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

Cayenne, French Guiana, 15 - 17 March 2017

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2015-2016
WORKPLAN AND BUDGET OF THE CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report is presented to the Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) and the Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) held in Cayenne, French Guiana, 15 - 17 March 2017. It covers the implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2015-2016, budgetary status, and administration and human resource management at the Secretariat.
2. CEP projects and activities continue to support its mission to promote regional co-operation for the protection and development of the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) and its long-term objective of achieving sustainable development of marine and coastal resources in the WCR through effective, integrated management that allows for economic growth and sustainable livelihoods.
3. The Secretariat has taken appropriate actions in response to the Decisions and Recommendations of the Sixteenth Intergovernmental Meeting and other CEP intergovernmental or technical meetings and these were implemented within the work programme for 2015-2016 (Annex I).
4. Staffing at UN Environment-CAR/RCU currently includes a total of 13 staff members (the Coordinator, three professional officers, and nine general service/locally recruited staff) financed under the Caribbean Trust Fund and the programme support costs levied on it.
5. The Secretariat has actively pursued the collection of pledges to the Caribbean Trust Fund (CTF), including the collection of outstanding pledges. The Secretariat collected a total of US\$2,017,962 in 2015-2016 and 1,964,018 in 2013-2014. This compares to US\$2,986,350 in 2012-2013, US\$2,033,428 in 2010-2011, US\$2,341,505 in 2008-2009, US\$2,484,022 for 2006-2007; and US\$2,517,328 for 2004-2005.
6. The amounts collected between 2015 and 2016 have been very low however a significant decline from previous years was observed in the collections in 2013-2014. Innovative strategies continue to help address ongoing financial constraints including: encouraging governments to make in-kind contributions through hosting of meetings and workshops and mobilizing direct bilateral support for unfunded and new project activities in the region.
7. The Government of France contributed Euro 120,000 to host the present Cartagena Convention COP/IGM and the COPs of the LBS and SPAW Protocols. The Government of the United States hosting the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC) Meetings of the LBS and SPAW Protocol in Miami is also acknowledged. Other Governments have also continued to support the convening of national and regional workshops mainly through in-kind contributions to the implementation of CEP's Workplan.
8. Other CEP Member Governments, especially those with unpaid pledges, are encouraged to make regular and timely payments to the Trust Fund. In challenging situations, Member Governments are also called to consider hosting of CEP meetings and workshops in the future to offset their financial arrears. This will allow for programme continuity and a more effective response by the Secretariat to the needs of Member Governments.
9. The Secretariat renews its recognition for the cooperation shown by many other Governments who provided support and extraordinary contributions to facilitate the implementation of the 2015-2016 work programme. It notes the continued support provided by the Governments of Cuba, France, Trinidad and Tobago and Curaçao for hosting the CEP Regional Activity Centres (RACs).
10. Additionally, the Secretariat thanks the Governments of France and the United States for seconding experts to the Regional Centre for Oil Spills (RAC-REMPEITC) in Curaçao and looks forward to their continued support.
11. The Secretariat was extensively involved in the execution of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CRew) which will end by December 2017. The Secretariat also coordinated the launch of the GEF Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystem Management in

Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) or IWECO project which was approved in 2015. IWECO is the follow up project to the GEF Integrating Watersheds and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) and is expected to start full implementation in 2017. The Secretariat also supported the development and implementation of other GEF projects being executed by partner agencies in the Wider Caribbean Region including the GEF Catalysing implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the sustainable management of shared Living Marine Resources in CLME+ region (UNDP/GEF CLME+). While participation in these projects by the Secretariat has enabled it to cover some of its operating costs, it does not guarantee the long-term financial sustainability of the CEP.

12. The Governments of Jamaica and Costa Rica ratified the Protocol concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS) to the Cartagena Convention during the biennium. Of the 28 UN Member States that have the authority to ratify the Cartagena Convention, as of the 17th IGM, 25 had ratified the Convention and the Oil Spills Protocol since its adoption in 1983. Despite this several governments in the region have communicated to the Secretariat their ongoing efforts to ratify the Convention and its Protocols. The status of the ratification of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols can be found in Annex V.
13. UN Environment has finalised new host agreements with the Governments of Curacao and Trinidad and Tobago. Discussions with the Government of Cuba are ongoing and it is hoped that their Host Agreement will be signed in 2017.
14. The reporting template approved at the 14th IGM was circulated to facilitate reporting from countries on the status of the Convention and its Protocols at the 17th IGM.
15. The implementation of projects and activities continues to be facilitated through a growing number of partnerships with governmental institutions, non-governmental organizations, the academic, scientific and research communities, and civil society including the private sector. Increased cooperation has also occurred with international, regional and sub-regional agencies. These have been done directly with the Secretariat, through the RACs, and by linkages with the GEF funded projects being executed by the Secretariat. In particular, there was continued collaboration with CARICOM, UN Environment ROLAC, UN Environment GPA, and the IDB on activities related to the implementation of the 2015-2016 Workplan. The Secretariat actively engaged with other international bodies, organizations, and mechanisms, wherever feasible, for the purpose of focusing more attention on the Wider Caribbean Region.
16. The work of the CEP continues to be enhanced through existing Memoranda of Cooperation with various MEA Secretariats, and partner regional and international agencies. These included:
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (signed on 3 March 1997);
 - Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (signed on 1 May 2000);
 - UNESCO-Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (signed on 25 February 2002);
 - Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (signed on 1 July 2004);
 - Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) (signed on 16 November 2005);
 - Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (signed on 21 November 2005);
 - International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (signed on 2 April 2007).
 - Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) (signed in 2012); and
 - Mesoamerican Reef Fund (MAR Fund) (signed in 2014).
 - New agreements proposed are with the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, the Sargasso Sea Commission and the International Whaling Commission.
 - An agreement is proposed between Brazil and the Cartagena Convention, and the Secretariat continues to work with the Government of Brazil on this issue.
 - The Secretariat will also be a member of the proposed Inter-Agency Coordination Mechanism for the CLME+ Project throughout its duration.

17. Several workshops and meetings were convened during the biennium and are reflected in detail in Annex VI.
18. In summary, the major achievements of the Secretariat in the implementation of the 2015-2016 work programme are:
 - Continued Government contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund;
 - The ratification of the LBS Protocol by the Governments of Jamaica and Costa Rica;
 - Mobilization of new sources of funding and technical assistance from projects such as IWeco and CLME+;
 - Increased awareness and involvement by Member Countries in CEP activities through enhanced activities of the Communications, Education, Training and Awareness Sub-Programme (CETA);
 - Improved synergies with other UN Environment programmes, projects and activities in the Wider Caribbean region;
 - Increased collaboration between the SPAW and LBS Sub-programmes on the GEF CLME+ Project;
 - Improved coordination and cooperation with regional and international agencies; and
 - Improved knowledge of the state of the marine environment in the Wider Caribbean Region and identification of priority areas for further action.
19. Despite these achievements, development and implementation of new projects and activities continue to be limited by various factors. These are a direct result of the lack of financial and human resources at the Secretariat and the RACs. Financial challenges often result from the lack of timely contributions by Member Governments to the Trust Fund and the continued accumulation of arrears. This lack of financial resources negatively impacts on the ability of the Secretariat to coordinate its activities and the need for financial sustainability remains a very high priority for the Secretariat.
20. While the work of the Secretariat is developed within the framework of the Action Plan for the CEP and the obligations of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, implementation has been informed by UN Environment's Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2016, UN Environment's Regional Seas Strategy 2013-2016, and current and emerging priorities and recommendations of the Member Governments of the WCR. This has resulted in a 2017-2018 work programme that continues to fulfil the obligations of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols while also responding to national and regional priorities within the scope and mandate of the Caribbean Environment Programme.
21. Activities during the 2017-2018 biennium will continue to focus on increasing the number of ratifications of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, improving the data and information management capacity at the Secretariat and the RACs, expanding resource mobilization efforts, building new partnerships and enhancing the impact of CEP projects and activities at the national and local levels.
22. Additional focus will be on the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and in particular Goal 6 on Oceans.
23. At the core of these new activities are efforts to optimize efficiency through regular monitoring and evaluation of all projects and activities and contributing to the delivery of a coordinated programme by UN Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region. This will take into account the new strategic directions for Regional Seas, the decisions of the second United Nations Environment Assembly, the Samoa Pathway for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the Post 2015 Development Agenda. The recently established Caribbean Sub-Regional Office for UN Environment in Jamaica offers further opportunities for strengthened collaboration.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AFMO	Administrative/Funds Management Officer
AMEP	Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution
BEST Initiative	Voluntary Scheme for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas
BirdsCaribbean	Formerly SCSCB Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds
BIOPAMA	Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme
BMUB	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety
BWM	Ballast Water Management
CABI	CAB International
CaMPAM	Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Managers Network
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CaribWEN	Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network
Cariwet	Caribbean Wetlands Regional Initiative
CARPHA	Caribbean Public Health Agency
CAR/RCU	Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit
CARSEA	Caribbean Sea Ecosystem Assessment
CATHALAC	Water Centre for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe)
CAWASA	Caribbean Water and Sewage Association
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CEP	Caribbean Environment Programme
CERMES-UWI/SocMon	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies – University of the West Indies/Socio-Economic Monitoring
CETA	Communication, Education, Training and Awareness
CHM	Clearing House Mechanism
CIMAB	Center of Engineering and Environmental Management of Coasts and Bays (Centro de Ingeniería y Manejo Ambiental de Bahías y Costas)
CITES	Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CLME	Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project
CLME+	Catalysing implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the sustainable management of shared Living Marine Resources in CLME+ region
CMS	Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of Parties
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CTF	Caribbean Trust Fund
CWWA	Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association
CYEN	Caribbean Youth Environment Network
DSS	Decision Support System
EAF	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries
EBM	Ecosystem-Based Management
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas
ECMANN	Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
ESI	Environmental Sensitivity Index
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
FUNDEMAR	Dominican Foundation of Marine Studies
GCCA	Global Climate Change Alliance
GCFI	Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF-CEO	Global Environment Facility – Chief Executive Officer
GEF-CReW	Global Environment Facility – Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management
GEF-IWCAM	Global Environment Facility – Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management
GOJ	Government of Jamaica
GWP-C	Global Water Partnership Caribbean
HSDA	Hotspot Diagnostic Analysis
IAA	Inter-Agency Agreement
IAC	Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles

IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
IBA	Important Bird Area
ICC	International Coastal Clean-up
ICCW	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime
ICRI	International Coral Reef Initiative
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IFRECOR	French Initiative for Coral Reef (<i>Initiative Francaise pour les Récifs Coralliens</i>)
IGM	Intergovernmental Meeting
IMA	Institute of Marine Affairs
IMO-ITCP	International Maritime Organization – Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme
INVMAR	Marine and Coastal Research Institute (<i>Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras</i> (Spanish))
IOCARIBE	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission’s Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITMEMS	International Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management Symposium
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IWC	International Whaling Commission
IWCAM	Integrating Watershed and Coastal Areas Management
IWECO	Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices
LBS	Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution
LME	Large Marine Ecosystem
MaMaCoCoSEA	Marine Mammal Conservation Corridor for Northern South America
MAIA	MPA Network of the Atlantic Arc
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MEA	Multilateral Environment Agreement
MedPAN	Mediterranean Marine Protected Area Network
MMA	Marine Mammals Action Plan
MPA-MMA	Marine Protected Area – Management of Marine Area
NPA	National Programme of Action
OCCC	Overall Coordination and Common Costs
OCTs	Overseas Countries and Territories
OECS-ESDU	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States -Environment and Sustainable Development Unit
OPRC	Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation
OSPESCA	Organization for Fisheries and Aquaculture of Central America
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PCG	Project Coordinating Group
PEG	Project Executive Group
PIF	Project Identification Form
PMU	Project Management Unit
ProDoc	Project Document
PSC	Project Steering Committee
RAC	Regional Activity Centre
RAC-CIMAB	Regional Activity Centre – Centre for Engineering and Environmental Management of Coasts and Bays
RAC-REMPEITC	Regional Activity Centre – Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Information and Training Centre
RAMSAR	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
RAPMaLi	Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter
REEF	Reef Environmental Education Foundation
ROLAC	UN Environment’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SCSCB	Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SOCAR	State of the Convention Area Report
SOI	Sustainable Ocean Initiative
SPAW	Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
SSFA	Small Scale Funding Agreements
STAC	Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee

Stand-Op	Standardization and Optimization
STRAP	Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
ToT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEA-2	Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly
UNECLAC	UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
UN Environment-CAR/RCU	United Nations Environment Programme – Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit
UN Environment-DEPI	United Nations Environment Programme – Division of Environmental Policy Implementation
UN Environment-GPA	United Nations Environment Programme – Global Programme of Action
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office of Project Services
UNV	United Nations Volunteer
UNU-INWEH	United Nations University – Institute for Water, Environment and Health
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWI	University of the West Indies
WA-BiCC	West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change Programme
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas
WCR	Wider Caribbean Region
WDCS	Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society
WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission
WHMSI	Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative
WIDECAST	Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network
WRI	World Resources Institute
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2015-2016 WORKPLAN AND BUDGET OF THE CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

I. MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

1. In addition to the Coordinator, there are two full time Programme Officers, and 8 locally recruited support staff paid out of the Caribbean Trust Fund. The post of the Deputy-Director remains frozen and the full time Associate Programme Officer for the CETA Programme is currently vacant and not filled due to lack of finances.
2. Two posts in the Secretariat's Administration, the Administrative/Funds Management Officer (P-4) and the Administrative/Finance Assistant (G-5), are paid out of the 13 per cent Programme Support costs levied on the Trust Fund and other projects implemented by CEP.
3. The total positions in the Secretariat is thus 13 i.e. 4 Professional positions and 9 General Service positions.
4. The personnel changes at UN Environment-CAR/RCU were as follows:
 - a. The Coordinator of UN Environment-CAR/RCU retired in February 2015 and a new Coordinator was appointed in November 2015.
 - b. The Administrative Assistant retired in March 2015 and a replacement was recruited in October, 2015.
 - c. The Finance Assistant resigned in April 2015. A replacement was subsequently recruited in August, 2015
 - d. The AMEP Programme Assistant (G-5) resigned in October 2015 and a replacement was recruited in July, 2016.
 - e. The AMEP/CETA Team Assistant (G-4) resigned in October 2015 and a replacement was recruited in June, 2016
 - f. There are insufficient funds to cover the costs of an Associate Programme Officer for CETA (P-2).

II. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

5. The financial situation of the Caribbean Trust Fund (CTF) is shown in Annex VII, which provides the status of the CTF as at 31st December, 2016. The Secretariat has actively pursued the collection of pledges to the Caribbean Trust Fund (CTF), including the collection of outstanding pledges. The Secretariat collected a total of US\$2,017,962 in 2015-2016 and US\$2,986,350 in 2013-2014. This compares to US\$2,033,428 in 2010-2011, US\$2,341,505 in 2008-2009, US\$2,484,022 for 2006-2007; and US\$2,517,328 for 2004-2005.
6. While the amounts collected in 2015-2016 saw a decline from previous years, the collections in 2013-2014 have been very low, reflecting just about half of the annual pledges as at 31st December, 2014. It has also become a norm that the member governments provide in-kind contributions by hosting meetings and workshops of the CEP whenever the opportunity arises. In March 2017, the Government of France is hosting the present Cartagena^a Convention COP/IGM and the COPs of the LBS and SPAW Protocols, making a financial contribution of Euro 120,000 in total that would have otherwise been a cost to the CTF.
7. The Secretariat continues to face increasing financial requirements to meet the expansion of CEP activities in response to region-specific needs and global demands. Factors such as the inflation rate in the region, including Jamaica where the Secretariat is located (2014: 6.4%, 2015: 3.7%, 2016: 1.7%) also contribute to the increasing financial pressures. In addition to the minimal regular UN staff salary increments, there is an increase in service costs that subsequently contributes to increased operating and activity costs.
8. Efforts continue to be made by the Secretariat to solicit funding from other sources such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other donors. In addition to implementing activities within the projects, the Secretariat has benefited from the cost-sharing of operational costs with these projects, which has subsequently reduced such costs to the CTF. The Secretariat urges CEP member governments to make every effort in paying their contributions and arrears in order to maintain the momentum and facilitate the implementation of priority

projects/activities in the region. Based on Decision 1 (3) of 16th IGM and 13th COP, the Secretariat will not cover the costs of those member states attending the Intergovernmental Meetings of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols, who have significant arrears in their contributions to the Caribbean Trust Fund unless a payment schedule for the payment of arrears is agreed in writing by the Party and an initial payment made.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Programme Coordination

9. This report presents the status of activities for the Sub-programme on the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) for the biennium 2015-2016.
10. The goal of AMEP is to assist countries of the Wider Caribbean to control, prevent and reduce pollution of their coastal and marine environments thereby enabling them to meet their obligations under the Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution (LBS) and Oil Spills Protocols of the Cartagena Convention.
11. The objectives of AMEP are to:
 - a) Coordinate and oversee the day-to-day implementation of AMEP Projects and activities within the framework of the Cartagena Convention;
 - b) Ensure that the formulation and implementation of projects and activities satisfy the obligations of the LBS and Oil Spills Protocols;
 - c) Promote ratification of, accession to, and effective implementation of the LBS and Oil Spills Protocols;
 - d) Enhance coordination, collaboration and communication with relevant regional and international organizations in the development and implementation of AMEP projects and activities; and
 - e) Enhance involvement of LBS and Oil Spills Regional Activity Centres (RAC) in the design and implementation of AMEP's projects and activities.
12. Specific activities for this biennium fell under the following major programme elements (sub-programmes) and projects, these being:
 - **GEF Projects:**
 - i. Testing a Prototype Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (GEF CReW);
 - ii. Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS (GEF IWeco);
 - **Monitoring and Assessment** - State of the Convention Area in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR);
 - **Waste Management** – Implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAPMaLi);
 - **National Programmes of Action (NPAs)** – Implementation of pilot NPAs for Nutrients Management
13. The following provides a brief overview of the AMEP sub-programme and highlights of the major externally funded projects and activities.

Programme Overview

- The AMEP Programme Officer continued to be responsible for the coordination and supervision for the implementation of the programme's activities for the biennium with support from the AMEP/CETA Team Assistant and the AMEP Programme Assistant in 2015 as well as two summer interns. The new Coordinator of CAR/RCU, who assumed duties November 16, 2015, played a supporting role in promoting ratification and implementation of the LBS Protocol. The Directors of the LBS RACs and the Regional Project Managers for the GEF Projects provided additional programming and technical support.
- During the biennium, the AMEP Programme Officer was also responsible for the CETA sub-programme and assisted in the supervision of the Computer/Information Systems Assistant.

- The AMEP Programme Officer supervised the Communications Specialist and Administrative Assistant who provided dedicated support for implementation of the GEF CReW Project.
 - A number of contracts were undertaken in implementing the AMEP Sub-programme during the 2015-2016 period. A summary of these contracts is detailed in UNEP (DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.3 Rev.1.
14. During the reporting period, the AMEP sub-programme, through the AMEP Programme Officer and staff, supported national and regional activities regarding reduction of pollution in the WCR and safeguarding the coastal marine environment, through representation on several national, regional and global committees (For more information, see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.3 Rev.1).
 15. The AMEP sub-programme was represented at several regional and global meetings and conferences. AMEP representatives contributed with oral and poster presentations, exhibition booths with displays of videos, promotional material and posters of work relating to the LBS Protocol. A comprehensive list of these meetings is presented in Annex VI.
 16. The AMEP Programme Officer took several steps throughout the biennium aimed at establishing and improving communication with various stakeholders as well as facilitating knowledge sharing. These steps, which are outlined in Table 2 of UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.3 Rev.1, highlighted and promoted ideas and actions, and provided input on national and regional activities to spur interest and support towards national and regional pollution prevention and reduction efforts.
 17. The Secretariat continued to place special emphasis on activities for the promotion of the LBS protocol at the national and regional levels during 2015 and 2016. During the biennium, confirmation was received from the Government of Colombia as depository for the Cartagena Convention, of the ratification of the LBS Protocol by Jamaica in November 2015 and Costa Rica in May 2016. This most recent ratification brought the number of countries that have ratified the LBS Protocol to thirteen(13).
 18. The AMEP sub-programme continued to develop and strengthen relationships with relevant regional and international organizations. Coordination meetings were held with several collaborating agencies.
 19. The working group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment continued to work during the biennium towards the further development of the outline for the State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR). The AMEP sub-programme convened a Regional Workshop of Experts on the SOCAR in Jamaica, August 2016, which resulted in an agreement to use the Driving Forces, Pressures, State, Impact, Responses (DPSIR) approach for the further development of the Report.
 20. LBS RACs continued to play an important role in the development and implementation of AMEP projects. The Regional Activity Centre for Oil Spills, RAC-REMPEITC assisted countries to comply with the MARPOL Special Area Designation for Annex V, ship-generated waste for the Caribbean, which became effective in May 2011. A listing of technical/expert and other meetings the LBS RACs assisted in organizing and convening can be found in Annex VI.
 21. In accordance with Decision III of the 16th IGM and the 13th COP (see Annex I), a formal Host Country Agreement was signed between UN Environment CEP and the Government of Curaçao for the hosting of LBS RAC REMPEITC-Caribe during the RAC's 8th Meeting of the Ordinary Steering Committee held in Willemstad, Curaçao from 19-20 May 2016. The host agreement with the RAC IMA Trinidad and Tobago has been finalized and formal signature is expected to take place in early 2017.
 22. A UN Environment Sub-Regional Office for Caribbean SIDS was established in February 2016, with operations based at UN Environment CEP in Kingston, Jamaica. The AMEP sub-programme will collaborate with this office to enable greater synergies and coordination between the work of UN Environment in the Wider Caribbean and the implementation of the CEP Work Plan in support of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols

23. Wastewater management continued to be a key focus of the AMEP Sub-programme with the implementation of the GEF funded project “Testing a Prototype Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management” (GEF CReW) Project which will formally close by December 2017. UN Environment CEP supported the CReW Project by showcasing some of the major project achievements at regional and international fora such as the 8th GEF Biennial International Water Conference, and the 24th Annual Conference and Exhibition of the Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association. The website (www.gefcrew.org) was also redesigned during the biennium.
26. The AMEP sub-programme made significant advances toward reducing the level of pollution in the WCR from land-based sources through the GEF CReW Project. Training was provided to over 600 persons in wastewater management including on selection of wastewater treatment technologies, water and wastewater management, governance and sanitation. These sessions were conducted in collaboration with several agencies including the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Caribbean Association of Water Utilities (CAWASA), the World Bank, the IDB, Global Water Partnership Caribbean, UNITAR, University of Technology Jamaica and the Water Center (Mexico).
27. The further ratification of the LBS protocol was promoted by the AMEP sub-programme during the biennium with the development of new outreach products which included infographics, technical presentations, publications and fact sheets. A comprehensive though not exhaustive list of these outreach products is provided in Annex V of UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.3 Rev.1.
28. In accordance with Decisions VII and VIII of the 16th IGM and 13th COP, the AMEP sub-programme worked with the SPAW sub-programme and the Project Management Unit of the GEF-funded Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (GEF CLME) during the biennium, to support the development of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and the Full-Sized Project Document (ProDoc) for the Catalysing implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the sustainable management of shared Living Marine Resources in CLME+ region (UNDP/GEF CLME+)
29. Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+) project. Several inputs were made as to how the CLME+ project would support the LBS Protocol and the development of the State of Convention Area Report.
30. The First CLME+ Project Steering Committee Meeting and Inception Workshop took place in Cartagena, Colombia in January 2016 and the Second Meeting of the Project Executive Group took place September 2016 in Miami, Florida. The AMEP sub-programme will directly support work on ecosystem based management/an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EBM/EAF) within the CLME+ region, as well as on pollution reduction in particular from nutrients, habitat restoration and regional governance. An outline of the GEF CLME+ Project and its joint implementation with the AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes is presented as Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.7.
31. Based on the achievements and lessons of the GEF IWCAM project, a follow up GEF proposal entitled, “Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS” (IWeco), was submitted and later approved by the GEF in March 2015. The project has completed its inception phase. The First Project Steering Committee Meeting and Inception workshop took place in Kingston, Jamaica, September 2016.
32. During the 2015-2016 biennium, efforts continued to increase the involvement of all national and technical focal points involved with AMEP projects and activities.
33. UN Environment CEP continued to work with LBS focal points to promote and facilitate the ratification of the LBS Protocol in the Wider Caribbean Region.

Programme Coordination Cost and Expenditure (in USD)

Project Period	Source of Funds	Projected Budget (2015-2016)	Expenditure (2015-2016)
2015-2016	CTF	1,092,000	754,861 ¹

GEF Projects

(1) Testing a Prototype Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (GEF CReW)

Background

34. GEF CReW Implementing Agencies, UN Environment and the IDB, requested and received GEF assistance on behalf of the countries of the WCR to improve wastewater management capacity through the development of a Prototype Regional Fund as a possible modality for providing sustainable financing for wastewater management projects in the region while also addressing key capacity constraints within policy and legal frameworks for wastewater management. It was agreed by countries and the Implementing Agencies that UN Environment CEP would be the regional executing agency for the project.
35. The CReW project addressed obstacles faced by WCR countries to meet their obligations under the LBS Protocol. Chief among these obstacles, as documented in the UN Environment GPA 2006 Report, are the significant financial constraints that exist and the lack of adequate, affordable financing for investments in wastewater management in the WCR. Other obstacles include inadequate national policies, laws and regulations; limited enforcement of existing laws and regulations; poor communication and collaboration between various sectors and agencies which contribute to a fragmented approach to wastewater management; limited awareness, knowledge and understanding of appropriate, alternative and low-cost wastewater treatment technologies; and limited technical capacity in developing project proposals, operating and maintaining treatment systems, and monitoring and analyzing wastewater discharges and impacts.
36. The start date for the project was June 2011 and the expected completion date for UN Environment CEP activities is June 2017 with formal project closure expected by December 2017.
37. The following are the project's beneficiary countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The CReW project has four pilot countries - Jamaica, Belize, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago.
38. The full project consists of five components: Investment and Innovative Financing for Wastewater Management (IDB); Reforms for Wastewater Management (UN Environment); Communications, Outreach and Information Exchange (UN Environment); Monitoring and Evaluation (IDB/UN Environment) and Project Management (IDB/UN Environment).
39. The objectives of the project are to: (1) establish innovative, financing mechanisms for cost-effective and sustainable financing of wastewater management in the WCR; (2) facilitate policy discussions, strengthen legislative frameworks; and (3) facilitate regional dialogue and knowledge exchange among the key stakeholders in the WCR.

¹Programme Coordination cost includes staffing, travel, reporting, communication, equipment, administration. Office support costs including Communications, Equipment, & Administration for the AMEP sub-programme have been estimated up to the end of September 2016.

Expected Outcomes

40. The expected outcomes for this project are:
- Improved access to financing for wastewater management;
 - Successful development of pilot projects;
 - Improvements in technical capacity for project implementation;
 - Reduced land-based pollution to terrestrial and coastal waters from untreated wastewater in pilot projects locations;
 - Improved stakeholder awareness about acceptable, sustainable and cost-effective wastewater management solutions;
 - Increased interest and demands for Pilot Financing Mechanisms in the WCR; and
 - Increased knowledge, dissemination of information and use of participatory methods and practices by government agencies, private sector and civil society on wastewater management in the WCR.

Project Cost and Expenditure (in USD)

Project Period	Total Project Cost	Source of Funds	Total UN Environment Budget	Projected Budget For Project (2015-16)	Actual Budget (2015-16)	Expenditure (2015-16)
2011-2016	20,000,000 ²	GEF	3,355,000	993,314.90	993,314.90	963,190.27 ³

Summary Status Report and Results

41. During the biennium, templates and toolkits for Wastewater Policy were developed to assist wastewater managers, chief technocrats and senior policy officers to develop and implement wastewater policies thus improving overall management of the sector. The toolkits will serve as a practical reference guide to stimulate change in how wastewater management policies are developed and revised in the future.
42. National capacity building in support of policy, institutional and legal reforms for wastewater management through Small Scale Funding Agreements (SSFAs) occurred in all of the participating countries. SSFAs were developed specifically between UN Environment CEP and the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica and Panama respectively during the biennium. The Secretariat faced some challenges in the disbursement of funds to partners following the implementation of the new administrative/accounting platform (UMOJA) which resulted in delayed payments. Contract extensions were therefore done to allow for project implementation.
43. One of the major capacity building activities conducted in 2015 included a Sanitation and Governance Workshop held in Antigua and Barbuda from 23-27 February 2015. UN Environment CEP, through the GEF CReW project, partnered with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Caribbean Water and Sewerage Association (CAWASA) to organize this workshop which delivered water utility reform training for water utilities and was successfully completed by thirty-eight professionals from water and sewerage companies and health ministries. The workshop also built capacity in areas such as gender, climate change, use of wastewater as a resource, and monitoring and evaluation. It was a follow-up to an eight-week online course in Governance and Urban Sanitation which was run by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), also with support of UN Environment CEP through the project.

² Does not include project preparation phase, indicates GEF funding only

³ UN Environment expenditures only up to 30 September 2016

44. Other capacity building activities included: ▪ Regional Training in Monitoring and Evaluation of Domestic Wastewater, conducted by LBS RAC CIMAB in Havana, Cuba from 13-17 April 2015; ▪ Regional Resource Valuation Workshop held in Miami from 23-24 August 2015; ▪ CARPHA Environmental Health Conference held in Saint Lucia from 18-20 November 2015; ▪ and a National Wastewater Management Workshop in Kingston, Jamaica from 23-24 November 2015. All of these national and regional capacity building activities were used to promote the importance of ratification and implementation of the LBS Protocol and in particular to assist countries in meeting their obligations under Annex III of the Protocol on domestic wastewater.
45. Under the project, UN Environment CEP partnered with the World Resources Institute (WRI) to conduct Pilot Resource Valuation Studies at three sites in two participating countries – Panama and Trinidad and Tobago. Working with local agencies, the WRI-led studies examined the trade-offs between ecosystem and human health and the costs of investing in improved domestic wastewater management. The overall aim of the valuation studies was to improve the regional understanding of the connections between wastewater treatment and human and ecosystem health and to enhance the capacity within the WCR for conducting economic resource valuations related to wastewater management investments, and to use the findings to develop a general economic resource valuation approach which could be applied in any Caribbean country. The experiences from the development and application of this resource valuation methodology for use in wastewater management planning were shared with the GEF CReW participating countries at the Regional Resource Valuation Workshop referenced in Item 42.
46. UN Environment CEP convened and/or participated in several other meetings during the biennium where the work of the GEF CReW Project, the Cartagena Convention and in particular the LBS Protocol and Wastewater Management were showcased. These included: ▪ the GEF CReW Replication Strategy Workshop in Kingston, Jamaica from 4-8 May 2015 where input was gathered for the development of the new Project Identification Form (PIF) for a Global Environment Facility (GEF) follow-on project – CReW+; ▪ the Fourth (and final) Project Steering Committee Meeting in Antigua, Guatemala from 7-9 July 2015 where an update on the progress of all project components was provided; ▪ TNC's Wastewater and Reefs Strategy Development Workshop in Miami from 23-25 March 2015; ▪ Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association's (CWWA's) 24th Exhibition and Conference in Miami, USA; ▪ the Regional Policy and Enforcement Workshop in Trinidad and Tobago from 15-19 February 2016 ▪ and the Third Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC) to the LBS Protocol from October 31 to November 2, 2016. Several presentations relating to wastewater management, the LBS Protocol and the GEF CReW project were made at these events.
47. Through the CReW Project, UN Environment CEP strengthened its partnership with many regional and international agencies and provided technical input on current and emerging pollution issues including: ▪ the First Waste-to-Energy Expo and Conference in Grenada from 20-23 January 2016; ▪ the First Steering Committee Meeting and Inception Workshop of the UNDP/GEF CLME+ project in Cartagena Columbia from 26-28 January 2016; ▪ Caribbean Platform for Nutrients Management Meeting in Trinidad and Tobago from 23-25 February 2016; ▪ and the Eighth Global Environment Facility Biennial International Waters Conference (IWC8) in Sri Lanka from 9-13 May 2016.
48. Several new publications were developed during the biennium and multiple items created to support greater public awareness about wastewater related issues and to enhance partnerships with the media. These included: ▪ six quarterly newsletters; ▪ four new poster series (Changing for Better); ▪ four media releases; ▪ and three briefing sheets. Four video documentaries were released during the period (▪ Wastewater Warning: Health Hazard; ▪ Wastewater Policy: A Caribbean Priority; ▪ The Belize Pilot; ▪ and The Value of Action (Resource Valuation). Three other videos were developed, with two planned for release by December 2016 (The Jamaica Pilot and CReW Lessons Learned and Wastewater as a Resource), and the third (The Guyana Pilot) on hold due to project changes in the participating country, Guyana.
49. All information materials produced were published on the redesigned website which was completed in February 2015. The Joomla platform of the redesigned site facilitates easier and faster information dissemination to stakeholders and is linked to the project's Facebook page which has attracted a steady growth of followers.
50. A Community of Practice (CoP) was established in December 2015 with input from UN Environment CEP, to serve as a key project forum and mechanism for sharing knowledge and good practices, and capturing lessons

learned from all project components. One lesson learned with regards to establishing a CoP is that such an initiative should be undertaken at an earlier phase in a project. The information expected to emanate from the CoP will help support decision making on wastewater management and related projects going forward. A link for the CoP is currently on the GEF CReW website (www.gefcrew.org) which connects to a member area on the IDB website as this aspect of the project was managed by the IDB.

51. A technical advisory group of country focal points was established to support the development of an implementation plan for a monitoring, evaluation and reporting system for wastewater management, including the design for a wastewater management M&E database. UN Environment CEP used input from this group to inform the development of two documents: *Partnerships for Wastewater Management in the WCR* and *A Situation Analysis on Wastewater Management Platforms for the Wider Caribbean Region*. These efforts will form the basis for the further development of a Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) on Wastewater to serve as a database platform for the WCR. The existing GEF CReW project website is currently being incorporated within the existing UN Environment CEP website (www.cep.unep.org) and will function as an initial CHM for wastewater management in the region. This will be further developed under future wastewater management projects and initiatives, including CReW+, subject to approval of the project proposal by the GEF.
52. As part of project completion activities, a summary document, *Charting a New Course for Wastewater Management in the Wider Caribbean Region: GEF CReW's Journey*, was completed in May 2016. The document captures the challenges, experiences and lessons learnt and can be found in the Publications section of the GEF CReW website (www.gefcrew.org/index.php/publications).
53. UN Environment CEP provided inputs into annual project implementation reports (PIR) for the periods 1 July 2014-30 June 2015 and 1 July 2015 – 30 June 2016. Both reports were submitted to the GEF by the lead implementing agency, the IDB. The most recent PIR is available as Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.18 Rev.1.
54. UN Environment CEP provided support for the conduct of an external evaluation of the project. The terminal evaluation report is provided as an Information Document for the Meeting – UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.38/INF.4

(2) Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS (GEF IWEco)

Background

55. Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are facing multiple threats including degradation of land and water resources, depletion of biological resources and compromised ecosystem functioning due to intensive developmental pressures on very fragile environments.
56. Given the spatial and temporal scarcity of water resources in many countries of the Caribbean, in terms of supply reliability, several communities suffer from inadequate availability of clean drinking water and are faced with associated health problems due to unsanitary drinking water, lack of access to sustainable sanitation services, and poor wastewater treatment.
57. Expanding development pressures have seen a dramatic increase in the generation of land-based sources of marine pollution from a wide range of point and non-point sources. The conversion of land, from forest to non-forest land cover, and unsustainable land management practices is the main trigger for accelerated erosion. The World Resources Institute (WRI) project, “Reefs at Risk”, noted that sediment loading presented a very significant risk to the health and productivity of reefs across the Caribbean region. Conversions of forest and coastal/aquatic ecosystems have triggered loss of species richness and diversity in all the countries of the Caribbean.
58. Climate change is a significant driver which may accelerate the rate of degradation of sensitive ecosystems in Caribbean SIDS. Under increased sea surface temperatures (SSTs), the frequency of high intensity hurricanes and rainfall events is a likely outcome that will worsen land degradation and ecosystem impairment, and further accelerate the deterioration of marine ecosystems through pollutant and sediment mobilization. Efforts to reduce

negative environmental impacts, protect watersheds, and conserve endangered biodiversity while supporting traditional livelihoods have been frustrated by weak policy, regulatory and institutional environments. Human and financial resources availability within responsible state agencies remain constrained and compounded by limited economic incentives that will support private sector engagement to invest in greener, cleaner production processes.

59. The concept of “Ridge to Reef” management or the integrating watershed and coastal areas management (IWCAM) approach for natural resources in small islands provides an underpinning for addressing the multiple challenges of sustainable water, land (including forests) and biodiversity management and conservation, and pollution reduction, prevention and control.
60. UN Environment CEP successfully developed and received funding from the GEF Secretariat for a new project on behalf of the Caribbean Small Island Developing States that participated in the GEF-IWCAM Project. This new project, titled *Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Ecosystem Management in Caribbean SIDS* (GEF IWeco), was approved in April 2015 and will run for a five year period from 2015-2020. UN Environment and UNDP will be co-implementing partners of the project, with UN Environment being the lead implementing agency. UN Environment CEP will be the lead co-executing agency with CARPHA as the other executing agency.
61. The GEF IWeco project will contribute to improving the management and protection of the terrestrial, coastal and marine resources of the Caribbean Sea within the framework of the Cartagena Convention and the LBS and SPAW Protocols. It will promote the mainstreaming of IWRM and ecosystems management principles advanced under the GEF-IWCAM Project into national development frameworks. The project will also implement innovative solutions for reduced pollution and improved fresh and coastal water resources, taking into account the additional challenges imposed by climate change and climate variability.

Objective(s)

62. To realize the implementation of an integrated approach to water, land and ecosystems services management, supported by policy, institutional and legislative reforms, and implementation of effective appropriate technologies to accelerate contribution to global targets on access to safe and reliable water supplies and improved sanitation, and contributing to improved ecosystem functioning in the Caribbean.

Expected Outcomes

63. The expected outcomes of the project are:
 - Outcome C1.1 Verifiable, evidence-based stress reduction at project sites through appropriate sustainable water, land and ecosystems management interventions that account for climate change;
 - Outcome C1.2 Enhanced livelihood opportunities and socio-economic co-benefits for targeted communities from improved ecosystem services functioning;
 - Outcome C2.1 Strengthened national and regional systems for monitoring of environmental status with respect to key international agreements;
 - Outcome C3.1 Strengthened policy and legislation for the effective management of water, land and ecosystems resources that account for climate change;
 - Outcome C3.2 Strengthened capacity of national and regional institutions and other stakeholders for water, land, and ecosystems management that accounts for climate change; and
 - Outcome C4.1. Improved engagement and information access for practitioners and other stakeholders through targeted knowledge sharing networks.

Beneficiary Countries

Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, *The Bahamas (under review by the GEF)*, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago.

Project Cost and Expenditure (in USD)

<i>Project Period</i>	<i>Total Project Cost</i>	<i>Source of Funds</i>	<i>Projected Budget (2015-16)</i>	<i>Actual Project Budget (2015-16)</i>	<i>Expenditure (2015-16)</i>
2015-20	19,222,571	GEF	5,035,329	2,000,000	227,481.43

Status

64. UN Environment CEP received a project preparation grant from the GEF Secretariat in 2013 to begin the development of the full sized project proposal for GEF IWeco with the assistance of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). The full-sized project proposal was submitted to the GEF Secretariat in June 2014 and project approval was received in April 2015. The project document is provided as Information Document UNEP (DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.9.
65. National focal points and country coordinators were identified for the development of national project proposals in eight participating countries (Antigua & Barbuda, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, and Trinidad & Tobago) to allow each to undertake preliminary research, prepare the background, situational analysis and costed logical framework that provided the justification and formed the basis of the national project interventions. UN Environment CEP is working with these countries to update their project documents, where required, including preparing revised work plans, budgets and time lines as well as providing justification on any changes made to their original project submission.
66. UN Environment CEP successfully completed the development and submission of a medium-sized project (MSP) for The Bahamas which had expressed a desire to participate in the project after the PIF for the GEF IWeco project was submitted. Subject to approval from the GEF Secretariat, the MSP will be implemented within the framework of the IWeco project.
67. For the national interventions, countries have committed a portion of their national STAR allocation. The STAR (acronym for the **S**ystem for the **T**ransparent **A**llocation of **R**esources, the financing modality of the GEF under the 5th replenishment) allocation are resources from the GEF assigned to countries under three focal areas; Climate Change, Biodiversity and Land Degradation. Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica have committed their resources toward the IWeco Project under their Biodiversity Focal Area, while Antigua & Barbuda, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago committed resources from their Land Degradation Focal Area. The Bahamas has also committed a portion of its GEF-STAR Allocation under its Biodiversity resource portfolio.
68. The delays in the start-up of the IWeco project were initially due to delays in the approval process by the GEF. This was subsequently compounded by a changeover at UN Environment to a new administrative and project management system – UMOJA which impacted many of UN Environment CEP’s internal processes and projects.
69. The momentum has now picked up for the project, starting with multiple pre-meeting and meeting announcements as well as press releases. A series of project meetings were also hosted by project partners UNDP, CARPHA and the GEF Small Grants Programme in Kingston, Jamaica from 19-22 September 2016: Meeting of the Implementing and Executing Agencies; Inception Workshop; and Project Steering Committee Meeting. A dedicated project webpage is in development and is expected to be completed during the current biennium.
70. The Terms of Reference for the five project positions were completed and are in the process of being advertised. Staff recruitment is expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2017 for a Regional Project Coordinator, Technical Specialist, Communications Specialist, Finance Officer and Team Assistant. . The Regional Project Coordinating Unit will be based at the offices of UN Environment CEP. An interim Project Manager, Mr. David Simmons, has already been recruited by UN Environment CEP to assist in the

development of Project Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) with our main co-executing partner CARPHA and with the participating countries.

71. While the project was officially launched in September 2016, the period August to December 31, 2016 will be considered the Inception Phase. The official start date for reporting from participating countries is 1 January 2017 when all PCAs between the participating countries and UN Environment should be completed and first disbursement of funds made.

IV. BIODIVERSITY AND PROTECTED AREAS

Programme Overview

72. This report presents the priorities of the Regional Programme on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW Programme) and the status of activities for the 2015-2016 biennium.
73. The objectives of the SPAW Programme are to:
 - (a) Significantly increase the number of, and improve the management of, national protected areas and species in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR);
 - (b) Support the conservation of threatened and endangered species and the sustainable use of natural resources to prevent them from becoming threatened and endangered;
 - (c) Develop a strong regional capability for the coordination of information exchange, training and technical assistance in support of national biodiversity conservation efforts; and
 - (d) Coordinate activities with relevant international biodiversity treaties and initiatives such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and its global monitoring network, the Abidjan Convention and the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI).
74. During the period 2015-2016, activities focused on assisting countries with strengthening the management and networking of marine protected areas (MPAs) and protected species, as well as promoting and integrating the principles of the ecosystem approach in order to address the degradation of selected priority ecosystem services and likewise respond through biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of coastal resources. Additionally, activities were geared towards acknowledging the inter-dependency and multidimensional aspects of ecological and social systems. This approach was supported by other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as CBD, IWC and the Ramsar Convention.
75. Activities were also aimed at coordinating with other environmental agreements and programmes dealing with issues relating to the conservation of biodiversity of particular relevance to the SPAW Protocol such as UN Environment's Regional Seas Programme Strategy, CBD Programme of Work, Ramsar, the IWC, WCPA Caribbean, IUCN Caribbean Strategy and Biopama, the Interamerican Sea Turtle Convention, the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) GEF Project, the Caribbean Challenge Initiative, FAO-WECAFC, MARFund and ICRI.
76. Specific activities for the 2015-2016 Workplan fell under five major programme elements (sub-programmes):
 - (a) Programme Coordination;
 - (b) Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region (including training and capacity building for marine protected areas management;
 - (c) Development of Guidelines for Protected Areas and Species Management;

- (d) Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species; and
- (e) Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems (including ICRI activities).

77. Additionally, the Secretariat focused on fundraising, strategising and streamlining SPAW activities as financial and human resources were limited.
78. During the period 2015-2016 the day-to-day coordination for implementation of the programme activities continued to be overseen by the SPAW Programme Officer, who is responsible for the overall coordination of the SPAW Programme, with support from the SPAW Programme Assistant. The SPAW Programme Officer served as Officer-in-Charge from 1 March -30 August 2015 after the retirement of the Coordinator for the United Nations Environment Programme's-Caribbean Environment Programme (UN Environment-CEP) and subsequently went on planned special leave-without-pay from 1 September 2015 - 31 March 2016. Her post was temporarily filled during that time to continue the implementation of SPAW activities.
79. Additional support to meet the objectives of this sub-programme was received from the SPAW Regional Activity Centre (SPAW-RAC), located in Guadeloupe and supported by the Government of France. Since early 2009 SPAW-RAC has been hosted by the National Park of Guadeloupe. Since 2014, the SPAW-RAC team has comprised of a permanent staff of three people: a Director, one Senior Project Coordinator and one Administrative Assistant. This team was supplemented by an initial short-term staff of four (later three), two Project Coordinators (one working contract ending mid-2016) and one Administrative Assistant. The salaries for two of these posts were covered through two specific projects: the third year of the Voluntary Scheme for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas (BEST III) and Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network (ECMMAN). Dr. Sandrine Pivard took office in September 2016 as the new SPAW-RAC Director, following the departure of Ms. Anne Fontaine who completed a two-year term. The RAC supported the Secretariat with various activities, as mandated by COP8, including the process of Protected Areas and species listing under SPAW, the implementation of priorities under the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals in the Wider Caribbean Region (MMAP), support of activities under the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Managers Network and Forum (CaMPAM), and the review and translation of a number of promotional documents. For more information on SPAW-RAC activities please see UNEP(DEPI)/ CAR WG.38/INF.4.
80. In keeping with the objectives of developing synergies, promoting the Protocol and optimizing resources, the following activities were completed:
- Collaboration with BirdsCaribbean in support of bird species conservation. The SPAW Programme Officer delivered a presentation on the SPAW Protocol and Programme to the Carib Bird Education Network on the occasion of the Caribbean Bird Festival via a *Free Webinar on Caribbean Endemic Birds*, under the theme "*Spread Your Wings for Bird Conservation*", 5 May 2016.
 - A Memorandum of Cooperation with the Sargasso Sea Commission is under discussion with a view to enhance collaborations with this initiative.
 - Cooperation established with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (with support from the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC)) and CITES via participation in the *Caribbean Regional Wildlife Enforcement Workshop* on illegal trafficking of species, held in the Bahamas, 20 - 22 July 2016, which brought together experts and government officials from the region to discuss and identify key threats and recommendations in relation to wildlife crime with a view to strengthening and enhancing regional cooperation and enforcement through the creation of a *Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network* (CaribWEN).
 - Participation in the Ramsar Convention's *5th Meeting of the Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands- Cariwet* held in St. Lucia, 5 August 2016, where a presentation was delivered on the SPAW Protocol and Programme by the SPAW-RAC.

- Participation in the UN Environment/CMS and Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariats' *First Regional Capacity Building Workshop for CMS Non-Parties of the Caribbean Region*, held in Barbados 31 August - 2 September 2016 aimed at informing Non-Parties of the Caribbean Region about the work and goals of the Convention and how to accede to the treaty. The presentation was delivered on the SPAW Protocol and Programme by the UN Environment-CEP Coordinator.
81. Coordination and communication was further strengthened with other organisations on various matters of common interest and in keeping with collaborative arrangements established with many of them.
 82. A number of meetings were organised and/or attended in order to continue promoting the Protocol, the Programme and develop synergies. A summary of these is provided in Annex VI of this report as well as detailed in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.3.
 83. Several activities were undertaken by or implemented in collaboration with the SPAW Regional Activity Centre (SPAW-RAC) in Guadeloupe. Further details are included in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4.
 84. The Secretariat continued to coordinate and cooperate, as feasible, with other initiatives and projects relevant to coastal and marine ecosystems in the region, including:
 - The ECMMAN project, implementation led by TNC (see details under UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5); and
 - The BEST 2.0 Caribbean Hub Programme led by the SPAW-RAC through a funding facility supported by the European Commission which aims to pilot an innovative financing mechanism for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the European Union Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) for small and medium-scale field activities on the ground. Targeted OCTs include 7 SPAW territories (Saba, Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius, Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire and Saint Barthélemy) with a focus on local development, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of ecosystem services (see details under UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4).

Projects and activities

(1) Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region

Background

85. The objectives of this sub-programme were to:
 - (a) Strengthen the management of parks and protected areas of the Wider Caribbean, including the communication between parks and protected areas within the region;
 - (b) Assist Governments and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) with the development of human capacity to increase the effectiveness of marine protected areas, both sites and national systems;
 - (c) Sensitise Governments of the need and importance of financing protected areas, and promote the development of funding mechanisms and strategies for successful park and protected area management; and
 - (d) Promote protected areas in the context of conservation of important natural resources necessary for the sustainable development of the region.

Summary Status Report and Results

86. During the reporting period, the majority of the activities undertaken through this sub-programme were implemented under two major projects approved under the SPAW Sub-programme:
 - The *Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network* (ECMMAN) project is led by TNC and funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and aims to promote effective marine managed areas in the Insular Caribbean and

associated countries. SPAW-RAC, through CaMPAM, implemented the Small Grants component in support of MPA strengthening for existing Marine Managed Areas in 6 countries of the Eastern Caribbean (Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines) via the provision of financial resources and technical expertise (CaMPAM-ECMMAN- Small Grants) for €1.1 million (January 2014-December 2016).

- The “*Biodiversity for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean through Ecosystem Based Management (EBM)*” project was signed in late 2014 with funding (€1,350,000 for 3 years) from the Directorate General for Development Cooperation’s Environment Programme within the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Its overall objective is to “enhance the livelihood of the populations of the WCR by contributing to the conservation and sustainable management of coastal and marine biodiversity through the application of the Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) approach”. A series of pilot projects in selected protected areas of SPAW Parties are on-going:
 - Project Cooperation Agreement with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic signed in September 2016 for the implementation of activities relating to the sustainable management of a selected multi-use pilot area in the north west coast of the country (Montecristi to Puerto Plata) which includes a number of protected areas and important tourism, agricultural and fisheries activities for the country. The project will develop a DSS tool for the area in consultation with all stakeholders, a management plan, as well as update of existing plans for the protected areas involved/as required, and enhance capacities to integrate EBM tools and concepts within management through trainings and technical assistance (\$350,000);
 - Small Scale Funding Agreement with ReefCheck Dominican Republic signed in December 2015 to support the gathering of data and information for the DSS for the selected pilot area (mentioned above) and training DSS activities. This also includes the updating and delivery of the regional MPA ToT course held in Puerta Plata, Dominican Republic, 26 September – 7 October 2016, and support to the evaluation of the CaMPAM activities (see below under CaMPAM and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5) (\$175,000);
 - Small Scale Funding Agreement with GCFI signed in December 2015 for the updating of the Regional MPA Database, support to the CaMPAM MPA-related sessions and the participation of MPA practitioners from SPAW Parties at the 69th Annual GCFI Conference in November 2016 (\$194,000);
 - Two-year agreement with PROGES Italian consulting firm was signed in April 2016 to develop the software for the DSS and provide training on its application and use (\$142,600); and
 - Continuation of the mentorship programme and network to support MPA practitioners (through CaMPAM coordination).
87. Activities implemented to meet the objectives of the above-mentioned projects are detailed in the report “Update on the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM) and its major activities (*includes the on-going Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network (ECMMAN) Project*)” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5).
88. The major outputs include(see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.3 for details):
- Improved management capacity in at least 3 SPAW listed-sites MPAs including with an Ecosystem Management Approach and Systemic Management Plans for the selected pilot protected areas of SPAW Parties. For more information, please see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5;
 - Improved information and its dissemination on MPAs of the region including enhanced effectiveness of the existing CaMPAM Internet Forum and website (Read more at (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5; UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4);

- Stronger relationships and collaboration between MPA practitioners, scientists, fishers, other stakeholders, as well as with international/regional experts (More information at (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5; UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4).
- A consolidated and comprehensive MPA database for the Wider Caribbean available online and fully coordinated with the PA Listing under the SPAW Protocol (More details at UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4; UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5).

Activity Cost (in USD)

89. The costs associated with the implementation of activities under this sub-programme were:

2015			2016		
CTF Raised	Other *	Total Raised	CTF Raised	Other Contributions**	Total Raised
0	35,291	35,291	0	1,223,855	1,223,855

* Includes funds from the Government of Italy under the EBM Project

** Includes funds from ECMMAN project through SPAW-RAC.

1.1 Development of Guidelines for Protected Areas and Species Management

90. The objectives of this sub-programme were to:

- Promote and assist with the development and implementation of the guidelines on protected area establishment, management, and listing developed under the framework of the SPAW Protocol;
- Promote national system planning for protected areas as a mechanism for development of relevant legislation and reporting mechanisms; and
- Promote and assist with the development and implementation of guidelines on species conservation and management developed under the framework of the SPAW Protocol.

Summary Status Report and Results

91. Several activities were undertaken by, or implemented in collaboration with the SPAW-RAC in Guadeloupe. See UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4 for further details. The activities implemented during 2015-2016 to meet these objectives were:

- Additional Protected Areas being listed under SPAW using the revised Annotated Format presented by STAC6 and as per COP8 Decision 2 to approve the thirteen (13) protected areas for listing under the SPAW Protocol;
- Listing process and cooperation programme for Protected Areas under the SPAW Protocol as per COP8 Decision 2 to further support the Secretariat's initiative to continue to support the Protected Areas listed through the cooperation programme;
- Develop formats for presenting exemptions, and reporting on their implementation, to the Contracting Parties; and
- Application of the criteria for listing species in the Annexes to the Protocol.

92. The major outputs of this sub-programme are:

- An updated list of protected areas under the SPAW Protocol;

- Format approved for presenting exemptions under Article 11(2), and reporting on their implementation; and
- A revised list of protected species under Annexes I-III of the SPAW Protocol

Activity Cost (in USD)

93. The costs associated with the implementation of activities under this sub-programme were:

2015			2016		
CTF Raised	Other Sources Raised*	Total Raised	CTF Raised	Other Sources Raised*	Total Raised
0	10,000	10,000	0	22,000	22,000

*Through SPAW-RAC

(2) Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species

Background

94. The objectives of this sub-programme were to:

- Build consensus in the region on priorities for the management of endangered and migratory species;
- Implement priority activities of existing species recovery and management plans developed under the framework of the SPAW Protocol;
- Develop, as appropriate, adequate management plans and programmes for priority species of regional concern, including those of economic importance; and
- Address the growing threat of invasive alien species (IAS) that could negatively impact SPAW species and Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) habitats, especially marine or coastal IAS.

Summary Status Report and Results

- In keeping with Contracting Parties' decisions, and available funding, activities within the Marine Mammal Action Plan and bird conservation were prioritised. Funding was not made available to support sea turtle conservation activities.
- However, over the course of the biennium, work has continued to improve awareness of, collect data on, and mitigate the effects of, ship strikes and entanglements on whale and dolphin species in the Wider Caribbean Region by implementing recommendations emanating from the Joint IWC and SPAW/UN Environment Workshop to Address Collisions between Marine Mammals and Ships with a focus on the Wider Caribbean (Panama 2014) by developing and sharing expertise among Marine Mammal Sanctuaries in the region for expanded surveys and telemetry to understand inter-island movements and habitat use of migratory and resident populations of whales, as well as the creation of marine mammal educational materials.
- Focused efforts are planned to ensure that existing, and future, sanctuaries in the region enter into partnership network agreements as appropriate, sharing photo-ID catalogues and contributing to central catalogues where available (e.g. the North Atlantic Humpback Whale Catalogue administered by the College of the Atlantic).
- Additionally, there was greater collaboration with CITES towards species conservation in the Region and the Secretariat took steps to work with SPAW Parties and CITES to develop a regional wildlife enforcement

network by participating in a regional workshop in the Bahamas, and also in meetings organized by CMS and WECAFC (see Activity 2.5). Efforts were focused on encouraging Parties and NGOs to work within their respective spheres of influence to urge other Parties to regulate within their national legal systems:

- the ownership, possession, sale and advertising of CITES-listed living species endemic to the Caribbean and;
- to keep illegally acquired specimens, and their progeny, from entering domestic or international markets.

99. The countries that are Parties to CITES have been encouraged to join the CITES Standing Committee contact group, and SPAW Parties and NGOs, to support recommendations emanating from the contact group.

100. Activities undertaken with the collaboration of the SPAW-RAC in Guadeloupe to support the objectives of the sub-programme during 2015-2016 include:

- Improve awareness on whale and dolphin species in the Wider Caribbean Region and support sustainable marine mammal watching in the Wider Caribbean Region;
- Strengthening marine spatial planning for marine mammal conservation and support sustainable marine mammal watching in the Region;
- Develop a formal Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between UN Environment CAR/RCU and the International Whaling Commission (IWC);
- Cooperation with Birdlife International, BirdsCaribbean, CITES and CMS; and
- Continue to support the mandate of the Regional Lionfish Committee (RLC) established under ICRI and encourage additional SPAW Parties to join the RLC.

101. The activities implemented under this component of the SPAW sub programme resulted in:

- Improved strategies to encourage the sustainability of marine mammal watching in the WCR;
- Ongoing negotiations for a MoC with the IWC Scientific Committee partnerships to promote the implementation of the MMAP; and
- Continued dissemination of information and peer-exchanges to promote best practices and best tools to control lionfish, and implementation of the regional lionfish strategy, in collaboration with ICRI.

Activity Cost (in USD)

102. The costs associated with the implementation of activities under this sub-programme were:

2015			2016		
CTF Raised	Other *	Total Raised	CTF Raised	Other *	Total Raised
0	87,000	87,000	0	87,000	87,000

*Includes from SPAW-RAC for 2015 and 2016 respectively

(3) Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems

Background

103. The objectives of this sub-programme are to:
- (a) Assist with the management of the coastal and marine ecosystems of the region on a sustainable basis, particularly through sustainable practices;
 - (b) Mobilise the political will and actions of Governments and other partners for the conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs and associated ecosystems such as mangroves and seagrass beds;
 - (c) Effectively communicate the value and importance of coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, including their ecosystem services, the threats to their sustainability, and the actions needed to protect them; and
 - (d) Promote the ecosystem management approach and the principles and values of good governance for the conservation and management of marine ecosystems in the region.

Summary Status Report and Results

104. Under this sub-programme, in keeping with the SPAW Protocol and the activities discussed at the SPAW COP7 the main project implemented was the coordination and implementation of the **Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+) Project**.
105. A UN Agency to UN Agency Contribution Agreement (IAA) between the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and UNEP-CEP (through the coordinated implementation of actions under the SPAW and Land-Based Sources of Marine Pollution (LBS) Protocols of the Cartagena Convention) was signed in June 2016 for the new 5-year (2015-2020) UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project which became operational on 1 May 2015 with UNOPS as the Executing Agency and having a total funding of US\$1,365,000.00 (See document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.10).
106. The project seeks to facilitate ecosystem based management/an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EBM/EAF) within the CLME+ region, to ensure that a sustainable and climate resilient provision of goods and services from the region's living marine resources can be secured (CLME+ SAP v1.3 2016).
107. Through collaboration between the SPAW and AMEP sub-programmes (See document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.7), the project will kick-start the implementation of the 10-year politically endorsed CLME+ Strategic Action Programme (CLME+ SAP) (See document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR.WG.37/INF.7) through a series of activities and outputs, and will address the different root causes of environmental degradation, which were identified under the predecessor project "CLME". Activities will focus on the following elements:
- Elaborate a formal agreement between Brazil and the Secretariat;
 - Baseline assessment reports, Regional Status Reports and Strategies/Action and Investment Plans for protection/restoration of key habitats and to reduce the impacts of pollution;
 - Design and implement Sub-Project that begin to institutionalize Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) approaches; and
 - Web portals and relevant communication tools.
108. During the reporting period, additional activities implemented during the biennium focused on coral reef ecosystems, re-engaging with the tourism sector, and further research on the impacts of Sargassum. Some of the activities were as follows:
- Support towards the reactivation of Caribbean Coral Reef Monitoring Network. The Secretariat acted as the regional coordinator for the redefined GCRMN in the WCR and provided guidance for the Steering Committee via a series of activities, for more information, please see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4. Additionally, there was focus on continued support towards the development of a coral reef partnership within the UN Environment Regional Seas Programme including coordination with ICRI.
 - Sharing general data across the Region and research on Sargassum. A Sargassum on-line forum was launched in August 2015 and the SPAW-RAC, in collaboration with GCFI and CERMES (UWI),

developed various briefs and factsheets on this issue. There was also the organization of a side-event on Sargassum during the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2) alongside UN Environment's Global Programme of Action (UN Environment-GPA), the Abidjan Convention Secretariat and the United States Agency for International Development's/ West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change Programme (USAID/WA-BiCC). (See document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/ INF.12), and the organisation of a technical session at the 69th Annual Meeting of GCFI. For more information on SPAW-RAC's activities please see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4.

- The Bluefinance project which was implemented in Barbados in September 2015 through the SPAW-RAC and is funded by UN Environment via the Global Coral Reef Partnership. The objective of Bluefinance is to achieve environmental, social and financial returns through strengthened collaboration with the private sector in coral reef conservation. (See document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4 for more details).
109. The Secretariat intended to work on the conservation of mangroves and to fundraise, in coordination with UN Environment-DEPI, the Ramsar Convention and other relevant organizations, to promote and develop activities relating to the conservation and sustainable use of mangroves. However, many of the proposed activities that were to be implemented during the biennium were not possible due to an overall lack of funding to initiate groundwork activities (even relating to fundraising).
110. The following were some of the major outputs of this sub-programme:
- Strengthen the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) Regional Nodes within the Wider Caribbean Region
 - An endorsed and finalized CLME+ project document that details priority follow-up activities for sustainability of the CLME governance work and including tangible five (5) to ten (10) year results
 - Pilot project on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Workshop on EBM
 - Conservation and sustainable use of mangroves which is pending funding to be completed.

Activity Cost (in USD)

111. The costs associated with the implementation of activities under this sub-programme were:

2015			2016		
CTF Raised	Other *	Total Raised	CTF Raised	Other **	Total Raised
0	19,148	19,148	0	206,873	206,873

*Through SPAW-RAC

**Includes funding through the CLME+ project and from SPAW-RAC

V. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, TRAINING AND AWARENESS

112. This report presents the status of activities for the CETA sub-programme during 2015-2016. CETA supports the AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes in the design, maintenance and dissemination of the information they require and/or generate.
113. The objectives of CETA are to:
- a) Disseminate information relevant to the implementation of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols by using existing tools and mechanisms and/or by developing new instruments such as databases, clearing houses and online forums.

- b) Promote improved understanding of the value and importance of marine and coastal resources through collaboration with governments, media, private sector, community-based, and non-governmental organizations to implement education and awareness-raising activities.
 - c) Facilitate training and capacity building of CEP Member States including enhancing the access to marine and coastal resources information through strengthening of CEP websites and networking mechanisms.
114. The AMEP Programme Officer served as the Officer in Charge of the CETA Sub-programme. He provided coordination and supervision of the implementation of the programme's activities on public awareness and information management during the reporting period and was supported by the Team Assistant for the CETA and AMEP Sub-programmes, the GEF CReW Project's Communication Specialist, the Computer/ Information Systems Assistant, external consultants and interns.
115. During the reporting period, the CETA Sub-programme was responsible for the overall promotion and coordination of the CEP Internship Programme. CEP welcomed a total of five (5) interns over the period who provided invaluable support to the implementation of activities including public awareness, the maintenance of social network pages and website content management of the AMEP, SPAW and CETA Sub-programmes. Blogs highlighting their work and experience during the Internship are housed on the 'Ask and Intern Blog' page of the CEP website.
116. Support was provided by CETA for the convening of CEP Intergovernmental Meetings including the Third LBS STAC from 31 October - 02 November 2016 and Seventh SPAW STAC in November 2016. Support was also provided to the convening of workshops under the GEF CReW Project executed under the AMEP sub-programme as well as to the Regional Technical Workshop for the development of the State of the Convention Area Report in August 2016 and the GEF IWEC Co Inception Workshop in September 2016.
117. The CEP Communications Strategy developed during the 2010-2012 was reviewed and is being updated. The final strategy, expected to be completed by the middle of 2017 will be used as the framework for activities implemented during the 2015-2016 biennium for the CETA sub-programme. Proposed activities can be grouped under four main pillars as follows:
- a) Corporate communications and public relations to raise the visibility of CEP, promoting the activities of CEP in general, and the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols in particular;
 - b) Technical/functional communications to provide technical information, data and technical support in a timely fashion to UN Environment/CEP constituents;
 - c) Environmental education and public awareness to inform the public about specific protocols and environmental issues;
 - d) Participatory Communication for Development to engage stakeholders and project partners in project based communication efforts that will document and provide concrete evidence of behavioural change impact at the field level.
118. CETA coordinated the revision and update of the RAC REMPEITC-Caribe website (www.cep.unep.org/racrempeitc). Steps were and continue to be taken to migrate the websites of projects that have ended, such as the GEF CReW, to the CEP website in order to limit hosting costs and to have the CEP website also function as a clearing house mechanism. UN Environment headquarters has agreed to assist with this undertaking and in hosting CEP and its related websites.
119. The CEP website was further re-organized and modifications made to improve the effectiveness of the site in targeting a diverse audience as well as to further engage member states and their focal points and other stakeholders in its use. Factsheets and Technical Reports were redesigned to be more visually appealing as a part of this effort. A total of 13 new and redesigned fact sheets and 31 new Technical Reports were developed and posted on the CEP website.

120. A draft website content strategy has been developed and will be finalized early in the 2017-2018 to form part of the overall CEP Communications Strategy.
121. During the reporting period, CETA delivered presentations and participated in several activities to raise awareness on environmental concerns and the importance of protecting coastal and marine resources. Many of these activities were undertaken in commemoration of environmental days such as World Wetlands Day, World Water Day, Earth Day, World Health Day, International Bird Migratory Day, International Biodiversity Day, UN Day, World Oceans Day, World Environment Day, World Maritime Day and International Coastal Clean-up Day. These activities included, *inter alia*, exhibitions, expos, educational visits to schools and environmental clubs, posts on social media sites, workshops and outreach activities including press releases, radio broadcasts and television appearances. Many of these activities were conducted through partnerships with local and regional organizations, institutions and Ministries such as the Jamaica Environment Trust, National Environment and Planning Agency in Jamaica and the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) in Washington D.C. These activities helped to increase the visibility of CEP and its work both in Jamaica and the Wider Caribbean region.
122. CETA contributed to increased visibility of the SPAW and LBS Protocols to a wide range of stakeholders through several awareness-raising efforts, including the following:

In recognition of World Environment Day and World Oceans Day, CEP collaborated with the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) for the launch of the Third Annual Caribbean Sea Fan Festival Online and published a local newspaper article on the preservation of the ocean.

- Several promotional items were designed and produced for display at national and regional events. These included: banners, infographic posters, fact sheets on issues relating to the LBS Protocol, solid waste, ocean acidification, marine litter and wastewater were also produced and translated to enhance the visual appeal of the communication products. Other promotional materials produced for meetings included flash drives, messenger bags and CEP pins. Promotional material for the GEF CReW Project was also procured with the assistance of the CETA Sub-programme and included rolling banners in English, bottles, notebooks and pens.
 - In collaboration with the AMEP Sub-programme, CETA assisted in the maintenance of an online Interactive Game on Marine Litter for the Kids' Corner of the CEP website to support the implementation of the Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter Management in the Wider Caribbean Region (RAPMALI).
 - Over six press releases regarding CEP projects, activities and meetings were produced and distributed locally, regionally and internationally over the reporting period. Daily and weekly environmental news items and updates were also posted to the CEP website and on social media regarding the work of member states, partners and other UN and UN Environment offices.
 - CETA also partnered with the Jamaica Environment Trust on International coastal clean-up activities in Jamaica in 2015 and 2016.
 - CEP maintained a strong presence on its social media sites, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, through the sharing of updates and relevant national, regional and global environmental news, activities and concerns. The CEP Facebook page has achieved over 4,298 likes compared to approximately 780 likes in the previous biennium which represents a 450% increase. Its Twitter page has obtained over 8,000 likes and over 2,500 followers compared to its 820 followers reported in the last biennium, representing a 216% increase in followers.
123. CETA also maintained and updated the CEP Focal Points database, Country Information Page, Photo Database and Gallery and the Lab Capacity Database. Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention, the CEP

community and the general public were also provided with updates on the availability of data and/or information regarding the protection and development of coastal and marine resources in the Wider Caribbean.

124. In coordination with the AMEP Sub-programme, CETA prepared and distributed a Communications Survey to determine the effectiveness and reach of the communication outputs of the CETA Sub-programme. An analysis of this survey is currently being undertaken and will form part of the CEP Updated Communications Strategy.
125. CETA responded to several requests for information, and coordinated the compilation of reports and inputs to publications at the request of the UN Environment headquarters, donors and partners. These included the United Nations Environment Assembly. Support was also provided on request to Governments during the preparation and implementation of CEP intergovernmental meetings and workshops, in particular with the development of the final meeting reports.
126. The CETA Sub-programme assisted in preparing the Summary on the Implementation of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols along with a Trifold on the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols. Both are to be presented at the Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment.
127. CETA collaborated with RAC REMPEITC-Caribe and IMO to create a video showcasing the importance of the work of the Regional Activity Centre in the Caribbean as well as a banner and infographic posters on the work of the RAC.
128. The CETA Sub-programme provided assistance to the AMEP Sub-programme through the preparation of the AMEP or Pollution Quarterly over the 2015-2016 period.

ANNEX I: Status of Relevant Decisions of the Sixteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Thirteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean

DECISIONS OF 16th IGM (2014)	STATUS OF DECISION (2015-2016)
<i>Decision I</i>	
I.2 Request the Secretariat continue to seek additional funds to meet the full requirements of the approved Workplan and urge governments to support the Secretariat in this regard	All to report AMEP – Resources mobilized by AMEP reflection in status report and new workplan and budget SPAW – Resources mobilized as reflected in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.3 (total of \$1,944,919)
I.6 Request the Secretariat to invoice the States and Territories of the Caribbean Environment Programme in the amounts expressed in Annex VI of this Report	Completed
I.10 Request the Secretariat to continue its efforts to collect and to explore innovative financial mechanisms with Member States to facilitate payment of their outstanding contributions for example through support to meetings, workshops, etc.	Completed and an on-going process
I.11 Request that the Executive Director of UN Environment, make the necessary provisions to extend the Caribbean Trust Fund until 2017.	Completed
<i>Decision II</i>	
II.3. Request the Secretariat to include activities in its 2015–2016 work plan to raise awareness, mobilize resources, including the development of new project proposals, to enable assessment and monitoring of Ocean Acidification in the Wider Caribbean Region, making the necessary linkages to the Caribbean coral reef monitoring network currently being coordinated through the SPAW subprogramme.	AMEP and SPAW to report. AMEP – promotional material on ocean acidification developed and disseminated. SPAW- The Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)-Caribbean was reactivated, methods agreed and assessments ongoing (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.3) and details below under Decision VIII
II.4 Request the Secretariat to strengthen cooperation with the Guiana Shield Facility in order to develop synergies between the two programmes.	Initial discussions held. Collaboration to take place through the CLME+ EBM sub-project for the Southern Caribbean/Northern Brazil Shelf (joint AMEP/SPAW). Draft proposal to be discussed on March 2017 prior to IGM in French Guiana, with relevant countries and partners.
<i>Decision III</i>	

<p>III.5 Request the Secretariat to work with UN Environment and the Government of Curacao to finalize and sign the MoU for the hosting of RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe as soon as possible given that it will serve as the legal basis for development of additional MoUs involving the IMO, RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe and the US Coast Guard;</p>	<p>Agreement finalized and signed on April 01, 2016 and is operational</p>
<p>III.10 Further encourage the Secretariat in collaboration with IMO to explore the possibilities of large scale funding opportunities, in particular through the GEF, for the implementation of oil spill and marine-related activities identified in the proposed strategic plan;</p>	<p>New proposals developed under MARPOL Convention; limited opportunity through GEF Projects with the exception of ballast water and control of air emissions from ships.</p>
<p>Decision IV</p>	
<p>IV.1 Request the Secretariat, in coordination with the Regional Activity Centres, to continue work to finalize outstanding Host Agreements with RAC Host Governments as soon as possible.</p>	<p>Host agreement with REMPEITC concluded and Trinidad in final review before signature. Coordinator to visit Cuba in early February to discuss host agreement for Cimab.</p>
<p>Decision V</p>	
<p>V.4 Further request the Secretariat to continue its efforts to strengthen collaboration with regional agencies and relevant Convention Secretariats to enable more effective implementation of the Caribbean Environment Programme workplan;</p>	<p>Ongoing. Collaboration with several regional partners, for example GEF CReW and IWeco Projects and for convening of various regional, technical and training workshops (CDB, CWWA, IDB, CARPHA, UWI, Ramsar, CMS, UNODC). Increased collaboration with ROLAC in particular through new sub-regional office located in Kingston, Jamaica.</p>
<p>Decision VI</p>	
<p>VI.4 Request the Secretariat to continue its efforts to mobilize resources that will assist countries to conduct national coastal and marine monitoring and assessments and in the further development of the State of Convention Area Report.</p>	<p>Resources mobilized primarily through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLME+ (development of SOCAR) • CReW (coastal and marine monitoring and assessments) and • IWeco (development of SOCAR) • GCRMN-Caribbean (support from France and UN Environment Coral Reef Unit) (coral reef ecosystems)(see Decision VIII below) • CaMPAM (support from Italy and Germany via TNC) (for assessments around MPAs)

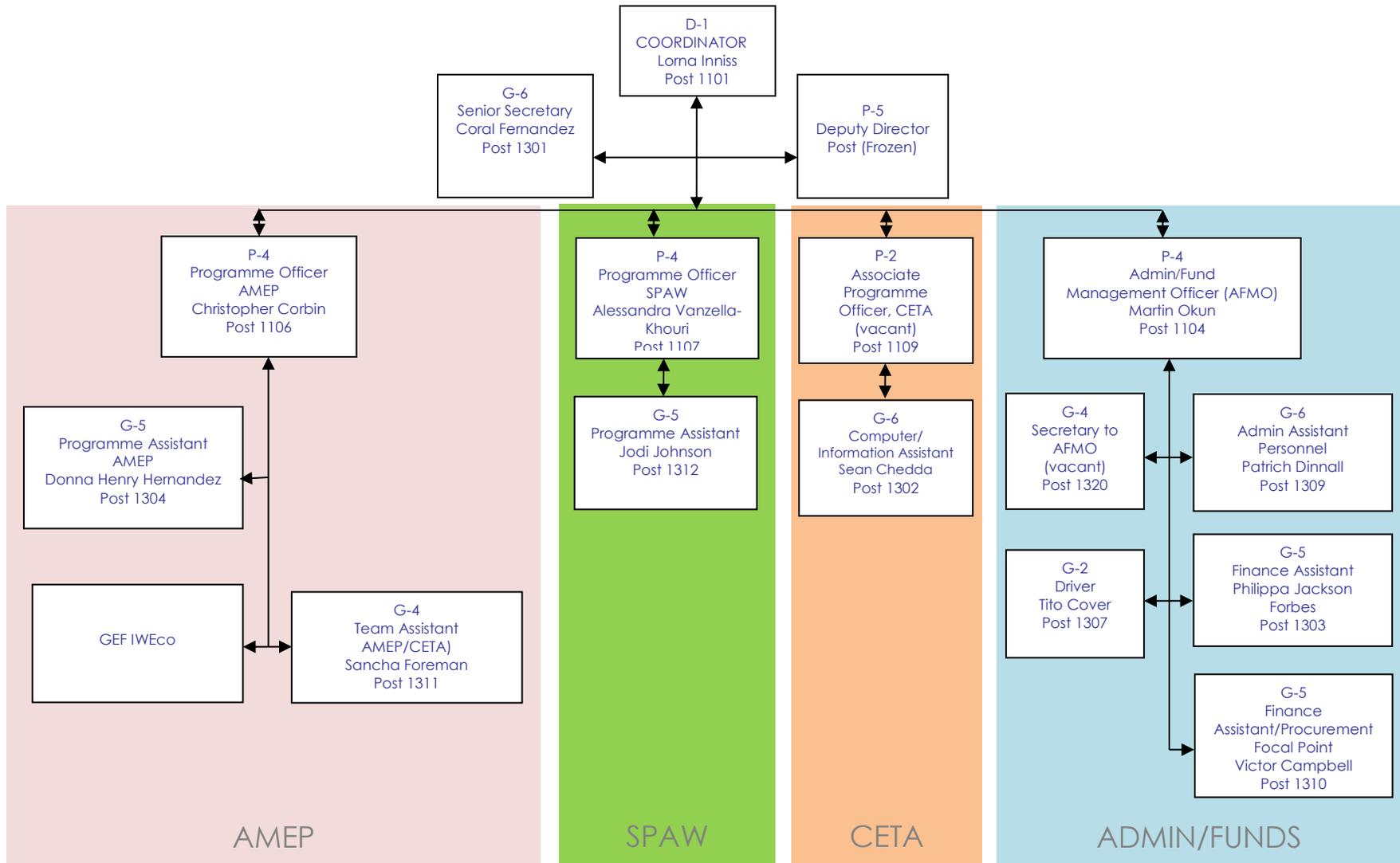
Decision VII

<p>VII.2 Request that the Secretariat explore opportunities for entering into a formal agreement with Brazil regarding mutual collaboration on activities relevant to the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols</p>	<p>Consultations with Brazil took place during the biennium and coordinator met Ministries of Environment and Foreign Affairs in February 2017. It was agreed that there were a number of areas of cooperation, including the CLME+ North Brazil Shelf Sub-project, and Brazil would like to continue the process towards an MoU after the IGM.</p>
<p>VII.3 Urge the Secretariat to take advantage of resources to be provided through CLME+ to facilitate enhanced coordination among the AMEP and SPAW Programme Areas, including through the development of a roadmap for collaborative action and the convening of joint technical meetings and workshops</p>	<p>Draft roadmap developed and joint LBS and SPAW Protocols STAC meetings were organized in Miami, November 2016, were roadmap was developed and endorsed (see UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.7).</p>
<p>VII.4 Request that the Secretariat participate in the interim coordination mechanism for the implementation of the CLME+ SAP, which is to be established under the CLME+ Project, and to participate in the process to identify a coordination mechanism to support Ecosystem-Based Management/Ecosystem Approach for Fisheries (EBM/EAF) implementation within the CLME+</p>	<p>Ongoing process. Secretariat actively participating in all activities through AMEP and SPAW sub-programmes as needed</p>
<p>VII.5 Request that the Secretariat participate in the implementation of the CLME+ Project through the inclusion of the following activities in the 2015-2016 Workplan with required financial support from the Project</p>	<p>All activities fully incorporated into AMEP and SPAW workplans for 2015/2016 and 2017/2018 and ED report to be presented at the 17th IGM</p>
<p>VII.6 Request the Secretariat to facilitate the collaboration and coordination between the CLME+ Project and other related Projects being executed by the Secretariat in particular GEF Projects such as the GEF CReW and GEF IWeco.</p>	<p>Ongoing process. Facilitated by joint activities, sharing of information, development of a joint meeting calendar and through participation in the GEF IW Conference</p>
<p><i>Decision VIII</i></p>	
<p>VIII.2 Further request the Secretariat to link, as appropriate, the above-mentioned effort to CEP activities to reactivate the regional coral reef monitoring network, as well as those relevant to the issue of ocean acidification in an effort to promote further coordination and maximization of resources</p>	<p>Through the SPAW sub-programme, the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) for the Caribbean was reactivated during the biennium in collaboration with SPAW-RAC. A Steering Committee is operational since 2015 with participation of interested member governments and organizations. The biophysical and socio-economic protocols/methods have been agreed and implemented at a number of sites, two regional workshops were organized, as well as two face-to face</p>

	<p>opportunistic coordination meetings and several teleconferences via Skype and information is regularly disseminated via a list-group. The network is also linked to the <i>coral restoration network</i> launched in late 2016. Current discussions include development of the database and a regional report on coral reef status. These efforts with a view to contribute relevant information to the ocean acidification issue. See UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/ INF.17, UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.3 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4 for details on the GCRMN-Caribbean activities.</p>
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**ANNEX II: Organizational chart of the Secretariat of the Cartagena Convention and Caribbean Environment Programme
2016**

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL COORDINATING UNIT (CAR/RCU)



ANNEX III: Table on Status of Pledges

CARIBBEAN TRUST FUND			
CONTRIBUTION STATUS (in US\$)			
	2014	2015	2016
Balance B/F as at 1st Jan	1,765,602	2,077,809	2,319,567
Pledges	1,295,333	1,295,333	1,295,333
Receipts as at 31 Dec	(983,126)	(1,053,575)	(964,388)
CUMULATIVE BALANCE	2,077,809	2,319,567	2,650,512

ANNEX IV: Status of the Ratification of the Cartagena Convention and its Protocols

<i>State</i>	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
<i>Antigua and Barbuda</i>		11-Sep-86		11-Sep-86	18-Jan-90			13-July-10
<i>Bahamas</i>		24-Jun-10		24-Jun-10		8-Mar-12		24-Jun-10
<i>Barbados</i>	5-Mar-84	28-May-85	5-Mar-84	28-May-85		14-Oct-02		
<i>Belize</i>		22-Sep-99		22-Sep-99		4-Jan-08		4-Feb-08
<i>Colombia</i>	24-Mar-83	3-Mar-88	24-Mar-83	3-Mar-88	18-Jan-90	5-Jan-98	2-Oct-00	
<i>Costa Rica</i>		2-Aug-91		2-Aug-91			6-Oct-99	26-May-16
<i>Cuba</i>		15-Sep-88		15-Sep-88	18-Jan-90	4-Aug-98		
<i>Dominica</i>		5-Oct-90		5-Oct-90				
<i>Dominican Republic</i>		24-Nov-98		24-Nov-98		24-Nov-98	3-Aug-00	6-Sep-12
<i>France</i>	24-Mar-83	13-Nov-85	24-Mar-83	13-Nov-85	18-Jan-90	5-Apr-02	6-Oct-99	4-May-07
<i>Grenada</i>	24-Mar-83	17-Aug-87	24-Mar-83	17-Aug-87		5-Mar-12		5-Mar-12
<i>Guatemala</i>	5-Dec-83	18-Dec-89	5-Dec-83	18-Dec-89	18-Jan-90			
<i>Guyana</i>		14-Jul-10		14-Jul-10		14-Jul-10		14-Jul-10
<i>Haiti</i>								
<i>Honduras</i>	24-Mar-83		24-Mar-83					
<i>Jamaica</i>	24-Mar-83	1-Apr-87	24-Mar-83	1-Apr-87	18-Jan-90			5-Nov-15
<i>Mexico</i>	24-Mar-83	11-Apr-85	24-Mar-83	11-Apr-85	18-Jan-90			
<i>Netherlands</i>	24-Mar-83	16-Apr-84	24-Mar-83	16-Apr-84	18-Jan-90	2-Mar-92	6-Oct-99	
<i>Nicaragua</i>	24-Mar-83	25-Aug-05	24-Mar-83	25-Aug-05				
<i>Panama</i>	24-Mar-83	7-Oct-87	24-Mar-83	7-Oct-87	16-Jan-91	27-Sep-96		9-Jul-03
<i>St. Kitts and Nevis</i>		15-Jun-99		15-Jun-99				
<i>Saint Lucia</i>	24-Mar-83	30-Nov-84	24-Mar-83	30-Nov-84	18-Jan-90	18-May-00		30-Jan-08
<i>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</i>		11-Jul-90		11-Jul-90	26-Jul-91	26-Jul-91		
<i>Suriname</i>								
<i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>		24-Jan-86		24-Jan-86	18-Jan-90	10-Aug-99		28-Mar-03
<i>United Kingdom</i>	24-Mar-83	28-Feb-86	24-Mar-83	28-Feb-86	18-Jan-90			
<i>United States of America</i>	24-Mar-83	31-Oct-84	24-Mar-83	31-Oct-84	18-Jan-90	16-Apr-03	6-Oct-99	13-Feb-09
<i>Venezuela</i>	24-Mar-83	18-Dec-86	24-Mar-83	18-Dec-86	18-Jan-90	28-Jan-97		
<i>European Economic Commission</i>	24-Mar-83							

ANNEX V: Intergovernmental, Technical/Expert and Other Major Meetings Convened by UN Environment CAR/RCU in 2015-2016 (including RACs and GEF Projects)

Event Number	Programme Area	Title	Venue	Date
1.	AMEP	Caribbean Implementation Meeting on Decision 5 of the XIX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean	Bridgetown, Barbados	27-29 January 2015
2.	AMEP/CEP	Caribbean Green Economy Conference 2015, "Implementing SAMOA Pathway and Advancing Sustainable Development Goals in the Caribbean"	Kingston, Jamaica	23-24 February 2015
3.	AMEP	Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting.	St. George's, Grenada	21 June 2015
4.	AMEP	Second Meeting of the LBS Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC).	Antigua, Guatemala	7-9 July 2015
5.	AMEP	Expert Group Meeting on "Integrated Approaches for the Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Linkages between SIDS, Climate Change, and Oceans and Seas	United Nations Headquarters, New York	2-3 September 2015
6.	AMEP	The Second Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Council of Ministers for Environmental Sustainability	St John's, Antigua and Barbuda	7-9 September 2015
7.	AMEP	First Caribbean Waste-to-Energy (WtE) Technology Expo and Conference	St. Georges, Grenada	20-23 January 2016
8.	AMEP	Caribbean Node for Marine Litter Meeting	Kingston, Jamaica	3 February 2016
9.	AMEP	Second Regional Planning Meeting of the Caribbean Platform for Nutrient Management	Trinidad and Tobago	24-25 February 2016
10.	AMEP	State of the Convention Area Report (SOCAR)	Kingston, Jamaica	15-17 August 2016
11.	AMEP	Launch of Trash Free Waters Partnership Initiative for Jamaica	Kingston, Jamaica	18 August 2016
12.	AMEP	Third Meeting of the LBS Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC).	Miami, Florida, USA	31 October - 2 November 2016
13.	GEF CReW	Governance and Sanitation Workshop	St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda	23-27 January 2015
14.	GEF CReW	Wastewater and Reefs Workshop	Florida, USA	23-25 March 2015

15.	GEF CReW	Lab Capacity Training Workshop for participants from Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama under the GEF CReW project - Regional Training in Monitoring and Evaluation of Domestic Wastewater.	Havana, Cuba	13-17 April 2015
16.	GEF CReW	Regional and Replication Strategy Development Workshops	Kingston, Jamaica	4-8 May 2015
17.	GEF CReW	Fourth Meeting the Project Steering Committee (PSC 4)	Antigua, Guatemala	7-9 July 2015
18.	GEF CReW	Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association's 24th Annual Conference and Exhibition, "Improving the Quality of Life through Water and Waste Management Solutions.	Miami, Florida	24-28 August 2015
19.	GEF CReW	11th Annual High Level Session (HLS) Ministerial Forum	Miami, Florida	27-28 August 2015
20.	GEF CReW	Final Regional Capacity Building Workshop	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	15-19 February 2016
21.	GEF CReW	GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Partnerships Programme R&D Forum and Exhibition on Ballast Water Management	Montreal, Canada	16-18 March 2016
22.	GEF CReW	Eighth GEF Biennial International Waters Conference (GEF IWC 8)	Sri Lanka	9-13 May 2016
23.	GEF CLME+	CLME+ SAP Meeting of the Project Executive Group (PEG)	Miami, Florida, USA	26 - 27 October 2015
24.	GEF CLME+	First CLME Project Steering Committee Meeting and Inception Workshop	Cartagena, Colombia	26-28 January 2016
25.	GEF CLME+	Communications Workshop	Miami, Florida	5-7 July 2016
26.	GEF CLME+	Second Meeting of the CLME+ Project Executive Group (PEG)	Miami, Florida	6-7 September 2016
27.	GEF CLME+	Second Meeting of the CLME+ Strategic Action Programme (SAP) Interim Coordination Mechanism	Miami, Florida, USA	8-9 September 2016
28.	GEF IWeco	The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Workshop	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	8-13 March 2015
29.	GEF IWeco	GEF IWeco - First Project Steering Committee Meeting and Inception Workshop	Kingston, Jamaica	20-22 September 2016
30.	SPAW/CaMPAM	11th Edition of UN Environment-CEP/CaMPAM Training of Trainers (ToT) programme on MPA management (English-speaking)	St. George's, Grenada	16 - 25 February 2015
31.	SPAW/GCFI	68th Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) Conference	Panama City, Panama	9 - 13 November 2015

32.	SPAW/Italian Government	10x20 Initiative: <i>Conference on Marine Protected Areas</i>	Rome, Italy	7 - 9 March 2016
33.	SPAW/ GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN)- Caribbean Integrated Coral Reef Monitoring Workshop	Kingston, Jamaica	18 - 22 April 2016
34.	SPAW RAC	5 th Meeting of the Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Caribbean Wetlands- Cariwet	Rodney Bay, St. Lucia	5 August 2016
35.	SPAW/CaMPAM	12th Edition of UN Environment- CEP/CaMPAM ToT programme on MPA management (Spanish-speaking)	Montecristi, Dominican Republic	30 August -10 September 2016
36.	SPAW	Seventh Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region	Miami, Florida, USA	2 - 4 November 2016

ANNEX VI: Expenditures for the Overall Coordination of Common Costs and Sub-programmes

i) Overall Coordination & Common Costs

Component	2014 Actual Budget US\$	2014 Exp.	% spent 2014	2015 Actual Budget US\$	2015 Exp.	% spent 2015	2016 Actual Budget US\$	2016 Exp.	% spent 2016
Travel	100,000	70,196	70	70,000	22,281	32	33,000	32,706	99
Staff Personnel	996,000	930,936	93	971,940	750,738	77	910,500	823,208	90
Contractual Services	190,000	113,817	60	30,000	15,329	51	13,000	12,648	97
Supplies Commodities & Material	7,000	5,263	75	6,900	4,357	63	2,000	1,892	95
Programme Activities	152,000	144,892	95	20,000	10,000	50	0	0	
Operational & Other Costs	134,300	115,896	86	148,700	111,421	75	80,000	68,764	86
Equipment Vehicle & Furniture	20,000	3,742	19	16,000	11,837	74	3,000	1,145	38
Sub-Total	1,599,300	1,384,741	87	1,263,540	925,963	73	1,041,500	940,362	90
PSC (13%)	207,909	180,016		130,000	120,373		135,395	122,242	
Grand Total	1,807,209	1,564,758	87	1,393,540	1,046,336	75	1,176,895	1,062,604	90

ii) Status of Budget for the SPAW Programme for 2015-2016 Biennium

Activity	2015				2016			
	Budgeted			Required Balance	Budgeted			Required Balance
	CTF	Other Contributions*	Total cost		CTF	Other Contributions*	Total Cost	
2.1 Programme Co-ordination (salary costs and COP and STAC meetings covered by OCCC)	0	15,000	40,000	25,000	0	15,000	45,000	30,000
2.2 Strengthening of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean Region **	0	35,291	1,057,000	1,021,709	0	1,223,855	1,062,000	0
2.3 Development of Guidelines for Management of Protected Areas and Species	0	10,000	40,000	30,000	0	22,000	52,000	30,000
2.4 Conservation of Threatened and Endangered Species	0	87,000	132,000	45,000	0	87,000	132,000	45,000
2.5 Conservation and Sustainable Use of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems **	0	19,148	130,000	110,000	0	206,873	60,000	0
Subtotal	0	166,439	1,399,000	1,232,561	0	1,554,728	1,351,000	0
Programme support costs 13% (amount subject to change based on source of funds)	0	21,637	181,870	160,233	0	202,115	175,630	0
TOTAL SPAW	0	188,076	1,580,870	1,392,794	0	1,756,843	1,526,630	0

*Includes funds from the Government of France through the SPAW-RAC

** Includes funds from the Government of Italy under the EBMM Project, the CLME+ project and funds from ECMMAN project through SPAW-RAC

iii) **Summary of Funds Provided by the French Government through SPAW-RAC for the Implementation of SPAW Activities**

Activity	2015	2016
2.1 Programme Co-ordination	2,500	11,100
2.2 Strengthening of protected areas in the Wider Caribbean Region	0	11,100
2.3 Development of guidelines for management of protected areas and species	0	25,000
2.4 Conservation of threatened and endangered species	29,000	17,800
2.5 Conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine ecosystems	32,100	47,100
TOTAL	63,600	112,100