracting Parties

31. The Bureau is elected at every meeting of the Contracting Parties. The heads of delegation that attended the eighth meeting of the Contracting Parties, held from 22 to 24 June 2015 in Mahé, Seychelles, elected the following members to the Bureau:

Chair: Seychelles

Vice-chair (work programme): Kenya

Vice-chair (resource mobilization): South Africa

Vice-chair (coordination): Mozambique

Rapporteur: Mauritius

2. Regional Coordinating Unit

32. 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 in Seychelles to undertake Eastern African projects. At their first meeting, in March 1997, the Contracting Parties conferred the responsibilities of the secretariat of the Convention on the Regional Coordination Unit. At the outset, the plan was to support the Unit by providing its staff, including an interim coordinator, a senior programme officer, a project coordinator and support staff such as an administrative assistant and two secretaries. Owing to the shortage of funds in the trust fund, however, the Unit could not meet the cost of key staff members, including a director-level interim coordinator. As a consequence, only one senior programme officer was posted to the Unit to act as coordinator. The Unit was therefore severely understaffed and forced to close in March 1999.

33. Upon 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 Regional Coordinating Unit. Under this interim arrangement, the Unit's responsibilities were devolved to two offices, a Nairobi Convention secretariat, based at UNEP, to provide overall programmatic coordination and strategic direction, and a Seychelles-based office to implement activities that enhanced the political visibility of the Nairobi Convention. The Unit was also responsible for the mobilization of resources. This arrangement worked well for a limited period. Consequently, in 2010, in decision CP.6/4, the Contracting Parties requested a review of the current coordination structures with a view to establishing a new cost-effective coordination structure to deal with the issues of coordination, fundraising and implementation of the Convention protocols. This decision was followed up with decisions CP.7/10 and CP.8/14 on strengthening the operational functioning of the secretariat and further elaborated in a paper on the coordination mechanism for the Nairobi Convention (see annex XXIII to the present report, available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>).

C. Implementation of the decisions of the Contracting Parties

34. The Nairobi Convention holds meetings of its Contracting Parties every two years to review the implementation of their decisions. The eighth meeting of the Contracting Parties, held from 22 to 24 June 2015 in Mahé, Seychelles, was divided into two segments: an experts meeting on 22 June 2015 and a heads of delegation meeting on 23 and 24 June 2015. At the heads of delegation meeting, 15 decisions were adopted. The ninth meeting of the Contracting Parties will be held in Kenya in August 2018 at the request of the hosting Government.

35. Intersessionally, the secretariat organizes meetings of the Bureau and the Convention focal points. Bureau members from Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and South Africa met in November 2015 in Mahé, Seychelles, approving the climate change strategy for the Western Indian Ocean and providing guidance on the implementation of the decisions adopted by the Contracting Parties at their eighth meeting.

36. The secretariat also organized three meetings of focal points to report on the implementation of the decisions of the eighth meeting of the Contracting Parties and the Convention's work programme.

Those meetings were held in Ebene, Mauritius, on 23 and 24 March 2016; in Flic en Flac, Mauritius, on 12 April 2017; and in Mahé, Seychelles, on 17 November 2017.

37. At their ninth meeting, the Contracting Parties will take stock of the progress achieved in the projects and programmes implemented over the 2015–2017 period as part of the 2013–2017 work programme, will review decisions from their eighth meeting and will identify new areas that may require decisions at their ninth meeting, as outlined below.

1. Decision CP.8/1: Preparation of a new work programme for the Nairobi Convention, 2018–2022

38. In decision CP.8/1, the Contracting Parties requested the secretariat, during the remaining months of the work programme for 2013–2017, to develop a new work programme for the period 2018–2022 for adoption at their ninth meeting. The work programme for 2013–2017 was a collaborative programme that built on the momentum achieved in the previous work programme for 2008–2012. The 2013–2017 work programme focused on interlinked themes, including assessments and capacity-building; the development and implementation of ecosystem-based management, such as the management of marine protected areas; environmental governance, including implementation of the LBSA Protocol; development of a protocol on integrated coastal zone management in the Western Indian Ocean region; information and awareness; policy options on climate change; port and harbour development; oil and gas; blue growth and ocean economy; and partnerships for activities relating to the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, vulnerable marine ecosystems, areas beyond national jurisdiction, and particularly sensitive sea areas.

39. The 2013–2017 work programme also included implementation, with the support of Sweden, of the UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme (2011–2014) which ended in June 2016. The support provided by Sweden catalysed national policy processes by building sustained awareness on such topical issues as the blue economy; ecosystem-based approaches to management; the designation of the Northern Mozambique Channel as a priority conservation area; the creation of a transboundary protected area between Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania; adoption and subsequent ratification of the LBSA Protocol; preparation of the integrated coastal zone management protocol; and preparation of the state-of-the-coast report for the Western Indian Ocean region, including as a baseline for future state-of-coast reports.

40. Subsequent to decision CP.8/1, the secretariat requested Kenya, the new incumbent of the post of Vice-Chair for the work programme, to support and contribute to the process of developing the new work programme for 2018–2022. In the development of the work programme the secretariat was guided by experts from Kenya, Madagascar and the United Republic of Tanzania. The draft work programme was presented at the meeting of focal points on 6 and 7 April 2018 in Nosy Be, Madagascar, and finalized in May 2018.

41. The work programme is funded by the Contracting Parties through assessed contributions to the trust fund. The status of assessed contributions and payments as at 31 May 2018 is set out in table 1.

Table 1

Contracting Parties assessed contributions and payments as at 31 May 2018 (in United States dollars)

Country	Unpaid pledges for 2015 and prior years	Pledges for 2016–2018	Amounts collected in 2015	Amounts collected in 2016	Amounts collected in 2017	Amounts collected in 2018	Unpaid pledges for 2018 and prior years
Comoros	362 500.00	45 300	—	—	—	—	407 800.00
France	—	234 000	78 000	78 000	78 000.00	—	—
Kenya	135 906.00	135 906	45 302	—	—	—	226 510.00
Madagascar	389 524.58	67 953	—	—	157 187.19	145 707.95	154 582.44
Mauritius	272 809.00	90 603	30 201	30 201	30 201.00	—	272 809.00
Mozambique	832 080.52	135 906	—	—	—	181 208.00	786 778.52
Seychelles	15 100.12	45 300	15 100	—	45 300.00	—	—
Somalia	335 300.00	45 300	—	—	—	—	380 600.00
South Africa	37 500.00	112 500	37 500	37 500	37 500.00	37 500.00	—

<i>Country</i>	<i>Unpaid pledges for 2015 and prior years</i>	<i>Pledges for 2016–2018</i>	<i>Amounts collected in 2015</i>	<i>Amounts collected in 2016</i>	<i>Amounts collected in 2017</i>	<i>Amounts collected in 2018</i>	<i>Unpaid pledges for 2018 and prior years</i>
United Republic of Tanzania	1 063 362.11	135 906	—	—	839 148.24	—	360 119.87
Total	3 444 082.33	1 048 674	206 103	145 701	1 187 336.43	364 415.95	2 589 199.83

2. Decision CP.8/2: Ratification, accession and implementation of the Amended Nairobi Convention and the Protocol on Land-based Sources and Activities

42. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/2, the Contracting Parties that had not ratified or acceded to the Amended Nairobi Convention were urged to expedite the process of ratification or accession. In paragraph 2, the Contracting Parties were urged to develop policies, draft laws and standards and implement programmes in compliance with the LBSA Protocol. In paragraph 3 the Contracting Parties were urged, with the support of partners, to implement their action programmes on wastewater in the Western Indian Ocean region.

43. Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and the United Republic of Tanzania have ratified the amended Nairobi Convention and the LBSA Protocol. At the Focal Points meeting held in Nosy Be in April 2018, the Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Somalia and South Africa reported progress in ratifying the Amended Convention and the Protocol.

44. In support of resolution 2/11 of the United Nations Environment Assembly on marine litter, the Western Indian Ocean countries, working in partnership with the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and the Institute of Marine Science, United Republic of Tanzania, are developing regional and national action plans on marine litter for the Western Indian Ocean, under the framework of the Nairobi Convention, to manage the sources of marine litter and microplastics.

45. The Contracting Parties are urged to develop, harmonize, and strengthen policies, laws, standards, and institutional capacities, and also to implement programmes in compliance with the LBSA Protocol. In addition, the Contracting Parties, with the support of partners, are urged to implement their action programmes on wastewater and marine litter, including microplastics, in the Western Indian Ocean region, and to create awareness on the impacts of microbeads on marine species and habitats including coral reefs and associated ecosystems and encourage the use of alternatives to microbeads. A background document on microbeads may be found in annex I to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

3. Decision CP.8/3: Development of a protocol on integrated coastal zone management

46. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/3, the Contracting Parties requested the secretariat to review the draft protocol on integrated coastal zone management in collaboration with Contracting Parties and other partners and facilitate discussions to explore possible options for the effective management of the marine and coastal environment and report back on the options at or before the next meeting of the Contracting Parties.

47. Pursuant to that decision, the Nairobi Convention secretariat organized two negotiation meetings for the protocol on integrated coastal zone management, the first one in March 2016 in Seychelles, and the second one in November 2016 in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania. A further negotiation meeting is scheduled to be held after the ninth meeting of the Contracting Parties. The current negotiated text of the draft protocol and the report of the November 2016 negotiation meeting may be found in annex II to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

4. Decision CP.8/4: Review of the Protocol concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora Eastern African Region

48. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/4, the Contracting Parties were requested to collaborate with the secretariat and implementing partners to finalize the review of the Protocol concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region and its annexes and to report back on progress in this regard to the Contracting Parties at their ninth meeting.

49. An expert was contracted to review the Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region and to provide a justification for its amendment, including

Annex I on Protected Species of Wild Flora, Annex II on Species of Wild Fauna Requiring Special Protection, and Annex III on Harvestable Species of Wild Fauna Requiring Protection. The review was necessary to align the Protocol with the 1985 Nairobi Convention as amended in 2010; to entrench within it ecosystem approaches to the management of marine and coastal resources; and to strengthen further the legal and policy basis for the protection of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Western Indian Ocean region. The review of the Protocol took into account relevant scientific information, current knowledge, practice and tools in natural resource management, including marine ecosystem-based management and assessments from the 2015 regional state-of-the-coast report for the Western Indian Ocean Region. The proposed amendments to the Protocol may be found in annex III to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

50. Contracting Parties are urged to support the proposed amendment of the Protocol Concerning Protected Areas and Wild Fauna and Flora in the Eastern African Region and its annexes.

5. Decision CP.8/5: Agenda 2063 and the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy

51. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/5, Contracting Parties were urged to implement the Cairo Declaration of the fifteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment on the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want on ecosystem-based management approaches for marine resources in the exclusive economic zones and adjacent waters and to report back on progress at future sessions of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment. In addition, by paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/5, the secretariat was requested, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West and Central and Southern Africa Region (Abidjan Convention) and the Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment (Jeddah Convention), with the support of UNEP, to contribute to the development of an African strategy on ocean governance in the context of the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy and Agenda 2063.

52. Pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of decision CP.8/5, the secretariat, working in partnership with the UNEP Regional Office for Africa and the secretariats of the Barcelona, Abidjan and Jeddah conventions, is currently developing a regional ocean governance strategy for Africa through an open-ended multi-stakeholder process that takes into consideration the existing governance frameworks and regimes and the aspirations of the States in pursuit of Agenda 2063 and the blue economy.

6. Decision CP.8/6: Support for the implementation of projects

53. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/6, the Contracting Parties, the Global Environment Facility and other partners were requested to support projects on:

- (a) Transboundary marine protected area between Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania as an example of a cross-border management system of marine protected areas;
- (b) Northern Mozambique Channel as a good example of integrated ocean management approach;
- (c) Partnerships for implementing the Western Indian Ocean Strategic Action Programme financed by the Global Environmental Facility;
- (d) Sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation of deep-sea living marine resources and ecosystems in the areas beyond national jurisdiction by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme;
- (e) Conservation and sustainable exploitation of seamount and hydrothermal vent ecosystems of the South West Indian Ocean in areas beyond national jurisdiction and collaboration in the management of activities in their adjacent waters by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN);
- (f) Guiding environmental management in the context of a rapidly developing oil and gas industry in the Western Indian Ocean Region by the Global Resource Information Database at Arendal, Norway (GRID-Arendal),

and to report on progress thereon on or before the next meeting of the Contracting Parties. In addition, in paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/6, the Contracting Parties were urged to develop and implement new transboundary initiatives for the management of shared resources with support from partners.

54. Pursuant to decision CP.8/6, the secretariat and its partners are administering the WIO-SAP project for the period 2016–2021. The project implemented by the Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM) on the integrated management of the marine and coastal resources of the Northern Mozambique Channel is under development. The Northern Mozambique Channel project document currently under review by FFEM may be found in annex IV to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

55. In addition, partnerships on ocean governance frameworks have been established with Blue Solutions, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and IUCN. In November 2017, working in partnership with IUCN, the secretariat of the Nairobi Convention submitted to the Western Indian Ocean countries the results of the Seamounts Project funded by FFEM, and the Marine Spatial Atlas for the Western Indian Ocean project funded by the French Development Agency (AFD). The report on the workshops on those projects may be found in annex V to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

7. Decision CP.8/7: Environmental management for oil and gas development

56. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/7, the Contracting Parties requested the secretariat to prepare regional guidelines on environmental management for oil and gas development, based on best practices, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their next meeting. In addition, in paragraph 2 of the decision, the Contracting Parties were urged to seek the support of other countries and partners involved in oil and gas development, such as GRID-Arendal, to conduct and implement a regionally coordinated strategic environmental assessment of the social and environmental sustainability of oil and gas in the Western Indian Ocean region. By paragraph 3 of decision CP.8/7 the Contracting Parties were requested, with the support of UNEP and other partners, to explore the development of Western Indian Ocean regional compliance monitoring initiatives for oil and gas.

57. Pursuant to this decision, the secretariat, working in collaboration with WWF Madagascar, organized a subregional oil and gas capacity-building training course for civil society organizations of the Northern Mozambique Channel in November 2016, focusing on the integrated ocean management approach in the Western Indian Ocean region. In addition, with the support of experts, the secretariat organized a workshop in November 2016 in Zanzibar to develop a regional capacity-building programme for oil and gas, focusing on resource and data management, environmental and social safeguards and management, safety management, revenues management and technology development and research. The proposed regional capacity-building programme was presented and approved at the meeting of focal points held in April 2017 in Flic en Flac, Mauritius. In addition, in October 2017 in Zanzibar, working in collaboration with the UNEP Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch, and the Government of Norway Oil for Development Programme, the secretariat organized a regional workshop on managing emergency preparedness and response in the oil and gas sector. The capacity-building programme on oil and gas may be found in annex VI and the report of the regional training course on emergency preparedness may be found in annex VII to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

58. Some aspects of decision CP.8/7 were not achieved during the reporting period. Consequently, at their ninth meeting, the Contracting Parties are being requested to support partnerships in oil and gas development and to conduct and implement a regionally coordinated strategic environmental and social assessment of oil and gas industry including in ports and harbours in the Western Indian Ocean region.

59. The Contracting Parties participating in a ministerial conference on maritime security in Mauritius in April 2018 called for the establishment of a regional coordination centre for marine pollution emergency for the Western Indian Ocean, to carry out monitoring of development activities in oil and gas and to advocate mitigation measures.

8. Decision CP.8/8: Climate change adaptation and mitigation

60. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/8, the Contracting Parties requested the secretariat to expedite finalization of the climate change strategy for the Nairobi Convention area and to circulate the draft strategy for comments by the Contracting Parties by 30 September 2015. Contracting Parties were further urged to submit their comments by 30 November 2015 for adoption by the Bureau by 31 December 2015. By paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/8, the Contracting Parties were urged to integrate

relevant recommendations of the climate change strategy for the Nairobi Convention area into their national climate change strategies and to develop policies, programmes and projects on climatic variability and climate change.

61. Pursuant to this decision, the draft climate change strategy for the Nairobi Convention area developed by the secretariat with the support of WIOMSA was approved at the meeting of the Bureau held in November 2015 in Mahé, Seychelles. The Regional Climate Change Strategy for the Nairobi Convention was published in 2016. The Climate Change Strategy guides actions under defined adaptation priorities in the Western Indian Ocean region, such as in policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of various regional programmes related to climate adaptation. The Regional Climate Change Strategy is reproduced in annex VIII to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

62. The secretariat has prepared a concept note on Western Indian Ocean resilience to climate change, to support implementation of the Climate Change Strategy. Contracting Parties are requested to provide letters of no objection to support the application for funding. The concept note on the transition to a resilient blue economy in the Western Indian Ocean region may be found in annex IX to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

63. The Contracting Parties are urged to integrate relevant recommendations of the Climate Change Strategy for the Nairobi Convention into their respective strategies and policies and to mobilize resources for implementing programmes and projects to enhance the resilience of communities, livelihoods and coastal and marine ecosystems. In addition, Contracting Parties are urged to build partnerships to address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through developing capacities and enhancing scientific cooperation.

9. Decision CP.8/9: Threatened and endangered marine species

64. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/9, Contracting Parties urged the secretariat, in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society, to finalize the regional status report on sharks and rays in the Western Indian Ocean, to circulate the report to all Contracting Parties for review and then to submit the final report with findings for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their ninth meeting. By paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/9, the Contracting Parties were urged to build partnerships to strengthen the enforcement capacity for reducing or eliminating illegal exploitation and trade in threatened and endangered marine species. In paragraph 3 of the decision, the Contracting Parties were urged effectively to implement the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia, to enhance marine turtle conservation and to establish sites of importance for marine turtles in the Western Indian Ocean.

65. Pursuant to this decision, the Indian Ocean Commission Biodiversity Programme, working in collaboration with the Nairobi Convention, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network (TRAFFIC), organized a regional technical workshop in April 2017 in Quatre Bornes, Mauritius, on sharks and rays of the South-West Indian Ocean, to review the status of these species and develop a road map for their conservation and management. The report of the review meeting was presented to the focal points at their meeting in April 2017 in Flic en Flac, Mauritius and may be found in annex X to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

10. Decision CP.8/10: Blue and ocean economy

66. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/10, the Contracting Parties were urged to apply blue or ocean economy approaches as pathways for sustained economic growth, food security, poverty eradication, job creation and environmental sustainability. By paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/10, the Contracting Parties welcomed blue and ocean economy initiatives undertaken by Seychelles with the blue economy, Mauritius with the ocean economy and South Africa with its ocean economy Operation Phakisa, and were encouraged to consider developing and implementing similar initiatives, as appropriate. In paragraph 3 of decision CP.8/10, Contracting Parties were invited to consider for implementation, as appropriate, the key messages and action points agreed upon by the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on the Blue Economy at its nineteenth session, held in Antananarivo from 2 to 5 March 2015. In addition, by paragraph 4 of the decision, the Contracting Parties were urged to cooperate in improving the governance of areas beyond national jurisdiction, building on existing regional institutions, including the Nairobi Convention, and developing area-based management tools such as marine spatial planning to promote the blue economy pathways in the Western Indian Ocean region.

67. Pursuant to this decision, the strategy on the Western Indian Ocean approach for incorporating marine spatial planning in the blue economy was finalized in April 2017 (as set out in annex XI to the present report). The secretariat, working in collaboration with WCMC, organized a workshop in October 2016 in Mahé, Seychelles, on ocean governance frameworks in areas beyond national jurisdiction. In addition, in November 2017, the secretariat, working in collaboration with Blue Solutions, WCMC, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, WIOMSA and IUCN, held a three-day training workshop to consider marine spatial planning and area-based management tools in areas beyond national jurisdiction and marine protected areas (see annex V to the present report). Follow-up training courses on marine spatial planning will be held in 2018 under the WIO-SAP and WIO LME SAPPHERE projects. The report of the October 2016 ocean governance frameworks in areas beyond national jurisdiction may be found in annex XII to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

68. Contracting Parties are urged to continue to apply blue or ocean economy approaches in the context of Sustainable Development Goal 14 as pathways for sustained incomes and economic benefits from natural blue capital including fisheries, tourism, oil and gas development, offshore renewable energy, and other maritime activities.

69. Contracting Parties, within the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, are also urged to cooperate with existing regional institutions, including the Nairobi Convention, and to consider a decision on ocean governance and conservation of marine biodiversity in the exclusive economic zones and in adjacent areas, and to build and develop area-based management tools such as marine spatial planning to promote blue economy pathways in the Western Indian Ocean region.

11. Decision CP.8/11: National and regional state-of-the-coast reports

70. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/11, Contracting Parties were urged to consider the findings of the regional state-of-the-coast report for the Western Indian Ocean region in their decision-making processes. By paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/11, the Contracting Parties welcomed the national reports presented by the countries and were requested to fulfil their obligations under articles 17 and 23 of the Convention, to prepare national state-of-the-coast reports periodically, as a contribution to the regional state-of-the-coast report. In addition, Contracting Parties requested the secretariat to prepare a regional state-of-the-coast report every five years for consideration by the Contracting Parties.

71. Pursuant to this decision, in June 2016, on the basis of the regional state-of-the-coast report in the Western Indian Ocean, the secretariat prepared a summary for policymakers highlighting key messages from the regional state-of-the-coast report. The summary for policymakers of the regional state-of-the-coast report for the Western Indian Ocean may be found in annex XIII to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

72. Working jointly with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, the Nairobi Convention organized a regional workshop on the regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including social and economic aspects (referred to as the “Regular Process”), covering the region of the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and the area of the Regional Organization for Protection of the Marine Environment and the Regional Commission for Fisheries, which was held in Zanzibar on 14 and 15 December 2017. At the workshop, member States were urged to produce periodic reports on the implementation of international treaties and obligations, to assist the work of the Regular Process. Significant networking was needed to ensure that experts from the region were aware of the work of the Regular Process. The need to create synergies and link national and regional processes was highlighted, to make optimal use of available resources. The important role of national focal points was also emphasized, including in the nomination of experts to the pool of experts. The report of the meeting on the Regular Process may be found in annex XIV to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

73. As a follow-up to the recommendations of the Regular Process, the Contracting Parties are urged to contribute to a regional state-of-the-coast report every five years for consideration by the Contracting Parties, which may contribute to the Regular Process.

12. Decision CP.8/12: Establishment of a platform for science-policy dialogue

74. By paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/12, the Contracting Parties were urged to promote a science-policy interface to enhance informed decision-making. By paragraph 2 of CP.8/12, the Contracting Parties agreed to establish a dialogue platform to strengthen the links between science, policy and action and to mandate the Forum of heads of national Academic and Research Institutions in the

Western Indian Ocean (FARI) to act as the technical and advisory body of the platform. In addition, by paragraph 3 of the decision, the Contracting Parties requested the secretariat, in collaboration with partners, to develop terms of reference, a mode of operation and the composition of the platform and to transmit these to the Contracting Parties for subsequent approval by the Bureau.

75. Pursuant to this decision, the secretariat organized a meeting on the partnership on science-policy Forum in Mahé, Seychelles, in October 2016, to identify the structure, terms of reference, mode of operation and composition of the platform. The science-policy platform is made up of a science pillar and a policy pillar, and FARI takes a lead role in the science pillar. The platform will provide an opportunity for policymakers and practitioners to articulate their policy, data and information needs, catalyse research priorities, enhance the understanding of scientists on the regions' decision-making processes, improve the contribution of scientists to policy and foster dialogue and build trust between policymakers and decision-makers and the scientific community. The meeting also reviewed the terms of reference for FARI and its role in relation to the platform. The report of the science-policy meeting may be found in annex XV to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

76. In addition, the secretariat organized follow-up FARI meetings in April 2017 in Flic en Flac and in December 2017 in Zanzibar to identify the role of FARI in the science-policy platform and in the implementation of the WIO-SAP, WIO LME SAPHIRE and other current projects to enhance the science-policy interface in decision-making. FARI will promote the science agenda and policy interface in the Western Indian Ocean and provide the access and support required in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14. The proposed work programme for FARI focuses on informed policy for decision-making, identifying emerging issues to present at meetings of the Contracting Parties and to provide a science perspective to decisions of the Contracting Parties. The report of the April 2017 FARI meeting may be found in annex XVI to the present report and the terms of reference for FARI and report of the December 2017 meeting are in annex XVII, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

77. Leadership dialogues targeting senior government officials from ministries and parastatals in Kenya, Madagascar, Seychelles and the United Republic of Tanzania were held in Mombasa, Kenya (July 2017), and in Tanga, United Republic of Tanzania (October 2017). The leadership dialogue in Seychelles took place from 11 to 13 April 2018. The purpose of the leadership dialogues is to equip senior policymakers with leadership skills for better advocacy of the use of integrated approaches in the management of oceans.

78. As a follow-up to the establishment of a science-policy platform and the policy dialogues, Contracting Parties are urged to promote science-policy dialogue and to support regular dialogues between scientists and policymakers to address current and emerging threats to the coastal and marine environment.

13. Decision CP.8/13: Enhancing cooperation, collaboration and support with partners

79. By paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/13, the Contracting Parties were urged, with support from the secretariat, to continue engaging and cooperating with existing partners for the development and implementation of the decisions of the Contracting Parties and the work programme of the Nairobi Convention. Paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/13 sought to establish additional partnerships, including with regional economic communities, such as the East African Community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the Southern Africa Development Community and the Indian Ocean Commission and with United Nations agencies; with regional fisheries management organizations, such as the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission, on sustainable fisheries management; with Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge, on matters of environmental assessment; with FAO, the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), on the conservation of and trade in sharks and rays; and with ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and also the sustainable ocean initiative on capacity-building of the Convention on Biological Diversity. By paragraph 3 of decision CP.8/13, all Contracting Parties were invited and the secretariat requested to collaborate with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, WIOMSA and other partners in capacity-building, implementation and the sharing of experiences on integrated marine spatial planning in support of the blue economy. By paragraph 4 of decision CP.8/13, the secretariat was requested to establish a partnership with the Global Programme of Action on matters of marine litter, waste and wastewater for the Western Indian Ocean Region and to report thereon to the Contracting Parties at their next meeting. Paragraph 5 of the decision encouraged collaboration and communication

between Contracting Parties and civil society, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, local governments and municipal authorities in the implementation of the work programme of the Nairobi Convention, to ensure increased impact and commitment and to harness the benefits of synergies and collaboration, as had been achieved in the work of the Convention's coral reef task force in 2015 and 2016, when preparing the coral reef status report for the Western Indian Ocean. Paragraph 6 of decision CP.8/13 called for joint programming between Contracting Parties, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Economic Commission for Africa, partners, civil society and the private sector for the implementation of priority programme areas and the mobilization of resources.

80. Pursuant also to decision CP.8/13, a scoping meeting on collaboration between regional seas programmes and regional fisheries bodies in the South-West Indian Ocean was held in June 2016. In November 2017, the Global Environment Facility, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Development Programme, UNEP and FAO together organized a global meeting in South Africa on the building of international partnerships to enhance science-based ecosystem approaches in support of regional ocean governance in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The goal of the meeting was to enhance cross-sectoral, science based ecosystem approaches in support of regional ocean governance in the context of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by strengthening collaboration among large marine ecosystem programmes, regional seas programmes and regional fisheries bodies (including regional fisheries management organizations). The report of the 2016 scoping meeting may be found in annex XVIII to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

81. A regional partnership for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 in the Western Indian Ocean was registered at the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, held in New York in June 2017. The partnership aims to reduce marine pollution, demonstrate and enhance ocean governance and sustainably manage critical coastal and marine ecosystems. The partnership commitment and an indication of the repository may be found in annex XIX to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

82. The Nairobi Convention and the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission have drafted a memorandum of understanding that seeks to provide a framework of cooperation and understanding and to facilitate collaboration between the Parties, with the aim of furthering their shared goals and objectives regarding the conservation, protection, enhancement and support of nature and natural resources, including biological diversity, in the Western Indian Ocean. The partnership between the Nairobi Convention and the Commission will support programmes that promote better sectoral management and improved intersectoral coordination which, in turn, should lead to the improved uptake of management tools, such as marine spatial planning, and of ecosystem-based approaches, to mitigate the adverse impacts of human activities on the marine and coastal environment in the region.

83. A concept note on strengthening cooperation and collaboration between the Nairobi Convention and the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission in ocean governance in the Western Indian Ocean region in support of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5 and 14 was presented to and approved by the Nairobi Convention focal points in November 2017. As part of the planning process, a joint preparatory meeting between the Nairobi Convention and the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission was held in Maputo on 15 February 2018, to firm up the terms of reference for development of the cooperation programme and to frame the timeline for the development phase of the programme. The draft memorandum of understanding and the concept note may be found in annexes XX and XXI, respectively, to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

84. The proposed marine transboundary conservation area between Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania is designed to mainstream ecosystem management and strengthen capacity for restoring ecosystem health and conserving biodiversity at the local, national and transboundary level in the two countries. In August 2016, a partnership between the Nairobi Convention, the Indian Ocean Commission Biodiversity Programme, the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Marine Parks and Reserves Unit of the United Republic of Tanzania was forged to strengthen the capacity for restoring ecosystem health, and also to pilot ecosystem-oriented approaches to spatial planning, water management, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and protected area management in Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania. The project paper on the transboundary conservation area may be found in annex XXII to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

85. In response to paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/13 on partnerships, the Nairobi Convention secretariat, the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA) and WIOMSA held discussions in December 2017 in Zanzibar on the need for the more extensive consideration of the sustainable development of ports and harbours in the Western Indian Ocean region. A follow-up consultative meeting in February 2018 identified areas in which the Nairobi Convention, the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa and WIOMSA will collaborate with the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

86. At the ninth meeting of the Contracting Parties, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania will be requested to collaborate and coordinate their efforts towards establishing the transboundary conservation area and an invitation will be extended to the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa and IMO to participate in that process.

14. Decision CP.8/14: Strengthening the operational functioning of the secretariat

87. In paragraph 1 of Decision CP.8/14, Contracting Parties were urged to take note of the report on optimizing secretariat functions, coordination and delivery of the Nairobi Convention, its protocols, action plans and programme of work. In this regard, paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/14 requested the secretariat to prepare and circulate to the Contracting Parties by 31 December 2015, an analysis of the report on the strengthening the operational functioning of the secretariat, including, among other matters, the financial implications of the options outlined in the report, proposals for the secondment of staff by Contracting Parties and partners and proposals for using the existing capacities of national institutions to advance the work of the Convention, and to submit the report to the Contracting Parties at their next meeting. By paragraph 3 of decision CP.8/14, the secretariat was requested in the immediate term to approach Contracting Parties and other partners in a position to do so to support the effective implementation of the Nairobi Convention programme of work by, among other measures, providing staff and staffing resources within the provisions of the United Nations regulations.

88. Pursuant to decision CP.8/14, a consultant was commissioned to finalize analysis of the structure and frameworks of the secretariat with regard to strengthening its operational functioning, including financial implications of the options. The consultant's report may be found in annex XXIII to the present report, which is available at <http://web.unep.org/nairobiconvention/events/ninth-conference-parties-nairobi-convention>.

89. Contracting Parties are urged to take note of the analysis report on optimizing secretariat functions, coordination and delivery of the Nairobi Convention, its protocols, action plans and programme of work, and consider the options therein such as direct support to the secretariat through non-staff personnel, decentralized support through regional activity or technical collaborating centres, networked support through advisory bodies, and partnerships, and their respective financial implications, to support the effective implementation of the Nairobi Convention programme of work.

15. Decision CP.8/15: Financial matters

90. In paragraph 1 of decision CP.8/15, Contracting Parties which have made their assessed contributions to the trust fund were commended and all Contracting Parties were urged to continue to make their contributions in a timely manner. By paragraph 2 of decision CP.8/15, the secretariat was requested to prepare, in consultation with the Contracting Parties and for approval by the Bureau, a framework of options for the settlement of arrears and to urge Contracting Parties that were in arrears to use that framework to communicate their preferred settlement plan to the secretariat. By paragraph 3 of the decision, the secretariat was requested to prepare a status report on the progress in the settlement of arrears by the Contracting Parties every six months and to submit the report to the Bureau. By paragraph 4 of the decision, the Contracting Parties and partners in a position to do so were requested to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund set up by UNEP to receive voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties and other partners in support of the programme of work of the Nairobi Convention, known as the trust fund for the Support of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region.

91. The secretariat in response to decision CP.8/15 sent invoices to all the Contracting Parties during 2016, 2017, and early 2018. Table 2 highlights the expenditure report for the Eastern Africa Trust Fund over the period 2015–2017.

Table 2
Expenditure report for the Eastern Africa Trust Fund for 2015–2017
 (by calendar year in United States dollars)

<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>
Personnel component			
Coordinator (P5)	188 480.00	199 629.87	206 499.11
Project Officer	—	—	—
Administrative Assistance (G5)	23 424.38	23 690.03	29 616.58
Subtotal personnel	213 904.38	223 319.90	236 115.69
Operational costs			
Operational costs	(30 201.00)	—	—
Office equipment and misc.	—	—	—
Subtotal operational costs	(30 201.00)	—	—
Activity cost			
Subcontracts	—	(48 579.00)	—
Travel	2 122.84	(2 122.84)	—
Subtotal travel	2 122.84	(50 701.84)	—
Grand total	183 826.22	172 618.06	236 115.69
13% programme support costs (PSC)	25 236.47	22 440.35	30 695.04
Total	209 062.69	195 058.41	266 810.73

92. Pursuant to decisions CP.5/8, CP.6/5, CP.7/20 and CP.8/15, the Contracting Parties will be urged to continue to make both assessed and voluntary contributions to the trust fund.

93. The proposed 2018–2022 budget for ongoing projects carried out by the Nairobi Convention is set out in tables 3a and 3b below.

Table 3a
Proposed budget for the WIO LME SAPPHIRE project
 (by calendar year, in United States dollars)

	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>
Personnel	148 540	722 210	857 000	1 053 750	859 000	657 250
Subtotal	148 540	722 210	857 000	1 053 750	859 000	657 250
Activity costs						
Contractual services	49 274	239 426	286 950	355 000	286 950	217 650
Operational costs	12 982	38 868	45 600	55 500	45 600	35 700
Office equipment and miscellaneous	18 736	74 064	86 300	106 500	86 300	64 600
Office supplies	8 259	37 941	45 450	56 125	45 450	34 525
Travel	71 910	355 090	427 000	532 750	427 000	321 250
Subtotal	161 161	745 389	891 300	1 105 875	891 300	673 725
Total	309 701	1 467 599	1 748 300	2 159 625	1 750 300	1 330 975

Table 3b
Proposed budget for the WIO-SAP project
 (by calendar year, in United States dollars)

	2018	2019	2020	2021–2022
Personnel	657 000	597 000	582 000	577 000
Subtotal	657 000	597 000	582 000	577 000
Activity costs				
Subcontracts	1 470 000	1 458 000	636 000	60 000
Training	415 000	320 000	343 000	340 000
Equipment and premises	234 500	174 500	4 500	4 500
Miscellaneous	44 500	94 500	64 500	130 500
Subtotal	2 164 000	2 047 000	1 048 000	535 000
Total	2 821 000	2 644 000	1 630 000	1 112 000

94. The proposed 2018–2022 budget for proposed projects supported by the Nairobi Convention is set out in tables 4a, 4b and 4c below.

Table 4a
Budget for proposed project for implementation of climate change strategy “Transition to a Resilient Blue Economy in the Western Indian Ocean Region”
 (by calendar year, in United States dollars)

<i>Component</i>	<i>Indicative cost</i>	<i>Financing (grant) amount</i>
Output 1: An improved science base informs policymaking in all sectors towards the deployment of a blue economy development approach	4 880 000	3 110 000
<i>Activity 1.1</i> Increase information base to document, analyse and project climate change impact on key sectors in Western Indian Ocean (WIO) countries		
<i>Activity 1.2</i> Strengthen policy capacity to understand and use science to develop evidence-based policies		
Output 2: Resilient livelihoods and economic activities are pursued, in partnership with the private sector	19 540 000	15 540 000
<i>Activity 2.1</i> Establish a WIO Adaptation Technology Transfer Facility to catalyse investment and capacity towards resilience		
<i>Activity 2.2</i> Lift barriers to the adoption of resilient and sustainable livelihoods		
<i>Activity 2.3</i> Leverage public-private partnerships for lasting and sustainable financing towards resilient coastal economies		
Output 3: Ecosystems are restored, protected and sustainably managed for increased resilience to the spectrum of anticipated climate change	17 900 000	12 900 000
<i>Activity 3.1</i> Identify, establish and sustainably manage protected areas.		
<i>Activity 3.2</i> Rehabilitate and protect degraded coastal zones through ecosystem-based adaptation		
Output 4: Governance and regional collaboration	17 974 000	13 974 000
<i>Activity 4.1</i> Participatory monitoring and evaluation		
<i>Activity 4.2</i> Knowledge-sharing and regional bridging		
<i>Activity 4.3</i> Project coordination and management		
Indicative total cost	60 294 000	45 524 000

Table 4b

Budget for proposed project on integrated management of the marine and coastal resources of the Northern Mozambique Channel

(by calendar year, in United States dollars)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total budget needed	Total FFEM ^a (grant)
Component 1: Laying the institutional and knowledge foundations for the application multi-stakeholder marine spatial planning across the Northern Mozambique Channel region	1 446 346	512 393	774 412	326 068	3 059 220	465 812
Component 2: Planning and adoption of environmental and social best practice in the oil and gas sector to mitigate impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Northern Mozambique Channel	573 884	282 981	228 248	197 970	1 283 083	511 229
Component 3: Replication and upscaling of successful models for community-based resource management and improved livelihood and welfare	115 289	492 014	526 076	547 329	1 680 708	407 586
Component 4: Coordination, management and evaluation	174 023	321 577	321 577	368 158	1 185 334	361 046
Total	863 196	1 096 572	1 850 313	1 439 525	7 208 345	1 745 673

^a Fonds français pour l'environnement mondial.

Table 4c

Budget for proposed project on the transboundary conservation area between Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania

(by calendar year, in United States dollars)

<i>Component</i>	<i>Indicative cost</i>	<i>Financing (grant) amount</i>
Supporting policy harmonization and management reforms towards improved governance of marine transboundary resources between Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania	5 700 000	1 800 000
<p>Outcome 1.1: Policy, legislative and institutional reforms and realignment in support of joint management of resources and conservation efforts in the Transboundary Conservation Area (TBCA) implemented between countries and responsible agencies</p> <p>Outcome 1.2: Bilateral arrangements for managing the TBCA established and institutionalized</p> <p>Outcome 1.3: Collaborative and cooperative mechanisms agreed and strengthened between national, regional and global partners and stakeholders</p>		
Community and private sector engagement and empowerment in marine conservation, natural resource management and sustainable development	5 500 000	1 600 000
<p>Outcome 2.1: Existing efforts to establish and strengthen a system of Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) and Collaborative Fisheries Management Areas (CFMAs) adjacent to and between existing marine protected areas (MPAs) supported and enhanced</p> <p>Outcome 2.2: Private sector (industry and the tourism sector) engaged in collaborative efforts to improve conservation and sustainable development in the TBCA</p> <p>Outcome 2.3: Resilience of coastal communities to the adverse impact of climate change built through improved management of natural resources and more durable livelihoods</p>		
Infrastructural development and equipment procurement to effectively manage existing MPAs and facilitate engagement with surrounding communities	7 200 000	2 600 000
<p>Outcome 3.1: Appropriate facilities developed in Kenyan and Tanzanian MPAs that enable personnel and equipment to be based on site, both to improve conservation activities within the MPAs and to enhance community engagement</p>		
Socioecological research to inform decision-making and establish baselines from which development of the TBCA can be measured	4 900 000	1 500 000
<p>Outcome 4.1: Research results produced by national and regional institutions to enable knowledge-based governance and management</p> <p>Outcome 4.2: Baseline information available and monitoring and evaluation frameworks implemented to measure changes from the baseline situation</p>		
Capacity development to enhance marine conservation and natural resource management in the proposed TBCA in Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania	6 200 000	1 500 000
<p>Outcome 5.1: Capacity for improved governance and management of the TBCA strengthened through training and support</p>		
Total	29 500 000	9 000 000