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Fourth Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities in the Wider Caribbean.

Panama City, Panama, 18th to 20th July 2018

DRAFT

STATUS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION (AMEP) SUB-PROGRAMME FOR 2017-2018

[Covering the period January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018]

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

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Programme Overview

1. This report presents the status of activities for the sub-programme on the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) in support of the Protocol Concerning Land-Based Sources of Marine Pollution (LBS Protocol) for the period 2017-2018. It also provides a summary of relevant recommendations and decisions of the Third Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the LBS Protocol (3rd LBS STAC), Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties (3rd COP) to the LBS Protocol, and Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme (17th IGM) (Annex I of this report).
2. The overall goal of AMEP is to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the coastal and marine environment from land and marine-based sources thereby enabling countries of the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) to meet their obligations under the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol) and the Protocol Concerning Co-Operation in Combating Oil Spills (Oil Spills Protocol).
3. The objectives of the AMEP sub-programme are to:
 - a) Coordinate and oversee the day-to-day implementation of AMEP projects and activities within the framework of the Cartagena Convention;
 - b) Ensure that the formulation and implementation of projects and activities satisfy the obligations of the LBS and Oil Spills Protocols;
 - c) Promote ratification of, accession to, and effective implementation of the LBS and Oil Spills Protocols;
 - d) Enhance coordination, collaboration and communication with relevant regional and international organizations in the development and implementation of AMEP projects and activities; and
 - e) Enhance involvement of LBS and Oil Spills Regional Activity Centers (RACs) in the design and implementation of AMEP's projects and activities.
4. During the biennium, Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention that are not yet parties to the LBS Protocol were requested to provide a status update and indicate any challenges towards ratification. In June 2018, the Government of Honduras informed the Secretariat that they had signed off on the LBS Protocol and would submit the relevant document to the depository, Colombia.
5. The Government of Curacao, of the Kingdom of Netherlands, indicated that technical assistance was required to finalize the national legislative framework to implement the provisions provided by the LBS protocol by 2020. The Government of Colombia informed that the process for the incorporation of this instrument into their legal system has advanced in the last year, and the Bill is expected to be presented before the Congress of the Republic in 2018. A table summarizing responses received from all countries is contained in Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.39/INF.5.
6. The importance of ratification of the LBS protocol was promoted during the biennium through new outreach products including infographics, technical presentations/publications and fact sheets. A list of these products is provided in Annex V.
7. The AMEP Programme Officer (PO) coordinated the implementation of programme activities for 2017-2018 with support of the Team Assistant (Pollution and Communications- AMEP/CETA) and the AMEP Programme Assistant. The Directors and staff of the LBS Regional Activity Centres provided additional technical support.
8. The AMEP Programme Assistant was required to provide extensive support for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Integrated Land, Water & Ecosystem Management in Caribbean SIDS (GEF IWEco) project prior to the recruitment of project staff. This staff member was subsequently recruited to the position of G6 Administrative Assistant for the project effective 1 March 2018 and the existing vacancy is expected to be filled by August 2018.
9. The AMEP PO continued to be responsible for the Communications sub-programme in the absence of a CETA Programme Officer. Two interns, Ms. Iris Albulet from Germany, and Ms. Jessica Rudd from Britain provided additional support in 2017.

10. The host agreement for the hosting of the Regional Activity Centre (RAC) for the LBS Protocol at the Institute of Marine Affairs was signed between UN Environment and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in July 2017. Discussions are on-going between the Secretariat and the Government of Cuba regarding a similar host agreement to formalize the Centre of Engineering and Environmental Management of Coasts and Bays (CIMAB) as the other LBS RAC.
11. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Cartagena Convention Secretariat and the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute to focus on analytical testing and techniques for water, wastewater and air, land-based interventions for improving water quality in marine and freshwater environments, ground water and aquifer assessment, alternative processes and technologies for waste management and climate change mitigation.
12. During the biennium, several staff changes took place within the Secretariat including the departure of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Programme Officer. The reduced staffing especially in the Administrative and Finance Department resulted in significant delays in the implementation of programme activities. The AMEP PO was also required to provide additional management and supervisory support in that regard.
13. While efforts were made to increase the involvement of all national and technical focal points in various projects and activities, slow feedback from some country focal points on requests from the Secretariat also resulted in delays with programme outputs.
14. Table 1 below reflects the contribution by the AMEP sub-programme to technical discussions on pollution through national, regional and global committees.

Table 1: Representation of AMEP staff on National, Regional and Global Committees

| No. | Committee | Scope | Relevance to Cartagena Convention/LBS Protocol | Nature of Meeting | Frequency |
|-----|--|-------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | United Nations Project Coordinating Team | National | Ensured coordination of CEP projects implemented in Jamaica with other UN Initiatives | Face-to-Face | Monthly |
| 2 | United Nations Communications Group | National | Enabled sharing of communications resources and improved visibility of CEP projects in Jamaica and regionally | Face-to-Face | Monthly |
| 3 | United Nations Monitoring and Evaluation Group | National | Supported monitoring and evaluation of CEP projects in Jamaica | Face-to-Face | Quarterly |
| 4 | UNDAF Specialized Group on Environment | National/Regional | Provided technical input on environment in support of the Sustainable Development Goals | Face-to-Face | Variable |
| 5 | Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) – Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) | Regional | Supported coordination on environmental health projects in the Caribbean and on the GEF IWeco project. Provided support to CARPHA’s Environment Advisory Committee | Virtual | Semi-annually |
| 6 | Global Water Partnership Caribbean Technical Committee | Regional | Supported coordination on water-related projects in the Caribbean | Virtual and Face-to-Face | Annually |
| 7 | Project Executive Group of the GEF CLME+ Project | Regional | Participated as partner executing agency for CLME+ project. | Face-to-Face | Annually |

| No. | Committee | Scope | Relevance to Cartagena Convention/LBS Protocol | Nature of Meeting | Frequency |
|-----|--|----------|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 8 | Strategic Action Programme (SAP) of the GEF CLME+ | Regional | Participated as member of Interim Coordinating Mechanism for the SAP | Face-to-Face | Annually |
| 9 | Interagency Coordinating Group for GEF IWECO | Regional | Provided updates as lead regional Executing Agency for GEF IWECO | Face-to-Face and Virtual | Quarterly |
| 10 | Project Steering Committee Meeting of the GEF IWECO Project | Regional | Provided reports as lead regional Executing Agency for the IWECO Project | Face-to-Face | Annually |
| 11 | Regional Technical and Advisory Group of the GEF IWECO Project | Regional | Provided technical advice for IWECO Project as lead regional Executing Agency | Face-to-Face | Annually |
| 12 | UN Environment CEP Working Group for the State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR) | Regional | Supported development of the State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR) under the LBS Protocol | Virtual | As Required (Minimum Monthly) |
| 13 | Marine Protected Areas Group of Experts (GCFI) | Regional | Provided expert advice on marine litter and pollution-related issues | Virtual | Not required |
| 14 | Research Group on Pollution (GCFI & CLME+) | Regional | Provided input to development of research agenda for pollution | Virtual & Face-to-Face | As required |
| 15 | Caribbean Node for Marine Litter Management | Regional | Host to Node along with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute | Virtual and Face-to-Face | To be determined |
| 16 | Caribbean Platform for Nutrients Management | Regional | Host for Platform and directly supported LBS Protocol Obligations | Virtual and Face-to-Face | To be determined |
| 17 | Caribbean Platform for Wastewater Management | Regional | Provided technical support to platform hosted by CWWA | Virtual and Face-to-Face | To be determined |
| 18 | Working Group re: RAC REMPEITC | Regional | Identified options for secondments to Centre | Virtual | As required |
| 19 | UN Environment Ecosystem Branch – Communications Group | Global | Provided input on communication-related issues | Virtual | As required |
| 20 | Coordinating Meetings of UN Environment Regional Seas | Global | Promoted sharing of experiences and harmonized approaches | Virtual | As required |
| 21 | Indicators Working Group of UN Environment Regional Seas | Global | Promoted harmonized approach to development of indicators | Virtual | As required |

15. During the reporting period, the AMEP sub-programme was represented at regional and global meetings and conferences. AMEP representatives contributed with oral presentations, exhibition booths with displays of videos, promotional material and posters of work relating to the LBS Protocol. See Annex VI for presentations conducted.

16. Several actions were taken to improve communication with stakeholders and facilitate knowledge sharing. These are summarized in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Summary of Reports, Newsletters and Communication Activities Coordinated by AMEP

| No. | Report | Frequency |
|-----|---|--|
| 1 | Input to UN Environment Ecosystems Division Newsletter | Monthly |
| 2 | Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution Newsletter | Quarterly |
| 3 | Input to UN Environment Annual Reports | Annually |
| 4 | Input to UN Environment Reports on relevant UNEA Resolutions | As Required |
| 5 | Report on Implementation of Regional Seas Strategic Directions | Annually |
| 6 | Report on Implementation of UN Environment Global Programme of Action (GPA) | Annually |
| 7 | Input to Secretary-General's Report on the Ocean and Law of the Sea | Annually |
| 8 | Report on measures taken in support of Resolution 67/205 adopted on 21 December 2012 "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations". | Annually |
| 9. | Project Financial and Progress Reports to Donors, Project Coordinating Units, implementing agencies & UN Environment HQ | As Required (Quarterly, Semi-annually & Annually) |
| 10 | Website and Social Media updates | Daily |
| 11 | Database updates – Focal Points and Lab Capacity | As Required |
| 12 | Report to the United Nations Country Team on United Nations Development Assistance Framework | Annually |
| 13 | Report to Planning Institute of Jamaica on Projects and Activities in Jamaica | Annually |
| 14 | Report for Economic Commission on Latin American Countries on SAMOA Pathway Implementation | As Required |
| 15. | Report on Country Implementation Plans (CIPs of the UNMSDF) for Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize, Suriname and Guyana | Annually |

17. The Pollution (AMEP) Sub-Programme's Quarterly Newsletters provided an ongoing summary of activities and achievements. The most recent edition covering activities from January to April 2018 is available in a new online electronic format (Click [here](#)). PDF versions of all of the newsletters are sent to LBS Focal Points and available for download through the UN Environment CEP website (www.cep.unep.org).
18. Our social media platforms have grown significantly in likes and followers. This biennium realized a 31% increase in followers on Facebook to over 5600. Twitter followers have doubled to 4100 during this biennium compared to the last reporting period.
19. The Secretariat through the AMEP programme reviewed and provided technical input to several regional and global reports involving "inter alia" UN Resolutions relating to Oceans, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the Sustainable Development Goals as well as various UN reports on subject areas such as Marine Litter, Wastewater and Nutrients.
20. Contributions were also made to regional and global newsletters such as the SIDS Times 'The Cowrie' first

edition June 2018 issue (UN Division for Sustainable Development (UN DESA) bimonthly newsletter and the Global Partnership on Nutrients Management Newsletter, January – April 2018 edition highlighting the Regional Nutrient Strategy being developed within the UNDP GEF CLME+Project.

21. The AMEP sub-programme provided support to regional and international meetings convened during the biennium including the: (1) High-Level UN Conference to support the implementation of SDG 14 (UN Oceans Conference); (2) 3rd Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3), (3) Sixth International Marine Debris Conference (6IMDC) in 2018; and (4) The 7th International Conference on Environmental Future. Annex IV provides a list of the major workshops that were organized with the direct support of AMEP.
22. Linkages were strengthened with regional agencies and coordination meetings were held with several partners on areas of mutual interest relating to pollution prevention and control. These are reflected below:

| | |
|---|--|
| United Nations Environment Programme Global Programme of Action UN Environment Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) | Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) International Maritime Organization (IMO) National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) |
| Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Sub-commission for the Caribbean and adjacent regions (IOCARIBE) Global Environment Facility | Water Centre for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean [el Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe (CATHALAC)] |
| Organization of Eastern Caribbean (OECS) Caribbean Water and Sewage Association (CAWASA) | Marine and Coastal Research Institute [el Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras (INVEMAR)] US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) |
| UN Economic Commission for Latin America (UNECLAC) Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA) Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) | Association of Caribbean States (ACS) UN Development Programme (UNDP) United Nations University, Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) Basel Convention Caribbean Regional Centre OSPAR Commission ▪ Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute |

23. The working group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment continued to further develop the State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR). A draft of the report will be discussed at the upcoming ‘Fourth Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee Meeting’ from July 16-20, 2018 in Panama City, Panama.
24. The GEF funded project on “Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS”, (IWEco), convened its Second Project Steering Committee Meeting in Havana, Cuba from 26th February to 2nd March 2018.
25. The GEF CRW+ Project Identification Form (PIF) was developed by UN Environment CEP, IDB and the GEF CRW Project Management Unit and submitted to the GEF Secretariat for consideration in July 2016. Following the approval of the project concept in November 2017, close liaison has begun with all countries to secure their input, endorsement/validation and co-financing for the project.
26. In keeping with Decisions VII and VIII of the 17th IGM and 14th COP, the AMEP sub-programme worked with the SPAW sub-programme and the Project Management Unit of the GEF-funded Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (GEF CLME+) to support the implementation of project activities. The focus during the reporting period was to develop a proposal for an Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) project for the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf.

27. This proposal was finalized, submitted and approved by the UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project Coordinating Unit and will provide approximately USD\$300,000 financial support for activities in Guyana, Suriname, Brazil and Trinidad and Tobago.
28. The Secretariat and the Food and Agricultural Organization convened a joint Inception Workshop for the two UNDP/GEF CLME+ EBM Sub-projects for the North Brazil Shelf involving the FAO lead Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) and UN Environment-lead Ecosystem-Based Management project for pollution and habitats. Technical support was provided by LBS RAC IMA for this workshop which was held from 20-27 November 2017 in Trinidad and Tobago. This joint effort will facilitate the coordinated implementation of the CLME+ sub-projects on shrimp and groundfish and Strengthening Ecosystem Based Management Frameworks and Ocean Governance in the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem.
29. The LBS/SPAW RoadMap was presented and adopted by the respective LBS and SPAW Contracting Parties (COPs) in March 2017 and was endorsed by the Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention in French Guiana in March 2017. (See Annex 1 for reference of the Decision VIII of the 3rd LBS COP.) An IGM Decision relating to this RoadMap requested the Secretariat to update the CEP Caribbean Action Plan to incorporate a Sustainable Development Strategy and a Resource Mobilization Strategy. This new CEP Strategy would further enhance the coordination of SPAW and LBS Protocol implementation and enable a more integrated approach to the delivery of the CEP Work Plan. An outline of the GEF CLME+ Project and its joint implementation with the AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes is presented as Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.7.
30. During the United Nations (UN) Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 held in New York in June 2017, the OSPAR Commission (OSPAR) and the Cartagena Convention Secretariat registered a voluntary commitment to collaborate across the Atlantic and the Wider Caribbean Region. The focal areas identified for inter-regional corporation include marine protected areas (MPAs), marine litter and ecosystem-based delivery which are priorities for both agencies. The project activities will include a marine litter database and monitoring of MPAs managed by CEP and Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM). As an initiative to raise public awareness and outreach, a Conference will be organized to focus on marine litter and MPA issues and information will be shared among the Regional Seas networks. Training and capacity building will be enhanced within this collaboration with a full-sized project proposal on MPA monitoring and lessons learned within the delivery of ecosystem based projects will be compiled and shared. For further details, please see Information document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR.WG.39/INF.11.
31. The first joint UN Human Security project ‘Strengthening Human Resilience in Northern Clarendon and West Kingston, Jamaica’ is being jointly implemented by the Government of Jamaica and five United Nations agencies in Jamaica: Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme, and UN Women.
32. As Secretariat for the Cartagena Convention, UN Environment Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) will be allocated funds over a three-year period from November 2017 to October 2020 to support implementation of activities relating to improving water and sanitation in selected vulnerable communities in Jamaica. UN Environment is currently leading activities focused on improving the environmental health and water security at the community, local and national levels and strengthening institutional capacity for integration of Human Security Approach. Project activities under ‘*Component 3.2 To enhance Community and Management capacities to respond to natural hazards*’ will include the development of effective models for participatory management and operation of community based water systems and training stakeholders in the design, construction, use and maintenance of water harvesting systems. Funding is being provided by the Government of Jamaica, the UN agencies and the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS).

33. The AMEP sub-programme continues to collaborate with the recently established The UN Environment Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean SIDS in Jamaica. This enables greater synergies and coordination between the work of UN Environment and the Secretariat in the Wider Caribbean Region. Areas of collaboration to date have focused on waste and chemicals management.
34. Support to other relevant pollution prevention and reduction activities such as Watershed Management and Wastewater Management were provided through the development and/or implementation of ongoing and new projects financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and through partnerships with other regional agencies and projects.
35. The AMEP Sub-programme during the 2017-2018 biennium, continued to deliver its work under the AMEP sub-programme in the following thematic areas: (a) Monitoring and Assessment (b) Waste Management and (c) National Programmes of Action for Pollution Prevention.

Programme Coordination Cost and Expenditure (in USD)

| Project Period | Source of Funds | Projected Budget (2017-2018) | Expenditure (Jan 2017-Jun 2018) |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2017-2018 | CTF | 1,092,000 | 694,322 ¹ |

36. Outlined in the table below is a summary of contracts and consultancies undertaken in implementing the AMEP sub-programme during the 2017-2018 period:

| Contract | Signed/Start Date | Expiry Date | Contracted Organizations/Person | Project Output | Country | Total Cost (USD) |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|---|--|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. | 12-Apr-18 | 30-Oct-18 | El Centro del Agua Trópico Húmedo para América Latina | Technical Input for SOCAR – GEF CLME+ | Panama | 15,000 |
| 2. | 16-Nov-17 | 31-Mar-18 | Liana McManus | Analysis for SOCAR – GEF IWeco | USA | 14,000 |
| 3. | 16-May-17 | 15-May-20 | Environmental Management Authority | National Sub-project – GEF IWeco | Trinidad and Tobago | 643,659 |
| 4. | 15-Feb-17 | 16-Aug-17 | Chrishane Williams | Communication Documents - GEF IWeco & GEF CReW | Jamaica | 22,500 |
| 5. | 27-Mar-17 | 28-Jul-17 | Alfredo Coello | Project Coordination - GEF CReW | Spain | 27,200 |
| 6. | 11-Sept-17 | 31-Aug-18 | PCI Media Impact | Communication Component, GEF IWeco | USA/Saint Lucia | 379,701 |

¹ Programme Coordination cost includes staffing, travel, reporting, communication, equipment, administration. Office support costs including Communications, Equipment, & Administration for the AMEP sub-programme have been estimated up to the end of June 2018.

| Contract | Signed/Start Date | Expiry Date | Contracted Organizations/Person | Project Output | Country | Total Cost (USD) |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 7. | 31-Oct-17 | 31-Mar-21 | Min. of Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Co-operatives | National Sub-project – GEF IWeco | Saint Lucia | 729,685 |
| 8. | 08-Dec-17 | 31-Mar-22 | Ministry of Health and the Environment | National Sub-project – GEF IWeco | Antigua and Barbuda | 1,215,685 |
| 9. | 09-Apr-18 | 08-Jun-18 | Hayden Billingy | To update sub-project document for Saint Vincent & the Grenadines – GEF IWeco | St. Vincent and the Grenadines | 7,500 |
| 10. | 1-Aug-16 | 31-Mar-17 | Sherry Heileman | To develop SOCAR – GEF CLME+ | Trinidad & Tobago | 60,000 |
| 11. | 17-Aug-15 | 28-Feb-17 | David Simmons | To update Saint Kitts & Nevis project document – GEF IWeco | Saint Lucia | 23,220 |

Status of the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol)

37. Since the last reporting period, Costa Rica became the thirteenth country to ratify the LBS Protocol.

| Contracting Party | Date of Signature | Date of Ratification | Entry into Force |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Antigua and Barbuda | | 13 July 2010 | 13 August 2010 |
| The Bahamas | | 24 June 2010 | 13 August 2010 |
| Belize | | 4 February 2008 | 13 August 2010 |
| Republic of Colombia | 2 October 2000 | | |
| Republic of Costa Rica | 6 October 1999 | | 26 May 2016 |
| Dominican Republic | 3 August 2000 | 6 September 2012 | 5 October 2012 |
| France | 6 October 1999 | 4 May 2007 | 13 August 2010 |
| Grenada | | 5 March 2012 | 4 April 2012 |
| Guyana | | 14 July 2010 | 13 August 2010 |
| Jamaica | | 5 November 2015 | 4 December 2015 |
| Kingdom of the Netherlands | 6 October 1999 | | |
| Panama | | 9 July 2003 | 13 August 2010 |
| Saint Lucia | | 30 January 2008 | 13 August 2010 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | | 28 March 2003 | 13 August 2010 |
| United States of America | 6 October 1999 | 13 February 2009 | 13 August 2010 |

38. UN Environment CEP continued to work with LBS focal points to promote and facilitate the ratification of the LBS Protocol in the Wider Caribbean Region.

Summary of Projects and Activities

39. The following provides a summary of the background, objectives, expected outputs/outcomes, beneficiary countries, expenditures and status for all projects and activities implemented under the AMEP sub-programme for the period 2017-2018. The expenditures are up to June 30, 2018 and are expressed in US Dollars (USD).

A. GEF Projects

- i. Upscaling and enhancing the experience of the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management to the Wider Caribbean promoting through an integrated approach of innovative technical solutions and financing mechanisms (CReW+)*

Background

40. The GEF CReW+ Project Identification Form (PIF) was developed by UN Environment CEP, IDB and the GEF CReW Project Management Unit and submitted to the GEF Secretariat in July 2016 and approved in November 2017. The PIF is provided as an Information Document for the Meeting – UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.9.
41. The GEF CReW+ Project will build on a baseline of technical understanding of wastewater treatment and practical examples of success following the implementation of activities in 13 countries of the WCR under the GEF CReW project. This new project is expected to identify and implement new innovative funding mechanisms and technological solutions that are replicable and sustainable. The project duration is slated to be 36 months.
42. Work has begun on the design of a full-sized project proposal to build upon the outputs of the GEF CReW. GEF CReW+ will be implemented by UN Environment and the IDB and the proposal will be submitted to the GEF by early 2019 for consideration.
43. The full project is proposed to consist of five components: Framework reform (institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory); Development of sustainable & tailored financing options (urban and rural). Development of innovative financing mechanisms & infrastructure, Implementation of solutions (small-scale local and rural community-based) and Knowledge management and advocacy.

Objective(s)

44. The main objective of GEF CReW+ is to implement innovative technical small-scale solutions in the Wider Caribbean Region using an integrated water and wastewater management approach building on the sustainable financing mechanisms piloted through the Caribbean Regional Fund on Wastewater Management (CReW).

Expected Outcomes

45. The expected outcomes for this project are:
- Consolidated, improved and reformed institutional, policy and legislative frameworks for IWWM in at least 9 countries

- Enhanced regional and national coordination, info. exchange, science-based decisions, and reporting on relevant SDGs and MEAs, resulting from the use of national and regional platforms/databases for IWWM and regional institutions in at least 6 participating countries.
- Improved knowledge and skills to enable the monitoring for national reform processes for IWWM, and for reporting on relevant SDGs and MEAs.
- Improved understanding of different financing options and greater readiness for wastewater management financing at small-scale local, community and national levels in all participating countries.
- Increased and sustainable financing for Integrated watershed management including protecting surface and groundwater water sources in at least 3 watersheds/hotspots.
- Improved knowledge and skills for successful design, establishment and management of appropriate financial mechanisms in selected countries.
- Improved wastewater treatment, including reuse, in rural and peri-urban hotspots using low tech and IWWM solutions.
- Improved life cycle management, circular economy and efficiency in water use-consumption promoting source protection and water reuse in the joint management of surface and groundwater resources in 3 critical watersheds/hot spots.
- Improved knowledge and skills within targeted communities to enable implementation of innovative low-cost integrated water and wastewater management solutions.
- Improved awareness and understanding of the advantages of implementing integrated approaches within targeted communities to enable implementation of low-tech and integrated water and wastewater management solutions.
- Improved access to an information exchange mechanism, including knowledge of experiences and lessons learnt, as well as improved information sharing capability with GEF and the wider, local and national communities amongst all 18 participating countries.

Proposed Project Cost (in USD)

| Project Components & Related SDGs | GEF Project Financing | Co-Financing |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Sub-total | \$14,964,176 | \$274,994,184 |
| Project Management Cost | \$748,209 | \$11,878,891 |
| TOTAL PROJECT COST (\$) | \$15,712,385 | \$286,873,075 |

Beneficiary Countries

Regional: Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

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|--|
| <i>Upscaling and enhancing the experience of the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management to the Wider Caribbean promoting through an integrated approach of innovative technical solutions and financing mechanisms (CReW+)</i> |
| Total Project Budget (IDB & UNEP): USD 302,585,460 |
| Total GEF funds (IDB & UNEP): USD 14,943,938 |
| Total GEF funds (UNEP): USD 6,398,099 |
| Biennium Budget (UNEP): USD 5 million – estimated |
| Time Frame: 4 years (2018-full size project preparation: 2019 to 2021-project implementation subject to GEF approval) |
| Scope: Regional- Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago |
| Partners: Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Caribbean Development Bank |
| LBS Protocol Articles/Annexes: Articles III, V, VI, VII, X, XI; Annex III |
| Website: www.cep.unep.org/gefcrew+ |

Status

46. The full proposal for the GEF funded CReW+ Project entitled ‘Upscaling and enhancing the experience of the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management to the wider Caribbean promoting through an integrated approach of innovative technical solutions and financing mechanisms (CReW+)’ is being developed for finalization and submission to the GEF Secretariat by March 2019. The project was approved in November 2017 for US\$14,943,938 by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund. Close liaison has begun with all countries to secure their input, endorsement/validation and co-financing for all proposed activities at national and regional levels.
47. Within the development of the GEF funded CReW+ Project, the technical and training water/wastewater priority requirements/needs of countries are being documented. In addition, the inputs of Governments are being sought for informing inter alia the development of (1) baselines, (2) counterpart contributions, (3) endorsement letters, (4) project profiles, and (5) Co-financing.
48. Consultations on the development of CReW+ were held in Honduras from June 3-6, 2018 at a Regional workshop in Barbados organized by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). These were facilitated by the IDB with technical support from the Secretariat and a consultant hired by UN Environment to assist in the project development process.
49. Further discussion will take place during the 4th LBS STAC as well as other regional workshops and meetings in 2018.

ii. Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystem Management in Caribbean SIDS (GEF IWECO)

Background

50. The GEF IWECO project is focused on improving the management and protection of the terrestrial, coastal and marine resources of the Caribbean Sea within the framework of the Cartagena Convention and the LBS and SPAW Protocols. It seeks to promote the mainstreaming of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and ecosystems management principles advanced under the GEF-IWCAM Project into national development frameworks. The project also works to implement innovative solutions for reduced pollution and improved fresh and coastal water resources, considering the additional challenges imposed by climate change and climate variability.

51. The GEF IWeco Project was approved in April 2015 and will run for a five-year period from 2015-2020. UN Environment and UNDP are the co-implementing agencies with UN Environment being the lead implementing agency. UN Environment CEP is the lead co-executing agency with the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) as the other co-executing agency.
52. The delays in the startup of the IWeco project were due to a lengthy approval process by the GEF, and delays in recruitment of project staff due to limited staff at the Secretariat and a changeover at UN Environment to a new administrative and project management system – UMOJA which impacted many of UN Environment CEP’s internal processes and projects.
53. The GEF IWeco Inception Workshop and First Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting was held from 20-22 September 2016 in Kingston, Jamaica. A total of 59 participants attended the meeting.
54. While the project was officially launched in September 2016, August to December 31, 2016 was considered the Inception Phase with the official start date being 1 January 2017.

Objective(s)

55. To contribute to the preservation of Caribbean ecosystems that are of global significance and the sustainability of livelihoods through the application of existing proven technologies and approaches that are appropriate for small island developing states through improved fresh and coastal water resources management, sustainable land management and sustainable forest management that also seek to enhance resilience of socio-ecological systems to the impacts of climate change
56. The project’s four main project components are:
 - **Component I:** Development and implementation of integrated, innovative approaches to sustainable land management (SLM)
 - **Component II:** Strengthening of SLM, ecosystems monitoring and indicators framework
 - **Component III:** Strengthening capacity for ecosystems services management (institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory)
 - **Component IV:** Enhancing knowledge exchange, best-practices, replication and stakeholder involvement

Expected Outcomes

57. The expected outcomes of the project are:
 - Outcome C1.1 Measurable stress reduction at project sites through appropriate sustainable water, land and ecosystems management interventions that account for climate change.;
 - Outcome C1.2 Enhanced livelihood opportunities and socio-economic co-benefits for targeted communities from improved ecosystem services functioning;
 - Outcome C2.1 Strengthened national and regional systems for monitoring of environmental status with respect to key international agreements;
 - Outcome C3.1 Strengthened policy and legislation for the effective management of water, land and ecosystems resources that account for climate change;
 - Outcome C3.2 Strengthened capacity of national and regional institutions and other stakeholders for water, land, and ecosystems management that accounts for climate change; and
 - Outcome C4.1. Improved engagement and information access for practitioners and other stakeholders through targeted knowledge sharing networks.

Beneficiary Countries

Regional: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago.

Project Cost and Expenditure (in USD)

| Project Period | Total Project Cost | Source of Funds | Projected Budget (2017-18) | Actual Project Budget (2017-18) | Expenditure² (Jan 2017 -Jun 2018) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 2015-20 | 20,722,572 | GEF | 5,035,329 | 17,500,000 | 8,062,589 |

Status

58. The Regional Project Coordinator from UN Environment commenced duties at the IWeco Project Management Unit in Kingston (Jamaica) in October 2017, the G5 Programme Assistant in November 2017 and the G6 Administrative Assistant in March 2018. The remaining staff (a Technical Officer and the Communications Specialist) have been selected and are now in the process of joining the IWeco project team in Jamaica.
59. The second IWECO Regional Project Steering Committee Meeting was held in Havana, Cuba from 26-28 February 2018 bringing together 23 participants. The report of the meeting is provided as an Information Document UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39/INF.9.
60. In support of Component 1, Project Cooperation Agreements (PCA's) were prepared for Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua & Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Jamaica and St. Kitts & Nevis. Consultants have been contracted to update the project documents for Saint Vincent & the Grenadines and St. Kitts & Nevis based on requests from governments. The PCA for Dominican Republic is not yet finalized pending ongoing discussions with the Government. A site visit to the Jamaica Project site in Negril (Negril Great Morass), Westmoreland, Jamaica took place from 1-2 February 2018 involving IWeco staff and representatives of Jamaica's National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA). A procurement contract has been prepared and signed with UNOPS concerning the Cuban National Project for equipment that will be used for execution of activities.
61. A medium-sized (MSP) for The Bahamas was submitted in May 2018 to the GEF and if approved, it is proposed that it will be implemented within the framework of IWeco.
62. The Project Cooperation Agreement between CARPHA as co-executing agency and UN Environment has been submitted for signature and is expected to be finalized by September 2018. It will focus on activities under Research and Monitoring (Component 2) and Legislative & Institutional Mechanisms (Component 3). The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Secretariat will also support these two Components.
63. To enhance knowledge exchange and communication within the Focal areas, funding support was provided for the following:
 - Participation by the AMEP PO at the 69th GCFI Conference on Marine Litter and Pollution Dialogue (8-11 November 2016, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands).
 - Convening of a Meeting of the Communication Partnership, 28-29 March 2017, Havana, Cuba.
 - Participation by Cuba at the XI Latin American and Caribbean Phycology Congress (5-10 November 2017, Cali, Colombia).

² Expenditures up until 30 June 2018. [The figure also includes commitments.](#)

- Participation by three (3) Cuban participants at the Institute for Development Research (IRD) Summer School in Oceanography, 19 February – 9 March 2018, Havana, Cuba.
 - Participation by the AMEP PO at the Third meeting of UNESCO's XII Meeting of the International Hydrological Programme for Latin America National Committees and Focal Points, 18-20 September 2017, Nassau, The Bahamas
 - Participation of the IWeco Regional Project Coordinator at the 4th Targeted Regional Workshop for GEF International Waters Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), 9-11 October 2017, Montevideo, Uruguay
 - Participation by the IWeco Regional Project Coordinator and AMEP PO at the 26th Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA) Annual Conference and 13th High-Level Forum (HLF) – on Water and Solid Waste, 16-20 October 2017, Georgetown, Guyana.
64. A consultant was hired through IWeco to draft a Marine Litter Policy Assessment Report (focusing on Styrofoam and Single Use plastic bags bans already in place/under preparation in the wider Caribbean region). It is expected that lead institutions OECS/CARPHA (with partners) under component 3 & 4 of the IWeco project will further advance the policy and legislative aspects related to marine litter in the wider Caribbean Region.
65. PCI Media Impact was contracted in September 2017 to support environmental education, communication and awareness raising activities for the project under Component 4. Among the activities implemented was a Regional Communications Workshop held from 30 October – 3 November 2017 in Saint Lucia with over 42 participants. During this meeting, a strategy to launch the IWeco Project in the countries was agreed upon, including funding arrangements. The IWeco Project was launched successfully in Saint Lucia, Cuba, and Trinidad & Tobago.
66. During the biennium, a total of 8 webinars have been conducted with over 72 participants being trained during this period. The thematic areas ranged included: Monitoring and Evaluation (Dec 2017), Grant Proposal Process (Jan 2018), Communication and Youth Engagement (Feb 2018), The Elements of Photography and Visual Storytelling (March 2018); Introduction to Participatory 3-Dimensional Modelling (P3DM) (March 2018); Introduction to Participatory Video (March 2018); Mobile App Use for Citizen Science Data Collection (May 2018) and Oral Testimonies (June 2018). Communication campaign plans have also been approved for three countries Cuba, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago.

B. Monitoring and Assessment

iii. State of the Convention Area Report in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR)

Background

67. In 1994, CEP concluded the first regional overview of land-based sources of pollution in the WCR (CEP Technical Report No. 33). This second overview and update was completed in 2011 resulting in Technical Report No 52. The update of CEP Technical Report No. 33 was carried out during the period 2005-2010 in two phases. The first phase involved the hosting of two workshops in Caracas and Havana in 2005 and 2006, respectively, dealing with Methodologies for Estimating Domestic and Industrial Pollutant Loads from land-based sources in WCR. The second phase entailed the assessment and analysis of National Technical Reports presented by Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Guatemala, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Dominican Republic, Trinidad & Tobago, and Venezuela in addition to other information available up to 2009, to provide updates on the pollutant loads discharged in the WCR.
68. This report provided an update of the domestic and industrial pollutant loads discharged in the WCR, sanitation coverage expansion and treatment, as well as the pollutant loading from watersheds inflows according to the available information in the WCR countries. It also presents the projected changes of pollutant loads for the

years 2015 and 2020 in fulfilling UN Millennium Development Goals. During the previous biennium other reports from projects involving monitoring and assessment including Know Why Network, and Baseline Analysis of Domestic Wastewater were produced.

69. In 2011, the Secretariat established an Interim Working Group in accordance with Decision XI of the 14th IGM to continue work related to Environmental Monitoring and Assessment. The group used the new CEP Technical Report #52 (Updated Technical Report No. 33) and other relevant studies as a baseline for identifying new activities to improve effluent reporting and assessment of water quality conditions throughout the Convention Area. Based on country nominations, the working group consisted of representatives from Jamaica (chair), The Bahamas, Columbia, Mexico, Barbados, USA, Trinidad and Tobago and France with technical support from the LBS RACs – IMA and CIMAB. Based on discussions of the Interim Working Group it was decided that the Group would work on developing the State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR) required under the LBS Protocol.
70. Subsequent recommendations of the 2016 STAC Meetings of the LBS Protocol and Decisions of the Conference of Parties of both the Cartagena Convention and the LBS Protocol provided further guidance for the Working Group. The Group's mandate was extended in 2014 and again in 2017, under the Chair of the Government of the United States, to continue to oversee the development of the SOCAR.
71. This activity results in the development of the first State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR) for the Wider Caribbean Region. The report captures and present key information on the state of coastal and marine ecosystems within the WCR in terms of their current condition; the pressures and the drivers of those pressures; and an assessment of current environmental management initiatives. It is expected to serve as an operational tool that the Parties and other partner organizations can use to determine baseline conditions and priorities to be addressed in the region and to set targets for region-wide action.
72. The development of the SOCAR starts the reporting process that will occur in 4-year cycles. It is also expected to complement the development of a State of Habitat Report coordinated through the SPAW Protocol.
73. Financial support for the finalization of the SOCAR is being provided by the UNDP/GEF CLME+ and GEF IWEco Projects. In that regard, the SOCAR is expected to be further refined during the biennium to facilitate greater integration with the State of Habitat Report to be developed under the SPAW sub-programme.
74. The development of SOCAR directly contributes to Output 5.2 of the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project which calls for the development of a prototype CLME+ ecosystem status and SAP implementation M&E mechanism. This will consist of the following three distinctive, complementary elements:
 - Common, or compatible approaches and/or protocol(s) for the joint monitoring and assessment of overall SAP implementation (and CLME+ status and conditions);
 - “CLME+ SAP Monitoring & Evaluation” and “State of the Marine Ecosystems and shared Living Marine Resource in the CLME+” web portal(s) and reporting outline; and
 - Sustainability strategy/plan for the periodic updating of the report/portals beyond the CLME+.
75. The further development of SOCAR will also assist in the implementation of sub-component 2 of the GEF IWEco Project on the Strengthening of the Sustainable Land Management, Integrated Water Resources Management (and Water-Use Efficiency) and Ecosystems Monitoring, and Indicators framework. The expected outcome is strengthened national and regional systems for monitoring of environmental status with respect to key international agreements including the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols. The four specific outputs under the GEF IWEco project to which SOCAR will be aligned to are:
 - Output 2.1.1 Regional environmental indicators compendium
 - Output 2.1.2 Scientific research to support monitoring at national projects
 - Output 2.1.3. Strengthened field monitoring and assessment capabilities
 - Output 2.1.4 Decision support tools and systems

Objective

76. This activity will result in the development of the first State of the Convention Area Report for the Wider Caribbean Region.

Expected Outputs

77. The expected outputs for this activity include:

- Establishment of agreed methodology, indicators and approaches to data collection;
- Collaborate with regional and international agencies, programmes and projects to facilitate activities that support regional assessments of the Wider Caribbean Region including consultations, workshops, presentations and publications.
- Conduct a validation exercise with national focal points and relevant stakeholders on the data used to develop the SOCAR;
- Develop a communications strategy for sharing and dissemination of the results of SOCAR including development of policy briefs, infographics and new fact sheets;
- Identify opportunities and/or funding to support training to Contracting Parties in the Driver Pressure State Impact Response Methodology (DPSIR) which is being used as the methodology for the SOCAR and the State of the Marine Environment (SOME) Report under the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project; and
- Develop new project proposal concepts based on data gaps and emerging issues identified in the final SOCAR.

Beneficiary Countries

Wider Caribbean Region

Activity Cost and Expenditure (in USD)

| Activity Period | Source of Funds | Projected Budget (2017-18) | Actual Budget (2017-18) | Expenditure³ (Jan 2017 - Jun 2018) |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 2017-2018 | GEF CLME+ & GEF IWEco | 75,000 | 90,000 | 83,144.27 |

Status

78. The consultant, Mrs. Sherry Heileman, has continued to assist in the further development of the SOCAR since July 2016.

79. The Working Group (WG) on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment continued during 2017-2018 towards the development of the first State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR) for the WCR. The mandate of the WG was extended to serve as a technical advisory body to the Secretariat throughout the development of SOCAR, in accordance with Decision IV of the 3rd LBS COP and Decision VIII of the 17th IGM. Several working group meetings have been convened during the reporting period to assist with the identification of cut values, providing national water data sets for the further development of the report.

80. Following the 3rd LBS STAC Meeting, the WG focused on: developing a methodology for analyzing the water quality data, continued gathering of national water quality data from the Parties and non-Parties, QA/QC and analyzing the data, determining how to present the results in the report, resolving several issues with the data, and the actual drafting of the report. The WG Data Sub-group, led by Dr. Linroy Christian – Government of Antigua and Barbuda, held teleconferences to make decisions related to specific parameters that were difficult

³ Expenditures up until 30 June 2018

to put into ranges of good-fair-poor.

81. A Data Validation Workshop was held on 14th March 2017 in French Guiana with LBS focal points and relevant stakeholders on the data to be used to develop the SOCAR. National water quality datasets were submitted by 16 countries and territories, and additional data sets were submitted by CARPHA for five other countries. No data was received from countries in Sub-region II (Central America). The computational steps to derive the national average of each parameter were developed and analysis of all national data sets was completed. In December 2017, results were sent to the respective countries for vetting. All countries provided comments on their respective SOCAR results. Few countries had queries and suggestions but no objections to the actual results were expressed. Since SOCAR is a regional comparative baseline assessment, a harmonized set of acceptable ranges and cut values was desirable to facilitate the comparison. Nevertheless, national standards were considered and was included in the report. The SOCAR Data Sub-group continues to work on identification of cut values and respond to queries.
82. Countries were asked to provide their input on the measures being taken by countries to implement relevant provisions of the LBS Protocol and of such measures, those that can be considered best practices to address land-based sources of pollution in the region. A total of ten (10) countries responded, namely: Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Cayman Islands, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Grenada, France, Jamaica, United States of America, and Venezuela. Contracting Parties were asked to submit data on the best practices used to address land-based sources of pollution to assist with the development of the report. Requests were also made to provide videos, reports, case studies, and/or any other material that showcase national and/or regional efforts taken to control, reduce and prevent pollution of the Wider Caribbean Region.
83. To facilitate the dissemination of the results of SOCAR (Best practices Survey), several infographics were prepared on land-based pollution (Best Practices, Agrochemical Run-Off, Pollution Reduction, Wastewater Treatment, Water Resources Management). This are provided in Annex V.
84. UN Environment CEP used regional opportunities to promote the development of the SOCAR and identify opportunities for collaboration with other regional and global initiatives including the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project and GEF IWEco project.
85. Through the institutionalization of an integrated reporting mechanism on the “State of the Marine Environment and Associated Economies” in the region (“CLME+ SOME”), this provided an opportunity to develop the Driver Pressure State Impact Response Methodology (DPSIR) which is being used as the methodology for the SOCAR and the State of the Marine Environment (SOME) Report under the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project.
86. The Pre-Technical Workshop scheduled to take place on 17 July 2018 immediately preceding the 4th LBS STAC will further review the progress on SOCAR and make recommendations for consideration by the 4th LBS STAC.
87. An outline for the Communications Strategy for SOCAR was prepared and will be finalized in the first quarter of 2020 on completion of the SCOAR.

C. Waste Management

iv. Support to Caribbean Node for Marine Litter

Background

88. Marine pollution and coastal degradation have become serious development issues in the Wider Caribbean Region. Coastal and marine ecosystems are being negatively impacted by pollution including from solid waste and marine litter. This threatens livelihoods especially through economic losses to the tourism, shipping and fishing sectors. The impact of marine pollution also poses risks to human health, and the beauty of the Caribbean islands and coastal communities.

89. Marine litter is considered a top priority activity for UN Environment CEP, UN Environment GPA and the Regional Seas Programmes in general. UN Environment’s Regional Seas Coordinating Office and the Global Programme of Action (GPA) developed a “Global Initiative on Marine Litter” for the establishment and development of pilot regional activities in regions that are most affected. This initiative provides a global platform for the establishment of partnerships, co-operation and co-ordination of activities for the control and sustainable management of marine litter.
90. The Global Partnership for Marine Litter (GPML) supports the work of the Global Partnership on Waste Management to reduce and manage marine litter and thereby protect human health and the marine environment. It also addresses the ecological and economic impacts of marine litter globally. The GPML seeks to reduce marine litter through specific objectives aimed to: i) enhance international cooperation and coordination through the promotion and implementation of the Honolulu Strategy & the Honolulu Commitment; ii) promote knowledge management, information sharing and monitoring of progress on the implementation of the Honolulu Strategy; iii) promote resource efficiency and economic development through waste and by recovering valuable material and/or energy from waste; iv) increase awareness on marine litter sources, their fate and impacts and; v) assess emerging issues related to the fate and potential influence of marine litter, such as (micro) plastics & associated transfer of pollutants. The activities within the GPML are guided by the focal areas to reduce the amount of litter (land-based, sea-based) and solid waste introduced into the marine environment.
91. The Caribbean node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) was launched in 2016 as a regional node. The co-hosts of the node are UN Environment Caribbean Environment Programme located in Kingston, Jamaica, and the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, a regional not-for-profit organization. Activities have been initiated under the umbrella of marine litter management within the region.
92. The UN Environment #CleanSeas campaign launch was announced at the Economists World Ocean Summit in Bali on 23rd February 2017. It aims to eliminate major sources of marine litter: microplastics in cosmetics and the excessive, wasteful usage of single-use plastic over the next five years. Within one year of the launch of the global campaign, the Governments of Panama, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Saint Lucia, Grenada and France – all Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol, made commitments under the #CleanSeas Campaign to eliminate marine litter. As at June 2018, Guyana, an LBS Contracting party has also joined the initiative. Since March 2018, 42 countries from Brazil to Belgium and from the Maldives to Iceland signed up to the #CleanSeas initiative, with many making firm commitments from creating marine reserves to adopting national plans on recycling and waste management.
93. The “Beat Plastic Pollution” theme for World Environment 2018, urged governments, industry, communities and individuals to come together to explore sustainable alternatives and urgently reduce the production and excessive use of single-use plastic polluting our oceans, damaging marine life and threatening human health. This theme has emerged as an essential communication campaign (#BeatPlasticPollution) in the fight against marine plastic litter following the Clean Seas initiative introduced last year.

Objective(s)

94. The objective of this activity is to assist in the environmental protection and sustainable development of the WCR and to support the implementation of the Honolulu Strategy and the UN Environment Global Partnerships on Waste and Marine Litter; through the continued implementation of the “Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter Management” (RAPMaLi).

Expected Outcomes

95. The expected outputs of activities are:
- To identify potential funding for the implementation, replication and/or upscaling of the five project concepts in collaboration with GCFI and GPA;

- Support the development and implementation of other projects for improving marine litter management in the Wider Caribbean Region with focus on solid waste and plastic reduction, re-use and recycling opportunities;
- Facilitate communication networking and outreach for the Caribbean Node on Marine Litter, including building on existing educational and outreach material developed by UN Environment CEP and GCFI;
- Collaborate with UN Environment-DTIE to support identification and implementation of pilot projects on solid waste management;
- Identify opportunities for enhanced collaboration with the SPAW sub-programme as it relates to impacts of marine litter on protected areas and wildlife;
- Identify resources to support carrying out inventory of solid waste and plastic generation in each of the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region as well as an assessment of the systems for collection, transportation, and disposal and to identify opportunities and challenges for improving these systems. This will include consideration for re-use, recycling and other waste management measures;
- Support the conducting of waste management audits in countries to include an assessment of how countries are currently managing their solid waste, including existing policies, laws and regulations, equipment and technologies, and disposal practices as well as identifying opportunities for recycling and/or reuse; and
- Establish synergies, where appropriate with the Plastic Bag Coalition launched by the Government of France.

Beneficiary Countries

Regional – Wider Caribbean Region

Project Cost and Expenditure (in USD)

| Activity Period | Projected Budget (2017-18) | Actual Budget (2017-18) | Expenditure (Jan 2017-Jun 2018) |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 2017-2018 | 120,000 | 0 | |

Status

96. The OSPAR Commission (OSPAR) and the Cartagena Convention (CEP) Secretariat registered a voluntary commitment to collaborate across the Atlantic at the *United Nations (UN) Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (#OceanAction17198)* held in New York in June 2017. Several initial areas for inter-regional cooperation among the Wider Caribbean Region and the North-East Atlantic have been identified where OSPAR and CEP can partner to provide technical and programmatic support to member states. In addition, specific opportunities will be identified to enhance and upscale work with a priority focus on microplastics in fish involving collaboration between GCFI, CEP and Regional Fisheries bodies such as the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and Central America Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization (OSPECSA). Funding support has been secured from the Government of Netherlands in the amount of £10,000 (USD11,807) and the Government of Sweden of 1,000,000 SEK (USD115,806).
97. Under the collective arrangement between the OSPAR Commission and the Cartagena Convention Secretariat, the meeting of the Intersessional Correspondence Group on Marine Litter (ICG-ML) was held in Berlin, Germany 13-14 June 2018. Mr. Christopher Corbin, Programme Officer for the Pollution and Communications sub-programmes participated to further explore opportunities within the scope of marine litter, marine protected areas and eco-system-based delivery for inter-regional cooperation supporting the implementation of SDG14. Among the topics of discussion were Clean Atlantic Project, the OceanWise Project, waste management and single use plastic bags for implementation.
98. The OSPAR Commission has been invited to participate in the Fourth Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee Meeting to be convened in Panama City, Panama from 18-20 July 2018. Discussions will further

define priority areas for cooperation on Marine Litter including the development of a regional marine litter database, convening of a regional expert workshop on marine litter monitoring, and upscaling of the microplastics in fish pilot project implemented during the previous biennium.

99. As part of activities pursued in the 2013-2014 biennium towards the implementation of the RAPMaLi, UN Environment CEP identified partners to collaborate and support the implementation of national and regional pilot projects focused on solid waste and plastic reduction within the Wider Caribbean Region. A partnership was established with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the United States Peace Corps, to facilitate the implementation of a Trash Free Waters (TFW) Initiative in two pilot countries, Jamaica and Panama.
100. The Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, in its capacity as co-host of the Caribbean Regional Node, provided support to the 6th International Marine Debris Conference (6IMDC) which took place in March 2018 in San Diego, California, USA. The 6IMDC was coordinated by the Global Partnership on Marine Litter- UN Environment. During the Conference, GCFI coordinated the abstract/poster submission process, the conference mobile app, and coordination of external sponsorships and hosted a meeting to showcase pilot projects by Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and The Bahamas.
101. During the biennium, the Caribbean Node on Marine Litter, through GCFI provided input to reports, such as the Regional Guidelines on Marine Litter Action Plans being developed by UN Environment Headquarters in Nairobi and the development of Marine Litter Action Plan in Central America coordinated by Marviva.
102. The Caribbean node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter has been enhancing the communication component of the framework. An email distribution list was developed in 2017 for interested individuals, agencies, and organizations to exchange information on issues related to marine litter in the Caribbean region. The email distribution list (GPML-Caribb@listserv.gcfi.org) is hosted on the GCFI domain and is moderated. The information that will be exchanged on the list relate to reports, meetings, breaking news, and other timely information related to marine debris in the Caribbean region. Additionally, the Caribbean node is in the process of developing three factsheets for distribution to interested parties. The three factsheets are 1) Introducing the Caribbean Node, 2) Marine Litter in the Wider Caribbean region, and 3) The Presence of Microplastics in Caribbean Marine Fish. The Caribbean Node is in the process of developing a logo which will uniquely identify the node (GPML-Caribb) in a relevant and visually-compelling way. Please see report provided as an Information document (UNEP/DEPI/CAR.WG.39/INF.16)
103. The Regional Activity Centre for the Protocol on Oil Spills, RAC REMPEITC-Caribe based in Willemstad, Curacao completed the feasibility study for the possible development of a Regional Reception Facility for Ship Generated Wastes among the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the Wider Caribbean Region. The study includes a detailed analysis of shipping data, site visits and assessments of ports in 16 U.N. Member SIDS, and identification of possible measures to address the inadequacy of port reception facilities (PRFs) throughout the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR). The outputs of this report complements other strategies for improving management of ship generated wastes (SGW) and cargo residues within the WCR, and contributes to efforts towards improving the ability of WCR States to effectively fulfil their obligations under MARPOL, or to accede to MARPOL where a State is not already a Party. The full report is provided as an Information document (UNEP/DEPI/CAR.WG.39/INF.17).

v. *Trash Free Waters in the Caribbean Initiative: Reducing Marine Litter by improving Solid Waste Management*

Background

104. One of the challenges faced in the WCR is poorly developed solid waste management infrastructure which gives rise to waste streams that negatively impact inland waterways (including streams and gullies), as well as rivers, coastal communities, and marine ecosystems.

105. This initiative will help Jamaica and Panama, as Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol, to control, reduce and prevent their land-based sources of trash/solid waste from entering waterways and polluting their coastal and marine environment by bringing stakeholders together to identify priority needs and develop projects and activities.
106. UN Environment CEP, with financial support from the US EPA, will promote synergies and coordination between various ongoing solid waste and marine litter projects and activities, and assist each of the countries to develop a more integrated and cohesive approach to solid waste and marine litter management with an emphasis on local communities. These efforts will be supported by the US Peace Corps which will train its volunteers in Jamaica and Panama in the Trash Free Waters Approach, so they can train and help their counterparts implement small scale projects within their local communities.
107. UN Environment CEP will guide the process and work with NGOs, CBOs and other stakeholders in the region to help implement these solid waste/marine litter management projects. The partner agencies will also work to promote a more consistent message to stakeholders and the public concerning solid waste management. This initiative builds upon UN Environment's Resource Efficiency efforts in the region to reduce waste generation in key sectors and promote the use of sound waste management tools with government agencies. As Secretariat for the Cartagena Convention and LBS Protocol, UN Environment CEP will further support this effort to address marine litter reduction and prevention as presented in the Caribbean Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter Management (RAPMALi).
108. As co-host for the Caribbean Node for Marine Litter Management with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), UN Environment CEP will work to ensure sustainability among the countries to address their solid waste management needs. The CEP will also ensure that this project and other efforts are coordinated, to result in improved synergies and a compilation of best practices guidance for comprehensive solid waste management solutions that can be shared throughout the region.

Objective

109. To support local actions to reduce land-based sources of trash in local communities and help national governments to act to significantly reduce and prevent trash from reaching the Caribbean Sea.

Expected Outcomes

110. The expected outcomes of the project are:
 - Support planning and development of at least two stakeholder dialogue workshops in each country with government agencies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to identify solid waste management priorities and the most appropriate and cost-effective solutions to help prevent trash from entering waterways and the Caribbean Sea;
 - Develop and implement a public participation toolkit designed for marine litter;
 - Disseminate outreach and education activities to media, civil society organizations, local and/or municipal government authorities to increase awareness about solid waste, its impacts on the environment and human health, and management measures including new livelihood opportunities;
 - Support pilot projects that are identified through the stakeholder dialogue process;
 - Share results of the pilot projects with regional stakeholders and make these available through the UN Environment CEP website; and
 - Identify opportunities for upscaling and replication in other Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol including development of new project proposal concepts for possible funding. This will include efforts to strengthen partnerships between governments, civil society and the private sector.

Beneficiary Countries

Jamaica and Panama

| Activity Period | Projected Budget (2017-18) | Actual Budget (2017-18) | Expenditure ⁴ (Jan 2017-Jun 2018) |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 2017-2018 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 |

Status

111. During the period under review, the first Stakeholder Workshop for the pilot initiative in Jamaica was held in February 2017. The National Environment & Planning Agency (NEPA), the lead agency for Trash Free Waters in Jamaica established a National Steering Committee to oversee the further implementation of activities. Knowledge/Attitudes/Perception/Behaviour surveys were conducted to assess the perception and attitudes of the population regarding plastic packaging and styrofoam pollution and the preferred policy and legislative action necessary to address this problem. Three hundred and ninety-four (394) individuals completed the survey (See Annex A2 for results). Some of the key findings included:
- i. Most respondents were willing to use a reusable bottle (66%).
 - ii. It was felt that government should put laws and policies in place to prevent plastic and styrofoam from polluting the environment (84%)
 - iii. 82% of respondents felt that plastic and styrofoam waste are polluting the environment.
112. Sandals Foundation is coordinating the implementation of pilot project activities in the towns of Bluefields and Whitehouse in Jamaica. A contractual agreement was finalized between UN Environment and Sandals Foundation and signed in May 2018. Work was initiated within the communities with meetings held to identify solid waste priorities and to identify monitoring and clean-up sites. Social surveys were conducted with 104 persons within the target communities to gain more information about peoples’ knowledge and attitudes towards solid waste. Some of the main findings were 1) general public can identify solid waste, 2) communities know when their garbage is collected (70 %), 3) 74% of people do not reuse their solid waste 4) 64% believed that if the collection service was better more communities would improve their solid waste practices (64%). Surveys were also conducted on land and in water to track the amount of litter.
113. The project was launched in the communities of Bluefields and Whitehouse on June 8, 2018. Activities during the 2018 include public education and outreach, distribution of garbage bins, livelihood training for recycling with Recycle 360 in Jamaica, separation of Polyethylene terephthalate plastics (PET) into distributed bins and composting.
114. In Panama, a meeting involving the EPA, Peace Corps, Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (ANAM) was held 14-16 November 2017 to harmonize and improve efforts to prevent and reduce marine litter through improved solid waste management.
115. The main objective of the workshop was to develop an integrated strategy for stakeholder participation that reflected the issues and priority areas and identifying low cost pilot projects that have potential to make a large impact. Approximately 30 representatives of 19 different stakeholder organizations participated in the two-day workshop and site visits.
116. The Secretariat finalized a report on the Status of Plastics and Styrofoam bans in the Wider Caribbean Region. Over the last decades the debate on the ban of Styrofoam and disposable plastics has gained momentum. There is increasing consensus among stakeholders – public and private sector, environmental NGOs, civil society – on the current unsustainable production and consumption patterns of single-use plastics and their severe economic, social and environmental consequences. A growing number of governments are committed to reduce the large amount of plastic waste that litters the environment, introducing policies to regulate the production, import, and use of plastic bags and Styrofoam (Expanded Polystyrene Foam) products. This report summarizes

⁴ Expenditures up until 30 June 2018

policies and bans that have been implemented in the Wider Caribbean Region, identifies lessons learned for policy makers that will assist in future efforts to regulate the use and production of disposable plastics. The bans in action and those that are about to be promulgated among all the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region are analyzed.

117. Project linkages were established with a national project in Jamaica on Plastic Waste Minimization supported by UN Environment's Caribbean Sub-Regional Office. This project will enhance the legislative framework for developing and implementing improved waste management systems to reduce plastic marine litter generated from land-based activities. The project is funded through the International Environmental Technology Centre in Japan. The two-year project (2018-2020) is valued at approximately US\$700,000.

D. National Programmes of Action (NPAs)

vi. Applying Innovation to Reduce Nutrient Pollution from Wastewater and Agricultural Discharges in Waterways, Coastal and Marine Environments of the Caribbean Sea (new)

Background

118. Nutrients are essential for sustainable development and represent a nexus that unites many of our concerns concerning energy, water and food security, human health, and the environment. Improved management of nutrients would make contributions toward meeting existing global commitments for improving/protecting water, air, soil, climate and biodiversity, with consequent contribution to food and energy security, and net social and economic benefits.
119. During the 2013-2014 biennium, UN Environment CEP and the GPA initiated a programme to strengthen the development and implementation of National Programmes of Action (NPAs) for the protection of the marine environment from land-based activities in the Wider Caribbean Region. Through collaboration with the LBS RACs and under the Global Partnership for Nutrient Management (GPNM), the Caribbean Platform for Nutrient Management (CPNM) was launched.
120. UN Environment CEP, in collaboration with the GPA, GPNM and GW2I, submitted a proposal to the US Department of State in July 2016 to secure funding to implement and demonstrate cost-effective, innovative solutions in Jamaica and Costa Rica that can be upscaled and replicated to contribute to mitigation of nutrient loading to the Caribbean's coastal waters. The project intended to target impacts resulting from agricultural and urban runoff and wastewater discharges within the two countries.

Objective

121. To demonstrate the deployment of best nutrient management practices in agriculture in the areas of nutrient conservation, recycling and use efficiency, with added benefit of integrating climate-smart approaches.

Expected Outcomes

122. The expected outputs of the project were:
- Development of pilot to test innovative approaches and technologies for improving nutrients management;
 - Continued development and implementation of NPAs within the framework of LBS Protocol implementation;
 - Review and update of NPAs in at least two LBS Parties; and
 - Pilot assessments on the levels of nutrient loading from selected sources including (a) domestic wastewater and (b) agricultural run-off.

123. The project was proposed to have four main components as outlined below:

- **Component I:** Investments in wastewater and nutrient discharge reduction
- **Component II:** Knowledge management
- **Component III:** Advocacy and awareness
- **Component IV:** Partnership building

Beneficiary Countries

Jamaica and Costa Rica

Status

124. Because of the long delays in internalization of the project budget, the slow development of national project documents and activities, and delays in reporting following the transfer of funds, the project time frame did not allow for implementation to take place. This led to the unfortunate cancellation and return of the initial disbursement of funds to the donor.

vii. Support to Caribbean Platform for Nutrients Management

Background

125. Half the world's food security depends on nitrogen and phosphorous and their use in fertilizer to grow crops. The nutrients released from fertilizers however, as well as from wastewater, aquaculture and other industrial and agricultural activities, have profound environmental impacts ranging from pollution of water supplies to undermining important ecosystems and the services and livelihoods they support. This apparent divide between society's need for food and the adverse environmental impacts on the natural resource base, has led to a nutrients challenge. This challenge is set to intensify as population grows and the demand for food increases, and as growing towns and cities produce more wastewater.
126. Through collaboration with the GPA, UN Environment CEP launched the Caribbean Platform for Nutrients Management (CPNM) in May 2013 to respond to the nutrient challenge faced by the WCR. The CEP supported the CPNM by serving as host of the platform and by working with governments, other UN Agencies, scientists and the private sector to identify ways to reduce the amount of excess nutrients in the WCR without hindering development.
127. UN Environment CEP promoted the inclusion of actions related to nutrients management on the agenda of countries of the WCR and emphasized the communication of concerns, challenges and opportunities through the CPNM. This will be done by orienting the work of the CPNM so that it is consistent with Global GPNM work areas and can be harmonized with other regional platforms. The four main work areas proposed for the CPNM are (1) knowledge generation; (2) extension and technical services; (3) outreach and advocacy; and (4) governance, partnership and network development.
128. Within the framework of the UNDP GEF CLME+ project, the Secretariat continues to support the development and implementation of activities linking the LBS and SPAW Protocols, and, work involving nutrients and habitat degradation. For further information, please see the Information document UNEP/DEPI/CAR.WG.37.INF.7.
129. The Strengthening Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) Frameworks and Ocean Governance in the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (NBSLME) project developed by the Cartagena Convention Secretariat's AMEP and SPAW Sub-Programmes in partnership with the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project aims to develop and test various governance arrangements to enable effective ecosystem-based management (EBM) of mangroves and wetlands. The project will implement at least one (1) mangrove restoration/rehabilitation/protection and pollution abatement/prevention project in each of four (4) countries of the NBSLME: Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Suriname and Brazil. This project will support national and regional coastal management programmes, assist participating countries in implementation of the SPAW (Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife) and LBS (Land Based Sources of marine Pollution) Protocols, and meet their international obligations with regards to RAMSAR and CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity). Through the establishment of robust monitoring and evaluation protocols, project successes and shortfalls will

be well documented and analysed thus enabling upgrading and replication of interventions in pollution abatement and coastal habitat restoration throughout the NBSLME.

130. Under the UNDP/GEF/CLME+ Project, two regional plans will be developed to enhance institutional and stakeholder capacity within the CLME+ Region. These are the Regional Strategy and Action Plan focusing on the valuation, protection and/or restoration of key marine habitats in the CLME+ region and the other is a Regional Action Plan for the reduction of impacts from excess nutrient loads on marine ecosystems. Initial discussions have taken place with several partners including the LBS and SPAW Regional Activity Centres. Discussions were also held with the UN Environment Global Programme of Action and the outline for an approach and methodology has been defined. This was based on work of the Caribbean Platform for Nutrients Management hosted by the UN Environment CEP. Discussions have been initiated with representatives from Brazil on how the Regional Nutrients Strategy can support ongoing work in the Amazon area concerning nutrient reduction. In that regard, major issues associated with the management of sediments and nutrients within the Caribbean Sea and North Brazil Shelf were identified during a joint workshop of held in Brazil in 2017 and will also support the development of the strategy in 2018.
131. The Secretariat has been establishing synergies between the UNDP/GEF CLME+ and GEF IWeco Projects to support lab strengthening, capacity building for the development and use of indicators, and data and information management.

Objective

132. The overall objective of this activity is to build capacity in countries of the WCR for the development and implementation of NPAs to assist in the protection of the Caribbean marine environment from pollution entering from land-based sources and activities.

Expected Outcomes

133. The expected outcomes for this activity:
- Development of a regional strategy and action plan on nutrients;
 - Preparation of baseline assessment reports on nutrients;
 - Development of regional investment plans for pollution, and nutrients reduction; and
 - Development/implementation of an Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EBA) sub-project for the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf.
134. Further details on the activities are available in the 2-year workplan included in Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.8.

Beneficiary countries

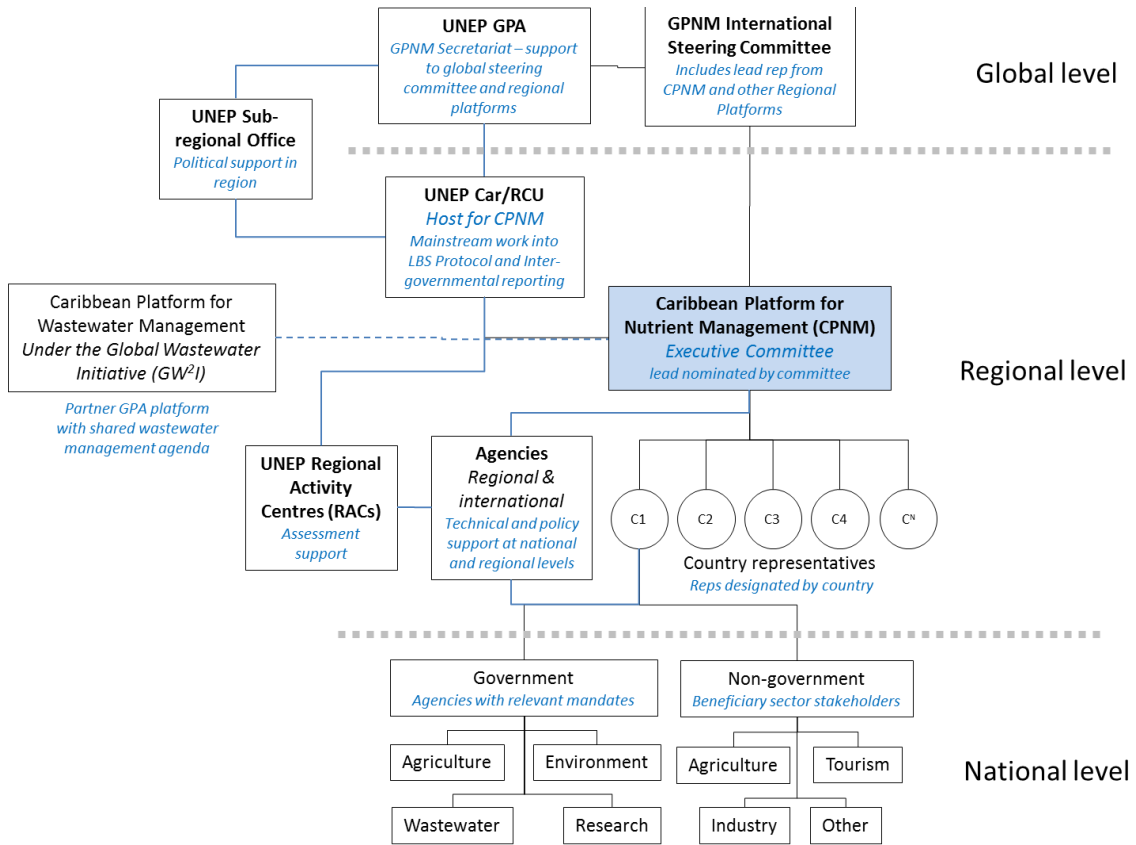
The EBM Project would benefit Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Guyana and Brazil and the Regional Strategy would benefit all Contracting parties of the Cartagena Convention.

| Activity Period | Projected Budget (2017-18) | Actual Budget (2017-18) | Expenditure⁵ (Jan 2017 - Jun 2018) |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 2017-2018 | 600,000 | 440,000 | 20,000 |

Status

⁵ Expenditures up until 30 June 2018

135. The Ecosystem-Based Subproject Document for the NBSLME (which included country consultations on the Project Document) was delivered and approved in mid-2017 along with submission to the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem + Project Unit. The establishment of national execution arrangements via development of Small-Scale Funding/ Project Cooperation Agreements between agencies and liaison with governments and ministries continues.
136. Within the CLME+ EBM Framework, the intervention to further explore the mangroves and wetlands to define the biochemical and physical structures of water, sediments and vegetation, and make-up of mangrove species in Trinidad, Guyana, Brazil and Suriname plays a critical role in regulation of pollution from nutrients.
137. During the period under review, the Cartagena Convention Secretariat is developing a Regional Strategy and Action Plan for the reduction of impacts from excess nutrient loads on marine ecosystems in the Caribbean Sea and the adjacent North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems. The strategy identifies areas for high-priority action to address nutrient pollution; including most critically affected ecosystem types as well as those with significant socioeconomic impacts for the region. The initiative builds on the strategic directions and work plan elements agreed to by stakeholders within the scope of the Caribbean platform of the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM) and will also contribute to the work of the Global Wastewater Initiative (GW2I) hosted under the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association.
138. Liaison continues with representatives from Brazil on how the Regional Nutrients Strategy can support work in the Amazon area concerning nutrient reduction during the 17th IGM & 14th COP in French Guiana in March 2017. In that regard, major issues associated with the management of sediments and nutrients within the Caribbean Sea and North Brazil Shelf were identified during a joint workshop held in Brazil in 2017 and will also support the development of the strategy in 2018.
139. Over the period, there were five (5) massive open online courses (MOOC) organized by the Global Programme of Action on the Marine Environment. The topics ranged from Disasters and Ecosystems: Resilience in a Changing Climate, Ecosystem Approach & Systems Thinking, Marine Pollution, Source to Sea Sustainability-Integrated Cycles in Wastewater and Nutrient Management and Marine & Ecosystem-based Management.



ANNEX 1: Summary of the Recommendations of the 3rd LBS STAC; the Decisions of the 3rd LBS COP and Relevant Decisions of the 17th IGM of the Cartagena Convention.

Recommendations of the Third Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (3rd LBS STAC)

RECOMMENDATION I WORKPLAN AND BUDGET

1. Contracting Parties submit additional comments including new activities to be included in the draft Work Plan and Budget for the biennium 2016-2017 by December 31, 2016 to enable an updated draft Work Plan and Budget to be prepared by the Secretariat for submission to the 3rd LBS COP for approval and the Sixteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Thirteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention for information and endorsement.
2. Contracting Parties endorse the 2017-2018 Draft Work Plan & Budget included recommendations made during the third LBS STAC and those submitted leading up to the third LBS COP.
3. Contracting Parties endorse the Secretariat's efforts to develop new project proposals for submission to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) including for the CReW+ & Marine Litter Projects & encourage Governments to seek support from their national GEF Focal Points for endorsement of these project proposals.
4. The Secretariat, the Contracting Parties or any other stakeholder join the "Plastic Bag Coalition" and make themselves known to the Office of the Minister, Ségolène Royal, President of the Climate Change COP21. The "Plastic Bag Coalition" will be officially launched at the Climate Change COP22 in Marrakech, during which a special side event will be held on November 14, 2016 from 4:45pm to 6.00pm.
5. The Secretariat include an additional activity in the draft work plan and budget WG.37/3, to carry out an inventory of solid waste generation in each of the countries of the Wider Caribbean region as well as an assessment of the systems for collection, transportation and disposal and identification of opportunities and challenges for improving these systems including re-use and recycling.
6. Contracting Parties should explore experiences of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) for identifying technologies and best practices to deal with emerging contaminants of concern.
7. The Secretariat, subject to availability of resources, convene joint LBS-SPAW STACs in the future, including progressive integration of efforts under LBS and SPAW Protocols in capacity building activities and projects such as integrated "Ecosystem Based Management (EBM)" as part of efforts to develop a road map for LBS/SPAW integration.
8. The Secretariat, in collaboration with Contracting Parties, mobilise technical and financial resources to aid in the control of marine pollution caused by plastic and micro-plastics waste as well as agricultural, livestock and mining waste.
9. The Secretariat, in collaboration with Contracting Parties, mobilise funds for the monitoring of land-based sources of pollution in particular in urban areas.

RECOMMENDATION II ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

1. Contracting Parties may wish to consider using the current pilot Trash Free Waters Initiative being implemented by the Secretariat in Jamaica and Panama as a model for developing similar activities aimed at reducing land-based sources of marine litter/solid waste/plastics in their respective countries.
2. The Parties strengthen laboratory capacity within their own countries to monitor LBS parameters and to maximize on the financial support provided from projects such as GEF IWECO and potentially GEF CReW+.
3. The Parties agree that there may be health effects from microplastics, created upon degradation of plastic material, and to support efforts by the Secretariat to share information and research efforts aimed at developing monitoring methodologies for microplastics that should be incorporated into future water quality monitoring programmes.
4. Further develop and finalize the SOCAR - e.g acceptance of the specific “good-fair-poor” ranges currently under development by the data sub-group, and submission of raw national water quality data, or other data if not available, on the understanding that these data will not be made public without prior written consent by the countries.
5. The Secretariat work with Contracting Parties/Countries to identify/mobilize financial resources from existing projects and/or develop new project proposals to respond to the new priorities identified under SOCAR.
6. The Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment continue its work intersessionally prior to the LBS COP3 Meeting in 2017 and beyond, as necessary, taking into account submissions and information provided by the Contracting Parties.
7. The existing Interim Working Group finalize the draft State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR) including: (1) proposing data values of the assessment ranges, based on information provided in previous discussions; and (2) presenting this report to the 3rd LBS COP for further consideration.
8. Encourage all Contracting Parties to provide data and information required for completion of the draft SOCAR by November 15, 2016 noting that some countries may require a longer period for provision of such information.
9. The Secretariat conduct a validation exercise with national focal points and relevant stakeholders of the data used in the development of the SOCAR.
10. The Secretariat continue to explore opportunities to support the further development of the SOCAR through the GEF IWECO and UNDP/GEF CLME+ projects and other related initiatives.
11. The Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment review the existing classification of marine waters according to the LBS Protocol taking into account the political sensitivity of the classification process as well as the methodology used in such classification.
12. Contracting Parties are encouraged to classify their waters with support as needed from the Working Group and the Secretariat.
13. The Secretariat progressively develop an integrated assessment of the State of the Marine Environment (SOME) of Convention Area report, as required under the Cartagena Convention, including the use of economic valuation, for consideration at LBS STAC 4 and SPAW STAC 9. In this regard, the LBS COP 3 and SPAW COP 9 may consider expanding the Monitoring and Assessment Working Group to include biodiversity interests, and furthermore also consider the use of the draft UNDP/GEF CLME+ State of Marine Environment (SOME) outline as the basis for further development of this integrated pollution and habitat report for reporting under the Cartagena Convention. The Secretariat should therefore work in collaboration with the UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project Coordinating Unit on the proposed SOME outline, to be presented to LBS COP3 and SPAW COP9 for endorsement.
14. Given that the Driver Pressure State Impact Response Methodology (DPSIR) is being used for the development of national and regional State of Environment Reports including the SOCAR and the SOME,

the Secretariat should identify opportunities and possible funding to provide training to Contracting Parties in the use of this DPSIR Methodology for developing State of Environment Reports.

15. Finalise the SOCAR and validate the assessment ranges, as derived by the data working group, by the Contracting and Non-Contracting Parties.

RECOMMENDATION III GEF PROJECTS

1. The Secretariat continue to facilitate the progressive integration of pollution and habitat/biodiversity issues as part of a SPAW/LBS Roadmap and to promote greater collaboration with, and involvement of Brazil in actions leading to reduced LBS pollution inputs to the Convention Area and in support of the UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project and the broader CLME+ Strategic Action Programme (SAP).
2. Support activities of the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project aimed at strengthening cooperation and integration of pollution reduction and prevention actions at regional and national levels with sustainable fisheries, habitat protection and rehabilitation within the context of the ecosystem approach to marine environmental protection.
3. The Secretariat continue to participate in the development of the GEF CReW+ project proposal.
4. Encourage countries to request support by the GEF during GEF Constituency/Council meetings and other interactions with the GEF Secretariat to finance pollution priorities in the Wider Caribbean Region such as the need for further baseline data and research on pollution sources and impacts including wastewater.
5. Contracting Parties use every effort to influence, through national processes, the funding of on-the-ground projects by the GEF.

RECOMMENDATION IV LBS Protocol Ratification

1. The Secretariat and Contracting Parties should continue to encourage Non-Parties to ratify the LBS Protocol and for Contracting Parties to raise the profile of the LBS at both national and regional levels.
2. The Secretariat to request Non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol to provide an update of the status of LBS Protocol Ratification in their respective countries including difficulties being faced in their national ratification process. These non-contracting party countries should further identify opportunities to raise the issue of LBS Protocol ratification at high level political fora and other appropriate intergovernmental mechanisms.
3. In light of the common issues addressed by the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and the Cartagena Convention Secretariat, (support the development of) a Memorandum of Understanding between CRFM and the Secretariat.
4. The Secretariat work with Contracting and other Parties to identify and facilitate the transfer of knowledge, best practices and appropriate technology aimed at pollution prevention and reduction in the Wider Caribbean Region.

Decisions of the Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities in the WCR

1. **Endorse** the recommendations of the LBS STAC 3 with changes as provided during the meeting of the LBS COP 3.
2. **Endorse** for final approval by the Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting and Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties, the revised Work plan and Budget for the AMEP sub-programme for the 2017-2018 biennium with modifications and priorities introduced by the Meeting, and **note** that the AMEP sub-programme of work should give priority to Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol, taking into consideration regional pollution prevention needs as well as donor partnerships that may on occasion, necessitate the participation of non-Parties.
3. **Urge** the governments of the region, which have not yet done so, to become Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, including the LBS Protocol.
4. **Extend** the mandate of the Monitoring and Assessment Working Group (WG) under the Chair of the USA to serve as a technical advisory body to the Secretariat throughout the development of the State of Convention Area Report (SOCAR).
5. **Recommend to the 17th IGM that they request** all Contracting and non-Contracting Parties to provide data and information to the Secretariat for the further development of SOCAR by April 15, 2017.
6. **Request** the Secretariat to present to the fourth LBS STAC and subsequent fourth LBS COP the final SOCAR, the status of implementation of the Communications Plan to disseminate the results of SOCAR, linkages with the State of Habitat Report to be developed through the SPAW sub-programme and the overall “State of Marine Environment and Associated Economies (SOME)” Report developed through the UNDP GEF CLME+ project.
7. **Recommend to the 17th IGM that they request** governments of the Region and others interested in the development of the SOCAR, including participating in the Working Group and the Data sub-group to inform the Secretariat by March 31, 2017.
8. **Request** the Secretariat to continue its efforts to integrate its work under the AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes including the completion of the AMEP/SPAW Roadmap and through activities such as the development of the SOCAR, the State of Habitat Report and implementation of EBM sub-projects for the UNDP GEF CLME+ project.
9. **Recommend** to the 17th IGM that they request Governments of the Region to actively participate in the global and regional Partnerships relating to nutrients, wastewater, solid waste and marine litter, including attending the Intergovernmental Review (IGR) organized by the UN Environment GPA scheduled to take place 23-27 October 2017 in Bali, Indonesia.
10. **Urge** Governments and the Secretariat to further engage with the private sector in pollution prevention, reduction and control efforts including the maritime sector, the IMO and the MARPOL Convention on the management of ship generated wastes.
11. **Request** the Secretariat to continue to work with the Government of Cuba to finalize its Host Country Agreement for LBS RAC CIMAB as soon as possible.
12. **Encourage** all Contracting Parties to actively promote the work of the LBS Protocol and the Secretariat at national and regional fora.
13. **Request** the Secretariat to continue efforts to mobilize funding for unfunded projects and activities within the 2017-2018 Workplan.

14. **Request** the Secretariat to continue efforts to promote collaboration between the LBS, SPAW and Oil Spills Protocols including through collaboration with their respective Regional Activity Centres.
15. **Recommend** that the Secretariat and Governments consider participation in new initiatives and campaigns involving the management of solid waste, plastics and marine litter such as the Coalition internationale contre les sacs plastiques” (Plastic Bag Coalition), Clean Seas Campaign and Trash Free Waters International Partnership.
16. The Secretariat and Parties should **explore** linkages with other relevant Conventions, Multilateral Agreements, Regional and International Organisations to support efforts in pollution control priority areas.

Relevant Decisions of the Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme (17th IGM) and Fourteenth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention.

Decision II

Reports, Recommendations, and Decisions of the Meetings of CEP convened since the 16th IGM

1. **Request** the Secretariat to update the Strategy for CEP incorporating the following elements, subject to availability of resources
2. **Request** the Secretariat to use the information paper (UN ENVIRONMENT(DEPI)/CAR IG.39/INF8) as a guide to update the existing strategy with proposed indicators and targets including a resource mobilization strategy and to present this updated strategy to the Eighteenth Intergovernmental Meeting of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fifteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, for consideration and possible approval

Decision IV

Regional Activity Centres (RACs)

- 5(a). **Implement** the Regional Strategic Action Plan to Minimize the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms and Pathogens in Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments in the Wider Caribbean Region; **and to pursue options for** establishing a centralized clearinghouse for receiving, processing and providing to the Parties: Ballast Water Management data from ships operating in the Region;
- 5(b) **Conduct** a feasibility study on the development of a Regional Port Reception Facilities Plan (RPRFP) for the Wider Caribbean Region;
- 5(c) Encourage, for reception, management and disposal of ship-generated waste, the development and implementation of national waste management plans, guidelines, and legislation;
- 5(d) **Move forward** improvements to the Regional Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response plans, including the integrations of offshore oil and gas facilities and linkages between all national, regional and bilateral plans in the region.
- 5(e) **Revitalize** RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe's role in oil pollution preparedness and response by fully established the Center as **regional spill reporting and notification centre**; partnering with the Maritime Coordination Centers of the Region; and utilizing risks assessment tools to identify national gaps and further build capacity, with particular focus on emerging offshore oil and gas interests in the region.

Decision VI

Regional Activity Networks

Request the Secretariat, in coordination with the Regional Activity Centres, to continue work to finalize outstanding Host Agreements with the Government of Cuba for LBS RAC CIMAB as soon as possible.

Decision VIII

Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Endorse the specific recommendation of the LBS COP3 to enable the continued work of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment for the 2017/2018 biennium until the completion of the SOCAR;

2. **Request** that the Working Group continue as an open-ended working group of experts from Contracting Parties and Regional Activity Centres to the Cartagena Convention and **Request** governments of the Region and others

interested in the development of the SOCAR including participating in the Working Group and the Data sub-group to inform the Secretariat by March 31st, 2017;

3. **Request** all Contracting and non-Contracting Parties to provide data and information to the Secretariat for the further development of SOCAR by April 15th, 2017;
4. **Further request** that the Chair of the Working Group reports to the 4th LBS STAC and as appropriate, to the LBS COP4; and
5. **Request** the Secretariat to continue its efforts to mobilize resources that will assist countries to conduct national coastal and marine monitoring and assessments and in the further development of the State of Convention Area Report.

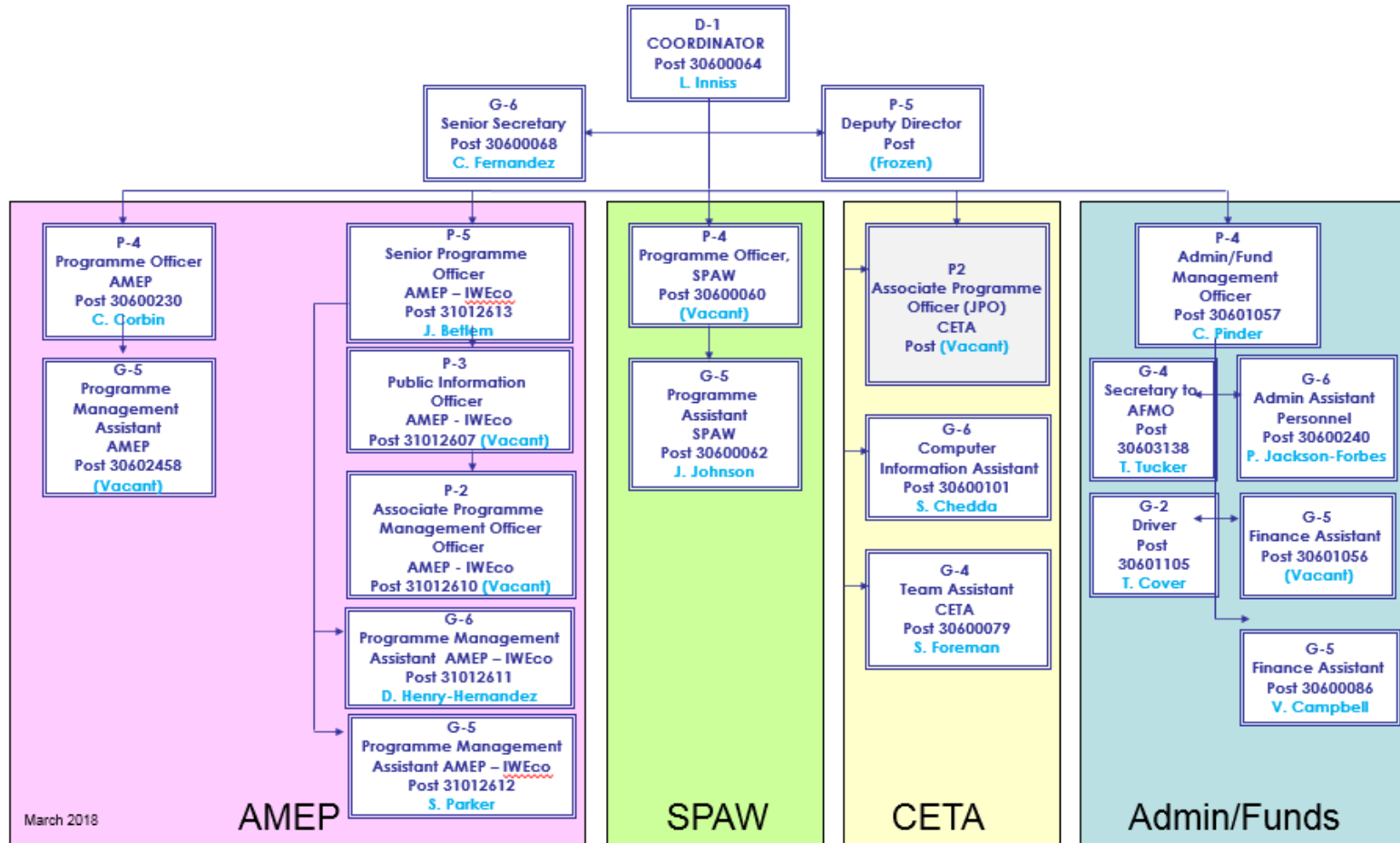
Decision IX **Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME+)**

1. **1.Encourage** Governments that have not yet done so, to consider endorsing the CLME+ SAP at the political level;
2. **Request** the Secretariat to continue to explore the opportunities for entering into a formal agreement with the Government of Brazil regarding mutual collaboration on activities relevant to the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols;
3. **Request** the Secretariat to continue its efforts to integrate its work under the AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes including the completion of the AMEP/SPAW Roadmap and through activities such as the development of the Regional Action and Investment Plans for Nutrients and Habitats, the completion of the LBS SOCAR and State of Habitats reports and their integration into the CLME+ SOME, and implementation of Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) subprojects under the UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project;
4. **Request** that the Secretariat participate in the process to identify options for a Permanent Policy Coordination Mechanism for Ocean Governance and for a Sustainable Financing Mechanism for strengthening the roles and capacities of regional organisations responsible for ocean governance as articulated under the CLME+ SAP;

ANNEX II: Organizational chart of the Secretariat of the Cartagena Convention



**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)
 CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
 REGIONAL COORDINATING UNIT (CAR/RCU)
 March 2018**



ANNEX III: Status of the Ratification of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols

| State | Cartagena Convention | | Oil Spill | | SPAW | | LBS | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | Date of Signature | Ratified / Acceeded | Date of Signature | Ratified / Acceeded | Date of Signature | Ratified / Acceeded | Date of Signature | Ratified / Acceeded |
| <i>Antigua and Barbuda</i> | | 11-Sep-86 | | 11-Sep-86 | 18-Jan-90 | | | 13-July - 10 |
| <i>Bahamas</i> | | 24-Jun-10 | | 24-Jun-10 | | 8-Mar-12 | | 24-Jun-10 |
| <i>Barbados</i> | 5-Mar-84 | 28-May-85 | 5-Mar-84 | 28-May-85 | | 14-Oct-02 | | |
| <i>Belize</i> | | 22-Sep-99 | | 22-Sep-99 | | 4-Jan-08 | | 4-Feb-08 |
| <i>Colombia</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 3-Mar-88 | 24-Mar-83 | 3-Mar-88 | 18-Jan-90 | 5-Jan-98 | 2-Oct-00 | |
| <i>Costa Rica</i> | | 2-Aug-91 | | 2-Aug-91 | | | 6-Oct-99 | 26-May-16 |
| <i>Cuba</i> | | 15-Sep-88 | | 15-Sep-88 | 18-Jan-90 | 4-Aug-98 | | |
| <i>Dominica</i> | | 5-Oct-90 | | 5-Oct-90 | | | | |
| <i>Dominican Republic</i> | | 24-Nov-98 | | 24-Nov-98 | | 24-Nov-98 | 3-Aug-00 | 6-Sep-12 |
| <i>France</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 13-Nov-85 | 24-Mar-83 | 13-Nov-85 | 18-Jan-90 | 5-Apr-02 | 6-Oct-99 | 4-May-07 |
| <i>Grenada</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 17-Aug-87 | 24-Mar-83 | 17-Aug-87 | | 5-Mar-12 | | 5-Mar-12 |
| <i>Guatemala</i> | 5-Dec-83 | 18-Dec-89 | 5-Dec-83 | 18-Dec-89 | 18-Jan-90 | | | |
| <i>Guyana</i> | | 14-Jul-10 | | 14-Jul-10 | | 14-Jul-10 | | 14-Jul-10 |
| <i>Haiti</i> | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Honduras</i> | 24-Mar-83 | | 24-Mar-83 | | | | | |
| <i>Jamaica</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 1-Apr-87 | 24-Mar-83 | 1-Apr-87 | 18-Jan-90 | | | 5-Nov-15 |
| <i>Mexico</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 11-Apr-85 | 24-Mar-83 | 11-Apr-85 | 18-Jan-90 | | | |
| <i>Netherlands</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 16-Apr-84 | 24-Mar-83 | 16-Apr-84 | 18-Jan-90 | 2-Mar-92 | 6-Oct-99 | |
| <i>Nicaragua</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 25-Aug-05 | 24-Mar-83 | 25-Aug-05 | | | | |
| <i>Panama</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 7-Oct-87 | 24-Mar-83 | 7-Oct-87 | 16-Jan-91 | 27-Sep-96 | | 9-Jul-03 |
| <i>St. Kitts and Nevis</i> | | 15-Jun-99 | | 15-Jun-99 | | | | |
| <i>Saint Lucia</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 30-Nov-84 | 24-Mar-83 | 30-Nov-84 | 18-Jan-90 | 18-May-00 | | 30-Jan-08 |
| <i>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</i> | | 11-Jul-90 | | 11-Jul-90 | 26-Jul-91 | 26-Jul-91 | | |
| <i>Suriname</i> | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Trinidad and Tobago</i> | | 24-Jan-86 | | 24-Jan-86 | 18-Jan-90 | 10-Aug-99 | | 28-Mar-03 |
| <i>United Kingdom</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 28-Feb-86 | 24-Mar-83 | 28-Feb-86 | 18-Jan-90 | | | |
| <i>United States of America</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 31-Oct-84 | 24-Mar-83 | 31-Oct-84 | 18-Jan-90 | 16-Apr-03 | 6-Oct-99 | 13-Feb-09 |
| <i>Venezuela</i> | 24-Mar-83 | 18-Dec-86 | 24-Mar-83 | 18-Dec-86 | 18-Jan-90 | 28-Jan-97 | | |
| <i>European Economic Commission</i> | 24-Mar-83 | | | | | | | |

Annex IV: Intergovernmental, Technical /Expert and Other Major Meetings convened by UN Environment CEP, RACs and GEF Project (2016 - July 2018)

| Event Number | Programme Area | Title | Venue | Date |
|--------------|----------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | AMEP | Trash Free Partnership Consultation | Kingston, Jamaica | 14-16 February 2017 |
| 2. | AMEP/CEP | 3rd LBS COP and 9th SPAW COP | French Guiana | 13-17 March 2017 |
| 3. | AMEP | Data Validation Workshop-SOCAR | French Guiana | 14 March 2017 |
| 4. | AMEP/CEP | Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme (IGM17) and Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (COP14), | French Guiana | 13-17 March 2017 |
| 5. | AMEP | 8 th Technical and Advisory Committee TAC for the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), Annual CARPHA Conference and Pre-Conference Session | Georgetown, Guyana | 22-29 April 2017 |
| 6. | AMEP/ GEF CReW | GEF Workshop in Brazil: IWLearn, Amazon, GPA, CLME+, CReW | Belem, Brazil | 8-13 May 2017 |
| 7. | AMEP | CLME+ SAP Interim Coordination Mechanism | Miami, USA | 24-26 May 2017 |
| 8. | AMEP | Launch of Trash Free Partnership in Panama | Panama City, Panama | 14-18 August 2017 |
| 9. | AMEP | CLME+ Project Executive Group Meeting | Miami, USA | 11-13 September 2017 |
| 10. | AMEP/GEF IWEco | Regional Communications Launch and Capacity Building Workshop | Cuba | 30 October to 3 November 2017 |
| 11. | AMEP/GEF IWEco | 13 th High Level Forum of Caribbean Ministers Responsible for Water – CWWA 26 th Annual Conference and Exhibition | Georgetown, Guyana | 16 – 18 October, 2017 |
| 12. | GEF CLME+ | CLME+ Inception Workshop | Trinidad and Tobago | 20-24 November 2017 |
| 13. | AMEP | Meeting of Caribbean Node of Marine Litter at Sixth International Marine Debris Conference | San Diego, USA | 11-13 Mar 2018 |

ANNEX V: Internal publications by AMEP and GEF Projects (2017-2018)

1. **AMEP Fact Sheets and Infographics** (www.cep.unep.org/factsheets/)
2. **[CEP Overview Fact Sheet](#)**
3. **[Cartagena Convention Trifold](#)**
4. **Other Publications**
 - i. [Infographic on Value for Money](#)
 - ii. [Two Wastewater for Agriculture Infographics](#) (*Draft*)
 - iii. [State of the Convention Area \(Pollution\) Infographics](#) (*Draft*)
 - iv. [Tourism and the Environment Factsheet](#)
 - v. [IWEco Overview Factsheet & Brochure](#)
 - vi. [GCFI Caribbean Node for Marine Litter \(logo\)](#)
 - vii. [GCFI Marine Litter in the Wider Caribbean region](#)
 - viii. GCFI The Presence of Microplastics in Caribbean Marine Fish (*pending*)

ANNEX VI: Formal Papers and Technical Presentations by the AMEP Sub-programme

Christopher Corbin, 2018. "Humans and Island Environments: The Case of the Caribbean and programmes and projects on Pollution" Presented at the 7th International Conference on Environmental Future, April 16-20, 2018, Hawaii.

Presented at the 'Implementing and Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals in the Caribbean: The Role of the Ocean' Conference' 17-19 January 2018, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines

Presentation on 'Ocean Pollution and How is it impacting our Caribbean Sea' to an English School in Venezuela

ANNEX VII: Status of CEP Meeting Recommendations and Decisions Matrix

Status of Relevant Decisions of the Seventeenth (17th) Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fourteenth (14th) Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean

| DECISIONS OF 17th IGM (2017) | STATUS OF DECISIONS (2017-2018) |
|--|--|
| <i>Decision II Reports, Recommendations, and Decisions of the Meetings of CEP convened since the 16th IGM</i> | |
| II.1 Request the Secretariat to update the CEP Strategy. | Provided input into the design of survey questionnaire. UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39/INF.20. |
| II.2 Request the Secretariat to use information paper (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.39/INF8) as a guide to update the CEP strategy | LBS/SPAW Roadmap will form part of new CEP Strategy. |
| <i>Decision VI Regional Activity Centres RACs)</i> | |
| VI.1. Request the Secretariat to finalize outstanding Host Agreements with the Government of Cuba for LBS RAC CIMAB. | Discussions are on-going between the Secretariat and the Government of Cuba including visit by Coordinator to Cuba in February 2018. Signing ceremony for LBS RAC IMA held in Trinidad and Tobago in 2018. |
| <i>Decision VIII Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment</i> | |
| VIII.2 Request the Working Group to continue support of the development of the SOCAR. | Secretariat facilitated work of group including inviting additional membership. Status update provided in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.39/INF.6 |
| VIII.3 Request Parties to provide data and information to the Secretariat for the further development of the SOCAR | Secretariat requested and obtained data and information from Parties. |
| VIII.5 Request the Secretariat to mobilize resources to conduct monitoring and assessments in the further development of the SOCAR. | Financial support for the finalization of the SOCAR is being provided by the UNDP/GEF CLME+ and GEF IWeco Projects. Additional potential support through CReW+ Proposal under development. |
| <i>Decision IX Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME+)</i> | |
| IX.2 Request the Secretariat to explore opportunities for entering into a formal agreement with the Government of Brazil. | Draft MOU prepared and submitted to the Government of Brazil in early 2018 for review and signature. |
| IX.3 Request the Secretariat to continue its efforts to integrate its work under the AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes. | The LBS/SPAW Roadmap will form part of the revised CEP Strategy. See: UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.37/INF.7/Rev 1 Collaboration has taken place for the development of the SOMEE and Research Strategies for Pollution and Habitat under the CLME+ Project. Discussions are ongoing for possible convening of integrated Conference of Parties for the Cartagena Convention and its three Protocols. |
| IX.4 Request that the Secretariat participate in the process to identify options for a Permanent Policy Coordination Mechanism (PPCM) for Ocean Governance and for a Sustainable Financing Mechanism under the CLME+ SAP | The Secretariat provided input to the draft report, and will participate in CLME+ Meetings in August and September 2018 to agree on selected options. |

Status of Relevant Decisions of the Third (3rd) Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities in the WCR (LBS COP3)

| DECISIONS OF LBS COP3 (2017) | STATUS OF DECISION (2017-2018) |
|--|---|
| 2. Endorse 2017-2018 Work-plan and Budget for final approval by the 17 th IGM and 14 th COP. | Workplan and Budget for 2017-2018 approved by IGM. |
| 5. Recommend to the 17th IGM that they request all Parties to provide data and information to the Secretariat for the further development of SOCAR. | Decision VIII.2 of IGM to make request. |
| 6. Request the Secretariat to present to the 4 th LBS STAC the status of implementation of the SOCAR | Status of SOCAR development is provided in UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39/INF.3. Updates on SOMEE, Pollution Strategies and Communication of SOCAR to be provided to LBS STAC4. |
| 7. Recommend to the 17th IGM that they request governments and agencies interested in the development of the SOCAR, including participating in the Working Group and the Data sub-group to inform the Secretariat. | Decision VIII.3 of IGM to make request |
| 9. Recommend to the 17th IGM that they request Governments of the Region to actively participate in the global and regional Partnerships relating to nutrients, wastewater, solid waste and marine litter, including attending the Intergovernmental Review (IGR) organized by the UN Environment GPA scheduled to take place 23-27 October 2017 in Bali, Indonesia. | Assisted to identify national contacts and provided reminders to Contracting Parties. Meeting was postponed to October 2018. |
| 10. Urge Governments and the Secretariat to further engage with the private sector in pollution prevention, reduction and control efforts. | Partnership established with Sandals Foundation for the Trash Free Waters Initiative and maritime sector for work of RAC REMPEITC Caribe. |
| 11. Request the Secretariat to continue to work with the Government of Cuba to finalize its Host Country Agreement for LBS RAC CIMAB as soon as possible. | See Decision VI.1 of the 17 th IGM |
| 13. Request the Secretariat to continue efforts to mobilize funding for unfunded projects and activities within the 2017-2018 Workplan. | Funding was mobilized through the OSPAR cooperation (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.39/INF.11), the GEF CReW+ Project (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.39/INF.7) and the UN Human Security Project (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.39/INF. 14). |

Status of Recommendations of the Third Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (3rd LBS STAC)

| RECOMMENDATIONS OF 3 rd STAC (2016) | STATUS FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION (2017-2018) |
|--|---|
| <i>Recommendation I – Work Plan and Budget</i> | |
| I.4 The Secretariat, the Contracting Parties or any other stakeholder join the "Plastic Bag Coalition" and make themselves known to the Office of the Minister, Ségolène Royal, President of the Climate Change COP21. | Completed. |
| I.5 The Secretariat is to include an additional activity in the draft work plan and budget to carry out an inventory of solid waste generation in each of the countries of the Wider Caribbean region. | <p>This activity was included in work plan but not implemented due to lack of funding.</p> <p>At a local community level, activities included as part of the Trash Free Waters Project.</p> <p>Additional support being sourced through collaboration with the Caribbean Sub-Regional Office of UN Environment. Monies mobilized for regional workshop and for national project in Jamaica.</p> |
| I.7 The Secretariat convene joint LBS-SPAW STACs. | The Secretariat will continue to encourage this effort based on the availability of funds. |
| I.8 The Secretariat, mobilise resources to aid in the control of marine pollution caused by plastic and micro-plastics waste as well as agricultural, livestock and mining waste. | <p>New Activities undertaken through the Caribbean Node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML). Further details are included in the Status Report UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.3.</p> <p>The OSPAR Cooperation will focus on microplastics in fish involving collaboration between GCFI, the Secretariat and Regional Fisheries bodies such as the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and Central America Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization (OSPESCA). Funding support has been secured from the Government of Netherlands and the Government of Sweden.</p> <p>Under the Trash Free Waters project, waste management activities to take place in Panama.</p> |
| I.9 The Secretariat, mobilise funds for the monitoring of land-based sources of pollution in urban areas. | This is incorporated in the GEF IWeco Project (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.9 Rev.1) and the Ecosystem-Based Management Project for the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (NBSLME) UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39/INF. 19. |
| <i>Recommendation II – Environmental Monitoring and Assessment</i> | |
| II.3 Support efforts by the Secretariat to share information and research efforts aimed at developing monitoring methodologies for microplastics. | Secretariat provided input to new publication by GESAMP on monitoring of microplastics. Collaboration with OSPAR will facilitate regional capacity building on Marine Litter Monitoring as well as monitoring of microplastics in fish and other substrates. Further details are included in the Status Report UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.3. |
| II.4 Further develop and finalize the SOCAR. | Pending items to be discussed at 4 th LBS STAC. |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>II.5 The Secretariat identify/mobilize financial resources from existing projects and/or develop new project proposals to respond to the new priorities identified under SOCAR.</p> | <p>UN Environment CEP used regional opportunities to promote the development of the SOCAR and identify opportunities for collaboration with other regional and global initiatives including the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project and GEF IWeco project. Further details are included in the Status Report UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.3 and reports focused on SOCAR, UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.6 and UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.13.</p> |
| <p>II.9 The Secretariat conduct a validation exercise with national focal points and relevant stakeholders of the data used in the development of the SOCAR.</p> | <p>A Data Validation Workshop was held on 14th March 2017 in French Guiana with LBS focal points and relevant stakeholders on the data to be used to develop the SOCAR. Focal points were also contacted to verify data used in the draft SOCAR.</p> |
| <p>II.10 The Secretariat continue to explore opportunities to support the further development of the SOCAR through the GEF IWECO and UNDP/GEF CLME+ projects and other related initiatives.</p> | <p>Completed</p> |
| <p>II.13 The Secretariat progressively develop an integrated assessment of the State of the Marine Environment (SOME) of Convention Area report, as required under the Cartagena Convention, including the use of economic valuation, for consideration at LBS STAC 4 and SPAW STAC 9. In this regard, the LBS COP 3 and SPAW COP 9 may consider expanding the Monitoring and Assessment Working Group to include biodiversity interests, and furthermore also consider the use of the draft UNDP/GEF CLME+ State of Marine Environment (SOME) outline as the basis for further development of this integrated pollution and habitat report for reporting under the Cartagena Convention.</p> | <p>The draft outline for SOME was used to guide the development of State of Pollution and Habitats Reports. Future role of the Monitoring and Assessment Working Group to be considered at the 4th and 9th LBS and SPAW COPs.</p> |
| <p>II.14 The Secretariat should identify opportunities and possible funding to provide training to Contracting Parties in the use of this DPSIR Methodology for developing State of Environment Reports</p> | <p>This activity was not completed due to lack of funding.</p> |
| <p>II.15 Finalise the SOCAR and validate the assessment ranges, as derived by the data working group, by the Contracting and Non-Contracting Parties.</p> | <p>Status of SOCAR to be presented to 4th LBS STAC as contained in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.13.</p> |

| <i>Recommendation III – GEF Projects</i> | |
|---|---|
| III.1 The Secretariat continue to facilitate the progressive integration of pollution and habitat/biodiversity issues as part of a SPAW/LBS Roadmap and to promote greater collaboration with, and involvement of Brazil in actions leading to reduced LBS pollution inputs to the Convention Area. | Discussions with the Government of Brazil are ongoing, with indications of interest and support received from the Government. The Government of Brazil was invited and attended the 7 th SPAW and 3 rd LBS Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) Meetings and the 9 th SPAW and 3 rd LBS Conferences of Parties (COPs) as well as the 14 th Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention held in French Guiana from 13-17 March 2017) Representatives of Brazil participated in the IMA/FAO & CLME+ Inception Workshop for the Ecosystem-Based Management Project for the North Brazil Shelf and have agreed to take part in that sub-project. To report in UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.37/INF.7 Rev. |
| III.2 Support activities of the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project aimed at strengthening cooperation and integration of pollution reduction and prevention actions at regional and national levels with sustainable fisheries, habitat protection and rehabilitation. | The AMEP and SPAW Sub-programmes are jointly implementing the Ecosystem-Based Management Project for the Guiana Shelf in the North Brazil Large Marine Ecosystem focused on pollution reduction and habitat restoration and rehabilitation. UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.37/INF.7 Rev. |
| III.3 The Secretariat continue to participate in the development of the GEF CReW+ project proposal. | Ongoing. Details in the Status Report UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.3 |
| <i>Recommendation IV – LBS Protocol Ratification</i> | |
| IV.1 The Secretariat should continue to encourage Non-Parties to ratify the LBS Protocol. | Completed through missions, meetings and outreach. |
| IV.2 The Secretariat request Non-Contracting Parties to the LBS Protocol to provide an update of the status of LBS Protocol Ratification | Completed and reflected in UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39/INF.3. |
| V.4 The Secretariat is to work with Contracting and other Parties to identify and facilitate the transfer of knowledge, best practices and appropriate technology aimed at pollution prevention and reduction in the Wider Caribbean Region. | Participated at regional and global meetings and conferences including presentations, exhibition booths with displays of videos, promotional material and posters of work relating to the LBS Protocol. See Annex VI for presentations conducted. Several actions were taken to improve communication with stakeholders and facilitate knowledge sharing. These are summarized in Table 2 of the Status Report UNEP (DEPI)/CAR.WG.39.INF.3 |