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Scoping Meeting on Collaboration between **Regional Seas Programmes and Regional Fisheries Bodies** In Southwest Indian Ocean Mahé, Seychelles, 13-14 June 2016

**Report of the meeting** 

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#### SCOPING MEETING ON COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REGIONAL SEAS BODY AND REGIONAL FISHERIES BODIES IN THE SOUTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN

#### Mahé, Seychelles 13 – 14 June 2016

#### SUMMARY RECORD

1. The Scoping Meeting on collaboration between the Regional Seas Body and Regional Fisheries Bodies in the South West Indian Ocean was held in Mahé, Seychelles from 13 to 14 June 2016. The participants comprised representatives from Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, representatives from the secretariats of the Nairobi Convention (NBC), South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and FAO Secretariat. The list of participants is appended as <u>Attachment A</u>. The meeting documents were circulated prior to the meeting through the meeting website<sup>1</sup>. All the sessions were conducted in English.

#### Agenda Item 1: OPENING

#### **1.1 Opening of Meeting**

2. The meeting was opened and chaired by Mr Alain Decommarmond, the Principal Secretary for Environment of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Energy, Government of Seychelles. The meeting agreed on the agenda appended as <u>Attachment B</u>.

3. UNEP explained that within the framework of the cooperation between UNEP and FAO, an initial informal scoping meeting between the secretariats of Nairobi Convention, SWIOFC and Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was organised on 14 March 2016 in order to discuss possible areas for cooperation. The FAO and UNEP secretariats further informed the meeting of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between them concluded in 2014. The Memorandum identifies strategic priorities, namely: i) sustainable food systems, ii) ecosystem services and biodiversity in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, iii) data and statistics, and iv) international legal systems, legislation and regulatory matters. A strategic priorities plan elaborates on how each priority may be operationalised.

#### **2: SETTING THE CONTEXT**

#### 2.1 SDGs and Aichi Biodiversity Targets

4. The FAO secretariat delivered a presentation on the SDG14 and the relevant Aichi Targets (in particular Targets 6 and 11). SDG14 aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. The targets relevant to the cooperation initiative include, but is not limited to, target 14.2 to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, and target 14.4 to regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans. Aichi target 6 relates to fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants managed and harvested sustainably while target 7 is on improving the status of

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http://www.unep.org/ecosystemmanagement/water/regionalseas40/Meetings/Collaborationbetween RS and RFB in SWIO/tabid/1061071/Default.aspx

biodiversity and safeguarding the ecosystems of terrestrial and inland waters, and coastal and marine areas.

5. In the discussion, it was suggested that there needs to be some consideration of the role of RFBs and RSOs in the implementation of SDG14, as well as the linkages between SDG14 and other SDGs.

#### 2.2 Ecosystem approach

6. The FAO secretariat informed the workshop on the ecosystem approach to fisheries and how such approach is being applied in fisheries management. In the discussions, participants referred to the Ecosystem Based Management, linkages with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries and possible areas for capacity building and information exchange.

#### 2.3 Overview of RFBs

7. The FAO secretariat provided an overview of RFBs in the South West Indian Ocean. The presentation highlighted the differences in the legal mandate and competencies between advisory bodies and management bodies, their geographical and species coverage, as well as their role in monitoring. Institutional arrangements within regional fisheries bodies was illustrated. Matters raised during the discussion include: accessibility of RFB reports and documents, the mandate and geographical area of coverage of RFBs, and processes for decision making by RFBs.

#### 2.4 Overview of Regional Seas Programme

8. The UNEP secretariat delivered a presentation on the UNEP Regional Seas Programme, of which seven regional conventions are administered by UNEP. A few examples of cooperation between the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans and RFBs such as in the North East Atlantic, Mediterranean and ROPME Sea Area were described. The resolution on oceans and seas adopted at the Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in May 2016 (UNEA-2)<sup>2</sup> was highlighted as the resolution specifically calls for UN Member States and Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans to work in cooperation with relevant organisations including RFBs for the implementation of and reporting on the ocean-related SDGs.

#### 2.5 Nairobi Convention

9. The NBC secretariat made a presentation, informing the meeting that the Nairobi Convention is a legal framework for regional collaboration and a platform for Governments to commit to protect, manage and develop the WIO region, with a mechanism to review progress every two years. The Conventions programmes at the national or regional level are country driven initiatives that are executed through national and regional partnerships by involving: governments, Non-Governmental Organisations, United Nations Agencies as well as national, regional, international institutions. The Secretariat also highlighted the national development pressures along the coast and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Paragraph 5 of Resolution on Oceans and Seas of UNEA-2 states "Invites Member States and regional seas conventions and action plans, in cooperation, as appropriate, with other relevant organizations and fora, such as regional fisheries management organizations, to work towards the implementation of, and reporting on, the different ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;"

at sea, including climate change threats, that are impacting on the regions' biodiversity. Further, the Secretariat informed the meeting of planned and on-going activities that can be the basis for cooperation between SWIOFC and the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, namely; a) Project entitled Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-SAP); and b) Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonization and Institutional Reforms" (SAPPHIRE). The two projects offer an opportunity and a basis for cooperation especially under components dealing with capacity development for improved ocean governance in the WIO; and supporting policy harmonization and management reforms towards improved ocean governance and improving regional collaboration to strengthening governance and awareness in the WIO region.

#### 2.6 SWIOFC

The SWIOFC secretariat delivered a presentation on its institutional framework including the 10. role of its governing body and subsidiary bodies. SWIOFC is an advisory FAO fisheries commission consisting of 12 coastal state countries adjacent to the southwest Indian Ocean extending from South Africa to the Maldives. Its objective is to promote the sustainable utilisation of living marine resources by addressing common problems of fisheries management and development faced by its members within their Exclusive Economic Zones. SWIOFC provides a high level forum for member countries to cooperatively decide on regional fisheries policy, fisheries management and fisheries research. Its structure is typical of regional fisheries bodies with specialist workshops, working groups and working parties feeding scientific and management advice into a Scientific Committee, and Commission sessions for member consideration and voluntary adoption. The Secretariat informed of ongoing and planned activities including improvement in the collection of fisheries statistics, regular monitoring of the status of stocks, monitoring of the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fishing, empowerment of coastal states in their discussions on tuna fisheries development, and the development of a protocol on minimum conditions for fishing access in member EEZs, among others. The Secretariat of the Commission is now hosted in Maputo by the Government of Mozambique.

#### 2.7 Experiences in other regions

**11.** The Deputy Secretary of the OSPAR Commission for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the North East Atlantic (OSPAR) delivered a presentation on the collective arrangement with the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) for working together on particular areas outside national jurisdiction within their convention areas.

#### **3: VISIONING THE COOPERATION**

12. The UNEP secretariat provided the meeting with the possible ideas for cooperation identified by the Nairobi Convention, SWIOFC secretariat and IOTC secretariat during their informal discussion on 14 March 2016, as well as the outcomes of the Abidjan Scoping Meeting for Securing the Foundation for Fish Food Security in a Changing Ocean in West, Central and Southern Africa, held in July 2014 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

#### 4: LAYING THE GROUND FOR COOPERATION

**13.** The meeting reemphasized the different mandates and competencies of the respective organisations and discussed areas of common interest and possible areas for cooperation. Principles for cooperation were also considered.

#### 5: AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST AND POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION

14. The possible objectives and principles of cooperation, as well as areas of common interest and possible areas of cooperation identified by the participants are appended as <u>Attachment C</u>. The proposed timeline for the follow up actions is included as <u>Attachment D</u>.

**15.** It is understood that the possible framework and content of cooperation is to be presented by the respective organisations to their governing bodies for consideration. The views expressed are those of the participants to this scoping meeting and do not necessarily represent the views of the respective organisations or its Members.

16. UNEP informed the participants of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets to be organised by the secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity from 26-29 September 2016 in Seoul, Korea.

#### 6: CONCLUSION OF MEETING

17. The Chair provided an opportunity for the SWIOFC and Nairobi Convention secretariats for comments before making final remarks. The meeting was concluded at 1300 hours.

### ATTACHMENT A LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1	Seychelles Mr. Alain de Comarmond Principal Secretary Environment Department Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change Republic of Seychelles	2	Kenya Prof. Geoffrey Wahungu Director General and Nairobi Convention Focal Point National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
3	Kenya Prof. Micheni Ntiba Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Nairobi, Kenya	4	Maldives Mr. Hussain Sinan Vice-Chairperson of the SWIOFC Director Fisheries Management Agency Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture Velaanaage, 7th Floor, Ameer Ahmed Magu Male - 20096
5	Madagascar Mr. Tantely Andriamaharo Ny Aina Ministry of Marine Resources and Fisheries Antananarivo, Madagascar	6	Nairobi Convention Secretariat Mr. Dixon G Waruinge Head Secretariat for the Nairobi Convention Division of Environmental Policy Implementation United Nations Environment Programme P O Box 30552 (00100) Nairobi
7	SWIOFC Secretariat Mr. Aubrey Harris Senior Fisheries Officer South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission FAO Sub regional Office for Southern and East Africa Maputo, Mozambique	8	SWIOFC Secretariat Mr. Pedro Barros Fishery Resources Officer Fisheries and Aquaculture Department Marine and Inland Fisheries Branch (FIRF) UN Food and Agriculture Organization
9	FAO Mr. Pio Manoa Legal Office UN Food and Agriculture Organization	10	UNEP Ms. Kanako Hasegawa Associated Programme Officer UNEP Regional Seas Programme
11	Remote presentation OSPAR Commission Ms. Emily Corcoran Deputy Executive Secretary	12	Partner to the Nairobi Convention (WIOMSA) Dr. Julius Francis Executive Secretary Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association
13	Partner to the Nairobi Convention (IASS) Ms. Yvonne Waweru Project Scientist IASS Potsdam		

## ATTACHMENT B PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Based on the discussion at the initial meeting held on 14 March 2016 between the Secretariats, it was agreed to organise the second meeting to explore further possible areas of common interest, objectives and expected outcome for collaboration and to look specifically look at possible elements for a Memorandum of Understanding between the Nairobi Convention and the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission.

Main theme: Assisting States in delivering the ocean-related SDGs through strengthened cooperation of regional mechanisms

#### **Expected outcomes:**

- Identification on possible areas and objectives of cooperation between the Nairobi Convention and the RFBs present;
- Identification of elements for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Nairobi Convention and SWIOFC.

Monday, 13 June 2016				
09:00 - 09:30 09:30 - 10:30	Opening of the Workshop:         • Objective of the meeting         • Priority areas of collaboration (FAO/UNEP MoU)         • Designation of Chairperson and Rapporteur         • Introduction of Participants         • Adoption of the meeting agenda         Session I: Setting the context         • SDGs and Aichi Biodiversity Targets         • Ecosystem approach         • Overview of RFBs	FAO / UNEP		
10:30 – 10:50	Overview of Regional Seas Programme Questions and Answers Coffee Break			
	Ocean Governance and SDGs	IASS		
10:50 - 12:00	Session I: Setting the context (Cnt') <ul> <li>Three regional organizations</li> <li>Nairobi Convention</li> <li>SWIOFC</li> <li>IOTC</li> </ul>	Secretariats		
	Questions and Answers			

12:00 - 12:30	<ul> <li>Session II: Experiences in the other regions</li> <li>OSPAR-NEAFC</li> <li>MAP – GFCM</li> <li>RECOFI- ROPME</li> <li>West Africa example</li> <li>Questions and Answers</li> </ul>	FAO/UNEP
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 - 15:00	<ul> <li>Session III: Visioning the cooperation <ul> <li>Recap of elements examined during 14 March 2016 meeting.</li> <li>(UNEP/FAO)</li> </ul> </li> <li>What could be common objectives for the two sectors to work together under the identified areas of cooperation?</li> </ul>	Participants
15:00 - 15:20	Coffee Break	
15:20 - 17:00	<ul> <li>Session IV: Laying the ground for cooperation <ul> <li>Discussion:</li> </ul> </li> <li>Areas of common interest and possible areas for collaboration/cooperation</li> <li>Common key SDG targets and Aichi Targets</li> </ul>	Participants
17:00	End of Day 1	

Tuesday, 14 June 2016		
09:00 -	Welcome back to the Workshop	
09:15	• Recap of the discussions on the Day 1	
00.15	Session V. Area of common interest and nessible areas for	

# 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\_15400