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**11<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting of the Regional Seas  
Conventions and Action Plans**

Bangkok, Thailand, 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009

**Report of the 10th Global Meeting of the Regional  
Seas Conventions & Action Plans (RSCAPs) held in  
Guayaquil, Ecuador, 25-27th November 2008**

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## **SESSION 1**

### **Climate Change and the regional Seas Programmes**

#### **Background**

- Human-induced climate change is a given
- Tackling this requires both mitigation and adaptation
- Climate change presents an opportunity for regional Seas Conventions and Action plans
- There is a need to better articulate a collective role

#### **Supporting information demonstrated**

- Investment in the UNEP LME Report and its analysis
- The Strategic follow-up to the Jeddah Declaration
- An analysis of the impacts of climate change in coastal and marine systems
- The need to deal with uncertainty and to move from yearly to decadal planning horizons

#### **Issues raised by the presentations**

##### **LME Report**

- LME approach is about advocating the Ecosystem Approach (5 modules with indicators)
- Climate change is a pressure exacerbating others (over-fishing, pollution, habitat destruction, nutrient run-off)
- This baseline study, based on selected indicators allows comparison between LMEs
- Climate change related problem areas are evident (e.g. areas of super-fast warming) but implications are complex (e.g. fisheries biomass yields)
- Results link clearly to socio-economics and governance

##### **UNEP Climate Change Strategy**

- Global leadership based on recognized strengths (Bali Action Plan)
- 3 pillars – building adaptive capacity; increasing ecosystem resilience; mobilizing knowledge
- Marrying Medium Term Strategy (MTS) with Marine and Coastal Strategy incorporating climate change as a priority
- Practical focus to include – preparedness (especially for SIDS); access to financial resources; resilience; funding mechanisms; ecosystem based management; and planning tools

### Black Sea Conference on Climate Change

- Aim – raising awareness; generating buy-in; promoting roundtable discussions
- Exchange of mitigation and adaption ideas
- Result – revision of Strategic Action Plan

### Mediterranean Action Plan

- Making clear the consequences of business as usual (sectors affected)
- Adaptation measures (e.g reducing water demand, set-back guidance)
- Challenges recognised – peace, migrants, knowledge gaps, need for innovative diplomatic efforts

### MBARI

- Distinction between climate change and ocean acidification – latter is highly predictable
- Issue is about the relationship and interaction between natural cycles and anthropogenic induced change, where ocean information is seriously lacking (compared to terrestriak)
- Effects are not uniformly distributed and the ultimate consequences are uncertain
- To establish knowns and unknowns – need to model (relate predictions to management practices)
- How do we evaluate the merits of different mitigation strategies?

### **Issues raised during discussion**

1. Regional Seas mandate is clear
  - Climate change was not on the agenda when most Regional Seas Conventions were initially negotiated
  - However, all have a clear mandate to manage ecosystems in an holistic way
  - Much of the existing work is related to and consistent with the UNEP climate change strategy
  - This is particular priority for SIDS
2. Mitigation versus adaptation
  - Mitigation in the form of emissions reduction is a first choice
  - Adaptation is essential to buy time for mitigation to take effect. This must cut across sectors, engage relevant organizations and be backed by governments
3. Need for a funding mechanism
  - There is a need to improve knowledge about how adaptation can be financed
  - Social marketing is needed to explain the full costs of climate change (linked also to the value of ecosystem services)
4. Practical and pragmatic initiatives
  - Important to demonstrate practical options (especially for SIDS)
  - Examples considered include crops able to cope with more saline conditions, retreat implications, species selection for mangrove restoration etc

- Care needed not to re-invent the wheel – NB. CBD tools and case studies.
5. Decision system methodology to evaluate mitigation strategies
    - Is there value in considering a pilot within the regional Seas? CPPS perhaps.
  6. Integrated approaches
    - Collaboration needed
    - Any approach must include the private sector who are part of the problem, have political influence and access to resources
  7. Communication challenges
    - Need to accept variability and uncertainty about impacts over long time periods
    - Important to bring together scientists and policy makers
    - Role for raising public awareness and community attitude change
  8. New impetus
    - Important to recognize that climate change is giving a new global impetus to coastal and marine issues. Highlights links to whole hydrological systems (inland to ocean)
    - Common priority issues are evident in national adaptation strategies (water resources, food security, ICZM). Regional priorities can influence national planning exercises with links to infrastructure decisions and policies for key sectors (e.g. tourism) and environmental health.

## **Conclusions**

- No new instrument is needed
- Regional Seas and UNEP must engage with other sectors
- Focus on an integrated approach with practical outcomes

## **Action Requested**

1. All Regional Seas Conventions to consider incorporating climate change explicitly when revising their Strategies and/or Action Plans;
2. UNEP to produce an information sheet on what financing opportunities are available for climate change measures;
3. Consider nominating a pilot Region to evaluate different mitigation strategies
4. Recognise good practice and adaptation efforts already underway within Regional Seas – e.g. Vanuatu, Marshall Islands, MAP ICZM Protocol
5. Promote Regional vulnerability modeling and regional adaptation strategies
6. Ensure that the Regional Seas Conventions have a presence and a voice within the wider climate change debate
7. Facilitate raising community awareness – including work with and involvement of the private sector; and
8. Input to the Regional Ministerial Forum (CPPS) to be a basis for input to the Monado Declaration

# SESSION 2

## Ecosystem Management and the Regional Seas Programme

### **Strategic Directions**

UNEP Mid-term Strategy (MTS) 2010 – 2013

- Represents a new direction: thematic, cross disciplinary, integrated approach
- Work programmes will be results based with measurable impacts
- 6 themes and sets of expected outcomes

Marine and Coastal Strategy

- EBM focus
- Environmental benefits to humanity
- Establishing where UNEP is best placed to contribute
- Road map (in hand) based on identification of strengths and opportunities

Matrix of objectives (MTS x MCS)

- Represents a means to operationalise, prioritise, identify partners
- Major themes – healthy oceans, marine ecosystems for humanity, reconciling resource use and marine conservation, vulnerable people and places
- Modular implementation
- Basis for strategic partnerships with other institutions

### **UNEP Ecosystem Management Programme**

Development of assistance for practical implementation of EBM

Recognizing:

- Definitions
- Ecosystem services
- Need for trade offs
- Informed by socio-economic data

Case Study: Nairobi Convention

- Input to West Indian Ocean Strategic Action Plan
- Training: state of environment, governance, ecosystem approach to fisheries, spatial planning, sustainable financing, operationalising)
- Need for region specific, user friendly, Ecosystem Approach manuals

### Area-based management / Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)

Key element of future work of UNEP

- Reflects competition for marine space
- Need for cross-sectoral planning
- Recognizes that some international area-based legal instruments are already in place
- Different views of MPAs (scope for reconciliation of environment and fisheries interests)
- Complicated by climate change (e.g. sandeel population dynamics)

- Must incorporate uncertainty
- Future: tools, mapping services, mainstreaming MPAs
- Pilot projects: proof of concept, lessons learned, dissemination (International Workshop, January 2009)

#### Related initiatives

- a. UNEP Continental Shelf Programme
  - Grid Arundal support to developing countries
  - CLCS timing issues (submission, processing)
  - Wider ongoing role for Grid Arundal expertise
  - Capacity building in ocean and coastal management
- b. UNEP Global Marine Litter Initiative
  - 12 regional contributors: situation reports and action plans
  - Implications of abandoned and lost fishing gear
  - Operational guidelines (world expert group)
  - BBC documentary on Pacific Gyre
  - Black Sea case study: link between plastic in nets and dolphin bycatch
  - Positive feedback to UNEP re pump priming exercise
- c. Coral Reefs: Crime Scene Investigation (CSI)
  - Determining causality and response
  - No standards (mitigation, restoration)
  - Development of workshop approach – establishing chain of custody / illegal activity
  - Workshop includes – lectures and demos, dry field runs, crime scene dives, mock trial
  - Future application to illegal marine trade and/or temperate habitat damage

#### Discussion

1. Call for consistent use of terminology – CBD definitions, 12 principles and EBM operational guidance
2. Need to examine what already exists in Regions (re MSP)
3. MAP commitment to apply EBM progressively, ICZM Protocol, 4 sub-regions of Mediterranean (biogeographic and oceanographic parameters)
4. Some skepticism as to whether MSP can really work for developing countries
5. CBD have produced EBA source book, case studies, barriers and success stories. COP9 stressed that tools and guidance must be effectively used
6. MSP = subset of ICZM (pragmatic first step approach)
7. Recognition that litter is a GPA issue (80% land-based sources)
8. UNEP litter work influential. European Community has included litter as a qualitative descriptor for good environmental status within the new Marine Strategy Framework Directive
9. In SE Pacific small marine litter projects have raised significant interest + community acceptance and support. In Caribbean it has been integral to waste management approach

### **Action Requested**

1. RS to respond to MTS x MCS matrix consultation
2. Note EBM practical implementation assistance opportunities
3. MSP is an emerging tool, necessary activity, information management role
4. RS to take advantage of EBA where UNEP has invested knowledge/understanding/capability
5. RS to take litter data and integrate with strategic directions as appropriate (cf. Black Sea)

## **SESSION 3**

### **Cooperation with Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)**

#### **Background**

- Essential partnerships
- Challenges for which cooperation is vital
- Imminent deadlines for key products requiring RS input

#### **CBD: In-depth review of Jakarta Mandate**

- Context
- Realisation that 2010 / 2012 targets will not be met
- In-depth review of process underway
- SBSTTA 14 in May 2010, COP 10 in October 2010 (information gathering phase until May 2009)
- Opportunity to alert COP to key issues
- Expert workshops planned in 2009
- International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) Campaign 2010

#### **IOC-UNESCO and RS**

- IOC remit to deliver better knowledge of oceans and coastal zones (oceanography)
- Advent of real time data and operational oceanography
- Limitations of UNCLOS

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_14561](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_14561)

