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Third Meeting of the Interim Scientific, Technical
and Advisory Committee (ISTAC) to the Protocol
Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and
Activities (LBS) in the Wider Caribbean

Mexico City, Mexico, 22-26 August, 2005

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

Introduction and Objectives

1. Decision No. 29 (b) of the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) and the Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Kingston, Jamaica, 14-18 February 2000) agreed to bring into existence an *Ad Hoc* Group of Government-designated Experts to begin to function as an Interim Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (ISTAC) on Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS) and Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) activities as they relate to the Protocol, until the Protocol enters into force.
2. The Second Meeting of the LBS/ISTAC was convened in Managua, Nicaragua, 12-16 May 2003. Consistent with the Workplan and Budget of the CEP for 2004-2005, the present meeting is being convened as the Third Meeting of the LBS/ISTAC with the following objectives:
 - review the current status and activities of the LBS Protocol;
 - develop the 2006-2007 Workplan and Budget of the LBS Protocol for subsequent approval by the Twelfth Intergovernmental Meeting;
 - review relevant activities of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA) and in particular the development and implementation of National Programmes of Action (NPAs)
 - review the activities of the LBS Regional Activity Centres (RACs) including an

- assessment of the development of the Regional Activity Network (RAN) and the Operating Procedures for the RACs and RAN; and
- identify new activities and projects for further development as part of the AMEP work programme
3. The experts invited to the Meeting are nominated by the National Focal Points of the Caribbean Environment Programme. Additionally, representatives of international, regional, intergovernmental, and non-governmental organizations have been invited to attend the Meeting as Observers.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

4. The Meeting will be opened by the Secretariat, on Monday, 22 August 2005 at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda item 2: Election of Officers

5. The Meeting will be invited to elect from among the Experts a Chairperson, three Vice Chairpersons, and a Rapporteur of the Meeting.

Agenda item 3: Organization of the Meeting

(a) Rules of procedure

6. The rules of procedure of the Governing Council for UNEP (UNEP/GC/3/Rev.3) will apply *mutatis mutandis*, for the conduct of the Meeting.

(b) Organization of the work

7. English, French and Spanish will be the working languages of the Meeting. Simultaneous interpretation in these languages will be provided for the Meeting. The working documents of the Meeting will be available in all the working languages.
8. The Secretariat proposes to convene the Meeting in plenary sessions, with the assistance of working groups. The Chairperson may also establish other working groups. Simultaneous interpretation will not be available for the working groups.

Agenda item 4: Adoption of the Agenda

9. The Meeting will be invited to adopt the Agenda of the Meeting. The Provisional Agenda proposed by the Secretariat is contained in document UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.28/1.

Agenda item 5: Review of the Status and Activities of the LBS Protocol

(a) Review of Status

10. The Government of Colombia, as Depositary for the Cartagena Convention will be invited to present the current status of the Cartagena Convention and the LBS Protocol regarding ratifications and accessions.
11. All Member Governments will be invited to report on the status of ratification or accession in

their respective countries.

(b) Review of Activities

12. The Secretariat will make a general presentation and evaluation of the major projects implemented under the AMEP Sub-programme, within the scope of the LBS Protocol, and their achievements. During its presentation the Secretariat will refer to documents UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.28/INF.3, UNEP(DEC)CAR WG.28/INF.4 and UNEP(DEC)CAR WG.28/INF.5, as well as other relevant information and reference documents as appropriate.
13. The two LBS Regional Activity Centres will be invited to report on their additional activities in support of the LBS Protocol.
14. The Meeting will be invited to provide comments on the implemented activities and to give particular ideas and suggestions that can be further developed.

Agenda item 6: Adjourn Meeting and Open Regional Workshop on National Programmes of Action (NPAs)

Agenda item 7: Presentation and Review of Other Relevant Activities and Initiatives

(a) Recommendations from Regional NPA Workshop

15. The Secretariat will continue to promote the further development and implementation of NPAs in the Wider Caribbean Region in collaboration with UNEP/GPA and NOAA. The specific recommendations from the Regional NPA workshop will be considered for incorporation into the proposed Workplan and Budget for 2006-2007.

(b) Marine Debris

16. The Secretariat is developing in collaboration with the UNEP Regional Seas Programme a Marine Debris proposal. The main elements of this proposal will be presented to the Meeting for discussion to assist in its further development.

(c) Protection of Recreational Water Quality in the Wider Caribbean Region

17. Protection of recreational water quality is critical to many CEP countries to protect the health of residents and visitors. Further to CEP's ongoing efforts to develop effective partnerships to further the goals and objectives of the LBS Protocol, the South Eastern will be invited to make a presentation on a regional initiative aimed at the collection of water quality data for the region.
18. An expert from the University of Hawaii will be invited as a resource person to give a presentation on the use of bioassays and environmental forensics as tools for assessing the sources and impacts of marine pollution and in establishing priorities for further action.

(d) GIS and Information Management in support of the AMEP sub programme

19. The Secretariat will be invited to make a presentation on related CEPNET activities including the development of GIS capability for the CIMAB-LBS/RAC.
20. CATHALAC will also be invited to make a presentation on the development of GIS capability and the potential for its wider application in the Wider Caribbean Region.
21. Representatives from other relevant programmes and initiatives will be invited to present other relevant programmes with a view to identifying linkages, and avoiding overlap with activities identified by the LBS/ISTAC for implementation.
22. The Meeting will be invited to make specific comments and recommendations on the presentations made.

Agenda item 8: Review of the Operations of the Regional Activity Centres (RACs) for Marine Pollution from Land-Based Sources.

23. Decision IX of the Tenth IGM accepted the offers made by the Governments of Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago to establish Regional Activity Centres (RACs) of CEP for the implementation of the LBS Protocol. Decision VII of the Eleventh IGM extended the mandate of the Open Working Group established during that meeting on the Guidelines for the Operations of the Regional Activity Centres (RACs) and the Regional Activities Networks (RANs) of the Caribbean Environment Programme. This Working Group will continue to coordinate the review of the document UNEP(DEC)/CAR IG.24/CRP.9 during the intersession leading to the Twelfth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Ninth Meeting of the Contracting Parties;
23. The progress of the work of the Working Group will be presented to the Meeting for their general comment.

Agenda item 9: Review of the Draft 2006-2007 Workplan and Budget for the LBS Protocol

24. The Secretariat will present the Draft Workplan and Budget for AMEP/LBS Protocol for the 2006-2007 biennium as contained in document UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.28/3. The workplan was prepared based on inputs received from Governments and organizations for this purpose, the two LBS RACs, as well as on ongoing relevant initiatives of regional and global interest.
25. The Meeting will be invited to review and comment on the draft documents from the AMEP sub-programme and to formulate concrete recommendations and modifications as appropriate for the prioritization and implementation of the activities for 2006-2007. The final document on the AMEP workplan will be forwarded to the Twelfth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Ninth Meeting of the Contracting Parties for approval.

Agenda item 10: Other Business

26. The participants of the Meeting will be invited to raise other issues not covered by the preceding agenda items, but relevant to the scope of the Meeting.

Agenda item 11: Adoption of the Report of the Meeting

27. The Rapporteur of the Meeting will present the draft report of the Meeting (document UNEP(DEC)CAR WG.28/5). The Meeting will be invited to adopt the report, with amendments and corrections to be introduced in the draft, as appropriate.

Agenda item 12: Closure of the Meeting

28. The Meeting is expected to be closed on Friday, 26 August 2005 at 5:00 p.m. by the Chairperson of the Meeting and the Secretariat.