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**United Nations
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**Second consultative meeting on the development
of an African strategy for ocean governance**
Online, 20 and 21 October 2020

Issues paper on African governance strategy

Note by the secretariat

I. Background and mandate

1. In the Cairo Declaration on Managing Africa's Natural Capital for Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication, adopted by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) at its fifteenth session, in 2015, African ministers for the environment agreed to "develop a governance strategy, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and regional seas conventions, on oceans and seas in Africa for the effective management of the region's shared maritime resources". In the Nairobi Declaration on Turning Environmental Policies into Action through Innovative Solutions for Environmental Challenges in Africa, of September 2018, adopted by AMCEN at its seventh special session, African ministers for the environment agreed to "urge African States to promote the growth and development of the regional ocean sector in a sustainable blue economy pathway and support the mainstreaming of aquatic biodiversity in all productive sectors with a view to sustainably harnessing the blue economy". In response to those decisions, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as the provider of secretariat services for AMCEN, carried out background studies and organized a consultative meeting in November 2018 to assist member States in developing the strategy.¹

2. While several mechanisms for ocean governance exist, gaps and duplication remain. Cooperation and coordination across sectors has always proved challenging. Considering the value of healthy oceans to African countries, an African ocean governance strategy can facilitate coordination efforts and bridge gaps.

3. The present issues paper was prepared on the basis of background studies and the outcome of the first consultative meeting in order to facilitate discussions at the second consultative meeting. Key strategic governance issues requiring further examination include: (a) the scope of the strategy; (b) the blue economy; (c) the ecosystem-based approach; (d) cooperation and coordination; (e) science for ocean governance; and (f) stakeholder engagement.

II. Scope of the strategy

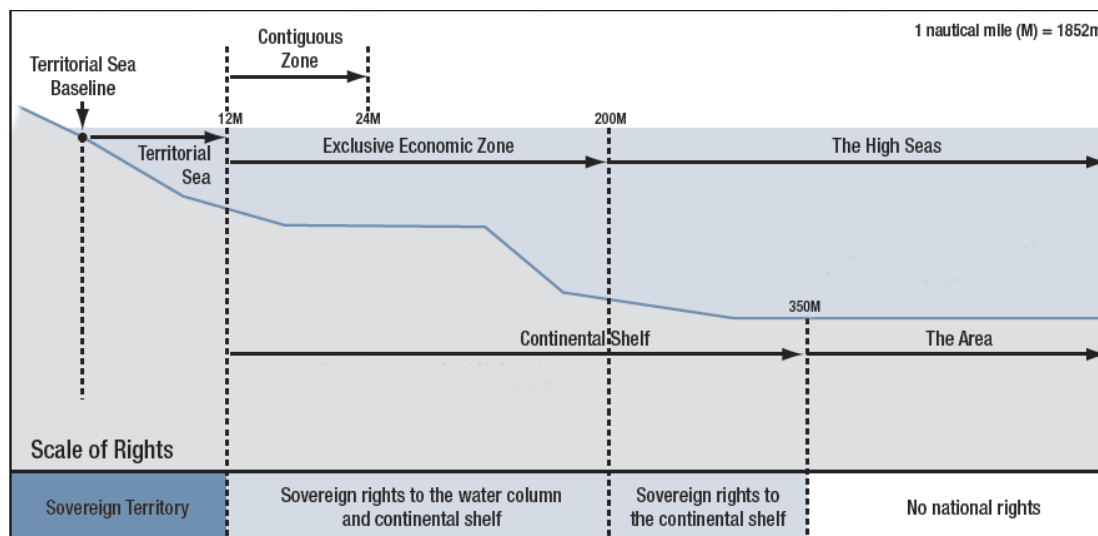
4. During discussions at the 2018 consultative meeting on the scope of the strategy, the first issue raised was whether to include the high seas and freshwater bodies. Given that exclusive economic zones, the extended continental shelf, adjacent areas beyond national jurisdiction and freshwater bodies are a significant part of marine and coastal ecosystems, many participants suggested that those elements be covered under the ocean strategy.

¹ The outcomes of the meeting are available at wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27138/Chair_Summary.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

5. According to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the ocean space is made up of the territorial sea, exclusive economic zones, the high seas and the continental shelf (the seabed and subsoil non-living resources administered by the International Seabed Authority). Negotiations are under way to create an implementing agreement to the Convention to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Figure 1

Maritime boundaries as defined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea^a



^a MGR User Toolkit (see www.vliz.be/projects/marinegeneticresources/united-nations-convention-law-sea.html).

6. Since many ocean governance processes are ongoing, including the negotiations on the agreement on areas beyond national jurisdiction, the strategy should be a living document.

7. At the first consultative meeting it was also decided to include rivers, lakes and groundwater systems in the scope of the strategy as long as they affect or are affected by marine and coastal management.

8. The second issue raised with regard to the scope of the strategy was the nature of the African strategy on ocean governance.

9. Participants in the first meeting recommended the establishment of a framework strategy that connected existing strategies and policies in Africa relevant to ocean governance, including other African Union strategies, such as the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy); the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa (the Lomé Charter); the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area; "Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want"; and fisheries and freshwater policies. Framework strategies under existing instruments can play various roles, including by supporting or catalysing implementation.

10. The third issue raised with regard to the scope of the strategy was how to build on concepts recognized in recent multilateral environmental agreements, such as the ecosystems approach and the polluter pays principle. In particular, at the first meeting, the blue economy was recognized as an important underlying concept for the development of the strategy.

11. At the first consultative meeting, it was recommended that the strategy be people-centred and that the Nairobi Statement of Intent on Advancing the Global Sustainable Blue Economy² from the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference, held in 2018, be used to steer the development of the strategy.

Discussion points

(a) How should the ocean strategy reflect lakes, rivers and other inland water bodies? How should areas beyond national jurisdiction be reflected, and which parts? How should land areas connected to the coast be reflected?

(b) What sectoral activities should be included in the strategy? Should the strategy encompass all sectoral activities relevant to the oceans or mainly focus on overarching issues? Should

² www.blueeconomyconference.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Nairobi-Statement-of-Intent-Advancing-Global-Sustainable-Blue-Economy.pdf.

the strategy also cover land-based activities that have an impact on marine environments and resources?

(c) How can it be ensured that the strategy relates to existing African Union mechanisms, such as the 2050 AIM Strategy, Agenda 2063, the Lomé Charter and the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area?

(d) Can the strategy be used by ocean stakeholders to deliberate on common ocean issues? If so, what type of platform should be put in place to bring together the different stakeholders?

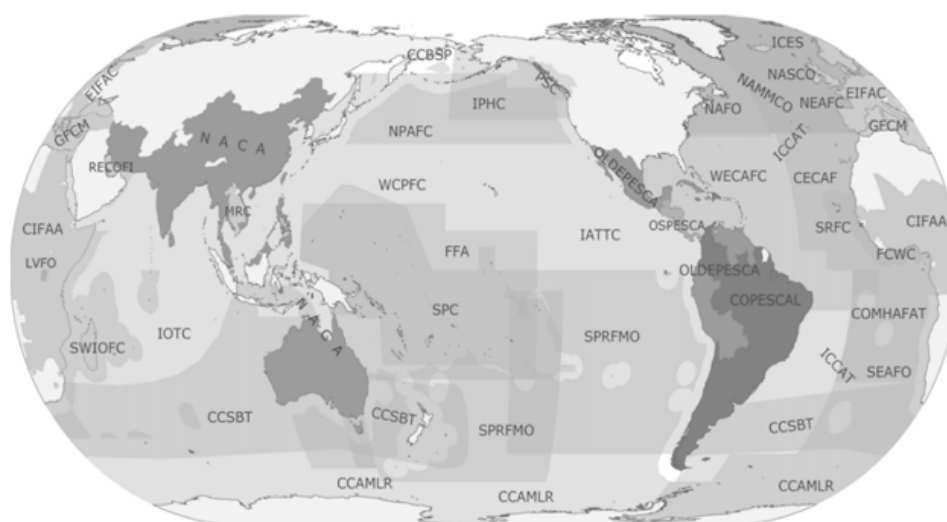
III. Linkages with regional and global structures

12. Multiple global and regional institutions relevant to ocean governance operate in the region. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is the global legal framework for ocean governance. Although the Convention is global in nature, its implementation requires action at the regional and national levels. Of the 54 African countries, 47 are parties to the Convention.

13. Implementation mechanisms under the Convention include the International Seabed Authority for deep seabed mining, established pursuant to article 156 of the Convention, and regional fisheries bodies, which also implement the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (Fish Stocks Agreement). Most of the regional fisheries bodies that predate the Fish Stocks Agreement were revised or amended to bring them in line with modern management principles (see figure 2).

Figure 2

Areas covered by regional fisheries bodies^a



^a Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The Role of International Fishery Organizations and Other Bodies in the Conservation and Management of Living Aquatic Resources*, 2010.

14. A number of regional fisheries bodies govern the fisheries resources of Africa, including freshwater fisheries bodies.³ Some have advisory or management mandates, including collecting, analysing and disseminating information and data, coordinating fisheries management through joint schemes and mechanisms, serving as a technical and policy forum, and taking decisions relating to the conservation, management, development and responsible use of resources.

³ Examples include the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the Regional Commission for Fisheries, the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission, the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic, the Regional Fisheries Committee for the Gulf of Guinea, the Fishery Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization, the Subregional Fisheries Commission, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, the Committee for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa, the Lake Tanganyika Authority, the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. See www.fao.org/fishery/topic/16800/en and www.fao.org/3/Y4455E/y4455e0f.htm.

15. Existing regional seas conventions and bodies, in particular the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention), the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention), the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, can be pillars of the strategy.⁴

Figure 3

Map of the regional seas programmes



16. Africa has several large marine ecosystems, including the Mediterranean Sea, the Arabian Sea and the Red Sea, the Agulhas Current, the Somali Coastal Current, the Benguela Current, the Canary Current and the Guinea Current. Some, such as the Benguela Current, have specific governance structures. Despite their mandates to promote a coordinated and integrated management approach, gaps and overlaps with regional ocean mechanisms exist.

17. Regional and subregional economic communities and organizations are mandated to deal with social and economic development issues in the subregions of Africa, including ocean governance. Such entities include the Economic Community of West African States, the Economic Community of the Central African States, the East African Community, the Southern African Development Community, the Arab Maghreb Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa.

18. Two African conventions particularly relevant to the African ocean governance strategy are the Revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa. There is a need to link the strategy to African regional conventions.

19. Based on the recommendations developed at the first meeting, the strategy should be a framework strategy linking existing strategies and regional mechanisms and should play an important role in catalysing the implementation of the objectives of regional seas programmes, regional fisheries bodies, regional and subregional economic communities and organizations and the African Union.

⁴ Five regional seas conventions have particular relevance in the region: the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention) in Western, Central and Southern Africa; the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention) in Eastern Africa; the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) in Northern Africa; the Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment in Northeastern Africa (Jeddah Convention); and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) in Southern Africa. Of the 54 African countries, 17 are parties to the Abidjan Convention, 9 to the Nairobi Convention, 5 to the Barcelona Convention, 4 to the Jeddah Convention and 3 to CCAMLR.

20. Other global governance mechanisms relevant to the oceans include the International Maritime Organization and, with regard to shipping, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto. Many of the ocean-related institutions mentioned were created for sector-specific purposes. For example, the International Maritime Organization was established to address international shipping and the fisheries bodies were established for fisheries management.

21. Several multilateral environmental agreements are also relevant to ocean governance in the region, including the Convention on Biodiversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

22. While multilateral environmental agreements and other instruments exist at the global level, implementation at the regional and national levels remains essential. The African Union and the regional economic organizations can be key players that interact with both global and other regional organizations to integrate national policies and actions in the region.

23. It was agreed at the first meeting that the regional seas programmes should be given a mandate to coordinate with other regional sectoral bodies so that they can function as the platform for cross-sectoral regional cooperation dialogue. However, given that the mandates of the regional seas programmes are still limited to the conservation of the marine environment and pollution control, giving them this coordination role may not be practical or effective. There is a need to map the existing mandates and scope of regional and global bodies involved in African ocean governance and devise the best scenario for coordination.

Discussion points

- (a) What roles can existing regional structures and processes play in Africa-wide ocean governance?
- (b) What are the gaps in current regional ocean-related structures? How should the ocean strategy fill those gaps?
- (c) What type of mechanism is needed within the African ocean governance strategy to ensure that global, regional and national actions are balanced and harmonized?
- (d) How will the strategy relate to existing mechanisms, such as the 2050 AIM Strategy, the Lomé Charter, the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, regional and subregional economic communities, regional seas programmes and regional fisheries bodies?

IV. Issues in the implementation of existing and future strategies

24. Participants in the first consultative meeting recognized that there was a significant gap in the implementation of legal instruments and associated decisions, possibly caused by a lack of compliance, enforcement, financial resources and political will.⁵ Regional ocean governance frameworks, such as the regional seas programmes, fisheries bodies and management organizations and regional and subregional economic commissions and communities, have established their objectives relevant to the ocean environment, space and resources. The strategy should include a concrete and clear strategic vision to address the three major causes of the weak implementation of existing instruments and mechanisms.

25. Participants also suggested that an assessment or review of the performance or effectiveness of regional instruments and governance mechanisms should be performed. Regional fisheries management organizations are already undergoing a performance review based on the guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). UNEP is preparing guidelines for the effectiveness evaluation of the regional seas programmes. It has been suggested that the results of the evaluations should be shared within the African region, clearly identifying where the implementation gaps exist and how they should be filled through capacity-building.

⁵ Chair's summary of the first meeting (para. 11), available at www.unenvironment.org/events/conference/consultative-meeting-development-african-strategy-ocean-governance.

Discussion points

- (a) What are the important gaps (compliance and enforcement, financial resources, political will) in the implementation of existing governance structures that need to be addressed in the African ocean governance strategy?
- (b) How should performance and effectiveness assessments inform the ocean governance strategy? Should the strategy be used to address the gaps and weaknesses identified?
- (c) How will the strategy enhance and promote the links between existing regional ocean governance-related instruments?

V. Cooperation and coordination

26. Despite the existence of multiple global and regional mechanisms, ocean governance structures are fragmented and weak in terms of how they interact with each other. Many global, regional and national efforts tend to focus on a single sector and the importance of their interdependence has not been fully recognized. Therefore, multisectoral mechanisms and cross-sectoral cooperative arrangements should be considered within the strategy.
27. African countries have taken action to fulfil their ocean governance obligations under global and regional treaties and there is no lack of policies or action plans in the region. However, further discussion is required on how to streamline these efforts to make the best use of policy resources and achieve the most effective outcomes.
28. At the regional institutional level, no structured approach exists for cooperation and coordination among the various regional and subregional ocean-related mechanisms. Furthermore, existing organizations and mechanisms have inconsistent or overlapping policies and mandates. It is therefore necessary to establish an institutional mandate and the capacity to strengthen cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination in Africa.
29. The strategy could include specific directions on cooperation and coordination among regional and global mechanisms through the creation of information and knowledge hubs or using existing mechanisms and platforms of cooperation, with oversight by the African Union through the 2050 AIM Strategy.
30. Sectoral governance mechanisms have already been established at the national, regional and global levels. While the 2050 AIM Strategy presents an integrated ocean policy and governance framework encompassing all ocean-related sectors, it does not provide for cooperation and coordination between existing sector-based governance mechanisms. The African strategy on ocean governance must include a clear institutional framework to coordinate existing sector-based governance mechanisms. A table of sectoral governance mechanisms is set out in the annex to the present note.
31. A complicating factor is that the main governance decisions are taken at different levels, depending on the sectors. For example, for the navigation sector, many decisions are taken in the framework of the International Maritime Organization at the global scale and are complemented by decisions and actions taken at the national level. Many decisions on fish stock assessment and the management of shared fish stocks are taken under the regional fisheries management organizations, although regulation may happen at the national level.
32. Cross-sectoral cooperation on a regional scale could, therefore, involve cooperation between a regional organization for sector A and a global organization for sector B. Cooperation between regional seas and regional fisheries bodies may be straightforward, an example of which is the memorandum of understanding between UNEP, on behalf of the Nairobi Convention, and the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission, which is aimed at enhancing cooperation and coordination. The two regional mechanisms coordinate their activities to achieve their common goals, such as the introduction of ecosystem approaches and addressing marine pollution, based on their respective mandates and comparative advantages.
33. During the first meeting, representatives of several countries presented their national ocean governance mechanisms, involving coordination among relevant ministries, departments and agencies. After the meeting, five countries provided case studies on their national ocean governance mechanisms. These examples present different national ocean governance models. In some countries, the ministry for the environment plays a coordination role, while in others, the ministry of oceans or national ocean committee is responsible for coordination. Different national ocean governance models have proven successful in Africa, although there is no standard model that can be applied to every

country. National governance mechanisms and their networks should also be fully integrated into regional strategies.

Discussion points

- (a) What specific policies should be used to enhance cooperation and coordination among the regional oceans institutions? Where are the related gaps in the 2050 AIM Strategy?
- (b) What should be the key features of the cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination mechanism?
- (c) What should be the role of the African Union Commission in cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination?
- (d) How will the African ocean governance strategy encourage African States to establish appropriate national ocean cooperation and coordination structures? How can national structures be linked with the regional coordination mechanism?

VI. Science for ocean governance

34. At the first meeting, the need to establish a central data management system for Africa while strengthening existing systems and networks was emphasized. Existing databases should be mapped and the objectives and needs for data generation and sharing should be clearly defined to guide data management. There are clearing house mechanisms under many global agreements and treaties for sharing information among national and regional data systems. If a centralized regional information system is included in the African ocean governance strategy, it will be necessary to consider how to avoid duplication and streamline methodologies and standards.

35. At the first meeting, participants agreed that information should flow both ways in any science-policy interface. In that regard, the establishment of science and policy partnership dialogues and platforms was proposed, building on experiences in the context of the Nairobi Convention. It was agreed that policy briefings and the dissemination of related information should take place through such a framework.

36. Participants at the first meeting also suggested the development of a monitoring and indicator system for the implementation of the African ocean governance strategy, sustainable ocean development and the sustainable blue economy to inform decision makers of progress and facilitate implementation decisions.

Discussion points

- (a) What would be the nature and function of the science and policy platform within the African ocean governance strategy? Will a data and information system be attached to the science and policy platform?
- (b) Will the implementation of the African ocean governance strategy and other ocean-related policies be monitored through the platform?
- (c) How should scientific institutions at various levels be engaged in ocean governance processes? How do we use existing sector-based scientific mechanisms and avoid duplication?

VII. Ecosystem approach

37. In response to the needs expressed by member States, the regional seas programmes introduced the ecosystem approach to varying degrees. Regional fisheries bodies use the FAO guidelines on the ecosystem approach to fisheries,⁶ and large marine ecosystems are ecosystem-based by definition. National and regional institutions in Africa, including those related to oceans, are using the ecosystem approach. However, the various ocean-related institutions interpret the ecosystem approach without consistency. The African ocean governance strategy can provide opportunities for regional seas and freshwater entities to use and harmonize the ecosystem approach.

38. Using the ecosystem approach in developing the African ocean governance strategy will entail addressing all human activities that affect the functioning of ecosystems for the sustained economic, social and environmental benefit of the countries and people of Africa. The strategy should define a

⁶ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-y4773e.pdf>.

governance framework where decisions on the use of ocean space and resources are made based on the goods and services provided by the ecosystems in the African context.

39. Under the many regional seas programmes, ecological quality objectives are based on ecosystems and their functions. The African ocean governance strategy may include Africa-wide ecological objectives to be achieved through efforts across multiple sectors as one of the tools deployed under the ecosystem approach.

40. At the first consultative meeting the view was expressed that cross-sectoral governance tools, such as marine spatial planning and marine protected areas, are not used appropriately. These tools can serve as the technical basis for coordinating sectoral activities and can support policymakers to take decisions on the use of marine and coastal space and resources. African countries should carry out a regional, multiple-sector marine spatial planning exercise targeting: (a) the exclusive economic zones of the African countries; (b) the adjacent sea areas which are oceanographically and ecologically connected with those zones; and (c) the freshwater bodies (groundwater systems and river/lake basins) that have significant impacts on exclusive economic zone environments and resources. Such an undertaking would be in line with the concept of the Combined Exclusive Maritime Zone of Africa in the 2050 AIM Strategy.

41. Good data is needed to design a regional marine spatial plan. For this regional exercise, national ocean data management systems will be enhanced and any data gaps will be identified. The objective of the marine spatial planning exercise is to equip the African countries with the knowledge and capacity to implement marine spatial planning in their shared ocean environments.

Discussion points

(a) How will the ecosystem approach be defined and applied in the context of the African ocean governance strategy?

(b) Which key elements and tools of the ecosystem approach (for example, marine spatial planning, marine protected areas, and ecological objectives) should be used to advance ocean governance in Africa?

VIII. Sustainable blue economy

42. The sustainable blue economy opens doors for Africa's industrialization and economic development through investment in sea and river port infrastructure, effective logistics and supply chains, aquaculture and protection of the environment.⁷ Freshwater and marine fish contribute to food security for over 200 million people in Africa. According to African Union estimates, with sustainable fisheries management, an additional \$2 billion per year would be generated for African economies.

43. There are more than 100 ports in Africa, 52 of them handling containers and transnational trade. Tourism currently generates 8.1 per cent of the continent's GDP, the equivalent of approximately \$177 billion,⁸ a large portion of which is related to coastal and marine tourism. The continent's maritime economy is estimated to represent close to 90 per cent of its total commerce.

44. Despite the recognition that Africa's oceans constitute one of the richest environmental resources in the world, their importance as a source of income to steer the growth of Africa's economies continues to be undervalued.⁹

45. Currently, there are global, regional, national and local mechanisms dealing with the sustainable blue economy in Africa. While there are several sectors that are harnessing the potential of the blue economy, including fisheries, coastal tourism, energy and infrastructure (related to shipping, ports and seabed mining), efforts should be made to coordinate and grow the momentum of the sustainable blue economy contribution to local, national and regional economic development. Detailed policy directions and recommendations are needed on how to increase the potential and importance of the sustainable blue economy.

⁷ If, collectively, the oceans were a country, they would constitute the seventh largest economy in the world. *Africa's Blue Economy: A Policy Handbook*, Economic Commission for Africa, 2016, provides more information and is available at www.uneca.org/publications/africas-blue-economy-policy-handbook.

⁸ https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/30676/AMCEN_176.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

⁹ "Revision of the AU/NEPAD African action plan 2010–2015: advancing regional and continental integration in Africa together through shared values", NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency.

46. The sustainable blue economy conference, held in Nairobi in November 2018, led to the Nairobi Statement of Intent on Advancing the Global Sustainable Blue Economy,¹⁰ in which nine priority areas were identified. Several African countries are already formulating strategies to mainstream the blue economy into their national development plans and the concept is gaining traction across the continent¹¹. The challenge is how the ocean-related economic sectors should make decisions under the strategy to contribute to national and continental development plans.

47. The Africa Blue Economy Strategy¹² of the African Union was developed following the sustainable blue economy conference, and was endorsed by the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment of the African Union at its third session, held in October 2019. The Africa Blue Economy Strategy will guide the sustainable development and utilization of aquatic resources in Africa, and contains five detailed technical reports that groups together the following themes: fisheries, aquaculture, conservation and sustainable aquatic ecosystems; shipping/transportation, trade, ports, maritime security, safety and enforcement; coastal and maritime tourism, climate change, resilience, environment, infrastructure; sustainable energy and mineral resources and innovative industries; policies, institutional and governance, employment, job creation and poverty eradication, innovative financing.

Discussion points

- (a) How should sustainable blue economy principles be reflected in the African ocean governance strategy?
- (b) What sustainable blue economy policy directives should the strategy promote?
- (c) How can ocean governance in the sustainable blue economy be translated into regional and national development plans and into the political will to mainstream the ocean-based economy?

IX. Stakeholder engagement

48. During the first meeting, several categories of stakeholders at various levels were identified as relevant to ocean governance, including national governments and policymakers, research institutes, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, civil society, local populations, the private sector, multilateral donors, judiciaries, universities, parliamentarians, municipalities and local governments.

49. The engagement and participation of the various stakeholders has yet to be evaluated within existing regional ocean governance frameworks with regard to how effectively their input is reflected in governance mechanism decisions. A stakeholder analysis was thus proposed at the first consultative meeting to define the role of each stakeholder. The case studies provided on national ocean governance included information on the level of engagement of various stakeholders. In support of the development of the African ocean governance strategy, further stakeholder engagement analysis may be needed.

50. One example of stakeholder engagement for the shipping industry is the Pan-African Association for Port Cooperation, which is the port industry association for the continent, established by the three subregional port management associations of Africa.

51. It is worth noting that among all the stakeholders, the private sector deserves further attention. Private-sector engagement is essential to the realization of sustainable ocean governance solutions and financing partnerships. Shared goals that encourage and support business growth should be identified to increase investment in sectors that are critical to ocean governance and the adoption of sustainable and inclusive business practices. Market-oriented, enterprise-driven solutions could be used in partnership with the private sector.

52. Civil society participation is also key to ocean governance. One common and effective way to involve civil society is through campaigns. The mainstreaming of the roles of women and young people should also be highlighted as an important factor to be considered in civil society participation.

¹⁰ www.blueeconomyconference.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Nairobi-Statement-of-Intent-Advancing-Global-Sustainable-Blue-Economy.pdf.

¹¹ United Nations Development Programme, Africa. See www.africa.undp.org/content/rba/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2019/africa-commits-to-transformative-actions-for-sustainable-blue-ec.html.

¹² See osf.io/3vy94/?view_only=ea6924dc03bd4f728f5635e81ee6bfc6.

53. Communication and awareness-raising is key to stakeholder engagement, and non-governmental organizations should play an important communications role.

Discussion points

- (a) What type of mechanism is needed to ensure stakeholder engagement in African ocean governance?
- (b) How should communication and awareness be integrated into the African ocean governance strategy and targeted to specific stakeholder groups? What key elements should be included?
- (c) What are the best regional and national governance mechanisms for ensuring the participation of women and young people in ocean governance?

Annex

Legal and institutional frameworks for ocean governance

International institutions
<p>International Maritime Organization International Seabed Authority World Trade Organization Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations World Bank Global Environment Facility United Nations Environment Programme United Nations Development Programme</p>
Global legal framework
<p>United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (Straddling Stocks Agreement) Proposed international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction Convention on Biological Diversity United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Kyoto Protocol Paris Agreement Instruments of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Agreement to promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (1993) Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (1995) International Maritime Organization treaties Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter (1972) 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants Minamata Convention on Mercury Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities</p>
Regional legal framework
<p>Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Sustainable Development of the Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean (Mediterranean Action Plan) Programme for the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment Amended Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention) Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources and its Convention Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention) Revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Maputo Convention)</p>

Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area Indian Ocean Commission
Subregional economic communities and organizations
Economic Community of West African States Economic Community of the Central African States East African Community Intergovernmental Authority on Development Southern African Development Community Arab Maghreb Union Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
Continental bodies
African Union African Union Development Agency New Partnership for Africa's Development
Fisheries bodies
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic Subregional Fisheries Commission Fishery Committee of the West Central Gulf of Guinea Regional Fisheries Committee for the Gulf of Guinea South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organization International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Lake and river basin commissions
Senegal River Basin Development Organization Lake Tanganyika Authority Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization Lake Chad Basin Commission Nile Basin Initiative Strategic Action Program Volta Basin Authority Zambezi River Authority Congo River Basin Commission
Large marine ecosystems in Africa
Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem Agulhas Current and Somali Coastal Current Large Marine Ecosystems (East and Southern Africa) Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem Arabian Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Red Sea Large Marine Ecosystem