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Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region

Montego Bay, Jamaica, May 7-11, 2002

**Report of the Executive Director of UNEP on the Implementation of the  
Caribbean Environment Programme (2000-2001)**



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present document is being presented to the Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Montego Bay, Jamaica, May 7-11, 2002). It has been prepared by the secretariat of the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) – the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Coordinating Unit for the Caribbean (UNEP-CAR/RCU) – on behalf of the Executive Director of UNEP, with a view to presenting the status of activities for CEP and its subprogrammes: Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP); Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW); Information Systems for the Management of Marine and Coastal Resources (CEPNET); and Education, Training and Awareness (ETA).

The secretariat has taken action where required by the decisions of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting and other CEP intergovernmental or technical meetings. The Rules of Procedure and the Financial Rules were revised and are a discussion point on the agenda. Also on the agenda, and in accordance with decisions of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting and recommendations of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee, is the joint proposal from Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago for the creation of a regional activity centre.

Following decisions taken at the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting, the secretariat has actively pursued and was successful in the collection of pledges to the Caribbean Trust Fund, as well as the collection of arrears. The secretariat collected a total of US\$963,000 in pledges for 2000. During 2000, the secretariat was also successful in collecting almost US\$400,000 in arrears to the Caribbean Trust Fund (unpaid pledges prior to 2000). These additional funds allowed the secretariat to fund additional activities during 2000 and 2001. In comparison, the total collections (pledges and arrears) for 1998 and 1999 were US\$428,000 and \$688,000, respectively. Despite these gains in 2000, the secretariat continues to be challenged by the timely payment of contributions and arrears. In 2001 contributions dropped to US\$626,268 and only US\$219,530 were collected in arrears. The secretariat is grateful for the cooperation shown by many Governments in 2000 to support the continuing success of the Programme, but the secretariat also asks that CEP Member Governments continue to show their support in a more consistent manner to allow for programme continuity and planning.

Regarding staffing at UNEP-CAR/RCU, there are three Programme Officers and eight support staff paid out of the Caribbean Trust Fund, plus a Fund Management Officer and Administrative Assistant supported by UNEP Nairobi from the 13 per cent programme support costs levied on contributions to the Trust Fund. An Associate Programme Officer for coordination between the AMEP and SPAW subprogrammes was recruited (October 2001) and is supported by an extraordinary contribution to the Trust Fund by the United States of America. Recruitment of a National Officer for (and supported by) the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) and for Officer of Education, Training and Awareness (ETA) were initiated.

In February 2001, the First Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol) (LBS/ISTAC) was convened in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. The report and recommendations of the Meeting are being referred to the present Meeting for appropriate action. A regional workshop on municipal wastewater was held in conjunction with the First Meeting of LBS/ISTAC with the UNEP/ Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) Coordination Office to provide input to global work on the subject as well as to further regional work.

The AMEP subprogramme coordinated the following projects:

- a) *Reducing Pesticide Run-off to the Caribbean Sea*. Prepared national reports and a regional report that formed the basis for the development of national action programmes and a regional project proposal under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) project, which was submitted for approval;
- b) *Pilot Projects in Sewage Treatment Needs Assessments*. This project was designed to assist Contracting Parties and CEP member countries in meeting the sewage-specific obligations contained in Annex III to the LBS Protocol;
- c) *Integrating Management of Watersheds and Coastal Areas in Small Island Developing States*, to assist participating countries to improve their watershed and coastal zone management practices in support of sustainable development. This GEF Project Development included components addressing coastal area management and biodiversity, tourism development, protection of water supplies, land-based sources of pollution and climate change. A project proposal was submitted to the GEF;
- d) *Planning of Rehabilitation, Environmental Management and Coastal Development in Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala in the Wake of Hurricane Mitch*, to improve coastal watershed planning and management in hurricane-prone areas of Central America;
- e) *Rehabilitation of Contaminated Bays*. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will manage the bilateral aspects of this GEF project with Cuba and Jamaica. CAR/RCU will provide regional coordination and knowledge-sharing of the project for the entire region. The regional activities are included to ensure coordination of effort between the two countries and compliance with the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) and its Protocols relevant to the project areas.

In addition to the above activities, the AMEP subprogramme, along with the International Maritime Organisation and the Government of the Netherlands Antilles, coordinated the establishment of the Regional Activity Centre for Oil Spills (RAC/REMPEITC-Carib) in Curacao and furthered the discussions on the RAC for the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities with the Governments of Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago.

The Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPA Protocol) entered into force on 18 June 2000. As of March 2002, there are nine Contracting Parties, namely, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, the Netherlands, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela. In addition, the

Governments of France, Jamaica, Mexico and the United Kingdom have officially informed the secretariat that the process of ratification has been initiated in their countries.

The Government of Cuba hosted the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to SPAW (COP1) and the First Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to SPAW, from 24 to 29 September 2001 in Havana.

The Government of France officially opened the regional activity centre (RAC) on 1 January 2000. Since then, the secretariat has undertaken consultations and exchanged information with the SPAW RAC to ensure coordination and identify activities for joint implementation.

A number of activities were undertaken in collaboration and/or coordination with different organizations, in particular The Nature Conservancy, the World Bank, the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network, the UNEP World Conservation and Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the Caribbean Tourism Organization, the World Fish Centre and the Coral Reef Alliance.

The SPAW subprogramme coordinated the following projects:

- a) *Strengthening of the Parks and Protected Area Network* for the Wider Caribbean and Promotion of Guidelines for Protected Area Management to support the effective operation of the network of marine protected area managers (CaMPAM). Through the establishment of a Small Grants Fund and improved communications through the e-group, it also allowed the publication of “Funding Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean: A Guide for Managers and Conservation Organizations”;
- b) *Training in Protected Areas and Wildlife Management*, for implementation of the Training of Trainers programme for marine protected areas, which was also made accessible to many Spanish-speaking countries;
- c) *Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species and Development and Promotion of Regional Guidelines for Wildlife Management*. The project allowed for the publication of the first sea turtle recovery action plan for a Spanish-speaking country; a memorandum of understanding was developed with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to develop a national recovery plan for manatees in that country; and various awareness activities were supported;
- d) *Conservation and Sustainable Use of Major Ecosystems in the Wider Caribbean*. Collaboration with the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network and with regional experts produced, for the first time, current and consolidated subregional reports for the Tropical Americas on the status of coral reefs. All the subregional reports conclude that coral reef degradation has continued in the Tropical Americas, with some areas showing more impacts, due to anthropogenic changes but also natural causes. The secretariat also assisted with the production of the Caribbean Blue Flag Feasibility Study during 2000 and currently participates in the development of the regional Blue Flag programme for the Caribbean. Finally, the secretariat has been actively participating in the development of phase two of the International Coral Reef Action Network project.

Since November 2000, a Programme Officer is in place for the CEPNET subprogramme and implementation of ongoing and new activities is now done on a full-time basis. CEPNET offers support and advice to the AMEP, SPAW and ETA subprogrammes for the preparation, maintenance and dissemination of their databases.

Coordination with other UNEP and United Nations agencies, such as the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, the IOC/IOCARIBE, the Global Ocean Observing System and GPA is done by the CEPNET Programme Officer to develop opportunities and assist to the implementation of global programmes. Partnerships with national, regional or international non-governmental organizations are developed for the design and the implementation of technical projects in the geographic information systems (GIS), remote-sensing and Internet applications development sectors.

The CEPNET subprogramme coordinated the following projects:

- a) *Strengthening CAR/RCU Information Management Capabilities.* To facilitate and support improvements to the management of information of CEP and its member States, the CAR/RCU itself must possess and maintain up-to-date powerful capacities. This has effects on equipment, software, tools and knowledge;
- b) *Strengthening of the Caribbean Environment Programme web site.* The CEP web site is one of the most appreciated in the Wider Caribbean Region for the relevant information it makes available. As the web site is one of the most visible results of CEP, it must be maintained and updated with new information and new tools. The main items that were updated or added are the CEPNews Centre, the CEPNET/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) page, the UNEP-WCMC Image Mapping Service and the CEP technical reports;
- c) *Environmental reporting:* the State of the Coast reports are being integrated into a regional report that will be available on the CEP web site. CEPNET also assisted in the coordination of global and regional assessments such as Global Environment Outlook (GEO) and GIWA;
- d) CEPNET Technical Advisory Services;
- e) Collaboration with agencies and institutions establishing regionally relevant environmental information networks and environmental information systems. Coordination has been initiated with Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change, the University of the West Indies Centre for Environment and Development, UNEP-WCMC and others;
- f) Collaboration with the UNEP Global Programme of Action in the establishment of a regional clearinghouse node in the Wider Caribbean Region for information related to land-based sources of marine pollution to assist the AMEP subprogramme;
- g) Training in coastal zone management uses and applications of remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS);
- h) *Web-based GIS Activities.* Partnerships are being developed with national agencies and non-governmental organizations to plan the development of this tool in the Wider Caribbean Region.

There was no Programme Officer for the Education, Training and Awareness subprogramme at the secretariat during the biennium 2000-2001, but the ETA tasks are supervised and developed by the Coordinator and each Programme Officer where such activities can be integrated to the projects developed under the CEP workplan and budget. For example:

- a) The secretariat responded to inquiries regarding marine pollution, wildlife and natural resources protection, geographic information, etc.;
- b) The secretariat published or supported the publication of informative brochures for CEP in general and LBS and SPAW activities;
- c) The new CEPNews Centre on the CEP web site was strengthened to allow for a better dissemination of electronic information by the secretariat;
- d) The documents of the CEP library are electronically referenced and searches are possible on the Intranet;
- e) The CEP web site was strengthened to provide more links to its users so that they can more efficiently access data, information, knowledge and experiences.

The proposed objectives of the Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region are:

- Evaluate the projects and activities implemented within the framework of the Caribbean Environment Programme during the period 2000-2001;
- Review the progress made in the implementation of the decisions of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting and Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Kingston, 14-18 February 2000);
- Review and take action as appropriate on the decisions the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Havana, Cuba, 24-25 September 2001 and the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 6 May 2002;
- Review the recommendations of and take action as appropriate on:
  - the Thirteenth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee and Special Meeting of the Bureau of Contracting Parties (San Jose, 9-13 July 2001); and
  - the Report of the First Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (ISTAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities, Ocho Rios, Jamaica, 19-23 February 2001
- Review and adopt as appropriate the Rules of Procedure and Financial Rules for the Caribbean Environment Programme;
- Review and adopt a Strategy for the Development of the CEP for 2002-2006;
- Review the structure, activities, and workprogrammes of the Regional Activity Centres on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW/RAC) in Guadeloupe and Oil Spills (RAC/REMPEITC-Carib) in Curacao and decide on further action;

- Review the joint proposal from the Governments of Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago to establish a Regional Activity Centre for Land-based Marine Pollution and decide on further action;
- Decide on the composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Bureau of Contracting Parties for the 2002 - 2003 period; and
- Review and adopt the Workplan and Budget for CEP for the 2002-2003 Biennium.

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### Abbreviations

AMEP	Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution
CaMPAM	Caribbean Marine Protected Area Managers network
CANARI	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute
CAR/RCU	Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit
CAST	Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism
CCA	Caribbean Conservation Association
CEHI	Caribbean Environmental Health Institute
CEP	Caribbean Environment Programme
CEPNET	Information Systems for the Management of Marine and Coastal Resources
CORAL	Coral Reef Alliance
CPACC	Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change
CTO	Caribbean Tourism Organization
ECCN	Eastern Caribbean Cetacean Network
ETA	Education, Training and Awareness
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEO	Global Environment Outlook
GIS	Geographic information systems
GIWA	Global International Waters Assessment
GPA	Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
GRID	Global Resource Information Database
ICLARM	World Fish Centre
ICRAN	International Coral Reef Action Network
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IGM	Intergovernmental Meeting
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare
IUCN	World Conservation Union
LBS	Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution
Mon Com	Joint meeting of the Monitoring Committee and Bureau of Contracting Parties
PDF	Project Development Facility of the GEF
ROLAC	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
SPAW	Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UNEP-WCMC	UNEP World Conservation and Monitoring Centre
UWICED	University of the West Indies Centre for Environment and Development
WIDECAST	Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network



## **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The present report has been prepared by the secretariat of the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) – the United Nations Environment Programme’s Regional Coordinating Unit for the Caribbean (UNEP-CAR/RCU) – for the Executive Director of UNEP, to present the status of activities for the CEP and its subprogrammes: Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP); Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW); Information Systems for the Management of Marine and Coastal Resources (CEPNET); and Education, Training and Awareness (ETA).
2. The report also presents the budgetary status of each subprogramme and of the overall coordination and common costs. The update on the secretariat is completed by information on personnel and other resources.
3. This document is being presented to the Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, in Montego Bay, Jamaica, May 7-11, 2002 (Tenth IGM). The Draft Status Report on the Implementation of the Caribbean Environment Programme for the Biennium 2000-2001 was submitted for discussions to the Thirteenth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.19/5). Comments received during and after the Thirteenth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee as well as the recommendations were considered during the preparation of this report.
4. During the Meeting, countries participating in the projects and activities referred to herein are invited to expand on this report and comment on their implementation of CEP activities to clarify any points made by the secretariat.

## **II. MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION, AND ORGANIZATION OF THE PROGRAMME**

5. The most important structural changes in management and administration occurred in the areas of personnel and delivery of products and services.

### **A. Personnel**

6. As at May 2001, there are three Programme Officers paid out of the Caribbean Trust Fund, plus a Fund Manager Officer supported by UNEP Nairobi. An Associate Programme Officer for coordination between the AMEP and SPAW subprogrammes was recruited (October 2001) and is supported by an extraordinary contribution to the Caribbean Trust Fund by the United States

of America, for a period of two years. The Position of National Officer for, and supported by, the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) has been filled for a period of no less than one year. The Position of Officer for Education, Training and Awareness has been advertised and will be filled once funding is secured.

7. The workload redistribution imposed by the termination of the CEPNET/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) project has been rectified now that the CEPNET Programme Officer has been assigned.
8. The personnel changes at UNEP-CAR/RCU were as follows:
  - a) The Legal Officer supported by the Government of Sweden completed his assignment in February 2000;
  - b) The new CEPNET Programme Officer entered in position in November 2000;
  - c) The new Fund Manager Officer started his assignment in January 2001 and, as with the post of Administrative Assistant, this position has been and will continue to be funded by UNEP out of the 13 per cent programme support costs (overhead) levied by UNEP Nairobi on contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund;
  - d) During the 1997-1999 reporting period, the post of Information System Assistant received funding under the CEPNET/IDB project for eight months. Vacant since March 2000, this valuable position was filled on a short-term basis in May 2001 to assist the CEPNET team in its review of the communication tools (CEPNews, web site, Intranet, e-groups);
  - e) An Associate Programme Officer for AMEP and SPAW was recruited in October 2001;
  - f) The Position of National Officer for the ICRAN Programme has been created as of January 2002;
  - g) The Position of Officer for Education, Training and Awareness will be filled when funding is secured.
9. A current organization chart can be found in Annex IV to the present report.

## **B. Financial**

10. The financial situation of the Caribbean Trust Fund (CTF) improved significantly in 2000 with record pledges (US\$120,000 more than projected) and payments of arrears. (Annex I provides the status of the CTF and Annex II to this report displays the expenditures.) This surplus in 2000 allowed for the funding of additional activities that were already in the approved workplan, but had been previously unfunded (e.g., SPAW COP and STAC Meetings). Despite these record gains in 2000, they did not carry into 2001 when pledges once again fell more than US\$200,000 below the approved budget of US\$840,000 and more than US\$300,000 below the amount received in 2000. Inconsistent levels of contributions makes CEP budgeting difficult, particularly in the funding of meetings and other activities, which therefore can be, and are, postponed until the CTF can cover the expenditures. Nonetheless, these shortfalls also impact on some projects and the productivity of CAR/RCU staff as planned activities are often curtailed mid-stream.

11. In addition to the CTF, the secretariat has been involved in negotiations regarding the host agreement for the Regional Coordinating Unit to ensure continuous and appropriate support to the office from the host government. At the drafting of this report, negotiations were ongoing.

**C. Improvement of the secretariat's capacity to deliver products and services**

12. Under the leadership of the CEPNET team, new mechanisms for information dissemination was implemented, namely, the CEPNews Centre on the CEP web site and various e-groups. A training programme for the personnel of CAR/RCU is being designed and will optimize the use of the current resources for a better flow of information. Training in advanced operations of office applications (mail merge, use of report templates, homogenized file format, mechanisms for document control, etc.) and in web page design and maintenance will help to increase the efficiency of the secretariat staff.
13. To support these new responsibilities, the secretariat acquired new computer equipment to renew its network (server, five new desktop computers and two laptops). A small computer training room was set up with the existing computers and server. This training facility will be used for in-house development, but could also be made available to external users.
14. In the same line of improved communication and information dissemination, a better integration of the library documentation with the Intranet and eventually, to the CEP web site, has been implemented. This should increase the use of the library, both internally and externally.
15. The United Nations system in Jamaica will be consolidating into a United Nations House that will host all the United Nations agencies. Discussions are being held between the UN System in Jamaica and the Government of Jamaica to establish the United Nations House in the building currently occupied by the CAR/RCU secretariat in Kingston. This has the potential to facilitate inter-agency coordination and reduce some general and common costs.
16. The secretariat replaced the two office vehicles, acquiring one in December 2000 and the second one in September 2001.

**D. Inter-institutional co-ordination**

17. Consistent with decision 11 taken by the Twelfth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment and Special Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention, that called on the Secretariat to identify areas of shared programmatic interest and cooperation with IOC/IOCARIBE on their implementation, a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Convention for the protection and development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region and IOCARIBE of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO (see UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/INF.8) was prepared at the end of the biennium and was signed during the VII Intergovernmental Session of the IOCARIBE Sub-Commission for the Caribbean in Veracruz, Mexico (25-28 February 2002).

18. The secretariat has represented CEP in the preparatory process to the World Summit on Sustainable Development of Johannesburg in 2002 (Rio +10 process) both at the regional and global levels. The Caribbean Sub-regional Meeting was attended in Cuba and [a paper on Ocean and Coastal Issues and Policy Responses in the Caribbean](#), was presented by the Co-ordinator under a session on small island developing states at the “The Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+10: Towards the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg” (UNESCO, Paris, December 3-7, 2001). The Co-ordinator also participated to the “[The Co-Chairs' concluding statement](#)”.
19. The secretariat also represented CEP at the First Global Programme of Action 2001 Intergovernmental Review Meeting and at the Fourth Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, and the Dialogue on International Environmental Governance, all in Montreal, Canada, in November 2001.
20. Section III.-B of this report on Subprogramme Workplan Achievements includes for each subprogramme all the co-ordination activities initiated at the regional and global levels.

### III. PROGRAMME STATUS

#### A. Secretariat response to decisions of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting<sup>1</sup> and to decisions/recommendations of other CEP Intergovernmental and Technical Meetings

21. In **decision 1**, the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting called upon the secretariat to revise the draft “Strategy for the Development of the Caribbean Environment Programme 2000-2004”, according to discussion and comments raised during the Meeting. This was accomplished and was presented in its revised form to the Thirteenth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee (13<sup>th</sup> Mon Com) for approval. The 13<sup>th</sup> Mon Com recommended (recommendation 6) that “an open intersessional drafting group led by Jamaica revise the “Strategy for the Development of the Caribbean Environment Programme 2002-2006” (UNEP (DEC)/CAR IG.19/7) (...)” and submit a new draft document to the Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting. Document UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/7 is the new proposal.
22. In accordance with **decision 2**, the draft proposals for Rules of Procedure for the Caribbean Environment Programme and for the Cartagena Convention were reviewed and discussed at the 13<sup>th</sup> Mon Com. The 13<sup>th</sup> Mon Com recommended (recommendation 1) that “an open intersessional drafting group led by the United States of America be established to prepare a comprehensive legal study on the responsibilities of the different bodies and entities within the framework of the Cartagena Convention and the Caribbean Environment Programme”. Based on the results of the study, the Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting may consider approving the rules of procedure as appropriate (document UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/4).

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<sup>1</sup> Only those decisions from the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting (and other relevant meetings) that required specific action by the secretariat are listed..

23. In accordance with **decision 3**, similar to the action taken with regard to the Rules of Procedure noted in the above paragraph, the draft proposals for the Financial Rules of the Caribbean Trust Fund were also discussed at the 13th Mon Com. The Mon Com recommended (recommendation 2) that the Financial Rules of the Caribbean Trust Fund be adopted by the Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting as contained in Annex IV of the report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Mon Com, following a final review by the intersessional working group on the rules of procedure to ensure harmonisation with those rules. Document UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/5 incorporate the final review of the intersessional working group.
24. As requested in **decision 5**, the Caribbean Trust Fund budget has been approved until 31 December 2001 and is presented to the meeting under Annex II to the present report. The workplan and budget of 2002-2003 have not been adopted yet, therefore, a request by the secretariat to UNEP-Nairobi to extend the mandate of the CTF of 2000-2001 was sent on 15 November 2001.
25. As stated in the report of the Eighth Intergovernmental Meeting and Fifth Meeting of the Contracting Parties, "cash contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund remain the primary funding base of the Programme". In response to **decision 6** of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting, the secretariat is open to negotiating alternative options, such as in-kind contributions. The first example of this was the Government of Cuba, when it hosted the Fourth Meeting of the Interim Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (ISTAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW), which was held in Havana in August 1999. The Government of Costa Rica hosted the 13th Mon Com and recently, the Government of Cuba hosted the SPAW Protocol meetings in September 2001.
26. Regarding **decisions 8 and 9**, all the member Governments of the Caribbean Environment Programme were invoiced in the amounts expressed in the table of indicative contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund (see annex I).
27. The level of contributions made to the Caribbean Trust Fund in 2000 (**decision 10**) substantially exceeded that of 1999. The total of pledges received for 2000 was US\$963,377 and US\$939,337 was received in 2000 for payment of arrears. These gains did not hold for 2001 however, when contributions dropped overall to US\$626,268 and payments to arrears fell to US\$219,530.
28. A draft workplan for the ETA subprogramme was presented to the 13th Mon Com and is also presented to the Tenth IGM in accordance with **decision 11** of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting. In addition, the SPAW, AMEP and CEPNET subprogrammes all have ETA components in their respective workplans.
29. In accordance with **decision 14**, following the entry into force of the SPAW Protocol on 18 June 2000, after discussions initiated by the secretariat, the Government of Cuba hosted the First Meeting of the Parties and the First Meeting of Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee to that Protocol in Havana from 24 to 29 September 2001. The meetings were sponsored by the Government of Cuba and through the Caribbean Trust Fund.

30. Consistent with **decision 15** of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting and **recommendation 6** of the First Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS/ISTAC), the 13th Mon Com reviewed the proposals from the Government of Cuba and from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for the establishment of one or more regional activity centres (RAC) for the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol). The 13th Mon Com recommended that (recommendation 10) a revised joint proposal from both governments, with the assistance of the secretariat, be presented at the Tenth Intergovernmental Meeting for discussion and adoption. Document UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/9 is the result of their work.
31. Programme coordination in support of the LBS Protocol has included activities to promote its ratification, as well as to develop and obtain funding for projects to support its implementation (see description of activities below). Since the adoption of the Protocol, and in accordance with **decision 16** of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting, the Coordinator of the UNEP-CAR/RCU has actively promoted its ratification with the Contracting Parties and other signatories to the Cartagena Convention. The status of the Protocol itself is presented in Annex III to this document.
32. **Decision 17**, of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting, endorsed the 2000-2001 workplan and adopted the budget for the same period. As contained in the workplan, the First Meeting of LBS/ISTAC was convened in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, in February 2001. Also in accordance with decision 17, although no funding was available from the Caribbean Trust Fund in the approved budget, the secretariat sought additional funding and was able to secure an extraordinary contribution from the Government of the United States of America for convening both the First Meeting of LBS/ISTAC and to the 13th Mon Com.
33. Pursuant to **decision 19**, documentation for this meeting was made accessible through the CEP web site.
34. In accordance with **decision 22**, the secretariat undertook consultations and exchanged communications with the SPAW RAC Coordinator throughout 2000-2001 to coordinate activities and identify areas of collaboration. A report of the SPAW RAC activities was presented at the 13th Mon Com. The Meeting recommended (recommendation 8) that “the Government of France review, along with the Secretariat, the current terms of reference for the SPAW/RAC and letter of agreement which establishes the RAC, with a view to present a revised proposal to the Tenth IGM, based on the discussions held during this Meeting”. **Decision 8** of the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the SPAW Protocol further requested the secretariat and the Regional Activity Centre to draft and submit a report to the Tenth IGM on the relationship between the secretariat, RAC, the Parties and the SPAW/STAC. Accordingly, document UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/INF.6 is submitted to the Tenth IGM.
35. In line with **decision 25**, during the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting, a letter was sent to the Executive Director of UNEP requesting financial and human resources support for CEP.

36. As requested in **decision 27**, the secretariat is preparing to support the assessment of the vulnerability of coastal populations and natural resources to natural disasters, which is presented in the CEPNET draft workplan (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/6).
37. In accordance with **decision 28 (h)**, the secretariat prepared a memorandum of understanding for the establishment of the RAC/Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre for the Wider Caribbean Region (REMPEITC-Carib).
38. **Decision 29** of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting was related to coordination and continuing development of the LBS Protocol. As a result of that decision, the secretariat issued circular letter (CAR 03/2000) on 13 October 2000, through which an invitation was extended to each country to designate an AMEP/LBS focal point to liaise with the UNEP Regional Coordinating Unit. To date, the following countries have designated focal points: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Saint Lucia and United States of America. Additionally, in accordance with decision 29, the secretariat convened the First Meeting of LBS/ISTAC, which it coordinated with input from the Global International Waters Assessment (GIWA), the Global Programme of Action for Pollution from Land-based Activities (GPA) and other relevant programmes and initiatives. The report of the Meeting is presented in document UNEP(DEC)/CARWG.18/6.
39. **Recommendation 3** of the 13th Mon Com recommended for adoption the Draft Workplan and Budget for the CEP for the Biennium 2002-2003. The SPAW subprogramme Workplan and Budget was further endorsed by the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the SPAW Protocol (**decision 4**) and by the First Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the SPAW Protocol (**recommendation 11**).

## **B. Subprogramme Workplan Achievements**

### **1. Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution subprogramme (AMEP)**

#### **(a) Programme coordination**

40. Since the adoption of the LBS Protocol, CEP has maintained consistent coordination of the AMEP subprogramme. This has allowed the continuity of projects and activities from the biennium 1998-1999 into 2000-2001, unimpeded by interruptions in secretariat staffing. The AMEP subprogramme provides secretariat services to the LBS and Oil Spills Protocols in addition to coordinating other activities of AMEP.

#### *LBS Protocol Activities*

41. Regarding the status of the LBS Protocol, since its adoption in Oranjestad, Aruba on 6 October 1999 (at which time four Contracting Parties signed), two additional countries have signed the Protocol. Signature of the Protocol indicates, inter alia, a Party's intention to ratify it.

42. Following the end of the signature period (6 October 2000), any country wishing to become a Party to the LBS Protocol can submit their instrument of ratification/accession to the Government of Colombia, as Depositary. The secretariat has discussed ratification with a number of Parties and, according to reports from the Depositary, several have requested certified copies of the Protocol for purposes of ratification. As at the completion of this status report however, no Contracting Party to the Cartagena Convention has ratified the LBS Protocol. Nine ratifications are necessary for the Protocol to enter into force. A complete and up-to-date status of the LBS Protocol is presented in annex IV of this report and can also be found on the Environmental Law page of the CEP web site ([www.cep.unep.org](http://www.cep.unep.org)).
43. In February 2001, the AMEP subprogramme, on behalf of the Parties to the Cartagena Convention, convened the First Meeting of LBS/ISTAC in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. The recommendations and report of the First Meeting of the LBS/ISTAC are being referred to the present Meeting for adoption.
44. Related to the LBS Protocol is the implementation of GPA for the Caribbean and coordination with that office as requested by the CEP parties. In this regard, AMEP has coordinated several activities with the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office. Specifically, a regional workshop on municipal wastewater was held in conjunction with the First Meeting of LBS/ISTAC to provide input to global work, as well as further regional work on the subject. In addition, AMEP coordinated input from the Wider Caribbean Region into the GPA's Intergovernmental Review Meeting held in November 2001, which included assisting with a GPA regional survey and participation in global preparatory meetings and workshops, at the invitation of the GPA Coordination Office, on National Programmes of Action and voluntary initiatives. Additionally, the AMEP subprogramme assisted the Chairman of the Monitoring Committee to prepare a formal presentation to the GPA Intergovernmental Review Meeting on progress and activities of the LBS Protocol. (CEP was highlighted as one of the key Regional Seas Programmes requested to give presentations on their activities in the opening plenary.)

#### *Oil Spills Protocol*

45. Work on the Oil Spills Protocol during this biennium was largely focused on establishing the regional activity centre – RAC/REMPEITC-Carib – in Curacao. Following the decision of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting to establish the Centre in June 2001, work began on establishing an agreement with the Government of the Netherlands Antilles and the International Maritime Organisation and on establishing the Steering Committee for the RAC. Work still remains on the agreement at the drafting of this report as several provisions remain to be negotiated to be consistent with the laws and policies of the three signatories (the Government of the Netherlands Antilles and the IMO and UNEP-CAR/RCU on behalf of the Contracting Parties to the Oil Spills Protocol). Despite the lack of a signed agreement, the first meeting of the RAC Steering Committee was successfully convened in June 2001. During the meeting the Committee was able to adopt rules of procedure and financial rules for its operation. Additionally, the meeting explored private sector contributions and was able to adopt a preliminary workplan and budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The report of the First

Meeting of the Steering Committee, including the workplan and budget are available to the Tenth IGM for review and appropriate action.

46. In addition to the above secretariat responsibilities and the project activities (presented below), the AMEP subprogramme has responded to many enquiries made to the secretariat regarding marine pollution issues and has continued its coordination with the Basel Convention, in particular its subregional centre in Trinidad and other relevant organizations on AMEP related issues.

### **Status of activities of the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution subprogramme**

47. The following section will describe the progress on each of the AMEP project activities as contained in the CEP Workplan for the 2000-2001 Biennium:

#### **(b) Reducing Pesticide Run-off to the Caribbean Sea**

##### *Background and objectives*

48. Annex IV to the LBS Protocol was based on the regionally accepted hypothesis that non-point source pollution from agriculture is a significant contributor to marine pollution in the Wider Caribbean Region. As such, Annex IV requires the development and implementation of national plans to prevent, reduce and control pollution from agricultural non-point sources. Towards the implementation of this Annex, CEP developed a proposal for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to fund project development in this area. In May 1999, CEP received a GEF/Project Development Fund Block B grant to develop a project that would improve pesticide management in four countries to ultimately reduce pesticide run-off to the Caribbean Sea. The four participating countries were Colombia, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama.
49. The main objectives of the Project Development Facility grant were:
- a) To prepare national reports to form the basis for the development of national action programmes;
  - b) To prepare a regional report including elements of regional cooperation in the management of pesticides;
  - c) To develop the institutional infrastructure for the execution of national action programmes, including all relevant stakeholders;
  - d) To prepare a GEF project brief, including identification of co-financing and incremental cost analysis, to enhance protection efforts to control pesticide run-off.

##### *Activities and outputs*

50. The following activities have been completed:
- a) Meeting of the Steering Committee in June 1999 to discuss and approve the outline for national reports and the terms of reference for the Regional Project Coordinator;

- b) EARTH College (Escuela Agrícola de la Región Tropical Húmeda) in Costa Rica was selected as the Regional Project Coordinator. A memorandum of understanding between EARTH College and UNEP-CAR/RCU was signed on September 1999 and work began immediately;
- c) In October 1999, following the designation of National Technical Coordinators by each of the four countries, the first meeting of the Operations Committee (consisting of the four National Technical Coordinators) was held at the EARTH College and facilitated by CAR/RCU and EARTH College;
- d) Letters of agreement were signed between UNEP and the national agencies and work began on the development of the national reports through nationally organized committees with people from the public and private sectors, as well as non-governmental organizations;
- e) National workshops were held in each of the four project countries during the period from October to November 2000. Approximately 60 national participants and some regional participants from diverse sectors attended each workshop. In the workshops, draft national reports were reviewed and assistance provided in formulating recommendations for national and regional action;
- f) A regional workshop was convened in January 2001 to complete the regional project document. At the workshop, the four countries presented their respective final reports and a draft regional report and recommendations was presented and discussed;
- g) A GEF project brief was drafted by the secretariat and circulated to the participating countries for review and comment. Following the comment period, the brief was revised and prepared for submission.

51. The PDF outputs can all be found on the CEP website under the AMEP activities at [www.cep.unep.org/](http://www.cep.unep.org/)

*Progress and future activities*

52. As at the writing of the present report, the Project Development Fund has been completed. Though the project proposal ("brief") was to have been originally submitted in March 2001, a request was made to delay the submission to allow the participating countries to explore options for co-financing. Despite this delay it was determined that not all countries were prepared to co-finance the project (co-financing is a GEF requirement). As a result, the project proposal was revised to include just Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Colombia. The project was submitted in October 2001 to the GEF Secretariat, however the project was not considered at that time due to GEF financial constraints. The project proposal was resubmitted to the GEF for their intersessional workplan in January 2002. This time the project was forwarded to the GEF Council for consideration. At the drafting of this report, the secretariat was awaiting the outcome of the Council's review and approval process.
53. Upon approval of the project brief by GEF in 2002, it is envisaged that implementation will begin immediately. (See the draft workplan and budget for the biennium 2002-2003 for details on the implementation of the full GEF project.)

(c) **Pilot Projects in Sewage Treatment Needs Assessments**

*Background and objectives*

54. Earlier CEP projects completed in the area of sewage treatment included the project to review appropriate technologies for sewage treatment (CEP Technical Report No. 40) and the 1998 Training Workshop on Environmentally Sound Technologies for Domestic Wastewater Treatment in the Wider Caribbean Region. Since that time, the LBS Protocol has been adopted with specific effluent limitations for domestic wastewater (sewage) discharges that impact the Convention area.
55. This project has been designed to assist Contracting Parties and CEP member countries in meeting the sewage-specific obligations contained in the LBS Protocol. The general obligations, which will be partially met through the project, will involve the development of plans for the reduction and control of pollution from sewage. Specifically, however, the project aims to review the requirements of Annex III to the LBS Protocol with regard to domestic wastewater and assist in the development of national plans for complying with them. It involves the development of a national sewage treatment needs-assessment guidance and four pilot country projects to conduct a needs assessment according to that guidance.

*Activities and expected outputs*

56. Specific activities of the project are:
- a) Draft sewage needs-assessment guidance. This involves identification of key components for national planning of domestic sewage control and the development of a draft guidance for review;
  - b) Develop and review draft model needs assessment and guidance. Once the draft model plan and guidance are developed, a small workshop will be held with national experts to review and comment on the documents;
  - c) National pilot projects. Four pilot projects will be implemented in Belize, Colombia, Saint Lucia and Venezuela, respectively. Each country will use the model guidance to develop a national plan for sewage infrastructure needs according to the requirements of the LBS Protocol;
  - d) Final model needs assessment and guidance. Based on the outcome of the pilot projects, the model guidance will be modified as necessary based on lessons learned and a final guidance will be published.

*Progress and future activities*

57. A consultant was contracted in August 2000 to conduct the initial scoping work for a document to develop the national sewage treatment needs assessments. The outline of the document was received in October 2000 and then began work on the text and technical annexes. Having received a draft document in early 2001, informal discussions were held with several delegates to the First Meeting of the LBS/ISTAC in February 2001. Following these discussions, the consultant was given direction to make some fundamental changes in the way in which he had

first approached the task. Following receipt of a second incomplete draft in mid-2001, the contract was cancelled and a new approach and consultancy was sought. In early 2002 a new consultant was hired and work has begun anew.

58. Despite the delays in project initiation, the secretariat remains optimistic with a renewed start to the project. The revised project workplan calls for a draft document in mid-2002. Following receipt of the draft and review by the secretariat, a meeting of experts and country participants will be held in mid-2002 to provide additional review of the draft prior to the start of the national work.
59. Following the meeting of experts, letters of agreement will be signed with each country to begin the national planning exercise. Work on the national plans is expected to begin immediately following the workshop and continue into 2002. The secretariat is proposing a follow-up to this project in the 2002-2003 workplan.

**(d) Integrating Management of Watersheds and Coastal Areas in Small Island Developing States**

*Background and objectives*

60. The GEF operational strategy recognizes the special conditions and needs of small island developing States in developing more integrated approaches to land and water management as a mechanism to address threats to their water resources. GEF operational programme No. 9 targets six major issues, three of which are addressed by this project: coastal area management and biodiversity; land and marine-based sources of pollution; and protection of water supplies.
61. Integrating Management of Coastal Areas and Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean is the second GEF/Project Development Facility (PDF) of CEP to be funded by GEF. In partnership with the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI), the AMEP subprogramme began coordinating the development of water resource planning in all 13-island States of the Wider Caribbean Region. The duration of the Project Development Facility (PDF) grant was 18 months.
62. The overall objective of the project is to assist participating countries to improve their watershed and coastal zone management practices in support of sustainable development. Particular attention will be paid to the integration of management practices for watershed and coastal area management. The project includes, but is not limited to, components addressing coastal area management and biodiversity, tourism development, protection of water supplies, land-based sources of pollution and climate change.

*Activities and expected outputs*

63. Specific activities of the PDF were:
  - a) Establishment of coordination mechanisms and network of participating institutions;
  - b) Regional inception workshop;

- c) Preparation of national reports;
  - d) Second regional workshop to present and discuss the draft national reports;
  - e) Regional synthesis of common issues and actions;
  - f) Third regional workshop to present the final regional project proposal and discuss the draft project brief;
  - g) Development and presentation of the project brief.
64. Specific outputs of these PDF activities include reports of three regional workshops; 13 national reports; a regional synthesis of priority issues and constraints to action; activities to be addressed within the framework of the GEF project brief; and a finalized, fully costed and country-endorsed GEF project brief. AMEP developed a webpage for the PDF outputs under the CEP website.

*Progress and future activities*

65. UNEP and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) jointly established and chaired the Regional Steering Committee consisting of representatives from the World Bank, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Caribbean Community, CAR/RCU and CEHI. Responsible for overall coordination of project activities, the Committee met on several occasions since the start of the PDF in March 2000.
66. The regional inception workshop was held in Kingston on 30 and 31 March 2000. At the workshop, participating countries discussed their approaches to national reports and action plans to improve integrated management of coastal and freshwater resources. A report of the workshop has been produced, which includes the final outline and format of the national reports to be developed by each country.
67. Following the inception workshop, CAR/RCU began the process of signing letters of agreement with each of the 13 countries to assist in national report preparation.
68. The second regional workshop was originally planned for late 2000, but was moved to early 2001 to allow additional time for country reports to be drafted for those countries getting a late start. The national reports were also needed to provide input for a regional programme of action that will be submitted along with the national programme priorities to the GEF secretariat for funding. At the second workshop, the draft country reports and a draft regional synthesis were presented.
69. At the Third Regional Workshop in August 2001, CAR/RCU and CEHI presented the draft brief, which was significantly revised at the workshop to focus on demonstration projects that are consistent with the GEF objectives of global benefit.
70. The GEF Project Brief was submitted by UNEP and UNDP on behalf of the Caribbean SIDS, to the GEF Secretariat in March 2002 for consideration in the May 2002 meeting of the GEF Council. All PDF outputs can be viewed at [www.cep.unep.org/](http://www.cep.unep.org/)

**(e) Planning for Rehabilitation, Environmental Management and Coastal Development in Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala in the Wake of Hurricane Mitch**

*Background and objectives*

71. Improper coastal watershed planning and poor management practices contributed to the extensive impact of Hurricane Mitch, which hit the Caribbean countries of Central America in October 1998. Clear-cutting of forests, mono-cultures, and poor soil management and conservation added to the loss of lives and property, not to mention the untold damage to the coastal and marine environment (including critical marine habitats, such as coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds) caused by severe sedimentation and presence of land-based pollutants. These pollutants, in turn, have a negative impact on human health and recovery of fisheries and other coastal resources, as well as on tourism.
72. The aim of this project is to improve coastal watershed planning and management in hurricane-prone areas of Central America. As part of the watershed planning, particular attention will be paid to adequate treatment of domestic wastewater.

*Activities and expected outputs*

73. The planned activities of the project will occur in the following seven phases, according to which the primary outputs will be delivered:
- a) Phase I. Selection of a Regional Project Coordinator and establishment of a subregional coordination and advisory committee;
  - b) Phase II. Hydrogeographical site identification of three coastal watersheds (one for each target country);
  - c) Phase III. Establishment of watershed planning and management committees for each of the three selected coastal watersheds from the three countries;
  - d) Phase IV. Three coastal watershed management plans accepted and approved by national and local authorities for implementation;
  - e) Phase V. Sustainable investment proposals and implementation plans for each of the three selected coastal watersheds. A specific component of the plan will deal with sanitation funding and investment;
  - f) Phase VI. Construction of sanitary facilities in each of the three watersheds and public awareness campaigns on the importance of sewage treatment for human health and coastal resources;
  - g) Phase VII. Subregional workshop on coastal watershed planning and management.

*Progress and future activities*

74. The secretariat surveyed various potential supporting organizations to ascertain their interest and capacity to assist CEP in the implementation of this project as Regional Project Coordinator. Following this search, the secretariat began work to develop an agreement with the Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE) (Tropical Agricultural

Research and Higher Education Centre) in Costa Rica. CATIE is a well-established regional centre with experience in each of the three participating countries and is familiar with the regional activities that have already taken place in response to Hurricane Mitch.

75. Implementation of the project is just beginning at the drafting of this report. Preliminary discussions on implementation were held with Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala and a project coordinator has been identified within CATIE who is beginning implementation.
76. Due to lack of full project funding at inception of the project, Phase VI on construction of sanitary facilities is on hold pending additional project funding still being actively sought by the secretariat. Nonetheless, all other aspects of the project will proceed.

**(f) Rehabilitation of Contaminated Bays (Global Environment Facility project)**

*Background and objectives*

77. Following preliminary work done by CEP in the early 1990s, UNDP received a GEF Project Development Facility grant to develop pre-feasibility studies for the rehabilitation of four heavily contaminated bays. Following the submission of its final report and project brief to the GEF secretariat, funding was approved to implement projects in two of the four bays, namely, Kingston Harbour and Havana Bay. Additionally, the GEF allocated funding, to be coordinated by CAR/RCU, to provide for greater regional benefit. The project will be implemented over five years.
78. The studies conducted under the PDF showed heavy contamination of both bays from nutrients, mostly from inadequately treated domestic sewage. The objective of the GEF funds is to provide co-financing to the two countries to design and construct appropriate wastewater treatment facilities and nutrient controls. Discharges from any facilities designed and constructed under this project will comply with the provisions of the LBS Protocol. In addition, a regional component to the project was added to allow for training in sewage treatment technologies.
79. UNDP will manage the bilateral aspects of the project with Cuba and Jamaica. However, CAR/RCU has been asked by UNDP and the GEF secretariat to provide regional coordination and knowledge-sharing of the project for the entire region.
80. The regional activities are included to ensure coordination of effort between the two countries and compliance with the Cartagena Convention and its protocols relevant to the project areas. In addition, the secretariat identified other opportunities for regional participation that were also approved by the GEF secretariat for funding.

*Activities and outputs*

81. *Regional training workshops.* UNEP-CAR/RCU will conduct two five-day regional training workshops on nutrient removal technologies for sewage treatment systems in large communities and on sewage sludge utilization. The workshops will be open to participation from all countries of the Wider Caribbean Region to review available options for nutrient removal and sludge

utilization relevant to the technological, climatic, economic, institutional, and social and cultural conditions of the Wider Caribbean Region. Workshop proceedings will be printed and put online for regional dissemination.

82. *Study tours.* UNEP-CAR/RCU will organize study tours for personnel from the two project countries — Cuba and Jamaica — that will be involved in the project. This will be a follow-up activity from the workshops to communicate more fully the nutrient removal and sludge utilization technologies. Opportunities for greater regional participation will be included to the extent possible within the guidelines and budget provided by GEF.
83. *Final regional workshop.* Following the completion of the Havana and Kingston projects, a regional workshop will be convened by UNEP-CAR/RCU in coordination with the two participating national agencies to review lessons learned from the treatment technologies employed at the two sites. This three-day workshop will have regional implications for technology transfer for future similar construction activities in the region.

*Progress and future activities*

84. GEF funding for the regional component of this project (i.e., part managed by CAR/RCU) has already been approved by GEF. Difficulties related to co-financing of the national components (i.e., part managed by UNDP) delayed project start and final drafting of project documents.
85. After a considerable delay due to the financial arrangements, at the drafting of this report, the Project documents have been approved by the GEF secretariat and work will soon be able to proceed. Planning for the regional training workshops on nutrient treatment technologies will begin in mid-2002, as well as the study tours referred to in paragraph 73 above.

**Workplan activities not implemented**

86. The following projects and activities in the AMEP workplan for 2000-2001 were not implemented owing to insufficient human and/or financial resources.

**(g) Clearing House Node for Pollution from Land-based Activities**

*Background and objectives*

87. GPA (Washington, D.C., 1995) called for the development of a clearinghouse mechanism to exchange information globally on controlling pollution from land-based activities. The GPA clearing house mechanism is a decentralized Internet-based network that provides access to GPA-related information, data and experiences. Other clearinghouse characteristics include the support for sophisticated search, query and retrieval methods, participant networking and decision-making, and the active promotion of needs-driven development. The clearinghouse will act as a referral system through which decision makers at the national and regional levels are provided with access to current sources of information, practical experience and scientific and technical expertise relevant to developing and implementing strategies to deal with the impacts of land-based activities.

88. The GPA clearing house will consist of three basic elements, as follows:
- a) A data directory, with components organized by source-category, cross-referenced to economic sectors, and containing information on current sources of information, practical experience and technical expertise;
  - b) Information-delivery mechanisms to allow decision makers to have ready access to the data directory and to obtain direct contact with the sources of information, practical experience and technical expertise identified therein (including the organizations, institutions, firms and/or individuals most able to provide relevant advice and assistance);
  - c) Infrastructure: the institutional process for developing, organizing and maintaining the directory and delivery mechanisms.
89. On a regional level, the main focus of the GPA Coordination Office will be with the secretariats of the Regional Seas Programmes. A pilot project for the establishment of regional GPA clearing house nodes will be initiated in two of the regional seas, one of which is the Wider Caribbean Regional Seas Programme. These nodes will have special emphasis on regional views, including socio-economic, political and cultural aspects of information and other content. Capacity-building of the Regional Seas secretariats, including training and infrastructure development, will be an important component of the initiative, which will also build on and strengthen the CEPNET marine and coastal environmental information network.
90. CEP was selected to be the first to pilot the regional nodes because of its advancements in environmental information management and efforts to control pollution from land-based activities.
91. Under an agreement with the GPA Office, CAR/RCU developed a node prototype for the Caribbean. Once populated, the node will provide CEP countries with a link to both regional and global information concerning pollution from land-based activities. Information will be provided on new and innovative technologies, institutional needs, training and financing options.
92. To make the clearinghouse node operational through the CEP web site, further work is needed to populate the node with information and pilot the project with users in the wider Caribbean and its linkages to the GPA central clearing house. Though related to the implementation of the LBS Protocol, as an environmental information activity, this project will be implemented under the CEPNET subprogramme as support to the AMEP subprogramme.

*Planned activities and outputs*

93. *Population of the node.* Consultations on the current prototype node design will be conducted with other regional environmental information management system coordinators, experts and potential users. Modifications to the prototype will be made as necessary and, following the endorsement of the prototype, information will be identified and either placed on the CEP web site node or linked, as appropriate. Information will be sourced from regional and global sources. Information will be collected in various formats, but in the posting of the information,

the node should work towards a final format that is compatible with the global clearing house and other information systems.

94. *Creation of a regional activity network.* Linkages will be made with other information sources at the national level. CAR/RCU will work with any CEP country showing interest and will look particularly towards those countries with existing institutional and/or technological capacity that are prepared to make the necessary linkages and share information on the topic of land-based activities. Following a standard and acceptable approach to the development of a RAN, CAR/RCU will expand the participation as appropriate to all CEP countries with information system capacity and strive to assist those countries without the capacity to obtain it through new information system hardware, software and training.

*Progress and future activities*

95. Due to lack of financial and human resources during the 2000-2001 biennium, this project could not be implemented.

**(h) Financial Strategy for National Implementation of the LBS Protocol<sup>2</sup>**

*Background and objectives*

96. During the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held for the purpose of adopting the LBS Protocol, several Governments raised the issue of funding necessary for its implementation. In fact, Annex III to the Protocol reads: "The Contracting Parties recognize that the complete fulfilment of the obligations contained in this Annex will require the availability and accessibility of financial resources." Cognizant of this important provision, a concerted effort must be made at the national and regional levels to raise the necessary funding for the development and operation of appropriate pollution-control facilities and methods.
97. The objective of this project is to develop a financial strategy for the regional and national financing of the Protocol, giving special attention to the requirements of Annex III. The strategy will review alternate and appropriate financing mechanisms and sources appropriate to the Caribbean.

*Activities and outputs*

98. The following activities and outputs are planned:
- a) Development of a draft financial strategy;
  - b) Conduct of a review of the draft strategy by correspondence;

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<sup>2</sup> This project has its origins in the interest expressed by the Contracting Parties during the Conference of Plenipotentiaries to adopt the Protocol and particularly in response to section G of Annex III to the Protocol, which acknowledges the need for financial resources. The project was identified by the secretariat and endorsed by the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting. As funding for this activity was not found and considering the objectives of the project in relation to work being done globally by GPA on the same issue (see UNEP/GPA: Recommendations for Decision-making on Municipal Wastewater, Chap. 5; Financing options). The secretariat recommends that the GPA guidance be used to replace this workplan activity and that further work not be advanced in this particular area in the 2002-2003 workplan of CEP.

- c) Development of a final strategy, including specific recommendations for CEP and Contracting Parties.

**(i) Assessing Non-point Source Loadings to the Marine Environment<sup>3</sup>**

*Background and objectives*

99. In 1994, CEP concluded a study to evaluate the pollutant load to the Wider Caribbean Region from land-based point sources of pollution. The conclusions of the study (found in CEP Technical Report No. 33) have been widely requested and became a critical reference for the negotiations of the LBS Protocol. Although interest in evaluating and managing non-point sources has been high, CEP does not currently have quantitative information of pollutant loadings from those sources.
100. Some work on agricultural non-point sources has already been completed by CEP. CEP Technical Report No. 41 reviews best management practices for the control of agricultural non-point sources. In addition, Annex IV to the LBS Protocol specifically addresses the prevention, reduction, and control of agricultural non-point sources. Nothing has been done, however, to assess or manage other non-point sources, such as urban, industrial, or airborne deposition. Neither have pollutant loads from groundwater been evaluated. Information of this type is important for the future identification and development of pollution control practices to be employed regionally through the LBS Protocol.
101. This project proposes to identify an appropriate methodology for estimating non-point source pollutant loads, by type or source, to the marine environment of the Wider Caribbean Region.

*Activities and outputs*

102. Identification and review of appropriate methods for use in the Caribbean, considering the economic, geographic, cultural and other differences among the countries of the region.
103. Convening of an ad hoc working group of experts, supported by a qualified consultant, to examine current methodologies for assessing point and non-point sources of pollution.
104. Conduct of a quantitative and qualitative survey of non-point sources in the Wider Caribbean Region.

**2. Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife subprogramme (SPAW)**

**(a) Programme coordination**

105. The secretariat continued to actively promote the SPAW Protocol at different regional and international forums, as well as during bilateral consultations with Governments. This resulted in the Protocol entering into force on 18 June 2000, after being ratified by the Government of

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<sup>3</sup> As this project has not yet begun, due to lack of resources, the secretariat is recommending that it be combined with a second regional overview of land-based sources, to be completed in the workplan for the biennium 2002-2003.

Saint Lucia. To date, the parties to the SPAW Protocol are: Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, the Netherlands, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.

106. Additionally, the Governments of Barbados, France, Jamaica, Mexico and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have officially informed the secretariat that the process of ratification has been initiated in their countries.
107. Through contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund in 2000 and 2001, and by raising meeting support funds from the Government of Cuba, the secretariat was able to convene the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to SPAW (COP1) and the First Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee to SPAW (STAC) (Havana, Cuba, 24 to 29 September 2001) (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.20/7 and UNEP(DEC)/CAR. WG.23/6). The COP1 and STAC Meetings reviewed the work of ISTAC since its first meeting in 1992, the achievements and shortcomings in the implementation of SPAW objectives (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.20/3), the draft SPAW workplan and budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.19/9), and identified the priorities for implementation by the Parties, the STAC and the Secretariat in the near future (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.20/6).
108. The agreement between the Government of France and UNEP on behalf of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention regarding the establishment in Guadeloupe of the SPAW RAC for the Wider Caribbean Region was signed and the Government of France officially opened the RAC on 1 January 2000. Since then, the secretariat has undertaken consultations and exchanged information with the SPAW RAC to ensure coordination and identify activities for joint implementation. Initial activities assigned to the RAC included assistance with the development of the training of trainers programme for marine protected areas (MPAs) for the French-speaking Caribbean, assistance with the update of the MPA database, promotion of the SPAW Protocol among non-parties, fund-raising for SPAW activities, review of technical papers and production of SPAW materials in French. A detailed report on the activities of the SPAW RAC (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.19/INF.4) during its first year of operation was prepared by the Government of France and presented to the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Monitoring Committee (San José, Costa Rica) and the SPAW COP1 (Havana, Cuba). In light of the information provided at the meetings, the operations of the SPAW RAC, governments requested that an updated report be prepared by the Government of France on the actions taken to address the shortcomings on the operations of the SPAW RAC to be presented at this meeting.
109. A memorandum of cooperation was signed between UNEP CAR/RCU and the Ramsar Convention secretariat on 1 May 2000. Since then, a number of informative exchanges have been undertaken between both secretariats on possible areas of collaboration. As a first step in the implementation of the memorandum of cooperation, the Ramsar secretariat convened the first Ramsar/SPAW Caribbean Training Workshop in Trinidad, from 11 to 15 December 2000, with the objectives of sharing information and experiences with regard to the management of wetlands and promoting both treaties among Governments. The secretariat made a presentation on the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention), the LBS Protocol, and the SPAW Protocol and their

relationships to Ramsar. Additionally, participants were briefed on the obligations and benefits to the Parties of the SPAW Protocol.

110. In keeping with the existing memorandum of cooperation with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, information was exchanged on relevant matters. The secretariat provided information on experts from the region for the Convention's roster of experts, as well as for its working group on marine protected areas. Additionally, the secretariat prepared the document entitled "Programmatic Linkages between the Cartagena Convention and the Convention on Biological Diversity" for presentation to the Sixth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Aspects of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Montreal, 16-20 March 2001) in an effort to identify concrete activities that could be implemented in the current biennium within the framework of the CEP workplan and within the objectives of the Jakarta Mandate (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.19/INF6). The Secretariat also assisted the CBD Secretariat with the logistical organization and convening of the Regional Preparatory Workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC, Kingston, 18-20 March 2002), held prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the CBD. At this CBD Meeting, an agenda item was dedicated for a presentation on the SPAW Protocol and its linkages to the CBD.
111. During the biennium under review, the secretariat continued its efforts concerning the coordination of activities on coastal ecosystems management undertaken at the regional and subregional levels with a number of regional and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions. A number of activities were undertaken in collaboration and/or coordination with those organizations, in particular the Nature Conservancy (TNC), the World Bank, the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network (WIDECASST), the UNEP World Conservation and Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), the World Fish Centre (ICLARM), Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) and the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA).
112. As recommended by the Fourth Meeting of ISTAC (Havana, 24-28 August 1999) and with support received from IFAW, the secretariat has completed the development of an informative brochure for Governments and interested individuals and organizations on the SPAW Protocol, its obligations and benefits.
113. There also has been collaboration with other CEP programmes, in particular CEPNET, to maintain and update the SPAW databases on marine protected areas and SPAW listed species. There has been collaboration with UNEP-WCMC and Monitor International to create a web-based database for SPAW listed species now accessible at [www.caribbeanenvironment.net](http://www.caribbeanenvironment.net). Coordination has been developed with AMEP, in particular regarding land-based pollution and activities and their impact, and management of coastal ecosystems.

114. The secretariat developed a SPAW list-serve, using an e-group, which has improved communication between SPAW focal points and the secretariat. The e-group has been operational since May 2001.
115. In keeping with the efforts to promote the SPAW Protocol and its programme, the secretariat was sponsored by donors to participate in and prepare relevant reports and/or presentations on SPAW activities for a number of international meetings, including:
- a) The Ninth International Coral Reef Symposium: World Coral Reefs in the New Millennium: Bridging Research and Management for Sustainable Development, Bali, 23 to 27 October 2000;
  - b) Fourth Regional Workshop on Sea Turtle Conservation, Belize, 9 to 13 October 2000;
  - c) Ramsar/SPAW Caribbean Training Workshop, Trinidad and Tobago, 11 to 15 December 2000;
  - d) Netherlands Antilles Coral Reef Initiative Workshop, Bonaire, 7 to 9 February 2001;
  - e) Workshop on United Nations Conventions and International Obligations organized by the Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness, Saint Lucia, 16 to 20 April 2001.
  - f) International Workshop of the National Centre for Caribbean Coral Reef Research (NCORE), Miami, 3-5 October 2001.
  - g) 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute and Symposium on Caribbean Marine Protected Areas (Turks and Caicos, 12-17 November 2001).

**(b) Strengthening of the parks and protected area network for the Wider Caribbean and promotion of guidelines for protected area management**

116. During the biennium 2000-2001, the secretariat continued to work towards the promotion and effective operation of the network of marine protected area managers (CaMPAM). The secretariat, in cooperation with Biscayne National Park and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) has updated the Internet list-serve to maintain regular communications with MPAs in the region. Through this list-serve MPA managers have been informed and stimulated to participate in relevant activities, such as meetings related to the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), training, funding and job opportunities, and about the availability of relevant publications. Through CEPNews and its section "MPA Corner", articles and information specifically targeted to MPA managers and their staff continued to be published.
117. In cooperation with relevant Governments and institutions, such as CANARI, the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA), IUCN, WIDECAS and in particular TNC, the secretariat finalized the document entitled "Funding Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean: A Guide for Managers and Conservation Organizations" following the recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of ISTAC (Havana, 24 to 28 August 1999). It is expected that this publication will be used by MPA managers to analyse potential sources of funding, rank them according to applicability and develop a diversified portfolio of funding sources that will sustain the

conservation area over the long term. The document was published in English and in Spanish and widely disseminated.

118. Through earmarked funding provided by the United States Government for 1999-2000, a Small Grants Fund was developed to provide direct financial or technical assistance to MPAs, upon request, on matters such as development or update of management plans, financial plans, training, small equipment, monitoring, interpretation, public outreach, awareness etc. The Fund was launched in June 2000 to provide financial or technical assistance to MPAs for up to US\$8,000. Detailed but simple criteria and procedures for the selection of the grants were developed in consultation with partner organizations, including the development of a panel of experts to review the proposals. Information about the Fund is also available from the CEP web page ([www.cep.unep.org/programmes/spaw/MPA/mpa.htm#CaMPAM](http://www.cep.unep.org/programmes/spaw/MPA/mpa.htm#CaMPAM) Activities). It is of interest to note that few proposals have been received to date. The secretariat notes with concern that MPAs have not fully utilized this mechanism, despite several reminders and follow-up with MPAs through CaMPAM to encourage more proposals for the Small Grants Fund.
119. The secretariat has also continued preparation of a regional Block B proposal to the GEF project on marine biodiversity, in particular on strengthening of MPAs for the Central Caribbean subregion, in collaboration with IUCN, TNC and the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC). In late 2000, an informal consultation was held at CAR/RCU among the collaborating organizations to agree on the process for developing the proposal. The proposal was to directly respond to needs of the Caribbean highlighted in the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean and to complement another GEF project under development with similar objectives for the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries. During 2001 the process of development of the proposal was stopped as per inputs received from GEF.

**(c) Training in protected areas and wildlife management**

120. Considerable progress has been made in this area of SPAW during the biennium, as the secretariat was successful in raising funds for the MPA component of the SPAW training programme.
121. The implementation of the Training of Trainers programme for MPAs continued with funding received from various sources. Funding for the convening of the courses and local training activities was provided by UNEP through the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) global project, which receives substantial funding from the United Nations Foundation/United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNF/UNFIP). The World Bank also provided funds to support the development of the training course in Spanish and the participation of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef countries in the training programme, as appropriate.
122. The second two-week Training of Trainers Course for Spanish-speaking MPA managers was convened in the Dominican Republic from 1 to 13 May 2000. Fifteen MPA managers from eight Spanish-speaking countries were selected. They were exposed to the theory of adult

education and relevant teaching methods, in addition to the skills, materials and information necessary for improved management of MPAs. The course included both classroom and field exercises, as well as an evaluation of the course and instructors. The opportunity was provided for the exchange of information and experiences and improved communication among MPA managers. The participants evaluated the course positively and made pertinent recommendations for its improvement. All participants welcomed the initiative and noted that it had been a very valuable tool and experience of great assistance to their MPA management activities.

123. The funds raised by the secretariat also helped to provide assistance for the implementation of national/local courses during 2000-2001, which involved the transfer of the newly acquired skills by the trainers to protected area personnel, local communities and non-governmental organizations as appropriate in their own countries. Memoranda of understanding were developed with various MPAs (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela) for conducting training at the local level with various stakeholders and MPA staff, depending on the needs of each area.
124. Under the second phase of ICRAN, it is expected that the training programme will continue in keeping with MPA needs and the results of the evaluation of the MPA training programme concluded during 2001. Additional information on ICRAN and the projected activities of Phase II is contained in the Draft workplan and budget for the Caribbean Environment Programme for the biennium 2002-2003 (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/6 and UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/INF.7).

**(d) Conservation of threatened and endangered species and development and promotion of regional guidelines for wildlife management**

125. This area of SPAW continued to be underfunded during this biennium and consequently, many of the expected activities were not fully implemented, in particular, those relating to sea turtle recovery plan implementation, queen conch management and identification of other priority species.
126. The first sea turtle recovery action plan for a Spanish-speaking country was published under the SPAW series in collaboration with WIDECAS and national experts. CEP Technical Report No. 39, entitled "Plan de Acción para la Recuperación de las Tortugas Marinas de Venezuela", was completed and published in Spanish only (with abstract in English). The report documents that Venezuela's extensive coastline provides diverse and important habitats suitable for five species of sea turtles listed as critically endangered (hawksbill) and endangered (green, loggerhead, olive ridley and leatherback). The document summarizes the biology of the turtles, describes their status and distribution in the country and recommends research, management, and conservation actions to promote the species recovery in Venezuela.
127. Following a series of consultations with Governments, and in keeping with the recommendations of the Regional Management Plan for Manatees (CEP Technical Report

No. 35), a memorandum of understanding was developed with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to develop a national recovery plan for manatees in that country. The project will involve the participation of all relevant stakeholders and will include field surveys, research and monitoring of the population and habitat of the manatees, public awareness for schools and community groups, patrols and habitat enhancement.

128. With in-kind support and at no cost to the programme, public-awareness materials on marine mammals have been developed and widely disseminated in collaboration with IFAW and the Eastern Caribbean Cetacean Network (ECCN). These include the children's magazine *Coco's* and posters on marine life.
129. In keeping with the recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of ISTAC, the secretariat is coordinating with IFAW and ECCN the development of an action plan for marine mammals for the Wider Caribbean, using as the basis the review papers presented to the Governments at the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP(WATER)/CAR WG.22/INF.7) and at the SPAW COP1 and First Meeting of STAC (UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.20/INF.3).
130. Support was given to WIDECAST to implement the first National Caribbean Sea Turtle and Beachfront Lighting Workshop, which was held in Barbados on 13 October 2000. This was the first in a series of workshops recommended in the National Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan of Barbados developed by regional experts and published in 1992 as CEP Technical Report No. 12.
131. Support was provided for regional participants to the 2001 Annual General Meeting of WIDECAST held in Philadelphia, United States, on 22 and 23 February 2001. The main objective of the meeting was to provide a forum for national WIDECAST coordinators and partner organizations to share experiences, evaluate the programme for the past year and agree on shared tasks and priorities for the coming year.
132. In collaboration with WIDECAST a project entitled "Promoting the Conservation of Endangered Sea Turtles by Caribbean Vendors and the Travelling Public" was completed in 2001. The project will help to develop a growing public awareness in more than three dozen Caribbean States, both generally and through working with vendors to actively promote those who do not sell turtle products with a "Certificate of Pride".
133. In order to promote coordination with the SPAW Protocol, the secretariat participated in the First Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Wider Caribbean Hawksbill Turtle Dialogue held in Mexico, from 16 to 18 May 2001. The objective of the meeting was to strengthen regional cooperation on the management and conservation issues of hawksbill turtles among the Caribbean countries which are Parties to the Convention. The meeting discussed issues surrounding hawksbill turtles that included their biology, national management plans, drafting a regional plan, ranching and sustainable use, and a review of the legal framework.

134. Following the decisions of the SPAW COP1 and recommendations of the First STAC Meeting on Ad Hoc Working Group was established by the SPAW Parties to review the criteria for listing of species on the SPAW Protocol. The Working Group under the leadership of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles worked through electronic means and produced a report with recommendations for submission to the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to SPAW (Montego Bay, 6 May 2002).

**(e) Conservation and sustainable use of major ecosystems in the Wider Caribbean**

135. The secretariat has continued to serve as contact point for ICRI and to incorporate, as appropriate, the elements of the Renewed Call to Action of ICRI into CEP, in particular in the SPAW workplan. In this context, significant progress has been made in a number of areas.
136. One the major achievements in this SPAW activity has been the collaboration with the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) and with regional experts, which produced, for the first time, current and consolidated subregional reports for the Tropical Americas on the status of coral reefs. Funding was provided to facilitate the establishment of subregional nodes to undertake monitoring, training and preparation of the subregional reports for the eastern Caribbean and southern Caribbean subregions. Additionally, coordination was provided for reports preparation in de facto nodes for the northern Caribbean and western Atlantic and northern Central America subregions. All these subregions provided up-to-date information on the status of coral reefs for presentation at the Ninth International Coral Reef Symposium, held in Bali from 23 to 27 October 2000. Funding was also provided to facilitate participation in the Symposium of the node coordinators, as well as of the major contributors of national reports. The reports were prepared in coordination with relevant efforts at the regional level such as those of the Caribbean Coastal Monitoring Productivity Programme (CARICOMP), Reef Check and the Atlantic and Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment (AGRRA). This effort was possible due to the financial support of the United States Government (through the secretariat), the World Bank (through the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef Initiative), GEF (through the Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change (CPACC) project), the United Kingdom Government (through its territories), and UNEP. The reports have also been recently published as part of the GCRMN publication *Status of Coral Reefs of the World 2000* and disseminated among the national participating institutions by the secretariat.
137. Each subregional report gives the location of reefs by country, describes the status of the reef benthos, the status of coral reef fish and fishery, the anthropogenic threats, provides information on potential climate change impacts, on the marine protected areas and management capacity, presents an overview of government policies, laws and legislation and the gaps in monitoring and conservation capacity, and contains conclusions and recommendations for coral reef conservation.
138. All the subregional reports contain the conclusion that coral reef degradation has continued in the tropical Americas, with some areas showing more impacts due to anthropogenic changes but also to natural causes. To date, 22 per cent of the Caribbean reefs have been lost and another 11 per cent are at a critical stage and could be lost in the next 2 to 10 years. Common threats and

impacts include pollution from the development of coastal areas; changes in land use practices; overfishing, due to increasing demand from local populations; and tourism. In the eastern and southern Caribbean, sedimentation of inshore waters seems to be a major problem, while overfishing is the most widespread impact for the northern Caribbean and western Atlantic, and the second major problem for the southern Caribbean subregion. In Saint Lucia, coral cover has dropped an average of 50 per cent in certain areas. The problem is particularly acute in Jamaica, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, where narrow fringing reefs are easily accessible by fishers. In Jamaica, coral cover has dropped up to 90 per cent in certain areas in the last 20 years, with some recent recovery of 10 to 15 per cent. In the Bahamas, Cuba and the Turks and Caicos islands, where there are broad shelves, the fish stocks are less depleted.

139. Natural causes (possibly man-induced), such as the mass mortality of the sea urchin in the mid-1980s, are still apparent with the excessive growth of macroalgae and the spread of coral diseases. White band disease in *Acropora* spp. has led to catastrophic declines in coral cover and, in the late 1990s, coral bleaching was severe in the Bahamas, Cayman Islands and Cuba, although mortality appears to be low. This is also true for the northern Central America subregion, where these recent large-scale climatic events (coral bleaching has been attributed to sea temperature rise, due to the El Niño phenomenon) have had a tremendous impact on coral reefs, including Hurricane Mitch in 1998. All these events heavily impacted reefs from the Mexican Yucatán to Honduras. Coral cover loss was estimated at 15 to 20 per cent across this subregion, with losses as high as 75 per cent in parts of Belize, and the less developed reefs of the Mexican Pacific suffered 40 to 50 per cent coral mortality during the La Niña related cold water event. On the other hand, although in southern tropical America bleaching events increased in frequency in the 1990s, these seemed to have decreased in severity. Nevertheless, considerable levels of coral cover can still be found at numerous locations of both Caribbean (20 to 40 per cent) and Pacific (above 40 per cent) coasts of this subregion. Capacity to conserve reef resources in the Wider Caribbean is varied but, in the majority of countries, rather limited. A few good examples exist of community-based or tourism-funded management and monitoring, but most countries require assistance.
140. Discussions were held with relevant initiatives, such as Reef Check and the CPACC project, in order to coordinate monitoring and the preparation of additional national and subregional coral reef status reports for 2002. A training workshop on ReefCheck was organised for the Eastern Caribbean in collaboration with CANARI and funding provided for ReefCheck activities in participating countries following the workshop. Formalization of *de facto* subregional nodes under the framework of the GCRMN and increased monitoring efforts are ongoing.
141. In keeping with the ICRI objectives and as a follow-up to the sustainable tourism activities of CEP initiated in 1996 with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) support, the secretariat assisted with the production of the Caribbean Blue Flag Feasibility Study during 2000 and currently participates in the development of the regional Blue Flag programme for the Caribbean. CAR/RCU also participated in the CTO Sustainable Tourism Conference held in Guyana, from 18 to 23 May 2000 and made two presentations on the Blue Flag Campaign in the Caribbean and on the UNEP Principles for the Implementation of Sustainable Tourism. CTO will lead a consortium with CCA and the Caribbean Alliance for

Sustainable Tourism (CAST) that will be responsible, in coordination with the Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe for elaborating Blue Flag implementation in the Caribbean.

142. As another follow-up activity towards the sustainable tourism effort and within the objectives of Blue Flag, the secretariat supported participation of government representatives in the International Conference entitled "Managing Beaches in the Caribbean: investing in our Future" organized in Puerto Rico by SeaGrant and the University of Puerto Rico, from 21 to 24 May 2001.
143. Other activities implemented in the context of ICRI and coral reef management in general include:
  - a) Establishment of a Small Grants Fund for the CaMPAM for management activities in Marine Protected Areas (see paras. 116-118 above for detailed information);
  - b) Study by CARICOMP on coral reef diseases in the Wider Caribbean, their occurrence and possible causes. Data was collected in Belize, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago, and a final report is under preparation;
  - c) Discussions were held with the Centre for Marine Sciences at the University of the West Indies to formalize its functioning as the data depository for GCRMN/ReefBase within the region.
144. In keeping with its regional coordinating role for ICRI, the secretariat has maintained close coordination with the ICRI secretariat, including participation and assistance for the ICRI Coordinating and Planning Committee meetings. There were four such meetings (in May and October 2000 and April and November 2001), in which UNEP-CAR/RCU presented status reports on the activities of CEP and other partners relevant to ICRI. CAR/RCU also promoted the participation at Coordinating and Planning Committee meetings of relevant countries from the region and their presentations to highlight regional issues. The participation of relevant donors was also promoted to enhance support for the region for ICRI-related activities.
145. In this context, the Secretariat in collaboration with the Government of Mexico, is organizing the second ICRI Regional Workshop for the Tropical Americas (Cancun, 12-14 June 2002) with much support from the US Government and the ICRAN Project. The regional workshop will review the current status of coral reefs in the region, including policy and management interventions since the first regional workshop in 1995. The expected outputs of the Workshop include a set of recommendations for management actions to be integrated into the national and regional strategies by relevant governments and organizations as appropriate, as well as into the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) process.
146. The secretariat has been actively participating in the development of the second phase of the ICRAN project, which is being implemented in four geographical areas of the world: Wider Caribbean, Eastern Africa, South-East Asia and the Pacific Islands (see paras. 120-124 above, for details on phase one activities of ICRAN implemented in the region). ICRAN is a collaborative effort among several partners developed to reverse the decline of the world's coral reefs and it is primarily funded by UNF/UNFIP. Global partners, such as GCRMN of ICRI, ICLARM, UNEP-WCMC, CORAL and the World Resources Institute will participate in

ICRAN, contributing their own areas of expertise. Additionally, activities within the region will be done in collaboration with CaMPAM, CAST, Caribbean Fisheries Resource Management Programme, CCA, IUCN, TNC, Governments, and local non-governmental organizations. The primary objective of the ICRAN activities in the Caribbean is to build capacity on the ground for sustainable management of coral reefs, emphasizing the role of MPAs and their habitats, local communities and the tourism sector. To this end, a number of regional and local activities will be implemented, including promotion of best practices, training, coral reef monitoring and assessments, mapping of MPAs and their habitats, public awareness, and economic valuation of coral reefs. The project will be of four years' duration and is estimated at US\$10 million from UNF/UNFIP, with an additional US\$4 million at least to be raised in counterpart funding. The Caribbean component is receiving about US\$1.5 million from UNF/UNFIP (see UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/6 and UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/INF.7. for additional information on ICRAN and its activities within the SPAW 2002-2003 workplan and budget).

### **3. Information Systems for the Management of Marine and Coastal Resources subprogramme (CEPNET)**

#### **(a) Programme coordination**

147. The secretariat has continuously ensured coordination of the CEPNET subprogramme even when no permanent programme officer was present. Products developed during the previous biennium, such as the Intranet, the CEP web site and the CEPNET/IDB reports, were supported and strengthened.
148. In the biennium 1998-1999, the CEPNET subprogramme was largely supported by the CEPNET/IDB project, which provided important human and financial resources. From February 1999 to December 1999, an Interim Programme Officer supported the follow-up activities after the project's termination. From January 2000 to November 2000, the AMEP Programme Officer monitored the subprogramme to ensure that all communications and proposals were distributed and that the main tools developed in previous years were properly maintained.
149. It is only since November 2000 that a Programme Officer has been in place at CEPNET and implementation of ongoing and new activities is done on a full-time basis. To assist the Programme Officer in the execution of the workplan, a CEPNET secretary was recruited and a short-term support staff for information management was hired from May to December 2001.
150. The CEPNET staff also includes the CAR/RCU System Analyst, who maintains the secretariat's computing and electronic equipment, provides training and support to the personnel and assists the Programme Officer in programme coordination.
151. The gap in full-time supervision of the CEPNET subprogramme effectively compressed the two-year planned workload on the last year of the biennium. The delays in some activities, or lack of action in some, is owing to the fact that other staff members of CAR/RCU had to integrate many CEPNET responsibilities into their normal tasks, and also to the start-up period of the new Programme Officer.

152. CEPNET offers support and advice to the AMEP, SPAW and ETA subprogrammes for the preparation, maintenance and dissemination of their databases. Coordination with SPAW for the second version of the CaMPAM database has been initiated. The AMEP collaboration with GPA is being supported by CEPNET to develop the clearing house node for CEP.
153. Support and training for personnel of the CAR/RCU was regularly provided to facilitate the preparation of the CEP meetings. This includes the provision of computer and other electronic facilities for meetings, the dissemination of meeting documents on the Internet and the preparation and distribution of pre-meeting materials.
154. The CEPNET team provided valuable assistance to the preparation of the Meeting Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Special Meeting of the Bureau of Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region. The CEPNET Programme Officer was also in charge of the technical production of the Meeting Reports of the First Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region, and of the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW), both held in Havana, Cuba, 27-29 September, 2001.
155. The establishment of a computer training room at CAR/RCU using existing equipment facilitated in-house training.
156. All CEP technical reports are posted on the web site in HTML and Word format. When translations are available, they are made available in the same way.
157. The CEPNews bulletin was produced on a quarterly basis until the beginning of 2001. It is now being integrated into the CEP web site in the CEPNews Centre. In addition to the new Internet version, a regular fact sheet is planned to ensure that the readers without access to Internet can be informed. Since the beginning of 2000, CEPNews is not produced in hard copy. It is expected that the new format will reach more readers and be more dynamic.
158. CEPNET has assisted the other subprogrammes and the secretariat in setting and monitoring different e-groups to facilitate data and information exchanges between the secretariat and the CEP focal points.
159. Coordination with other UNEP and United Nations agencies, such as GIWA, ROLAC, the Global Ocean Observing System, the IOC/IOCARIBE and GPA was done by the CEPNET Programme Officer, to develop opportunities and assist in the implementation of global programmes.
160. Partnerships with national, regional or international non-governmental organizations were developed for the design and implementation of technical projects in the geographic information systems (GIS), remote-sensing and Internet applications development sectors.

**(b) Strengthening CAR/RCU information management capabilities**

161. To facilitate and support improvements to the management of information of CEP and its member States, CAR/RCU itself must possess and maintain up-to-date and powerful capacities. This has an effect on equipment, software, tools and knowledge.
162. New computing equipment was acquired in May-June 2001 to upgrade the capacity of the computer network of the secretariat. A new server has largely reduced the limitation of the secretariat in terms of quantity and complexity of information it can manage and store. It also allows for a better integration of the latest version of the operating system and latest version of virus detector. Five new desktop computers and two new portable computers now serve more users and will allow for better use of the Intranet.
163. Computers that were replaced or that were not powerful enough for the activities of the secretariat will be used in a small computer laboratory for personnel training in office and Internet applications and, eventually, for technical training in GIS or remote sensing. It can eventually host training programmes of other CEP projects.
164. A short-term assistant was employed from May to December 2001 to assist the Programme Officer in developing the Intranet, feeding the web site with more information and developing more databases, and to support personnel training. This has allowed for the CEP website maintenance and reorganisation, for the improvement of the user interface of the focal point database and to the establishment of other administrative or management tools.
165. The documents of the CEP library are electronically referenced and searches are possible on the Intranet. The possibility of and interest in making this system available on the CEP web site is being evaluated.
166. The CEPNET Programme Officer provided support to the CEP co-ordination with communications, preparation of expert papers and presentations in different fora.

**(c) Strengthening of the Caribbean Environment Programme web site**

167. The CEP web site is one of the most appreciated in the Wider Caribbean Region because of the relevant information it makes available. One of the main challenges of the CEPNET Programme Officer and its personnel is to make the site consistently useful to a larger community with broader interests. As the web site is one of the most visible products of CEP, it must be maintained and updated with new information and tools. Among other elements, the CEPNews has been integrated into the web site in the form of the CEPNews Centre; the site has been further reorganized to facilitate access to its content and to provide more up-to-date information; mechanisms were implemented to add new links related to the constantly increasing number of issues of interest to CEP.
168. The CEP web site will host the GPA clearing house node. A prototype has been developed and is being updated to correspond to the new computing environment. This is being done in collaboration with AMEP and GPA.

169. The spatial CEP data clearinghouse developed under the CEPNET/IDB project has been reorganized following changes in protocols at the UNEP Global Resource Information Database (GRID)-Sioux Falls (host of the CEP web site).
170. Some national agencies transferred the State of the Coast Report produced during the CEPNET/IDB project to their own sites while others need more support to maintain and update the information. A review of the lessons learned from the project and the follow-up activities needed has been prepared by the Programme Officer and was presented at the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association Caribbean GIS Conference, held in Jamaica in September 2001.
171. Coordination with the UNEP-WCMC for the development of a link to the Interactive Map Service, which is a web-based GIS providing cartographic information on coral reefs (and other themes) of the Wider Caribbean Region, has been initiated.
172. The web site can only be made more useful by improving its content. This is much more important than the format or the environment used. The CEPNET Programme Officer has promoted its development within the secretariat to facilitate the development of new databases. Links to external agencies were also negotiated. This includes CPACC, the University of the West Indies Centre for Environment and Development (UWICED), the Convention of Biological Diversity and other regional or international organizations.

**(d) Environmental reporting**

173. State of the Coast reports are available on the CEP web site for some of the countries that participated in the CEPNET/IDB project.
174. In addition to the environmental reporting activities listed in the CEPNET workplan adopted by the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting, the CEPNET Programme Officer participated in training organized by UNEP-GRID Arendal and UNEP-ROLAC in Trinidad and Tobago in December 2000 on the Internet version of the Global Environment Outlook (GEO) assessment process.
175. The CEPNET Programme Officer represented the CEP at the Global Environment Outlook Regional Consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean, in San Jose, Costa Rica, in May 2001; and at the Caribbean Subregional Preparatory Meeting of the Regional Preparatory Process leading to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in Havana, Cuba, in June 2001.
176. He also coordinated the review by CAR/RCU of the draft Assessment of Marine and Coastal Issues in Latin America and the Caribbean (GEO-3 2002). This important assessment will provide guidelines for policy development and enforcement in the Wider Caribbean Region. Following, he attended the State of the Caribbean Marine and Coastal Environment Meeting in Havana in July 2001.

**(e) CEPNET technical advisory services**

177. The CEPNET Technical Advisory Services had its start in the CEPNET/IDB project. The overall objective of the Technical Advisory Services is to strengthen the coastal and marine environmental resources management capabilities of CEP member countries. These initiatives will build on the CEPNET/IDB model and developments successfully implemented in the CEPNET/IDB project. The developments will include the establishment of an Internet-based clearing house structure with nodes in the participating countries, spatial and non-spatial database development and management, metadata implementation, integrated web sites, focused and practical demonstration projects and other activities, with all developments based on internationally accepted standards and protocols.
178. No activities were executed directly under this project in the biennium 2000-2001. However ongoing efforts in fund-raising and in partnership development have lead to project proposals for donors. Coordination with donors is still ongoing to find funding for web-GIS and remote sensing projects in coastal resources management and land-based sources of marine pollution.

**(f) Collaboration with agencies and institutions establishing regionally relevant environmental information networks and environmental information systems**

179. The CEPNET Programme Officer attended the “Caribbean Observations in a Global Context Meeting” organized by CPACC in Barbados from 28 February to 2 March 2001. He presented the coordination role of SPAW and CEP in GCRMN and the objectives of CEPNET. Contacts were established with representatives of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (of the United States Government), OAS, CPACC and others on collaboration opportunities to be developed.
180. CPACC is developing a network of oceanographic and climatic data in 12 CARICOM countries and will deliver the Coastal Resources Information System. CEPNET hopes to facilitate its maintenance and replicability in other countries.
181. The Centre for Caribbean Land and Environment Appraisal Research of the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago presented its draft mission statement to CEPNET for evaluation and support.
182. Coordination with the University of West Indies Centre for Environment and Development was initiated in April 2001 to link the CEP web site to the UWICED web site, mostly to share information and experiences in web-based training materials on the management of environment resources and others.
183. SPAW and CEPNET are coordinating with UNEP-WCMC for the development of the web-GIS database on coastal resources for the Wider Caribbean Region .
184. The CEPNET Programme Officer represented the CEP at the following regional meetings: Workshop to Develop a Regional (CARIFORUM) Cooperative Framework for Enhanced

Management & Development of Protected Areas, CREP/CCA, Barbados, 8-9 Nov. 2001; Project Advisory Committee/Agency Meeting, CPACC Project, Barbados, 14 Dec. 2001; First Planning Workshop for the Ocean Data and Information Network for the IOCARIBE and South America Region, Guayaquil, Ecuador, 24-26 Oct. 2001; and the Seminario Regional sobre Convenios Internacionales y Cooperación para la Protección del Medio Marino (ROCRAM), Guayaquil, Ecuador, 22-26 Oct. 2001.

**(g) Collaboration with the UNEP Global Programme of Action in the establishment of a regional clearinghouse node in the Wider Caribbean Region for information related to land-based sources of marine pollution**

185. CEPNET is coordinating with AMEP to develop the GPA clearinghouse node for CEP (see Section B.1 (g) above).

**(h) Training in coastal zone management uses and applications of remote sensing and geographic information systems**

186. A draft proposal was prepared in 2000 and is being updated by the CEPNET Programme Officer. Updates include the introduction of web-based GIS and the use of airborne remote-sensing sensors to the methodology envisaged. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States of America (NOAA) has invited CEPNET to submit technical proposals to increase access of the Member States to the wealth of information available on the NOASS's web sites. Co-ordination with its Coastal Service Center is also on-going to identify training opportunities.

**(i) Web-based geographic information systems activities**

187. CEP needs to develop its capacities in this new tool that could become the most important decision-making instrument in the network environment that is being built by the secretariat. Donors are being sought to merge resources, interests and knowledge to develop pilot projects that can provide building blocks to a region-wide GIS database and a solid metadata catalogue. A close co-ordination with the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States of America (EPA) exists for the design of a regional strategy in web-based GIS for land-based sources of pollution. CEPNET is expected to play a catalyst role in the establishment of pilot projects and training programmes.

188. USAID/Jamaica has also shown interest in technical proposals submitted in the last semester of 2001.

189. The UNEP-WCMC Interactive Map Service is being reviewed by SPAW and CEPNET.

#### **4. Education, Training and Awareness subprogramme**

##### **(a) Programme coordination**

190. There was no Programme Officer for ETA at the secretariat owing to inadequate funding and priorities set by the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting. Accordingly, the ETA tasks are supervised and developed by the Coordinator and each Programme Officer where such activities can be integrated into the projects developed under the CEP work plan and budget. Although there is currently no project specifically labelled as an ETA project, there are components of it in almost every project being implemented by the secretariat. The following paragraphs summarize the related activities already presented in subsections 1 to 3 of this section.
191. The secretariat responds to enquiries regarding marine pollution, wildlife and natural resources protection, geographic information, etc., and collaborates with different academic institutions, such as EARTH College, UWICED and others.
192. The secretariat also publishes or supports the publication of informative brochures, such as “The Caribbean Environment Programme” and “SPAW Protocol, its obligations and benefits” (with IFAW).
193. In keeping with the efforts to promote the SPAW Protocol and its programme, the secretariat participates in, and prepares relevant reports and/or presentations on SPAW activities for a number of international meetings.
194. The MPA managers were supported under the CaMPAM network and a list-server to inform and stimulate their participation in relevant SPAW activities. Through CEPNews and its section “MPA Corner”, articles and information specifically targeted to MPA managers and their staff continued to be published. In cooperation with relevant Governments, the secretariat finalized the document entitled “Funding protected areas in the Wider Caribbean: a guide for managers and conservation organizations” (English and Spanish). The implementation of the training of trainers programme (English and Spanish) for MPAs continued with funding received from various sources. A two-week Training of Trainers course for Spanish-speaking MPA managers was convened in the Dominican Republic from 1 to 13 May 2000. Assistance for the implementation of national/local courses during 2000-2001 was also provided by the secretariat.
195. The first National Caribbean Sea Turtle and Beachfront Lighting Workshop was held in Barbados on 13 October 2000 with the assistance of WIDECAS. Another joint project with WIDECAS, aiming at developing public awareness in more than three dozen Caribbean countries by actively promoting vendors who do not sell turtle products with a “Certificate of Pride”, will be completed in 2001.
196. The secretariat supported the production of a Caribbean Blue Flag Feasibility Study and participated in the development of a regional programme for Blue Flag for the Caribbean.

197. The new CEPNews Centre on the CEP web site has been strengthened to improve the secretariat's dissemination of electronic information. The documents of the CEP library are electronically referenced and searches are possible on the Intranet. The CEP web site has been strengthened to provide more links to its users so that they can more efficiently access data, information, knowledge and experiences.

#### **IV. PROPOSED OBJECTIVES OF THE TENTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME AND THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THE WIDER CARIBBEAN REGION**

198. The proposed objectives of the Meeting are:

- Evaluate the projects and activities implemented within the framework of the Caribbean Environment Programme during the period 2000-2001;
- Review the progress made in the implementation of the decisions of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting and Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Kingston, 14-18 February 2000);
- Review and take action as appropriate on the decisions the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Havana, Cuba, 24-25 September 2001 and the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 6 May 2002;
- Review the recommendations of and take action as appropriate on:
  - the Thirteenth Meeting of the Monitoring Committee and Special Meeting of the Bureau of Contracting Parties (San Jose, 9-13 July 2001); and
  - the Report of the First Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (ISTAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities, Ocho Rios, Jamaica, 19-23 February 2001
- Review and adopt as appropriate the Rules of Procedure and Financial Rules for the Caribbean Environment Programme;
- Review and adopt a Strategy for the Development of the CEP for 2002-2006;
- Review the structure, activities, and workprogrammes of the Regional Activity Centres on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW/RAC) in Guadeloupe and Oil Spills (RAC/REMPEITC-Carib) in Curacao and decide on further action;
- Review the joint proposal from the Governments of Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago to establish a Regional Activity Centre for Land-based Marine Pollution and decide on further action;

- Decide on the composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Bureau of Contracting Parties for the 2002 - 2003 period; and
- Review and adopt the Workplan and Budget for CEP for the 2002-2003 Biennium.

**Annex I: Status of pledges and contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund (2000-2001)**

## Annex I: Status of pledges and contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund (2000-2001)

UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.22/INF.5

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.20	Adjustments	Pledges for 2001	Collections in 2001 for prior years	Collection in 2001 for 2001 & fut.yrs	Unpaid pledges 2001 & prior yrs.
ANGUILLA	18,644.00	-	9,322.00	18,644.00	0.00	9,322.00
ANTIGUA/BARBUDA	112,956.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	122,278.00
ARUBA	16,450.00		8,500.00	0.00	0.00	24,950.00
BAHAMAS	9,322.00	(3,784)	9,322.00	5,538.00	9,322.00	0.00
BARBADOS	0.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	9,322.00
BELIZE	25,500.00	-	8,500.00	15,000.00	0.00	19,000.00
BRITISH VIRGIN IS.	11,005.00	-	5,500.00	0.00	0.00	16,505.00
CAYMAN ISLANDS	10,350.00	-	5,175.00	10,350.00	5,175.00	0.00
COLOMBIA	530.00	-	17,534.00	530.00	35,756.37	(18,222.37)
COSTA RICA	146,452.00	-	10,143.00	71,082.64	0.00	85,512.36
CUBA	49,189.00	-	17,534.00	0.00	0.00	66,723.00
DOMINICA, Commonwealth	26,841.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	36,163.00
DOMINICAN REP.	153,710.00	821	10,964.00	0.00	0.00	165,495.00
FRANCE	0.00	-	212,513.00	0.00	212,513.00	0.00
GRENADA	114,790.00	-	9,322.00	9,321.85	0.00	114,790.15
GUATEMALA	161,082.00	-	10,143.00	0.00	0.00	171,225.00
GUYANA	56,478.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	65,800.00
HAITI	16,450.00	-	9,322.00	16,450.00	0.00	9,322.00
HONDURAS	31,278.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	40,600.00
JAMAICA	62,457.00	(28,302)	14,168.00	0.00	0.00	48,322.76
MEXICO	25,264.00	-	40,000.00	25,264.00	23,544.41	16,455.59
MONTSERRAT	0.00	-	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00
NETHERLANDS ANTLS.	7,148.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	16,470.00
NICARAGUA	81,765.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	91,087.00
PANAMA	0.00	-	10,143.00	0.00	0.00	10,143.00
ST. KITTS-NEVIS	5,000.00	-	2,500.00	5,000.00	2,500.00	0.00
ST. LUCIA	23,500.00	-	8,500.00	17,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	72,000.00	-	8,500.00	0.00	0.00	80,500.00
SURINAME	40,027.00	-	9,322.00	0.00	0.00	49,349.00
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	20,311.00	-	10,964.00	10,317.62	0.00	20,957.38
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	39,500.00	-	4,500.00	39,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
USA (Cartegena Conv.)	0.00	-	300,000	0.00	300,000.00	0.00
VENEZUELA	148,419.84	-	130,341.00	0.00	0.00	278,760.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,486,418.84</b>		<b>950,486.00</b>	<b>243,998.11</b>	<b>591,310.78</b>	<b>1,570,330.71</b>
Bahamas US\$(3,874) is adjusted to reflect receipt of US\$13,106 fully applied to year 2000 instead of US\$9322						

Status of Contributions as at 31 December 2001 (in United States Dollars)

**Annex II: Expenditures for the overall coordination of common costs and subprogrammes**

**Annex II: Expenditures for the  
overall coordination of common costs and subprogrammes**

Activity	Approved CTF Budget 2000	EXPENDITURES 2000			Approved CTF Budget 2001	EXPENDITURES 2001		
		CTF	Other Contributions	Total		CTF	Other Contributions	Total
Professional Salaries	\$317,000	\$380,327		\$380,327	\$322,000	\$448,810	\$89,676	\$538,486
Support Staff Salaries	\$227,500	\$181,193		\$181,193	\$160,273	\$207,314		\$207,314
Consultants & Sub-contracts	\$8,000	-\$51,852	\$115,192	\$63,340	\$15,000	\$5,712	\$26,098	\$31,810
Travel	\$55,000	\$77,951	-\$984	\$76,967	\$56,000	\$68,629		\$68,629
Meetings	\$0	-\$2,787	-\$2,833	-\$5,620	\$0	\$52,703	\$203,957	\$256,660
Equipment	\$40,000	\$42,063		\$42,063	\$28,000	\$42,856		\$42,856
Rent and Maintenance	\$60,000	-\$3,286		-\$3,286	\$76,000	\$41,819		\$41,819
Reporting	\$34,000	\$682		\$682	\$37,500	\$8,927	\$18,839	\$27,766
Miscellaneous (comm and others)	\$48,950	\$53,194		\$53,194	\$48,450	\$46,244		\$46,244
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$790,450</b>	<b>\$677,485</b>	<b>\$111,375</b>	<b>\$788,860</b>	<b>\$743,223</b>	<b>\$923,014</b>	<b>\$338,570</b>	<b>\$1,261,584</b>
<b>Programme Support cost 13% (amount subject to change based on source of funding)</b>								
	\$102,759	\$88,073	\$14,479	\$102,552	\$96,619	\$119,992	\$44,014	\$164,006
<b>Sub-total OCCC</b>	<b>\$893,209</b>	<b>\$765,558</b>	<b>\$125,854</b>	<b>\$891,412</b>	<b>\$839,842</b>	<b>\$1,043,006</b>	<b>\$382,584</b>	<b>\$1,425,590</b>

*Note: negative values indicate credits or adjustments*

**Annex II: Expenditures for the  
overall coordination of common costs and subprogrammes**

**AMEP Subprogramme**

Activity	Approved CTF Budget 2000	EXPENDITURES 2000			Approved CTF Budget 2001	EXPENDITURES 2001		
		CTF	Other Contributions	Total		CTF	Other Contributions	Total
Coordination (costs covered in OCCC)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Reducing Pesticide Run-off to the Caribbean Sea	<i>\$40,000</i>	\$0	\$266,303	\$266,303	\$0	\$33,948	\$84,057	\$118,005
Pilot Projects in Sewage Treatment Needs Assessments	\$0	\$0	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Strategy for National Implementation of the LBS Protocol	<i>\$15,000</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Planning for Rehabilitation, Environmental Management and Coastal Development in the Wake of Hurricane Mitch	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Integrating Management of Watersheds and Coastal Areas in SIDS of the Caribbean	\$0	\$0	\$121,000	\$121,000	\$0	\$0	\$95,695	\$95,695
Assessing Non-point Source Loadings to the Marine Environment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rehabilitation of Contaminated Bays	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Training for the Development and Improvement of National Oil Spill Contingency Plans	<i>\$25,000</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Legal and Technical Review and Comparison of the Oil Spill Protocol and OPRC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$408,803</b>	<b>\$408,803</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$33,948</b>	<b>\$179,752</b>	<b>\$213,700</b>
<b>Programme Support cost 13% (amount subject to change based on source of funding)</b>	\$10,400	\$0	\$2,795	\$13,195	\$0	\$4,413	\$0	\$4,413
<b>Sub-total AMEP</b>	<b>\$90,400</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$411,598</b>	<b>\$501,998</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$38,361</b>	<b>\$179,752</b>	<b>\$218,113</b>

*Note: Values in italics were from earmarked contributions*

**Annex II: Expenditures for the overall coordination of common costs and subprogrammes**

**SPAW Subprogramme**

Activity	Approved CTF Budget 2000	EXPENDITURES 2000			Approved CTF Budget 2001	EXPENDITURES 2001		
		CTF	Other Contributions <sup>1</sup>	Total		CTF	Other Contributions <sup>1</sup>	Total
a) Programme co-ordination <sup>2/</sup>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
b) Strengthening of the parks and protected areas in the Wider Caribbean and promotion of guidelines for protected area management	\$50,000	\$14,500	\$0	\$14,500	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
c) Training in protected areas and wildlife management	\$0	\$0	\$81,000	\$81,000	\$0	\$0	\$73,000	\$73,000
d) Conservation of threatened and endangered species and development and promotion of regional guidelines for wildlife management	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$7,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
e) Conservation and sustainable use of major ecosystems in the Wider Caribbean	\$0	\$44,000	\$0	\$44,000	\$0	\$41,000	\$0	\$41,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$62,000</b>	<b>\$84,500</b>	<b>\$146,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$91,000</b>	<b>\$73,000</b>	<b>\$164,000</b>
<b>Programme Support cost 13% (amount subject to change based on source of funding)</b>	\$6,500	\$8,060	\$10,985	\$19,045	\$0	\$11,830	\$9,490	\$21,320
<b>Sub-total SPAW</b>	<b>\$56,500</b>	<b>\$70,060</b>	<b>\$95,485</b>	<b>\$165,545</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$102,830</b>	<b>\$82,490</b>	<b>\$185,320</b>

*Values in italics were earmarked contributions from the US Government for the biennium (for MPA Small Grants Fund and coral reef activities)*

1/ Includes both World Bank and UN Foundation (ICRAN Start-up Phase) contributions for the MPA training programme

2/ Costs of convening of First STAC and First COP meetings in 2001 are reflected under OCCC. Costs for preparation of documents for these meetings are included here

*Note: In-kind contributions from IFAW, ECCN, TNC and Monitor International are not reflected in this budget*





**Annex III: Status of the Cartagena Convention and 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
Antigua and Barbuda		11-Sep-86		11-Sep-86	18-Jan-90			
Bahamas								
Barbados	05-Mar-84	28-May-85	05-Mar-84	28-May-85				
Belize		22-Sep-99		22-Sep-99				
Colombia	24-Mar-83	03-Mar-88	24-Mar-83	03-Mar-88	18-Jan-90	05-Jan-98	02-Oct-00	
Costa Rica		01-Aug-91		01-Aug-91			06-Oct-99	
Cuba		15-Sep-88		15-Sep-88	18-Jan-90	04-Aug-98		
Dominica		05-Oct-90		05-Oct-90				
Dominican Republic		24-Nov-98		24-Nov-98		24-Nov-98	03-Aug-00	
France	24-Mar-83	13-Nov-85	24-Mar-83	13-Nov-85	18-Jan-90		06-Oct-99	
Grenada	24-Mar-83	17-Aug-87	24-Mar-83	17-Aug-87				
Guatemala	05-Jul-83	18-Dec-89	05-Jul-83	18-Dec-89	18-Jan-90			
Guyana								
Haiti								
Honduras	24-Mar-83		24-Mar-83					
Jamaica	24-Mar-83	01-Apr-87	24-Mar-83	01-Apr-87	18-Jan-90			
Mexico	24-Mar-83	11-Apr-85	24-Mar-83	11-Apr-85	18-Jan-90			
Netherlands	24-Mar-83	16-Apr-84	24-Mar-83	16-Apr-84	18-Jan-90	02-Mar-92	06-Oct-99	
Nicaragua	24-Mar-83		24-Mar-83					
Panama	24-Mar-83	07-Nov-87	24-Mar-83	07-Nov-87	16-Jan-91	27-Sep-96		
St. Kitts and Nevis								
Saint Lucia	24-Mar-83	20-Nov-84	24-Mar-83	20-Nov-84	18-Jan-90	25-Apr-00		
St. Vincent and the Grenadines		11-Jul-90		11-Jul-90	26-Jul-91	26-Jul-91		
Suriname								
Trinidad and Tobago		24-Jan-86		24-Jan-86	18-Jan-90	10-Aug-99		
United Kingdom	24-Mar-83	28-Feb-86	24-Mar-83	28-Feb-86	18-Jan-90			
United States of America	24-Mar-83	31-Oct-84	24-Mar-83	31-Oct-84	18-Jan-90		06-Oct-99	
Venezuela	24-Mar-83	18-Dec-86	24-Mar-83	18-Dec-86	18-Jan-90	28-Jan-97		
European Economic Commission	24-Mar-83							

**Annex IV : Organization chart of the secretariat of the Caribbean Environment**

