



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



6 - 9 October 2010

**Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol
Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW)
in the Wider Caribbean Region**

5 October 2010

Montego Bay, Jamaica

Announcement

The **Secretariat of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (UNEP-CAR/RCU)** announces the above-mentioned meetings, being convened from 5th to 9th October 2010 in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

In recognition of the designation of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, special sessions will be devoted to the recognition of the global economic benefits of biodiversity, and participating countries will be invited to highlight their national initiatives for the conservation of the biodiversity of the Wider Caribbean.

A. Introduction

The Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) is the major forum of the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP). The Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) was adopted at the Second Intergovernmental Meeting, convened at Cartagena de Indias in 1983. The Cartagena Convention provides the framework for its current Protocols on Oil Spills, Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife, and Land-Based Sources and Activities of Marine Pollution.

The IGM convenes every two years and is held jointly with the meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention. At these meetings participating Governments determine the content of the Workplan and Budget of the CEP, review its progress and chart a course for the future.

The Bureau of Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention and Monitoring Committee for the Action Plan of the Caribbean Environment Programme are elected each biennium from among the Contracting Parties to the Convention and CEP Member Governments attending the IGM, respectively.

B. Fourteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Eleventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region

This meeting proposes to review the achievements of the Caribbean Environment Programme during the 2008-2009 biennium and to approve the Workplan of the CEP for the 2010-2011 biennium. The Secretariat, on behalf of the CEP Governments and Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention, has convened the meeting to:

- Evaluate the projects and activities implemented within the framework of the Caribbean Environment Programme during the period 2008-2009;
- Review the progress made in the implementation of the decisions of the Thirteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Tenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, St John's, Antigua & Barbuda, 9 - 12 September 2008;
- Review and take action, as appropriate, on the Decisions of the Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) in the Wider Caribbean Region, 5 October 2010;
- Review the recommendations of and take action, as appropriate, on the Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (ISTAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities, Panama City, Panama, 24 - 28 May 2010;
- Review the recommendations of and take action, as appropriate, on the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee to the Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Combating Oil Spills in the Wider Caribbean Region, Willemstad, Curacao, 11 - 12 May 2010;
- Review and adopt the Rules of Procedure and Financial Rules for the Caribbean Environment Programme;
- Review and adopt the Workplan and Budget for CEP for the 2010-2011 Biennium, including those of the Regional Activity Centres; and
- Decide on the composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Bureau of Contracting Parties for the 2010-2011 period.

Key Sessions:

- Side Events to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity

C. Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) in the Wider Caribbean Region

In accordance with the SPAW Workplan and Budget for 2008-2009, approved by the Fifth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the SPAW Protocol, in St John's, Antigua & Barbuda, 8 September 2008, and by the Thirteenth Intergovernmental Meeting of the CEP, in St John's, Antigua & Barbuda, 9 - 12 September 2008, the proposed objectives of the Sixth SPAW COP Meeting are to:

- Review the current status and activities of the SPAW Workplan and the SPAW Protocol;
- Decide on the 2010-2011 Workplan and Budget of the SPAW Programme and the SPAW Protocol for subsequent approval by the Fourteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Eleventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region;
- Review and agree on further action on the Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the guidelines and criteria for the evaluation of protected areas to be listed under the SPAW Protocol;
- Review activities of the Regional Activity Centre (RAC) for SPAW, in Guadeloupe; and
- Review the activities of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals in the Wider Caribbean Region.

D. Participants

National focal points or their designated representatives of all Parties to the Cartagena Convention and SPAW Protocol, as well as the States and Territories participating in the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Commission of the European Union are invited to attend the meetings.

Other States that have demonstrated concern for the protection of the marine environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, UN and non-UN regional and international organisations, NGOs, donors and private sector representatives participating or interested in the Caribbean Environment Programme are also invited to attend the meetings as observers. Regional and international experts may also be invited to make special presentations to the meetings.

In the upcoming months, letters of invitation will be sent out requesting Governments and relevant organisations to nominate their representative(s) to the meetings, and the preliminary documents will be posted on our Website.

In due course, and as they become available, the Working and Information Documents will be posted, and it will be indicated through this website once they can be downloaded.

E. Venue

The Meetings will be held in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Confirmation of exact venue and other logistical details **will be made available as soon as possible on the UNEP-CAR/RCU website:**

www.cep.unep.org

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