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

Cayenne, French Guiana, 13 March 2017

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA)W) in the Wider Caribbean Region held in Kingston, 15 to 18 January 1990, adopted the SPA)W) Protocol to the Cartagena Convention, which came into force on 18 June 2000. Article 23 of the SPA)W) Protocol provides for the convening and functioning of the Meetings of the Parties and calls for these ordinary meetings to be held in conjunction with the Ordinary Meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena Convention. In light of the above, this Meeting is convened by UNEP's Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP-CEP), in Cayenne, French Guiana on 13 March 2017, preceding the Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean, Cayenne, French Guiana, 15-17 March, 2017.
2. The main objectives of this Ninth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP9) to the SPA)W) Protocol are to:
 - **Review** and **adopt** the Recommendations of the Seventh Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC7) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA)W) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Miami, Florida, 2 - 4 November 2016;
 - **Review** and **approve** the 2017-2018 Workplan and Budget of the SPA)W) Subprogramme for subsequent approval by 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 of the Wider Caribbean Region;
 - **Review** and **approve** the reports on protected areas presented by Parties for listing under the SPA)W) Protocol;
 - **Review** and **adopt** the SPA)W) STAC7 recommendations on the species proposed for listing under the SPA)W) Protocol; and

For reasons of economy and the environment, Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of the Working and Information documents to the Meeting, and not to request additional copies.

- **Review and adopt** the Reporting Format for Exemptions under Article 11(2) of the SPAW Protocol proposed by the Ad Hoc Working Group.
- 3. The sixteen Contracting Parties to the SPAW Protocol are invited to nominate their respective representatives to participate in the Meeting. Representatives of governments that are non-Contracting Parties and of international, regional, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, have also been invited to attend the Meeting as Observers. The Provisional List of Participants will be presented in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.37/INF.2.

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING

- 4. The Meeting will be opened by the Secretariat on Monday, 13 March 2017, at 9:00a.m., in Cayenne, French Guiana.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING

- 2.1 Rules of Procedure
- 5. The Rules of Procedure for the meetings of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) (UNEP, 2012) will apply, *mutatis mutandis*, for the conduct of the Meeting.
- 2.2 Election of Officers
- 6. The Meeting will be invited to elect from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties to SPAW; the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Rapporteur for the conduct of the Meeting.
- 2.3 Organisation of Work
- 7. English, French and Spanish will be the working languages of the Meeting. Simultaneous interpretation in these languages will be provided for the Meeting, and the Working Documents will be available in all the working languages. The Provisional List of Documents of the Meeting is presented in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.37/INF.1.
- 8. The Secretariat proposes to convene the Meeting in plenary sessions, with the assistance of working groups if necessary, which may be established by the Chairperson. No simultaneous interpretation will be available for the working groups. Participants will be reminded that, given the length of the Meeting, breaking into working groups might not be feasible. Participants are therefore expected to come prepared, having reviewed all working documents as appropriate, in order to provide concrete inputs at the time of discussion.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- 9. The Meeting will be invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda, prepared by the Secretariat based on inputs received from the Contracting Parties during preparations for the Meeting, on relevant recommendations and decisions from previous STAC and COP Meetings of the SPAW Protocol, as well as on emerging issues of relevance to the biodiversity of the Wider Caribbean. The Provisional Agenda proposed by the Secretariat is presented in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.37/1.

AGENDA ITEM 4: STATUS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE SPAW SUBPROGRAMME FOR 2015-2016, INCLUDING ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR SPAW (SPAW-RAC) IN GUADELOUPE

10. The Secretariat will present the “Status of Activities of the SPAW Subprogramme for 2015-2016” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.3). During the presentation the Secretariat will also briefly refer to the following documents on major activities of SPAW:
- Report of the SPAW Regional Activity Centre (SPAW-RAC) in Guadeloupe with regard to RAC operations and budget for the period 2015-2016(UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.4);
 - Update on the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM) and its major activities, including the ongoing Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network (ECMMAN)Project (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.5);
 - Evaluation of CaMPAM activities (2010-2015) and recommendations for improvement (UNEP WG.38/INF.6);
 - Marine mammals materials in support of SPAW’s Marine Mammal Action Plan (to be revised) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.10, UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.11, UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.13, UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.16 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.18);
 - The GCRMN-Caribbean network and guidelines (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.17 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.37/ INF.4);
 - The Sargassum influx platform and factsheets (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.9, UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.12, UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.14 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/INF.15); and
 - The GEF Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME+) Project and its joint implementation through the AMEP and the SPAW Subprogramme (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.37/INF.7).
11. The Meeting will be invited to provide any comments on the activities implemented during 2015-2016 and to make the necessary recommendations. Parties will also be requested to complement the information provided by the Secretariat and inform the Meeting on their activities in support of SPAW objectives within their countries, including SPAW workplan activities in which they have participated and their impact.

AGENDA ITEM 5: WORKPLAN AND BUDGET OF THE SPAW SUBPROGRAMME FOR THE 2017-2018 BIENNIUM

12. The Secretariat will present the “Draft Workplan and Budget of the SPAW Subprogramme for the 2017-2018 Biennium” (contained in document UNEP(DEPI)CAR WG.38/6.Rev1), developed following Decisions of previous COP Meetings, to address relevant and emerging global and regional biodiversity issues and initiatives, and to continue the development of strategic alliances.
13. The Meeting will be invited to approve the draft SPAW Workplan and Budget as revised by SPAW STAC7 and provide specific comments and recommendations as needed. Subsequently, the Workplan and Budget will be presented to 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 of the Wider Caribbean Region, March 15-17 2017 as part of the Workplan and Budget for the Caribbean Environment Programme for the 2017-2018 Biennium, for its final adoption.

AGENDA ITEM 6: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC7) TO THE SPAW PROTOCOL (MIAMI, FLORIDA, 2 - 4 NOVEMBER 2016)

14. The Secretariat will present the Recommendations of the SPAW STAC7 for review and approval (Miami, Florida, 2 - 4 November 2016) (Annex III of UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/8). The Secretariat will call to the attention of the meeting, the relevant documents in support of the STAC7 Recommendations:
- The assessment of the protected areas proposed for listing (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.38/5 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.37/4 regarding **STAC7 Recommendation II**)
 - The proposals submitted by Parties of species for listing under the Annexes of the SPAW Protocol (contained in documents UNEP(DEPI)CAR WG.38/4 and UNEP(DEPI)CAR WG.38/INF.7 regarding **STAC7 Recommendation III (1)**); and
 - Draft Reporting Format for Exemptions Under Article 11(2) of the Specially Protected Areas And Wildlife Protocol (SPAW) (Annex A of UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.37/3 and UNEP(DEPI)CAR WG.38/3.Rev1 that includes a proposal for exemption as case study on the format from the Government of Curaçao).

AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

15. Participants will be invited to raise any other issue not covered by the preceding Agenda items, but relevant to the scope of the Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

16. The Rapporteur of the Meeting will present the draft Decisions of the Meeting (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.37/3). The Meeting will be invited to adopt decisions, with amendments and corrections to be introduced, as appropriate. The decisions will be made available to 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 of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cayenne, French Guiana 15 – 17 March 2017) for adoption.

AGENDA ITEM 9: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

17. The Meeting is expected to be closed on Monday, 13 March 2017 at 6:00 p.m. by the Chairperson of the Meeting and the Secretariat.