Background Note

Caribbean Implementation Meeting on Decision 5 of the XIX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean

27-29 January 2015
Bridgetown, Barbados

The Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean at their XIX Meeting held in Los Cabos, Mexico in their Decision 5 entitled “Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States” agreed to prepare an “Implementation Plan for the translation of the outcomes of the Third International Conference on SIDS into concrete actions in support of the sustainable development of SIDS”. In addition Decision 5 also reiterates the call for the establishment of a Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) SIDS–Specific Initiative within the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP), 2012-2022.

UNEP, as Secretariat of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean is organizing a meeting to follow up on elements of Decision 5, including the outcomes of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States held in Apia, Samoa from 1-4 September 2014. In this regard, the Samoa Pathway, the Outcome Document of the Third International Conference on SIDS will be used as the basis for the development of recommendations and an action plan for the translation of the outcomes of the Third International Conference on SIDS into concrete actions towards sustainable development in the Caribbean.

The meeting will have two main motivations. The first one will focus on the way forward to implement decision 5 of the 19th Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean, including, as appropriate, the Samoa Pathway outcome document; and the second, will focus on the way forward to implement the “SCP for SIDS Initiative within the 10YFP”.


Caribbean Implementation Meeting on Decision 5 of the XIX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean
27-29 January 2015
Bridgetown, Barbados

Venue:
Courtyard by Marriott
The Garrison Historic Area, Hastings.
Christ Church, Bridgetown

Draft Provisional Agenda

**Aim and Objectives of the Meeting**

**Aim:**
To facilitate the follow up of Decision 5 of the XIX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers for Latin America and the Caribbean

**Objectives:**

i. Provide an overview of the Forum of Ministers for LAC and its decision making processes (including a review of its Decision 9 of the 18th and Decision 5 of the 19th Fora, related to SIDS)

ii. Present an overview of the UNEP Sub-Programmes and their work and projects related to the Caribbean SIDS.

iii. Develop concrete recommendations to follow up Decision 5, and, as appropriate, for the Samoa Pathway outcome document.

iv. Present the proposal for “SCP for SIDS Initiative within the 10YFP” and define its next steps.

v. Explore funding opportunities and resource mobilization.

**Agenda**

**Day 1 – Tuesday 27 January**

08:15-09:00 Registration of participants
09:00-10:00 Official Opening

- Welcome - Government of Barbados
- Statement: UN Resident Coordinator, Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)
- Statement – Director Sustainable Development, Caribbean Community Secretariat
- Statement: Deputy Regional Director UNEP/ROLAC
- Feature Address: Minister of Environment and Drainage, Government of Barbados

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30-13:00 Session 1: Background and Context:

Moderator: Government of St. Lucia

10:30-10:45 Aims and objectives of the workshop-UNEP

An overview of the aims and objectives of the meeting will be presented and feedback from the participants received, by UNEP.

10:45-11:20 Overview of the Forum of Ministers for Latin America and the Caribbean and its Decisions on SIDS and SCP

A brief overview of the Decision of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean on Small Islands Development States and Sustainable Consumption and Production will be presented as background, by UNEP.

11:20-12:10 Overview of UNEP and example of projects implemented in Caribbean SIDS

A brief overview of the UNEP will be presented with the view of increasing the participants’ understanding of UNEP’s programming and the importance of Caribbean SIDS participation in the deliberations of UNEA as it relates to the approval of UNEP Programme of Work, by UNEP.

12:10-13:00 Overview of the Samoa Pathway

Presentation of the Samoa Pathway from the perspective of the Caribbean SIDS and the identification of some of the priority areas to contribute to the Sustainable development of Caribbean SIDS, by Government of Barbados.

Documents for information:

- Samoa pathway outcome document
- UN System Implementation Matrix
13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-18:00 Session 2: Towards Actions to Implement Decision 5 and/of the Forum of Ministers of LAC

Moderator: Mr. Gordon Bispham, SIDS Expert

Session 2 will consists of two components (a) a brief discussion on the priority areas for Caribbean SIDS as outlined in the Samoa Pathway and (b) Working Group Sessions which will consider at least three of the priority areas identified in more detail.

14:00-15:00 Discussion of the Priority Areas and proposal for actions from countries and other partners

Drawing on the previous presentation, a number of priority areas which are contained in the Samoa Pathway will be selected for further considered with the view of forming the basis for the work in the Working Groups Sessions.

15:00-15:30 Introduction to and organization of the Working Group Sessions

A brief introduction to the Working Group Sessions will be provided and participants assigned to them. To facilitate the planning of the Working Group Sessions three priority areas which have been identified by Caribbean SIDS have been selected for consideration, by UNEP and facilitators of the Working Groups.

- **Working Group 1: SIDS Statistical Programme: Environmental Dimension.** This Working Group will build on the work undertaken under the auspices of UNEP in close collaboration with Caribbean SIDS on the development of the project: “Regional Cooperation to Develop and Manage Environmental Data and Information for Decision Making”.

- **Working Group 2: Ecosystem based Approach to Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction.** Using the various SIDS instruments (i.e. the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy for the further Implementation of the BPOA and Samoa Pathway) the Working Group will be expected to formulate a programme and/or series of projects using the ecosystem based approach as the basis.

- **Working Group 3: Sustainable Use and Management of Biodiversity including Agro-Diversity.** The main task of this Working Group will be to identify and develop the main elements which could constitute a Biodiversity Programme for Caribbean SIDS taking into account the issues highlighted in the various SIDS instruments (i.e. the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy for the further Implementation of the BPOA and Samoa Pathway).

15:30-18:00 Working Groups Sessions
DAY 2 – Wednesday 28 January

08:30-11:30 Session 2 (Continues)

08:30-8:45 Progress Report on the Work of the Working Groups

The Working Groups will report on the progress being made in the various Working Groups.

08:45-10:00 Working Groups Session Continues

10:00-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30-11:30 Report of Working Groups and main conclusions

The Working Groups will report on their findings and suggest a series of next steps to turn the elements identified into a programme and/or projects.

11:30-12:30 Session 3: Review of the Partnership on Sustainable for Land Management for Caribbean SIDS and South-South Cooperation

Moderator: Mr. Mark Griffith, UNEP

The Project Coordinator of the Partnership Initiative for Sustainable Land Management for Caribbean SIDS (PISLM) will provide an overview of the progress made as well as the challenges in the implementation of the PISLM. More specifically and indication will be given as to how the PISLM will seek to implement the relevant elements contained in the Samoa Pathway and the assistance required from Member States in achieving this objective.

Presenter: Mr. Calvin James, Project Coordinator, Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Land Management for Caribbean SIDS

12:30-13:00 Session 4: Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication in the Caribbean

This session will present the work of Green Economy in the Caribbean and its linkages with sustainable consumption and production.

Presenters: Dr. Winston Moore, University of the West Indies, and Ms. Mara Murillo, UNEP

13:00-14:00 Lunch
14:00-18:00 Session 5: “Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) for SIDS Initiative within the 10YFP”: Review of the 10YFP progress and the key elements for the implementation in the Caribbean

Moderator: Government of Barbados

14:00-15:30 SCP Progress at the global and regional level

UNEP will give an overview of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP – a concrete outcome of Rio+20 - and report on its progress at the global and regional levels. The session will also present the “SCP for SIDS Initiative within the 10YFP” which was discussed at the Samoa, Third International Conference on SIDS, and has become a partnership for action.

Presenters:
- Ms. Adriana Zacarias, UNEP – Overview of the 10YFP and the “SCP for SIDS Initiative”
- Ms. Amrikha Singh, CARICOM – Enabling “SCP for SIDS Initiative” through regional mechanism: the CARICOM Secretariat perspective

Documents for information:
- [10YFP progress report to ECOSOC](#)
- [Briefing on the 10YFP Programme Status](#)
- [Samoa Pathway](#)
- [SCP for SIDS Initiative-Concept Note](#)

15:30-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:30 National Focal Points and Stakeholder Focal Points: the drivers of the SCP for SIDS Initiative

This session will present and discuss the role and responsibilities of the 10YFP National Focal Points and Stakeholders Focal Points both being key figures for successful SCP implementation in the Caribbean region. The discussion will focus on: how to operationalize the “SCP for SIDS Initiative” as Caribbean SIDS? How to coordinate work? Who to report to? And, what are the existing mechanisms of support (institutional, technical and financial)?

Presenters:
- Ms. Adriana Zacarias, UNEP – Roles and responsibilities of National Focal Points and Stakeholder Focal Points
- Ms. Olga Rosario, Government of Dominican Republic – Vision of a National Focal Point
- Mr. Calvin James, stakeholder representative – Vision of a Stakeholder Focal Point

Documents for information:
- [Stakeholders Focal Points guidelines](#)
- [National Focal Points guidelines](#)

17:30-18:00 Summary of session on SCP and reflections of the day

- Summary of main discussion and recommendations.
DAY 3 – Thursday 29 January

08:30-13:00 Session 5 (Continues)

8:30-08:45 Plenary / Introduction to the Working Groups

A brief introduction to the Working Group Sessions will be provided by UNEP and facilitators of Working Groups, and participants assigned to them. To facilitate the planning of the Working Group Sessions three priority areas which have been identified by Caribbean SIDS have been selected for consideration.

08:45-11:00 Parallel working groups on Sustainable Tourism, Integrated Waste Management and National Action Plans

- Working Group 1: Sustainable Tourism. This working group will analyze the main priorities for the Caribbean region regarding Sustainable Tourism and will discuss next steps for its implementation in the region. More information.

- Working Group 2: Integrated Waste Management. This working group will analyze the main priorities for the Caribbean region regarding integrated waste management and will explore funding opportunities and develop suggestions for concrete proposals. More information.

- Working Group 3: Sustainable Lifestyles and Education. This working group will analyze the main priorities for the Caribbean region regarding Sustainable Lifestyles and Education, will explore potential synergies and possible donors and/or partners and will develop suggestions for concrete proposals. More information.

11:00-11:20 Coffee Break

11:20-12:30 Reporting of working groups: contributing to the “SCP for SIDS Initiative”

Moderator: Ms. Felicia Cruz, Government of Belize

During this session the working groups will report the main discussions and outcomes from their work and an open dialogue will start with all the participants regarding contributions to the SCP for SIDS Initiative and to the Regional Strategy on SCP.

12:30-13:00 Summary on key elements for the “SCP for SIDS Initiative” and next steps

Government of Barbados, Jamaica (tbc) and Ms. Amrikha Singh, CARICOM

- Summary of main discussion and recommendations
- Next steps
14:00-15:00 Session 6: Sustainable Development Goals, Environmental Dimensions: Implication for the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Agenda

Moderator: Mr. Garfield Barnwell, Director of Sustainable Development, Caribbean Community Secretariat

The Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled “The Future We Want” set out a mandate to develop a set of sustainable development goals for consideration and appropriate action by the General Assembly. The process of defining the SDGs was coordinated by an Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals which forward its proposal to the United Nations General Assembly in July 2014. The General Assembly in September 2014 resolved that the SDGs proposed by the Open Working Group be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post 2015 Agenda. This Session will reflect on the 17 SDGs and their embedded targets and their implications for the post 2015 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Documents for information:
- Open Working Group proposal for Sustainable Development Goals
- Integration and coherence key to the post-2015 sustainable development agenda
- Potential contribution of the 10YFP Programmes to the Sustainable Development Goals
- Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Proposed Sustainable Development Goals

15:00-16:30 Session 7: Consideration of a Resource Mobilization Strategy for the Priority Areas including SCP

Moderator: Government of Guyana and Government of Cuba

Having considered the issues in the various Working Group Sessions, attention will be directed during this session to the approach which could be adopted to mobilize resources to finance projects and/or programmes resulting there from. The output of this session will be the broad elements which will form the basis for a Resource Mobilization Strategy.

16:30-17:00 Coffee Break

17:00-18:00 Conclusions and next steps: Government of Barbados and UNEP

This session will reflect the main outputs of the meeting and decide on the next steps.