

**CONSORTIUM FOR CONSERVATION OF COASTAL AND MARINE
ECOSYSTEMS IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN (WIO-C) MEETING HELD
ON 25 OCTOBER 2011, IN MOMBASA, KENYA**

Participants:

- ✓ Birdlife International, Ademola Ajagbe
- ✓ IUCN, Ali Kaka;
- ✓ UNEP, Nairobi Convention, Dixon Waruinge and Nancy Soi;
- ✓ WCS, Nyawira Muthiga and Lisa Gaylord;
- ✓ WIOMSA, Julius Francis and Tim Andrew;
- ✓ CEA-NIWWF, Peter Scheren, Domingos Gove and Ralison Harifidy;
- ✓ CORDIO, David Obura;
- ✓ EAWLS, Dishon Murage;
- ✓ Blue Ventures, Alasdair Harris;
- ✓ Rare Conservation, Patrick Mehlman;

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item/ Event	Chair/ Rapportuer
1600	1. Opening of the meeting	Secretariat (WIOMSA)
1610	2. Matters arising from issues discussed in the last meeting	Chair/Secretariat
1640	3. Discussions on organizing a session during the IUCN World Conservation Congress in South Korea in 2012	All
1710	4. Development of a Regional Climate Change Strategy	All
1740	5. ABCG Support to Marine and Coastal Management in the Western Indian Ocean	All
1810	6. Discussions on ideas for project proposal (s) by the Consortium	All
1840	7. A.O.B i. Design of the WIO-C website	All
1900	8. Way forward 9. Closing session and cocktail	All

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

The chair of the WIO-C, Mr. Ali Kaka called the meeting to order at 1600hrs and welcomed everyone and thereafter requested the participants to introduce themselves. Thereafter, he sought clarification from the members on the election of the chair of the meeting. The members made reference to the discussion of the previous meeting held in August 2011 in Dar es Salaam, where it was agreed that Mr. Ali Kaka would remain as the chair of the WIO-C meetings until the end of tenure of the current WIO-C Secretariat-WIOMSA. The chair took the participants through the agenda and the documentation for the meeting. Thereafter, the meeting adopted the agenda as was.

Agenda item 2: Matters arising from issues discussed in the last meeting

Key issues that arose from the previous meeting were:

2.1 Charter, Guiding principles and the commitment letter for the WIO-C.

The chair noted that these documents were circulated to all members of the WIO-C and comments were received from IUCN and WIOMSA. The meeting agreed to adopt the documents with minor edits. The secretariat was requested to clean up the text of the Charter, Guiding Principles and the Commitment letters and to circulate the final documents to all members.

2.2 Code of Conduct,

Dr. Nyawira informed the meeting that the document will be ready by end of November 2011.

2.3 Commitment letters,

The Nairobi Convention noted that there was need to harmonize the guiding principles with the membership criteria. The meeting discussed and agreed to delete the bracketed words “.....*financial, human and others...*” in the first paragraph of the membership criteria under the guiding principles. The chair requested the Secretariat to do so while cleaning up the text of the final documents.

2.4. Membership criteria,

Dr. Obura suggested the fourth paragraph of the membership criteria to be reworded. The chair requested Dr. Obura to draft the alternative text and the new text was as follows: “*Ethically reputable as proven by clear organizational policies and structures that support transparency and best practice in the industry*”. The new text was accepted by most members.

Agenda item 3: Discussions on organizing a session during the IUCN World Conservation Congress in South Korea in 2012

Lisa introduced the agenda item and informed the meeting that she was in communication with IUCN on the possibility of organizing a WIO-Challenge session during the IUCN Congress. The objective of the session was to showcase the on-going initiatives in the Western Indian Ocean region and to share experiences and lessons learnt from existing partnerships in other regions. However discussions with the Government of

Seychelles on the same did not bear much fruit since the Government of Seychelles informed her that they were not ready.

The meeting discussed at length on whether the session should be organized under the umbrella of the WIO Challenge or the Consortium. Thereafter the meeting agreed that the session will be organized as a WIO-C (Consortium) activity and Lisa, Peter, Julius and David were requested to take the lead in the process.

Agenda item 4: Development of a Regional Climate Change Strategy

Julius introduced the agenda item and proposed for the development of a regional climate change strategy that would be a contribution by all members of WIO-C and would be presented to the next Conference of Parties for the Nairobi Convention (COP7) for adoption by the countries. He further added that the Climate change strategy would map out climate change priority activities for the WIO region and could also be used as a fund raising tool for climate change related activities for the WIO-C.

He however stressed that the proposed climate change strategy was not aimed at replacing individual climate change strategies that have been developed or are in the process of being developed by the individual members of WIO-C but would form the basis of Climate change work in the WIO region. The members approved the proposal and the chair requested Julius, Dixon and Peter to take the lead in the development of the strategy.

Agenda item 5: ABCG Support to Marine and Coastal Management in the Western Indian Ocean

The agenda item was introduced by Lisa who informed the meeting that WCS had made an application to ABCG to support marine and coastal management in the WIO region. The objective of the proposal was to undertake stocktaking exercise to identify gaps, opportunities, and lessons learned for marine and coastal resources conservation and management, with a focus on climate vulnerability and adaptation, in the Western Indian Ocean. The proposal was approved by ABCG and WCS secured USD 150,000 for the exercise. Lisa also noted that the project would contribute to the development of the regional climate strategy to be led by WIOMSA.

The chair requested Lisa, peter, Julius and David to take the lead in the development of the project concept.

Agenda item 6: Discussions on ideas for project proposal (s) by the Consortium

The chair introduced the agenda item and stressed the need to develop project proposals to be implemented by WIO-C in order to strengthen the WIO-C membership. The proposal was welcomed by all the members. The “Mangroves for the Future initiative in the Western Indian Ocean” on *enhancing the resilience of coastal systems in the Western Indian Ocean* has been identified as one of the projects that would be implemented under the WIO-C. Mr. Waruinge also informed the meeting that the GEF project “*Partnerships for the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-Based Sources Activities* (WIO-SAP)” will be implemented by the WIO-C membership.

The chair requested the Nairobi Convention to circulate the draft PIF of the WIO-SAP to all the WIO-C members.

Agenda item 7: A.O.B

i. Design of the WIO-C website

Julius introduced the agenda item noting that the objective of the presentation was to share with the members the look and feel of the designed WIO-C and to request for their input and ideas on ways to improve the site. Thereafter, Julius invited Nancy Soi to take the members through the site. The main tabs on the website are Home; About; Services; Partners; Projects; Membership and Contacts. Thereafter, the meeting agreed that the WIO-C site be uploaded to the WIOMSA website to enable all the members to give their comments to the Secretariat.

ii. Membership

Birdlife International and Wetlands international sought to know their membership status within the WIO-C. The chair, recalling the discussions on the need for all members to sign the commitment letters, he responded that BirdLife International and Wetlands International were considered as members of the WIO-C however, like all other members that have not signed their commitment letters they should do so as well.

There being no other business, the chair declared the meeting closed at 1900hrs.