



United Nations  
Environment  
Programme

Distr.  
GENERAL

UNEP(DEC)/WACAF/CP.6/\*  
30 June 2002  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH



---

SIXTH MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION FOR  
COOPERATION IN THE PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARINE AND  
COASTAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN REGION.  
ABIDJAN, COTE D'IVOIRE,

16-17 MAY 2002

## INTRODUCTION

The Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention) was held at the Golf Hotel – Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2002. The meeting was in two parts: Expert Group Meeting held on 16 and 17<sup>th</sup> May and Heads of Delegations Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2002. This report is on both the Expert Group and Heads of Delegations meetings that constituted COP6.

In between the two meetings, the office of the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) of the Abidjan Convention, based at the Ministry of Environment and Quality of Life, Abidjan, was commissioned. The commissioning was performed by \*\*\*\*\*

## BACKGROUND

The Abidjan Convention and its Emergency Protocol constitute the legal component of the West and Central African (WACAF) Action Plan. The Convention expresses the legal commitment of the Governments of the WACAF region (Mauritania to South Africa) to deal individually and jointly with common marine and coastal environmental problems. The Emergency Protocol was designed with an orientation towards combating and operationally responding to marine pollution in case of emergency.

The Abidjan Convention was adopted by countries of the region in 1981 and entered into force on 5 August 1984. The implementation of the Action Plan, and the Protocol associated with the convention has been slow and staggered due to lack of funds and irregular contributions to the Trust Fund. The convention is less well understood within governments and consequently the political will to support the Abidjan Convention is poor.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Governing Council of UNEP (5-9 February 2001, Nairobi) decisions: GC 21/15: "Support to Africa" and GC 21/28: "Further development and strengthening of Regional Seas Programmes" provide the legal framework for strengthening the Abidjan Convention.

EXPERTS GROUP MEETING  
16-17<sup>th</sup> May, 2002

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Opening Session of the Experts Group meeting started at 2.40pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2002. The meeting was attended by \*\*\* experts as well as the Ivorian Minister of Environment and Quality of Life, Hon. G. Bleu-Laine, the Deputy Minister of Environment and Science of Ghana, Hon. Anna Nyamekye, the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of South Africa, Hon. Rejoice Mabudafhasi and the Director of UNEP's Regional Office for Africa, Mr. Sekou Toure. Also in attendance were representative from IMO, UNIDO, UNESCO/IOC and ACOPS. The List of Participants is shown in Annex \*\*.

In his opening statement, Mr. Elik Adler, Coordinator of the UNEP Regional Seas Programme, on behalf of Mr. Klaus Topfer, the Executive Director of UNEP, thanked the participants for accepting the invitation to participate in the meeting. He recalled the role given to UNEP by the secretariats of the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions. He further stressed the importance of this meeting to accelerate the revitalization process of the Abidjan Convention, which suffered from a severe slow down in the implementation of its programme of work and of regional activities. He emphasized the need for the direct involvement of the Ministers of Environment in the implementation of the Convention, to ensure that this was carried out effectively.

Mr. Adler then urged the participants to consider the critical issues before them, deliberate on them thoroughly and come up with a focused number of practical decisions that would advance the objectives of the Convention. He noted that the meeting should also come out with clear, workable and achievable guidelines to help in the implementation of the Convention and try to identify practical ways for strengthening its financial stability.

He acknowledged and thanked the experts working on the GEF-MSP project on Sub-Saharan Africa and the African Process, which was held in Abidjan just before the COP-6, and recommended that the COP will identify the most productive ways to incorporate the outcomes of this project in the work programme of the Abidjan Convention.

The current chair of the Abidjan Convention, Ghana, represented by Hon. Anna Nyamekye, Deputy Minister of Science and Environment, then made a statement. Hon. Nyamekye noted that the Abidjan Convention stands at a crossroad and requires a group of experts such as the one assembled at the meeting, to advise the sub-region on a number of important issues based on scientific analyses of the problems that it faces. The chairman noted a number of global processes that have been initiated at global level to deal with problems associated with global resources, including those within the marine and coastal environment and urged the Convention to take advantage of these. She particularly referred to the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Partnership Conference to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa later this year.

In the opening statement of Hon. Rejoice Mabudafhasi, Deputy Minister of Environment of South Africa, she thanked participants and dwelt on the importance of the African Process for the Partnership Conference. She confirmed her country's commitment to the process and assured the meeting that South Africa would accede to the Abidjan convention before the World Summit in Johannesburg.

In a keynote address, the Minister of Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire, Hon. Gilbert Bleu-Laine, welcomed the experts on behalf of the Government and people of Côte d'Ivoire as the host

country. He emphasised the importance of the expert's group meeting, which precedes the ministerial segment of the COP-6. Hon. Bleu-Laine identified the lack of finance as a major challenge for the effective functioning of the Convention and therefore called on the experts to identify a sustainable funding mechanism focused on concrete project proposals and the identification of a Special Lobbying Group for funding the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions. In conclusion, he declared open the Experts Group Meeting.

## 2. Organisational Matters

### 2.1 Adoption of the Agenda

The following provisional Agenda presented by UNEP secretariat was adopted with slight modifications:

- i. Opening of the meeting
  - a. Statement by a representative of the UNEP secretariat
  - b. Statement by a representative of the host Government
- ii. Organizational matters:
  - a. Adoption of the agenda
  - b. Organization of work
  - c. Election of officers
- iii. Projects and key issues relating to the Abidjan Convention
  - a. Report of the GEF Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) Project
  - b. GOOS - Africa report
  - c. Report of the GEF-Medium Sized Project on Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in sub-Saharan Africa
  - d. Strategy for 2002-2003 to bring countries that have yet to ratify the Convention on board
- iv. Adoption of expert group decisions

### 2.2 Organisation of Work

UNEP secretariat circulated all working documents and provided information and background documents on the meeting.

### 2.3 Election of Officers

UNEP Secretariat invited Ghana as current Chair of the Convention to chair the expert's group meeting. Togo, Nigeria and Cameroon were proposed to serve as rapporteurs. This proposal was adopted. A drafting committee made up of experts from UNEP, Cameroon and Togo was also set up.

## 3. Projects and Key Issues Relating to the Abidjan Convention

### a. GOOS Africa Report

A presentation on GOOS-Africa was made by Messrs Affian Kouadio, acting on behalf of the Chairperson of GOOS-Africa Coordinating Committee, Justin Ahanhanzo, Coordinator GOOS-Africa and John Mungai, expert. It was noted that GOOS- AFRICA would contribute to the Global Ocean

Observing System, established as part of Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio in 1992.

The presentation emphasized the importance of GOOS-Africa as a viable scientific tool initiated by African experts, adopted by African Ministers, to be used continent wide within the context of PACSICOM and the Cape Town Declarations. It was noted that the first project of GOOS Africa is the Regional Ocean Observing and Forecasting System for Africa (ROOFS-AFRICA), which aims at providing timely and quality information building on other existing regional initiatives. The project aims at developing new capabilities in the use of remotely sensed data, in-situ ocean measurements and validation observation networks, coastal and marine modelling and forecasting and delivery systems for user products.

The meeting was assured that GOOS-AFRICA will provide a technological support and science based management for marine and coastal environment and resources. The ROOFS-AFRICA project identified crosscutting themes covering a wide range of national and regional priorities in the framework of International Waters, Climate Change and Biodiversity such as sustainable use of living marine resources; management of key habitats and ecosystems; coastal erosion; pollution including land-based sources and marine pollution; coastal engineering to support coastal and marine tourism and installations; socio-economic benefits derived from the development of the project.

The presenters noted that the implementation of the above topical priority issues will be facilitated through four inter-related and integrated essential technical tools (i) Improving African Network of In-Situ Ocean Measurements and Observation Validation with particular emphasis on the Sea Level, (ii) Access to Remote Sensing Technology and Information, (iii) Validation and Forecasting Modelling, and (iv) An end-user interactive information delivery system derived from stakeholder participation on dissemination and applications development activities.

#### b. Report of GEF Guinea current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) Project

A presentation on the Guinea current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) Project was made by Messrs Kwame Koranteng and Chika Ukwé. They noted that GEF has been supporting actions to protect the marine and coastal environment of the Gulf of Guinea since 1995. The Pilot Phase Gulf of Guinea LME project (1995-99) targeted 6 countries (Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo) with actions to control pollution and protect biological diversity.

In presenting the findings of an independent final evaluation of the GOG LME, the major achievements highlighted included institutional capacity building within the project area, the high response by participating governments and the achievements of the immediate objectives and outputs which in some cases were largely surpassed.

It was noted that commendable achievements of the project inspired the Ministers of Environment of the participating countries to call for initiation of an expanded project to include all 16 countries situated within the natural limits of the GCLME. In response to the Ministers' request the PDF-B project "Development of a Strategic Action Programme for the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME)" was initiated. The project was jointly implemented by UNEP and UNDP and executed by UNIDO and the RCU of the Abidjan Convention.

As part of the PDF-B project, a Stocktaking meeting was organised in Accra, Ghana in May 2001 to review existing information relating to issues and problems of the marine and coastal environment of the

GCLME, their root causes and areas for priority actions in the expanded GCLME project. It was noted that a second PDF-B was required to complete the project preparatory work in line with the GEF's systematic and comprehensive Operation Strategy. The expectation at the end of the PDF B is to have a TDA, a draft SAP and a project brief for the full size GEF IW in line with the aspiration of the participating governments.

With regards to the status of the second PDF-B proposal, UNEP clarified that UNDP has hired a consultant to rewrite the project for resubmission. A meeting between UNEP, UNIDO, UNDP and GEF is proposed to determine the scope and content of the project before submission to the various countries for their endorsement.

Responding to a question on the status of the proposed Canary Current LME project, UNEP further clarified that this project, written by UNEP, was to be executed by FAO. The project was largely seen to be a fisheries project and not an International Waters project and therefore has to be rewritten before submission and implementation.

#### 4 The GEF-Medium Size Project for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in Sub-Saharan Africa

The presentation on the GEF-MSP for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in Sub-Saharan Africa was made by Isabelle Niang-Diop, Paula Caballero and Victor Sebek. They noted that the African Process is as an innovative mechanism, implemented through a GEF Medium Sized Project (MSP), for the development of concrete projects that effectively address key problems affecting the sustainable development of the marine and coastal resources in sub-Saharan Africa. It was noted that the African Process is the result of the merger of the PACSICOM and the Cape Town Conferences held in 1998. Since then the African Process has galvanized significant political support as evidenced by the decision adopted by the OAU Summit of Lusaka, July 2001, that the African Process will culminate in a Partnership Conference to be held at the level of Heads of State during the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, August – September 2002). Similarly, the African Regional PrepCom in Nairobi in October 2001 decided to support the outputs of the GEF-MSP project, and it has been explicitly incorporated into the draft of the Chairman's Paper for WSSD.

It was noted that even though the GEF MSP was limited to eleven countries only due to budgetary constraints, there are opportunities for additional countries to participate in sub-regional projects or project proposals that address common problems. In addition, the Secretariat of the Preparatory Committee has provided all countries in Africa with information on the African Process.

The GEF Medium Sized Project (MSP) that has been implemented in two phases. From October 2000 – September 2001, national multidisciplinary teams, composed of both socio-economic experts and natural scientists, carried out an integrated problem analysis. The resulting national reports identify and characterise the main causes of environmental degradation and threats to defined marine and coastal resources and ecosystems, analyse the resulting impacts from a scientific perspective as well as in terms of socio-economic considerations, including health, food security and local community livelihoods, and identify immediate and direct causes, as well as underlying pressures and root causes. On the basis of the outputs of the integrated problem analysis, concrete project proposals are being developed under five thematic working areas (Coastal Erosion, Management of Key Habitats and Ecosystems, Pollution, Sustainable Use of Living Resources, and Tourism). These teams are developing interventions that are both regional and sub-regional in scope, both in geographic terms and with

reference to identified common problems, as well as site specific interventions that are of priority for the participating countries. These project proposals will be structured into the comprehensive Programme of Interventions, which will be presented at the final Super Preparatory Committee (Super PrepCom), and then adopted at the Partnership Conference. The Super PrepCom will be held in Abuja on 17-19 June to be chaired by H.E. President Obasanjo of Nigeria, and the Partnership Conference at the level of Heads of State during WSSD.

In conclusion, the African Process is an ongoing initiative that will progressively generate concrete project proposals. As a programmatic approach, it provides a solid methodology that will gradually permit other sub-Saharan countries to benefit from a structured process for the prioritisation of leading causes of environmental degradation, and the identification of the most effective interventions, from an environmental, institutional, and financial perspective. This will provide external partners with a unique instrument for working jointly with African stakeholders on sustainable projects with a high degree of national ownership.

On concerns relating to linkages between the GEF MSP and other projects under the Abidjan Convention and, the involvement of other countries, UNEP pledged to ensure integration of project components in order to avoid duplication and to further ensure the inclusion of more countries in the second phase of the project.

## 5 Strategy for 2002 -2003

Mr Dixon Waruinge of UNEP and Mrs Nasséré Kaba, Interim Coordinator of the RCU of the Abidjan Convention introduced the agenda item. They noted that the Abidjan Convention set up 21 years ago had not exploited all opportunities for its progress and was characterized as slow and staggered. Impediments to the implementation of the Action Plan of the convention are rooted in the lack of political will, lack of funds and a lack of effective co-ordination.

As a way forward, there is need to mobilize political will with UNEP and the RCU playing a major role. UNEP and RCU were asked to use AMCEN and the Abuja Super PrepCom to seek support. To establish sustainable funding as an important strategy, the heads of Governments were called upon to make concrete financial commitments to the convention. Further to this is the need to establish a reliable Trust fund and the development of activities that can attract funding including obligatory contributions.

Major strategies to ensure an effective coordination system included actions at national level (Côte d'Ivoire); the setting up of a network of all focal points through an email based forum and for this purpose governments were called upon to submit the names of focal points within 3 months. The setting up of nodal structures or sub-regional grouping within the Canary Current, Benguella Current and Guinea Current areas was recommended as a priority action.

The following were given as some of the expected deliverables of the Abidjan Conventions

- New Ratifications by 2004,
- GPA-LBA National Action Plans, at least 10 countries by 2005 through a GEF project,
- E-mail network of focal points by 2004 with real time connectivity,
- Bridge Global and National Levels by implementing global conventions,
- Set partnerships with scientific institutions (at least three Resource centers to act as Regional centers),

- Functional secretariat at RCU supported by an implementation committee of three countries and Centers,
- Work program to focus on GOOS Africa, GCLME and African process interventions

6. Adoption of expert group Decisions

The draft Decisions presented by the drafting committee were considered and adopted after a number of changes had been made. The final list of Decisions is shown in Annex\*\*.

7. Adoption of report

Due to lack of time, the draft report was not available for adoption before the Heads of Delegations meeting. It was agreed that the draft report would be circulated via email.

HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING  
17<sup>th</sup> May 2002

1. Opening of the meeting

The Ministerial/Heads of Delegations segment of the Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Abidjan Convention was opened by His Excellency M. Pascal Affi N'Guessan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire, Hon. G. Bleu-Lainé, Minister of Youth, Environment and Public Hygiene of Senegal, Hon. Modou Diagne FADA, the Deputy Minister of Environment and Science of Ghana, Hon. Anna Nyamekye, the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of South Africa, Hon. Rejoice Mabudafhasi, delegates from other member countries and observers and representatives from UNEP, UNEP-GPA, OSPAR, IMO, UNIDO, UNESCO/IOC and ACOPS. Also in attendance were the Ambassador of South Africa to Côte d'Ivoire and a delegation from the Nairobi Convention area. The List of Participants is shown in Annex \*\*.

In his opening address, Prime Minister N'Guessan noted that Côte d'Ivoire, is very proud to host the 6th Conference of the parties to the Abidjan Convention. He said that the economy of the country is based on agricultural resources hence efforts are being made to explore some new ways for the country's development. In this regard, and according to the country's policy on sustainable use of coastal and marine resources, coastal and marine environmental protection is the Ivorian Government's priority and a big concern for the Department in charge of environmental management.

H.E. Prime Minister N'Guessan noted further that this is one of the main reasons that his country is not only a member of the Abidjan Convention but is hosting the headquarters of the Regional Coordinating Unit. The full text of the Prime Minister's speech is given in the Annex.

Mr. Sekou Toure, Director of UNEP's Regional Office for Africa and all Ministers present made statements the full texts of which are also presented in the Annexes.

2. Election of Officers

Côte d'Ivoire was elected chair of the ministerial segment, hence of the Abidjan Convention. Other elected members of the Bureau, for the period 2002-2004, and their respective assignments are as follows:

Ghana	- Work Programme
Senegal	- Coordination with the Nairobi Convention
The Gambia	- Coordination with GEF
Nigeria	- Resources mobilization and sustainable financing
South Africa	- Partnership Conference
Togo, Cameroon and Congo	- Joint Rapporteurs.

## Adoption of the agenda

Côte d'Ivoire took over the chairmanship of the ministerial segment and the following agenda was adopted.

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of officers for the Sixth meeting of the Contracting Parties
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Report of the Executive Director
5. Statements by representatives of Contracting Parties and observers
6. Financial report
7. Adoption of report and decisions
8. Venue of the seventh meeting
9. Other matters
10. Closure of the meeting

After the opening ceremony, the meeting was adjourned for the commissioning of the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) at the Ministry of Environment and Quality of Life in Abidjan.

## Statements by representatives of Contracting Parties

When the meeting reconvened, various delegations made statements that reflected the position and commitment of their countries to the Abidjan Convention. These covered various subjects including relationship with the Nairobi Convention, the African Process, the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystems (GCLME) Project and the revitalization of the Abidjan Convention. The representatives of OSPAR and the Nairobi Convention also made statements; the full text of some of these are given in Annex \*\*.

South Africa renewed its pledge to accede to /ratify the Convention before the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in August/September 2002.

## Financial report and Report of the Executive Director

Mr. Elik Adler, Coordinator of UNEP's Regional Seas programme, then made a presentation on revitalization of the Abidjan Convention in the context of UNEP's Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plan. He gave the elements for the success of Regional Seas Conventions as including the following:

- i. Political will and commitment of member States,
- ii. Solid legal base and supportive protocols requiring member States to meet their responsibilities and obligations,
- iii. Solid financial base for effective implementation and efficient resources mobilization mechanism,
- iv. A sound and effective institutional structure and internal organization of the action plan,
- v. Strong and efficient secretariat with good political/managerial leadership and adequate human resource in policy, scientific/technical areas, and
- vi. Solid Programme of Work and sound implementation

In this respect, Mr Adler gave the way forward and possible solutions of the problems identified with the Abidjan Convention as follows:

- i. Political will could be mobilized through international initiatives like NEPAD, AMCEN, the African Process, etc and personal commitment of ministers,
- ii. The Chairman needs to undertake high level visits to countries in the region to seek additional ratifications of the Convention
- iii. Establishment of sustainable funding through assessed and mandatory contributions, waiving of arrears and sending invoices to countries.
- iv. Institutional strengthening through designation of Focal Points and establishment of a Focal Points Forum, establishment of a Ministerial Implementation Committee, development of twinning arrangements e.g. with OSPAR and bilateral arrangements with partner countries
- v. Updating of the Convention and its protocols (e.g. to include LBA-type issues, Preparedness and response, biodiversity, liability and compensation), and
- vi. Development and implementation of a sound work programme that would ensure coordination of activities with other programmes (e.g. GEF- MSP, GCLME, GOOS-Africa, GPA, IMO) and with the collaboration of Regional technical and scientific institutions and the civil society.

On the status of the Trust Fund of the Abidjan Convention, Mr. Adler presented the table below, which gives the pledges made by the respective countries for 1991. Mr. Adler recalled the decision taken at COP5 in Accra which called for the waiving of arrears in contribution and taking half of the 1991 pledge as each country's current assessed annual contribution.

Status of Assessed Contributions as at 31 August 1991 (in US dollars)

COUNTRIES	PLEDGES FOR 1991
Angola	37,200
Benin	37,200
Cameroon	37,200
Cape Verde	37,200
Congo	37,200
Cote d'Ivoire	61,600
Equatorial Guinea	37,200
Gabon	49,400
Gambia	37,200
Ghana	61,600
Guinea	37,200
Guinea-Bissau	37,200
Liberia	37,200
Mauritania	37,200
Nigeria	220,100
So Tome & Principe	37,200
Senegal	37,200
Sierra Leone	37,200
Togo	37,200
Zaire (Congo)	49,400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,000,100</b>

### **Adoption of report and decisions**

The Decisions presented to the Expert Group meeting by the Drafting Committee was then tabled for discussion. After some minor changes, the Decisions were adopted by the Ministerial meeting.

### **Venue of the Seventh Meeting**

The delegations of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo propose Libreville as the venue of the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Abidjan Convention. The delegation of Gabon, accepted the proposal subject to the Government of Gabon. The Seventh Session will be in 2004 and the date will be confirmed after consultations between UNEP, the Bureau and the Republic of Gabon.

### **Other matters**

#### *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

Mr Dixon Waruinge brought to the attention of the meeting, the Nairobi Declaration on the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals following the First Meeting of Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for Marine Turtles of the Atlantic Coast of Africa held in Nairobi on 6-9 May, 2002.

#### *Ninth Session of AMCEN*

Mr Sekou Toure, Director of UNEP/ROA informed the meeting about the ninth session of African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) to be held in Kampala, Uganda on 1-5 July 2002. He said that letters have been sent to the various countries and participants were being asked to share the information with others.

#### *GOOS-Africa Presentation on Real-Time Information Accessing using World Space*

A brief demonstration on the capability and use of World Space and the Afrisat satellite for real-time information accessing and dissemination was given by Mr Justin Ahahanzo, IOC/Goos-Africa project Coordinator. The equipment was then donated to the Ministry of Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire.

### **Closure of the meeting**

The delegates addressed a motion of support (Annex \*\*) to the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for their hospitality, and above all support to the RCU through the provision of office accommodation, staff and other facilities.

Closing the ministerial segment of the Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention), Hon. G. Bleu-Lainé, Minister of Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire, noted with satisfaction the progress made during the session

## Annexes

### DECISIONS OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE ABIDJAN CONVENTION

Decisions of the Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 16-17 May 2002.

The Contracting Parties,

*Recalling* decision CP 5/1 of the Abidjan Convention to provide the Regional Coordinating Unit with the requisite managerial and professional expertise, institutional support and other requirements to make it more functional;

*Taking note* of the official inauguration of the Regional Co-ordinating Unit of the Abidjan Convention;

*Fully aware* that the Abidjan Convention should be instrumental to address issues of sustainable development;

*Also aware* that enhanced sustainable development opportunities for coastal populations depend on strategic long-term planning to ensure a healthy natural resource base, and that the Abidjan Convention and its Protocol and Action Plan, should provide a useful framework for that purpose,

*Taking note* of the progress and partnership made in the GEF project for development of a Strategic Action Programme for the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem and the proposed follow up Project for Combating Coastal Areas Degradation and Living Resources Depletion in the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem through regional actions,

*Recognizing* the growing awareness on the Global Ocean Observing System for Africa (GOOS-AFRICA) adopted by the African countries in the framework of the African Process and the subsequent development of the project proposal aimed at providing sound scientific and technical background to the sustainable management of the African Coastal and Marine Environment towards the revitalisation of the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions;

*Recognizing* the efforts of the GEF MSP to prepare programme of interventions to address priority issues for the region, to be considered by the forthcoming final Preparatory Meeting to the Partnership Conference ("Super PrepCom") and later by the Partnership Conference to be held during WSSD, in September 2002;

*Recalling* the July 2001 OAU/AU Lusaka Summit resolution that the Partnership Conference be held in Conjunction with WSSD at the level of Heads of State

*Recognising* that the African Process for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in sub-Saharan Africa provides an innovative framework for furthering efforts to develop concrete and targeted projects that effectively address identified priority issues for the sustainable development and protection of strategic marine and coastal environments, to be considered by the forthcoming final Preparatory Meeting to the Partnership Conference ("Super PrepCom") and later by the Partnership Conference to be held during WSSD, in September 2002

*Noting* that the African Process, which developed the framework for the Partnership Conference has as its declared aim to strengthen the Abidjan and Nairobi Regional Seas Conventions;

*Welcoming* the partnership which has been developed through the implementation of the GEF MSP between UNEP, UNESCO-IOC, GEF, and civil society, through the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea (ACOPS), which was designated as facilitator of the project by the Ministerial segment of the Cape Town Conference in 1998;

*Acknowledging* the high level of political support, and the opportunities for participation generated by, the African Process and aware that this support should be utilized to strengthen the Abidjan Convention;

*Welcoming* the proposal that the African process becomes an integral component of the environment initiative of NEPAD,

Hereby:

#### CP 6/1 Ratification and Accession of the Abidjan Convention

Request the Regional Coordinating Unit and the bureau in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme to take measures:

- (a) to urge countries in the region that are not yet parties to the convention to accede/ratify the Convention
- (b) to promote the wider and faster ratification of the Abidjan Convention.
- (c) to facilitate ratification by providing legal advisory services to Governments and upon request assist interested countries with relevant documents in their official languages.
- (d) to promote compliance and enforcement of the Convention for parties to the Convention.

#### CP 6/2 Strengthening the Institutional Framework

1. Decide to delegate the functions of the Regional Coordinating Unit with additional responsibilities to ensure consensus building, intergovernmental dialogue and resource mobilization, including undertaking the necessary co-ordination work to implement the outcomes of the Partnership Conference of the African Process.
2. Also decide to establish an Implementation Committee in accordance with Article 17(iv) of the Convention to oversee the implementation of priority activities in the Work plan in consultation with the Regional Coordinating Unit and the United Nations Environment Programme.
3. Calls upon countries that have not designated focal points to do so within three months and to establish a focal point forum to advise on technical matters related to the implementation of the Convention.

### CP 6/3 Financial Mechanism and Resource Mobilization

1. Urge each Contracting Party to fulfil its obligations including regular payment of assessed contributions to the Trust Fund of the Abidjan Convention to allow the priority activities to take place without any hindrance.
2. Request the Secretariat to inform each party the assessed amount that is due every year.
3. Request the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman responsible for resource mobilization to take appropriate measures including sending regular reminders to encourage members fulfil their commitments in the Trust Fund.

### CP 6/4 Implementation of Activities of the Work Plan.

1. Also decides when implementing activities in the Convention area of the Abidjan Convention to take measures to focus on activities that make the Abidjan Convention instrumental for sustainable development to address among other issues, poverty and environment, and trade and environment to benefit all actors.
2. Supports the proposals for the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem project and Calls on the 16 participating countries to endorse the second PDF B project to further elaborate on a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and the Strategic Action Programme and six national and three regional demonstration projects in the region;
3. Also calls on the participating countries to endorse the follow-up full project for combating coastal areas degradation and living resources depletion in the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem through regional actions, and also to request the GEF and Partner Agencies (UNDP, UNEP and UNIDO) to speed-up the preparatory activities for the early commencement of the project.
4. Undertake to involve the Civil Society and all stakeholders in the activities of the Convention to ensure sustainable development.
5. Encourage twinning arrangements with developed regional seas programmes including OSPAR.
6. Endorse the Recommendations of the GOOS-AFRICA Review Meeting (06-14 May 2002) including the draft proposal of the ROOFS-AFRICA to be tabled for adoption at the Ministerial "Super PrepCom" meeting that will take place in Abuja from 17 to 19 June 2002 and later at the Partnership Conference during the WSSD in Johannesburg.

### CP 6/5 Preparatory Meetings of the Partnership Conference for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment Protection in Sub-Saharan Africa (South Africa, September 2002)

- 1 Endorse the outcome of the third meeting of the Working Group on Programme of Interventions (WGPI-II) held in Abidjan from the 14 –16 May 2002 and acknowledge the substantial

contribution of the African Process in particular through the GEF-MSP project in taking forward certain components of the work programme of the Abidjan Convention;

- 2 Decide that apart from the nineteen project proposals prepared for eleven countries other relevant project proposals in the Abidjan and Nairobi Convention region be included in the programme of interventions at the Super PrepCom in Abuja for forwarding to the Partnership Conference, in recognition of the fact that the African Process provides a framework for integrating initiatives to further enhance sustainable development objectives in Africa;
- 3 Urge all parties to the Abidjan Convention to actively participate in the Partnership Conference for the Development and Protection of the Marine and coastal environment in sub-Saharan Africa, (September 2002), considering that a successful outcome of the Super PrepCom and the Partnership conference will galvanise national and international support for the aims and objectives of the Abidjan Convention.
4. Call upon external partners to support the project proposals.

## MOTION OF SUPPORT – A DECLARATION OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE ABIDJAN CONVENTION

The Participants,

Of the Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region meeting held in the Golf Hotel, Abidjan-Cote D'Ivoire on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2002,

Conscious of the commitment and contribution of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire towards the successful organisation and hosting of the Sixth Conference of the Parties.

HEREBY:

- 1 Express their deep appreciation to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for the warm reception and hospitality towards the Ministers of Environment in attendance and the delegates from the 13 participating countries;
- 2 Appreciate the special contribution of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for offering office space for the Regional Coordination Unit of the Abidjan Convention and further making an immediate financial contribution to the Trust Fund;
- 3 Congratulate Monsieur Bleu Lainé, Minister of Environment for Côte d'Ivoire, for his election to the office of the Chairperson for the Abidjan Convention for the coming 2 years and express our gratitude for his relentless support to the convention;
- 4 Pledge their support to the new bureau under the leadership of Côte d'Ivoire and the RCU as they take up the challenge of revitalising the Abidjan convention as an appropriate framework for co-ordinating all initiatives within the convention area aimed at the sustainable development of the marine and coastal environment.

Done at: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.....this 17 day of May 2002.

## Speeches at Opening of Expert Group Meeting

UNEP (Ellik Adler)

*\*\*\* This may be lefts out if there is no prepared speech because a summary is given in the report.\*\*\**

## ADDRESS OF HON. ANNA NYAMEKYE (GHANA), CHAIRMAN OF THE ABIDJAN CONVENTION

The Honourable Minister for Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire,  
The Africa Regional Director of the United Nations Environment Programme,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Experts  
Ladies and Gentlemen

Ghana as the current Chair of the Abidjan convention deems it as an honour to chair the opening of this expert group meeting. We wish to thank the Government and people of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for accepting to host this important meeting. We are also grateful to the UNEP and organisers of this meeting for the excellent arrangements.

Distinguished experts, Ladies and Gentlemen, the world at large especially the Abidjan Convention stands at a cross road, and require a group of experts such as the one assembled here to advise the sub-region on a number of important issues based on scientific analyses of the problems faced by the WACAF region.

The Abidjan Convention and its Protocol admittedly is one of the least developed under UNEP's Regional Seas Programme despite over two decades of existence. This position you would agree with me is unacceptable. We also recall recent attempts to discuss obstacles as well as review progress made by the convention, in Accra in March 2001.

At the global level, a number of processes have been initiated to solve problems associated with global resources including those within the marine and coastal environment. The Abidjan Convention will certainly want to take advantage of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and the Partnership Conference to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa later this year.

I wish therefore on behalf of the Bureau to request this meeting to critically consider the reports on the following:

1. The GEF Guinea Current Large Marine ecosystem (GCLME) Project
2. GOOS – Africa,
3. GEF – Medium Sized Project on Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in sub-Sahara Africa, and
4. Strategy for 2002 – 2003 to bring countries that have yet to ratify the convention on board.

I expect nothing less than a comprehensive report with innovative and workable proposals to propel our convention to a more dynamic status. I am confident that we shall make great strides taking cue from those ahead of us, possibly through partnership with other sister Conventions, injection of new members, a greater show of political will and financial commitment to enable us catch up with the other regional seas programmes.

The presence of a very high delegation including the Director of UNEP's Regional Office for Africa, Mr. Sekou Touré, gives me a strong urge that UNEP has once again committed herself to rescuing the Abidjan Convention from the deep seas.

Thank you.

ALLOCUTION DU MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DU CADRE DE VIE

MONSIEUR GILBERT BLEU-LAINE

A L'OCCASION DE LA CEREMONIE D'OUVERTURE DE LA REUNION DU GROUPE D'EXPERTS  
DE LA SIXIEME CONFERENCE DES PARTIES A LA CONVENTION D'ABIDJAN

Mesdames et Messieurs  
Les Représentants des Organisations Bilatérales et Multilatérales,  
Mesdames et Messieurs  
Les Experts,  
Distingués Participants,  
Honorables Invités,  
Mesdames et Messieurs,

La Réunion du Groupe d'Experts tient son importance en ce qu'elle précède la tenue du Segment Ministériel de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan.

Elle doit donc établir le bilan des activités de mise en œuvre de la Convention pour la période 2001- 2002 tout en mettant en évidence les difficultés de fonctionnement de cet instrument juridique.

Je voudrais, avant de poursuivre mon propos, souhaiter la cordiale bienvenue à tous les autres participants qui viennent de nous rejoindre pour cette rencontre spécifique sur la Convention d'Abidjan.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Depuis l'entrée en vigueur de la Convention d'Abidjan en 1984 jusqu'à ce jour, toutes les évaluations montrent qu'un des principaux freins au développement de cet instrument juridique est le manque de ressources financières pour soutenir ses activités.

Il revient donc à la présente rencontre de trouver une explication idoine à cette situation.

Qu'il me soit cependant permis, de dire de manière pragmatique, que le manque de financement de la Convention procède d'abord et avant tout de la faible mobilisation des contributions des Parties contractantes.

A cela il convient d'ajouter le manque de volonté politique pour améliorer le niveau de ratifications de la Convention.

Toute chose qui explique sans aucun doute que de 1984 à 1998, la plupart des projets réalisés ont été financés par le PNUÉ, sans une véritable contrepartie des Parties contractantes.

Il faut malgré tout noter que le Gouvernement ivoirien a offert des facilités logistiques pour loger le Projet FEM/ Grand Ecosystème Marin du Courant du Golf de Guinée à Abidjan.

Il s'agit donc pour le Groupe d'Experts d'imaginer une nouvelle approche de financement durable de la Convention d'Abidjan dont la stratégie de mise en œuvre passe par deux actions majeures. La première action est l'élaboration de projets concrets et. la seconde, la mise en place d'un Groupe Spécial de Négociation pour le Financement des Conventions d'Abidjan et de Nairobi.

Cette stratégie doit s'inscrire dans la dynamique du Processus Africain pour le Développement et la Protection du Milieu Marin et Côtier de l'Afrique Subsaharienne pour déboucher sur le Programme de Développement et de Protection du Milieu Marin et Côtier de l'Afrique Subsaharienne.

Mesdames et Messieurs, les Experts,

La revitalisation de la Convention d'Abidjan et le renforcement de ses relations institutionnelles avec la Convention de Nairobi, commande que soit définitivement tournée la page des sentiers battus.

Pour ce qui est du partenariat entre les deux conventions et dans le respect de ses engagements de dépositaire de la Convention, la Côte d'Ivoire a offert à l'Unité de Coordination Régionale un siège qui sera inauguré pendant les présentes assises.

Par ailleurs, cette réunion d'experts doit proposer des projets concrets au Segment Ministériel pour que cette Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan ne donne pas lieu à de simples déclarations de bonnes intentions.

Pour aborder la Conférence sur le Partenariat qui se tiendra parallèlement à Rio+10 en Afrique du Sud, avec beaucoup plus de détermination et de convictions, les Parties contractantes des deux Conventions doivent aussi avoir des arguments convaincants.

Le premier de ces arguments doit être l'engagement ferme et individuel des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan à mobiliser de manière effective leurs contributions respectives pour le financement des projets qui seront soumis à négociation.

Ce faisant, l'on donnerait ainsi au partenariat sa pleine signification de partage de responsabilité entre partenaires.

Enfin, il convient de dire que, la Stratégie pour 2002-2003 relative au programme de travail et aux ratifications de la Convention d'Abidjan, devra être assortie d'indicateurs d'évaluation pertinents qui permettront au Groupe de travail sur les décisions d'élaborer des propositions concrètes.

C'est donc sur cette note d'espoir que je déclare ouverte la Réunion du Groupe d'Experts de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan.

Je vous remercie.

## Speeches and Statements at Ministerial Meeting

ALLOCUTION DU PREMIER MINISTRE, MINISTRE DE LA PLANIFICATION  
DU DEVELOPPEMENT SON EXCELLENCE MONSIEUR  
PASCAL AFFI N'GUESSAN

MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES MINISTRES,

MONSIEUR LE DIRECTEUR EXECUTIF ADJOINT DU PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR  
L'ENVIRONNEMENT

MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES REPRESENTANTS  
DES ORGANISATIONS BILATERALES ET MULTILATERALES,

HONORABLES INVITES

MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS,

La Côte d'Ivoire, notre pays, se réjouit d'accueillir la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan.

C'est donc au nom du Chef de l'Etat, Son Excellence Monsieur Laurent Gbagbo, au nom du Gouvernement que j'ai l'honneur de diriger et en mon nom propre, que je souhaite la bienvenue à toutes les hautes personnalités des pays frères ainsi qu'aux représentants des organisations bilatérales et multilatérales venus prendre une part active à cette rencontre.

Je voudrais d'avance vous assurer du soutien du Président de la République et de son Gouvernement aux conclusions des travaux de cette importante rencontre.

En effet, cette réunion préfigure les nouveaux horizons d'un partenariat en matière de Protection et de Développement de l'Environnement Marin et Côtier de la Région de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre, dans le cadre de la Convention d'Abidjan.

Cette préoccupation de coopération du Gouvernement ivoirien en matière d'environnement, a été clairement exprimée par le Président Laurent Gbagbo à l'occasion du Sommet des Chefs d'Etat et du Secteur Privé sur le Financement du Nouveau Partenariat pour le Développement de l'Afrique (NEPAD) tenu à Dakar le 16 avril 2002.

Mesdames et Messieurs

Je voudrais pour ma part, dire que la Côte d'Ivoire qui, comme la plupart des Etats au Sud du Sahara, a une économie essentiellement basée sur l'agriculture, est à la recherche de voies nouvelles pour son développement.

C'est pour cette raison que l'Etat ivoirien s'est résolument tourné vers l'exploitation des ressources pétrolières de ses eaux territoriales marines.

Mais il faut dire, que c'est avant même l'accès de notre pays à la souveraineté internationale que la question de mise en valeur du milieu marin et des zones côtières a eu prise dans le développement national par la création du Port Autonome d'Abidjan qui vient de fêter son cinquantenaire et du Port Autonome de San Pedro. Le premier nommé est aujourd'hui un puissant outil d'intégration sous-régionale par l'accès à la mer qu'il offre aux pays voisins enclavés.

Et dans cette politique d'aménagement du territoire et de l'exploitation des ressources marines, la protection de l'environnement marin et côtier a toujours été et demeure une préoccupation majeure de l'Etat. Ce qui vaut à notre pays d'être partie à la Convention pour la Coopération en matière de Protection et de Développement Marin et Côtier de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre dont il est le dépositaire et abrite le siège de l'Unité de Coordination Régionale.

J'ai noté, à travers les interventions de ceux qui m'ont précédé à cette tribune que la Convention d'Abidjan rencontre quelques difficultés de fonctionnement liées à une faible mobilisation des Etats concernés autour de cet important instrument juridique.

C'est pourquoi, je salue les initiatives en cours dans notre sous-région et destinées à l'élaboration des projets concrets susceptibles d'être financés par nos partenaires.

La revitalisation de la Convention d'Abidjan est à ce prix.

Par ailleurs, l'inauguration du siège de l'Union de Coordination Régionale vient à point nommé. Elle est la manifestation tangible de la Volonté du Gouvernement ivoirien à contribuer au développement de cette convention.

J'exhorte donc les Parties contractantes à se mobiliser davantage autour de la Convention d'Abidjan pour renforcer les conditions de sa mise en œuvre.

La Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan a par conséquent, cette lourde responsabilité morale de trouver les voies et moyens de revitalisation de cette convention.

A l'heure de la mondialisation, l'Afrique doit pouvoir faire preuve d'une solidarité sans faille, surtout en matière d'environnement qui constitue aujourd'hui un enjeu important pour toute la Planète.

L'importante adresse faite par le Président Gbagbo à Dakar le 16 avril dernier sur les questions environnementales à l'occasion du Sommet des Chefs d'Etat et du Secteur Privé sur le Financement du Nouveau Partenariat pour le Développement de l'Afrique (NEPAD) fait en même temps penser au renforcement de la composante NEPAD/ENVIRONNEMENT.

Les océans et les mers couvrant 70% de la surface du globe, se présentent comme la plus grande partie de l'héritage que les nations du monde ont en partage. Il faut donc que l'Afrique s'associe aux autres continents pour la sauvegarde de l'environnement marin et côtier, dans le cadre d'un partenariat bien compris.

Je voudrais donc terminer mon propos sur cette note d'encouragement à votre rencontre, et déclarer ouvert le segment ministériel de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan.

Je vous remercie.

THE STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNEP (DELIVERED ON HIS BEHALF BY MR  
SEKOU TOURE – DIRECTOR OF UNEP/ROA

*Your Excellency, Mr. Pascal Affi N'guessan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire  
Honourable Minister for Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire, Mr Gilbert Bleu-Laine,  
Honourable Minister of Industry and Promotion of the Private Sector of Cote d'Ivoire, Mr Alain  
Cocauthrei,  
Yours Excellencies, Ministers and Heads of delegation -----  
Distinguished Experts  
Ladies and Gentlemen*

## BACKGROUND

In 1981, the adoption of the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention) generated great hopes and ambitious goals. But the optimism generated then has not translated into actions on the ground.

It was because of this concern that the African Governments agreed on an African Process for the protection, management and development of the coastal and marine environment in the declaration adopted in Cape Town in December 1998. The Cape Town conference called for a partnership conference, which is planned to be held in 2002. The whole process now commonly referred to as the "African Process" was endorsed by the Heads of State and Government Summit of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Algiers, Algeria, in July 1999.

The conclusions of The Cape Town conference are equally clear: African Governments need to take urgent measures to halt and reverse the downward trends in the implementation of the Abidjan and Nairobi conventions – two vital instruments for the protection, management and development of the coastal and marine environment in Africa. That is why the current meeting of the Contracting Parties of the Abidjan Convention is so crucial.

The urgent question before participants is to determine how their Governments can urgently equip and empower the Abidjan convention to play the role for which it was adopted in the first place. This is therefore a turning point for the Parties to the Abidjan convention.

## MEASURES TO REVITALIZE THE ABIDJAN CONVENTION

To assist the Contracting Parties in their deliberations on that important question, the secretariat has raised a few issues that will be the genesis for a new vision of future Abidjan convention. The vision should be equal to the challenges posed to the coastal and marine environment – revitalized conventions capable of providing the necessary inputs to the process of sustainable development through managing the coastal and marine resources of the great continent of Africa.

We may not want to elaborate on the fact that at present, many Governments are going through particularly very challenging times, faced with enormous challenges especially on the environment front. Some Governments have experienced severe financial problems in demonstrating fully their commitments to the Abidjan convention. Yet, with goodwill and renewed commitment to the Abidjan convention, it should be possible for all concerned to find common ground and agree on practical ways for forging support for the convention and the Trust Fund.

There is a widely held view that the current meeting of the Contracting Parties may represent a last opportunity to save the Abidjan convention. Neither the Parties to the Convention, UNEP nor the cooperation partners want the Abidjan convention to slip into irrelevance, but if the convention is not equipped and empowered to succeed, the convention will only fail, silently.

It will not be enough merely to pledge contributions or to promise to honour pledges, or to undertake to deliver contributions on time in the future. What is needed is a new funding structure, one that guarantees the financial reliability and predictability so fundamental to the revival of the convention; the action plans and associated protocols, as well as to the regional coordinating unit of the convention. It must be fully recognized that the budgetary resources for this important instruments are vastly insufficient, given the scale and the pace of degradation of the coastal and marine environment.

There should be no illusions; to raise the stature, the capacity and to improve the effectiveness of the Abidjan convention can only be done with adequate resources.

The Contracting Parties, at this meeting, must, in no uncertain terms, show their determination to support the development of the countries of Africa through the vision outlined in the New Partnership for Africa Development (NEPAD). It will be necessary to set in motion a process that will ultimately, and in long-term re-tool the Convention to realize the sustainable development vision of NEPAD 2002. The responsibilities must be shared, between the Parties, the partners, the private sector and the international community at large. UNEP can be held accountable for using available resources to keep the flame burning, but the resources in support of the Abidjan convention must be generated from within the region. The Parties to the Abidjan convention have responsibilities to assume ownership of the convention and to ensure the re-emergence of the convention as vehicle for sustainable development in the region.

Such is the challenge before the governments of the region and the international community. All those concerned could do no greater honour to Western Africa than to reconfirm their specific commitment to support the convention and to ensure that the Convention is positioned for success over the coming years. The current meeting is critical for the future of regional cooperation as conceived in the principles of partnership built into the African Process for the protection, management and development of the coastal and marine environment in Africa.

The current meeting should transform statements, facts and figures into potent catalysts. The Contracting Parties should, at the current meeting, agree on specific means for preventing further erosion of the credibility of the convention, we must demonstrate that the Convention can provide a service to global conventions and deliver at the regional any national levels what has been prioritised at the global or regional especially by responding to global projects. Focused decisions must be adopted and agreement reached on specific measures in a number of areas, as set forth below.

*Sustainable financing mechanism and arrangements for the Abidjan convention*

The most pressing and important challenge for the Parties to the Abidjan conventions is to overcome the severe financial constraints hampering implementation. There is a need also to ensure the predictability as well as regularity of contributions to the trust funds established under the Convention. To achieve that end, there is an urgent need for a sustainable financing mechanism for the mobilization of a range of resources – human and financial – to support programme priorities. New sources of support for programme implementation should also be the focus of increased attention. The secretariat has prepared documentation for the current meeting, which contains its reflections on some options Parties may wish to consider.

#### More effective regional coordination arrangements and mechanisms

A regional coordinating unit for the Abidjan Convention was established in Côte d'Ivoire in 1996, in line with the decisions of the Contracting Parties, which provided for the following personnel components: an interim coordinator; a programme officer; and support staff such as an administrative assistant and bilingual secretaries. The RCU was expected to provide, *inter alia*, overall technical coordination of the activities related to the implementation of the Action Plan. UNEP, in its capacity as the secretariat of the regional seas programme, was responsible for providing overall coordination, strategic direction as well as technical guidance and assistance.

As a result of financial constraints the Unit was unable to recruit the necessary professional staff, including a regional coordinator. Those constraints and concerns were major preoccupations during the discussions, at the Cape Town Conference, on the future of the regional seas programme in Africa. They also explain why, in the Cape Town Declaration, the Governments of Africa, called upon UNEP, as the secretariat of the Abidjan and Nairobi conventions, to develop, in close consultation with relevant governing bodies of those conventions, a concrete action plan for the revitalization and coordination of the conventions, through the establishment of a joint mechanism.

#### Organizing the preparatory process for the partnership conference on the protection, management and development of the coastal and marine environment, to be held in 2002

One of the decisions embodied in the Cape Town Declaration laid the basis for the establishment of a preparatory committee entrusted with the task of convening, in 2002, a partnership conference for the purpose of mobilizing tangible support for the Abidjan and Nairobi conventions. The membership of the committee includes, *inter alia*, the Chairs of the Abidjan and Nairobi conventions.

## CONCLUSION

The most critical issue facing the current meeting of the Contracting Parties relates to the re-orientation of the Abidjan convention, the role of the meetings of their contracting parties and coordination mechanisms, as well as partnership arrangements. At the same time, most Governments, as well as observers, agree on the need for urgent measures to address the shortcomings in the current arrangements. To counteract those chronic weaknesses, highlighted in the current meeting, many would like to see the establishment of conditions, which allow the Abidjan convention to flourish, develop a stronger identity and remain relevant. Regaining that credibility, however, requires deep and far-reaching organizational and operational reform.

Central to any attempt to bring about that reform are discussions regarding the following:

Reviewing and updating the terms of reference of the meetings of the Contracting Parties and their Bureau to enable them to become more authoritative advocates of the needs of the Abidjan convention and also to be directly involved in mobilizing partnership arrangements;

In the intervening period, revising the terms of the existing regional coordinating unit to give them responsibilities

- For consensus-building, intergovernmental dialogue and resource mobilization, including undertaking the necessary coordination work to implement the outcomes of partnership conference;
- Establishing a consortium of relevant regional institutions and adopting selected regional institutions which have demonstrated, over the years, scientific and technical leadership as resource centres or advisory centres of excellence to support the Abidjan convention;
- Using the African Process to develop a partnership with relevant United Nations agencies, the private sector and bilateral agencies, such as EU, and members of the EU, and ensuring that GEF and its special projects are part of the partnership agreements to revitalize the Abidjan convention;
- Ensuring appropriate staffing for the 2002–2003 biennium.

With regard to the issue of staff, the current meeting must agree on a suitable formula for staffing the joint implementation mechanism, as well as the existing regional coordinating units

With regard to the joint implementation mechanism, currently, UNEP supports one Professional staff member provided by the Nairobi convention trust fund and 50% staff time for a Professional staff member contributed by the Environment Fund.

The Trust Fund for the Convention on Cooperation for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the West and Central African Region should provide at least one and possibly two Professional staff members.

- The Secretariat should work closely with other developed conventions, e.g. Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North Atlantic (OSPAR), Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment
- The Secretariat should work closely with governments and to formally request to selected African countries such as Nigeria and South Africa to provide leadership and resources;
- Approach to the African Development Bank; and Requests for assistance from the European Union and its subsidiary bodies.
- With regard to the Regional Coordinating Unit, the Governments hosting the RCU should provide office space and also designate and provide support to a senior government official to head the unit. The trust fund should provide support to the unit.

The importance of the current meeting of the Contracting Parties cannot be underestimated. The meeting should be an expression of optimism in the endeavour to ensure a sustainable future for the Abidjan convention. Efforts must be made to ensure that the specific outcome of the current meeting represents a vote of confidence in the regional cooperation efforts, it should represent a firm undertaking to build consensus on the measures required to model the Abidjan convention as a vehicle for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

The attention of all concerned is drawn to the objectives of NEPAD and the African Process and the urgency for a new direction and the measures to be taken. It is to be hoped that the Parties, and all concerned, will rise to meet the challenges.

SPEECH BY HON ANNA NYAMEKYE,  
Deputy Minister of Environment and Science of Ghana

Your Excellency, Mr. Pascal Affi N'guessan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire  
Honourable Minister for Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire, Mr Gilbert Bleu-Laine,  
Honourable Minister of Industry and Promotion of the Private Sector of Cote d'Ivoire, Mr Alaine  
Cocauthrei,  
Representative of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme,  
Yours Excellencies, Ministers and Heads of delegation from  
Distinguished Experts  
Ladies and Gentlemen

I wish on behalf of the Bureau to the Abidjan Convention to express our appreciation to the President and people of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for accepting to host the sixth meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Abidjan Convention. Indeed it is significant to note that the Convention has come back home hence this must certainly show in the decisions and outcome of this meeting.

I am also extremely grateful to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, for providing the necessary funds and the staff to assist in organizing this meeting

May I on behalf of the Bureau also welcome colleague Ministers and their respective delegations to this important meeting.

The Bureau since COP 5 held in Accra unfortunately cannot present any significant achievements though significant decisions were taken including updating of the Convention and its protocol, establishment of a functional coordinating centre, institution of a sustainable financial mechanism as well as steps towards forging cooperation with the sister regional seas programme, the Nairobi Convention.

I am convinced that this august house would require a report from the Bureau. Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Chair led a delegation composed of experts from Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon to participate in the COP 3 of the Nairobi Convention held in December 2001, in Maputo, Mozambique. May I at this juncture acknowledge the presence of a delegation from our sister Convention, the Nairobi Convention and request that this initiative towards harmonizing the programmes of the two conventions be pursued to its logical conclusion.

Indeed, the constraints encountered in the implementation of the Abidjan Convention have been well documented hence I do not wish to re-echo these. I have come here confident that these constraints will become things of the past, more particularly with the commissioning of the office of the RCU, election of a new Bureau and a number of strategic meetings and activities ahead of us. I wish therefore to call on all parties to resolve to provide the needed political, financial, human and logistical support to move the Abidjan Convention forward into a new era.

Finally on behalf of the President and People of the Republic of Ghana I wish to thank you all especially, the Executive Director and staff of UNEP, and the people of Côte d'Ivoire for the support given to the Bureau during Ghana's tenure of office as the chair and urge that members of the Convention would from now show more commitment to the ideals and programmes of this Convention.

Thank you.

ALLOCUTION DU MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DU CADRE DE VIE  
MONSIEUR GILBERT BLEU-LAINE

A L'OCCASION DE LA CEREMONIE D'OUVERTURE DE LA SIXIEME CONFERENCE DES PARTIES  
A LA CONVENTION D'ABIDJAN

- MONSIEUR LE PREMIER MINISTRE, REPRESENTANT LE PRESIDENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE, SON EXCELLENCE MONSIEUR LAURENT GBAGBO,
- MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES MINISTRES
- MONSIEUR LE DIRECTEUR EXECUTIF ADJOINT DU PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT,
- MONSIEUR LE DIRECTEUR DU BUREAU REGIONAL AFRIQUE DU PNUE,
- MONSIEUR LE PRESIDENT DU BUREAU DE LA CONVENTION D'ABIDJAN,
- MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES REPRESENTANTS DES ORGANISATIONS BILATERALES ET MULTILATERALES,
- MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES DIRECTEURS ET CHEFS DE SERVICE,
- MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES REPRESENTANTS DU SECTEUR PRIVE ET DE LA SOCIETE CIVILE,
- HONORABLES INVITES,
- MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS,

Excellence Monsieur le Premier Ministre,

Malgré votre calendrier que nous savons très chargé, vous avez pu dégager une partie de votre temps pour venir porter à la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan pour venir apporter vous-même le message de soutien du Chef de l'Etat, le Président Laurent Gbagbo à cette rencontre.

Je voudrais donc, au nom de tous les Collègues Ministres de l'Environnement des pays frères qui ont effectué le déplacement à Abidjan, en celui de tous les participants et au mien propre, vous remercier de votre présence qui nous honore et qui est le gage de la volonté affichée du Gouvernement de faire de l'Environnement, un des axes majeurs de son programme d'action.

Tous les participants, par ma voix, vous prient de bien vouloir transmettre au Président de la République, Son Excellence Monsieur Laurent Gbagbo, l'expression de leur déférente gratitude pour l'intérêt personnel qu'il accorde aux problèmes de l'environnement.

Messieurs les Ministres de l'Environnement des pays frères,

Le Comité d'Organisation de cette Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan se félicite de votre présence qui est très appréciée. C'est donc en son nom que je vous souhaite la bienvenue à cette importante en attendant qu'une voix plus autorisée que la mienne le fasse au nom du Gouvernement ivoirien.

Monsieur le Directeur Exécutif Adjoint du PNUE,

Il me plaît de façon particulière de noter votre présence à Abidjan pour prendre part à cette rencontre des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan. Je voudrais mettre à profit cette occasion à moi offerte pour vous remercier pour l'aide financière du PNUE à l'organisation de cette réunion et surtout à l'équipement du siège de l'Unité Régional de Coordination.

Monsieur le Directeur du Bureau Régional Afrique du PNUE,

Si la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan se tient aujourd'hui, c'est grâce à l'important travail de facilitation que vous avez accompli. Je tiens à vous en remercier très sincèrement.

Monsieur le Président du Bureau de la Convention d'Abidjan,

Depuis l'entrée en vigueur de la Convention d'Abidjan et notamment depuis votre élection à la tête du Bureau de la Conférence des Parties, vous n'avez eu de cesse de rechercher des solutions idoines pour la revitalisation et le bon fonctionnement de cette convention. Notamment pour ce qui est du développement du partenariat entre la Convention d'Abidjan et la Convention de Nairobi. Aujourd'hui les fruits de vos efforts sont perceptibles parce que l'espoir d'une reprise effective des activités dans le cadre de la Convention d'Abidjan est à portée de main. Je voudrais vous exprimer ma profonde gratitude pour votre dévouement à notre cause commune.

Honorables Ministres, Distingués Participants,

Les raisons de la tenue de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan sont connues. Il s'agit notamment de faire le point sur l'état d'avancement des projets et questions relatifs à la Convention d'Abidjan et l'adoption du Programme de travail 2002-2003.

Mais un diagnostic rapide montre que quelques obstacles mériteraient d'être levés pour une mise en œuvre adéquate de la Convention d'Abidjan. Ceux-ci se résument pour l'essentiel à l'insuffisance de la volonté politique des Etats, au manque de ressources financières et à la faiblesse du système de coordination.

Par rapport à ces difficultés d'ordre politique, institutionnel et financier, il s'agit pour la réunion d'Abidjan de trouver des solutions idoines qui permettent de donner une base plus solide à l'exécution des projets qui seront adoptés avec leurs financements à la Conférence sur le Partenariat à Rio+10.

Ces questions qui viennent d'être évoquées constituent sans aucun doute des préoccupations importantes pour les Parties contractantes. Mais, même si la Convention est entrée en vigueur avec les dix ratifications, un important travail de sensibilisation reste encore à faire pour amener un plus grand nombre de ratifications à cet instrument juridique.

La manifestation de la volonté politique autour de la Convention d'Abidjan est aussi à ce prix.

Je voudrais donc terminer ce propos liminaire par le souhait que nos travaux soient couronnés de succès.

Je vous remercie.

HON. REJOICE T. MABUDAFHASI, MP  
Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of South Africa  
and  
Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the Partnership Conference

Your Excellency, Prime Minister N'Guessan of Cote d'Ivoire  
Your Excellency, Minister Gilbert Bleu-Laine, Minister of Environment and Quality of Life of Côte d'Ivoire,  
Your Excellency, Minister Alain Cocauthrei, Minister of Industry and promotion of the Private Sector of Cote d'Ivoire  
Honourable Anna Nyemekye, Deputy Minister of Environment and Science of Ghana,  
Members of the diplomatic corps  
Mr Sekou Toure, Representative of UNEP,  
Potential partners  
Distinguished guests,  
Our experts,  
Ladies and Gentlemen

Let me at the outset say that I am delighted to be here to join you in this very important workshop at a very crucial stage and turning point in the existence of the Abidjan Convention. It is probably no coincidence that this crucial COP is taking place in the very same city, Abidjan, where it was signed in March 1981.

Chair, before I continue, let me express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, and in particular my brother, Minister Bleu-Laine, for hosting this important meeting and pay tribute and acknowledge the people who relentlessly worked behind the scenes to make this meeting possible.

As Chair of the African Process for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa I cannot but reiterate the tremendous opportunities for African States to address the very pertinent issues hindering sustainable development on our continent. The underlying problems of poverty, food and economic security cannot be over emphasised. The Organisation for African Unity (OAU) the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), the African Process itself and numerous other fora have provided the necessary platforms for the political endorsement at the highest level of all the activities that we are involved in on this continent.

We know that the political will is there to address the multitude of problems facing Africa but the translation into concrete action remains a challenge – today we are facing such a challenge.

It is a sad state of affairs that after twenty-one years only eleven countries out of twenty-two have ratified the Abidjan Convention. We all talk about commitment, but are we really committed? Commitment to my mind needs to be translated into concrete actions.

Time and again and on numerous occasions we have referred to the fact that we as Africans will tackle our own problems, mobilise our own resources and not come with a begging bowl, but has this become just one of those clichés. Let us be serious and honest with ourselves. If I look at the contributions to the trust fund, it is saddening to note that countries do not fulfil their obligations and responsibilities as responsible Member States of the Convention. This is one of the issues that need serious attention. We have to try and find innovative and sustainable financing mechanisms to implement the ambitious work programmes identified and deliberated extensively by our experts.

The African Process for the Development and Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment has progressed from mere words and resolutions to concrete actions. As Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the African Process and together with my committed ministerial colleagues we have shown our personal commitment to this process.

As you are no doubt aware the African Process is being implemented through a Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded medium sized project (MSP). I want to reiterate that the current GEF Medium-sized Project is but a part of the broader African Process. Unfortunately due to budgetary constraints, only eleven countries could be accommodated, but I have instructed the Secretariat to write to all governments in Africa to update them on the status and progress of the African Process and to request them to submit possible project proposals.

The work done by the implementing agents ACOPS and IOC of UNESCO, as well as the experts, national and regional co-ordinators and consultants under the GEF-MSP needs to be commended. Now is the time to ensure the linkages and the merging of the work done within the scope of the GEF-MSP and the overall African Process with the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions.

At the same time we should not lose sight of the broader picture in that the African Process will be used as a vehicle to drive the oceans and coasts focus area of the Environmental Action Plan of NEPAD.

In our numerous deliberations we have referred to the strengthening and revitalisation of both the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions. To achieve this strengthening I believe we should have a four-pronged approach:

- We need to obtain funding for projects which will deliver results but at the same time mobilise our own resources, such as proposed within the GEF-MSP;
- We need to strengthen the structures of the Convention. Some possible means include the establishment of a forum of focal points for the Abidjan Convention (as has been done for the Nairobi Convention) to facilitate technical information exchange between the technical experts but also to ensure sub-regional co-operation that proved to be successful;
- We need to strengthen the management capabilities and build capacity in order to manage the projects envisaged within the work programme of this Convention;
- We need to ensure that all the relevant programmes by agencies such as UNEP, UNDP, IMO, FAO and the numerous other initiatives be harmonised with the work being done in both the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions and the African Process in particular.

Chairperson, South Africa is in the process of ratifying both the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions. We see this as an important tool for ensuring sustainable development in Africa. As we proceed on our journey to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, Africa needs to prepare itself to show to the world that we as Africans can determine our own destiny. The African Process, Chairperson, will be one of Africa's shining examples that we will showcase under the oceans and coasts agenda of WSSD, that is, putting Africa's contribution within the overall global context.

In preparation for the Partnership Conference we will be hosting the Super Preparatory Committee in Abuja next month to negotiate with potential partners the possible co-financing of the projects submitted as part of the GEF-MSP.

The African Process will not end with the Partnership Conference – this will just be a vehicle for co-opting a new generation of countries with new issues and possibly new themes that may be emerging from the next analysis phase. We shall continue to engage all governments in Africa to make this African Process a true African led initiative by Africans for Africans.

I trust that we would continue to deliberate in this spirit of camaraderie, because we know deep in our hearts and minds that we will have to show the way. Our people and our continent rely on us.

I thank you.

STATEMENT BY HONOURABLE SUSAN WAFA - OGOO  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT OF  
THE GAMBIA

DELIVERED ON HER BEHALF BY  
MS. FATOU JASSEH-KUYATEH, PERMANENT SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR  
FISHERIES, NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. President  
Honourable Ministers  
Representative of the Executive Director of UNEP  
Distinguished Delegates  
Ladies and Gentlemen

I first and foremost wish to apologise for the absence of Mrs. Susan Waffa-Ogoo the Hon Secretary of State for Fisheries, Natural Resources and the Environment who has not been able to be present here today due to some other very pressing national assignment. She therefore asked me to represent her at this very important Conference, and to make the following statement on her behalf. The Statement reads:

Mr. President

I feel deeply honoured and privileged to be given the opportunity to address this august gathering – the sixth COP of the Abidjan Convention. I therefore wish to seize the opportunity to convey to our Ivorian hosts my delegation's appreciation for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to us since our arrival in this country. Mr. President, may I further take this opportunity to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your election for the next two years. You have a daunting task, however I am convinced that under your leadership you and your team will emerge with flying colours by the end of your mandate. At the same time I wish to express my delegation's gratitude and appreciation to the out-going Bureau of the past two years.

Mr. President,

I am afraid my delegation has been disappointed with the virtual lack of progress since COP 5 in Accra in 2000 where we collectively agreed to a series of recommendations in order to move forward the implementation of the Plan of action of the Convention. Over the planned period Mr. President we have made very little progress and it is my delegation's opinion that unless we show the required commitment this convention will remain in name and in paper only.

In the area of resource mobilization it is my delegation's conviction that we need to do more to meet our financial obligations towards the Convention. Since we departed Accra in 2000 I understand that only one country paid its dues as agreed. I have been informed that even if only 5 countries had paid up their financial obligations the Secretariat would have begun implementing some components of the plan of action developed in 2000. In view of the low level of contribution we must make an extra effort to pay in our contributions. In this regard my delegation will consider seriously for endorsement any innovative financing mechanism including some form of partnership with the private sector.

I have been further informed that when contacted by the President, our colleague Minister responsible for the environment for Ghana to submit names of National Focal Points to the Convention, only six countries responded to this request.

Mr. President, on the issue of ratification of the Convention it is my delegation's view that we do not need to be reminded so often about it. I would therefore urge my colleague Ministers to put more pressure on their relevant national institutions to ratify the Convention. We had agreed since 2000 to revitalise the Convention, please let us do exactly that.

Mr. President

Having said this allow me to express some views on certain processes that have developed within the past two years both at the global level as well, as around our region that have a bearing and some influence on the Abidjan Convention.

Firstly, in the run up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg due to start in several months' time the aspirations of the peoples of the sub-region must be reflected in the deliberations and decisions of the processes leading up to the event.

The NEPAD process, another blue print and entry point for each of our countries to sustainable development must be used to maximise the opportunities that lie in there for us.

There is also the African Process and the planned Partnership Conference in Johannesburg at which it is planned to bring potential partners and investors out of the African region together with their African counterparts to try to develop linkages and investment plans within the African continent. The relationship and linkages that are possible in these processes- the African Process, the Abidjan Convention and the NEPAD-are enormous.

Specifically, since it has been agreed that the ocean and marine aspects of the Environment Component of NEPAD will be the outcome of the African Process, a process that has direct linkages with the Abidjan Convention, my delegation wishes to align itself with these processes and urge all of us to support and show commitment to them as well.

In conclusion, Mr. President my delegation wishes to reiterate its support and commitment to the various processes named earlier and wishes to further urge other delegations to reinforce the Abidjan Convention.

I thank you for your kind attention.

## Speech of Senegalese Minister

\*\*\*\* *Still Outstanding Nassere Kaba is working on it*\*\*\*\*

STATEMENT BY MR. EVARISTO BAQUETE, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT OF MAZAMBIQUE, ON  
BEHALF OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NAIROBI CONVENTION

Excellency the Minister of Environment of Côte d'Ivoire, Hon Minister Gilbert Bleu-Laine,  
Excellency the Deputy Minister of Environment and Science of Ghana, Hon Anna Nyamekye,  
Excellency the Deputy Minister of Environment of South Africa, Hon Rejoice Mabudafhasi,  
Representatives of UN agencies,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour and privilege for me to address your Excellencies at this VI Conference of Parties of the Abidjan Convention, on behalf of the Chairman of Nairobi Convention, His Excellency the Minister of Environment of Mozambique Hon. John Kachamila, who is also Vice chair of the African Process.

I would like, first of all, to thank the chairman of the Abidjan Convention for the invitation and extend our gratitude to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for the warm hospitality since we arrived here in this wonderful city of Abidjan.

We come as brothers and sisters as people from the eastern side of the continent; we share with you the beauties, richness and challenges of our beloved Africa. The Nairobi Convention appreciates your efforts for a better environment, which you deserve and we strongly believe, you will achieve.

Like you, the Parties to the Nairobi Convention have been struggling for a better protection and management of the coastal and marine environment, aiming at sustainable development based on poverty reduction and environmental conservation. Both the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions are concerned with the environment and sustainability. Alleviation of poverty and promotion of sustainable development are at top of the agenda of our governments. The environment is overriding since the availability and distribution of natural resources sustain the economies of our coastal states, form the basis of subsistence of most of our coastal communities and are essential for the stability of our countries.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are sure that this COP will be a stonemark for the Convention and the peoples of the region and all of us as it is taking place on a very special occasion. In fact it is taking place back to back with the last working group for the preparation of the programme of interventions of the African Process for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in sub-Saharan Africa, a common initiative of both East and West Africa, endorsed by the Heads of States of Africa. As such, we are glad to notice that the protection and management of the coastal environment deserves special attention in the African agenda and has been identified as an important component of NEPAD. It clearly indicates that we have all assumed that it is time to move from concepts to actions.

Additionally, ladies and gentlemen, this gathering occurs few months before the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development and its outputs will influence positively, I believe, the debates and results of the summit.

Excellencies, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, before I finish please allow me to recall an old saying: environmental problems don't recognise man-made boundaries. In my opinion it calls us for concrete and harmonized actions between our two conventions aiming at effective protection and wise use of our resources for the sake of ourselves and of generations to come. Accordingly, I take this opportunity to renew our commitment, from the Nairobi Convention side towards integration of efforts between the two

Conventions. There is a lot to learn and share between Africans and together, I have no doubt, we will be able to improve the living conditions of African coastal inhabitants.

Wishing you a very fruitful meeting, I thank you all for your attention.

## SPEECH BY UNIDO REPRESENTATIVE (MR CHIKA UKWE)

Mr Chairman  
Honourable Ministers  
Colleagues

I bring to you the fraternal and best wishes of the Director General of UNIDO, Mr. Carlos Magarinos. I would like, first of all, to thank the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for the warm welcome and for organizing this COP and also wish to thank UNEP for inviting us to this 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties of the Abidjan Convention.

UNIDO within the framework of its programme of Intervention in Africa especially its execution of the successful Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Ecosystems Project has contributed to the operationalisation of the Abidjan Convention. UNIDO supports the strengthening and revitalisation of the Abidjan Convention and will continue to play a positive role in this regard.

I wish you a successful meeting and thank you.

## STATEMENT BY MR AKIN AWOBAMISE OF THE NIGERIAN DELEGATION

Chairman  
Ministers present  
Representative of the Executive Director of UNEP  
Ladies and Gentleman

Permit me to apologise for the inability of my Hon. Minister OTUEKONG IMEH OKOPIDO to attend this meeting. He is unavoidably absent due to other pressing assignment relating to another UNEP programme.

I wish to express his total support for the revitalization of the Abidjan Convention and also to reconfirm the role the African Process will play in this venture. Nigeria endorses the program of interventions designed through GEF-MSP project and other associated projects like GOOS-Africa project.

Nigeria will definitely meet all her commitments to the Convention since we have already ratified the convention since 1981. The election of the country into the new Bureau will be communicated to the government of Nigeria and we would work hard for the realization of our expected role in the bureau. Nigeria is particularly happy at the inauguration of the RCU and it is our belief that this will ensure the beginning of the rebirth of the Abidjan Convention.

In conclusion I want to thank the government of Côte d'Ivoire for hosting the meeting and UNEP for facilitating it.

## DECLARATION DE GUINEE- BISSAU

Monsieur le Ministre,

Je saisis l'occasion pour vous présenter les excuses de mon Ministre Carlitos BARAI d'être absent à cette session. En effet, il avait confirmé sa participation à cette conférence, mais malheureusement, pour des raisons indépendantes de sa volonté, il n'a pas pu être parmi nous.

Je profite également de cette occasion pour transmettre ses remerciements au gouvernement de la Côte d'Ivoire en la personne du Ministre de l'Environnement et du Cadre de vie et du PNUE pour avoir organisé cette conférence.

Comme nous le savons, la dégradation de l'environnement marin constitue une préoccupation majeure au niveau mondiale en générale et de la Guinée-Bissau en particulier. C'est pourquoi, les enjeux de la Convention d'Abidjan représentent pour nous un intérêt capital.

L'application des recommandations que nous venons d'adopter vont permettre la mise en œuvre des activités relatives à cette convention ; ceci permettra de réduire la dégradation du milieu marin et la pression exercée sur les ressources vivantes.

Le Projet Grand Ecosystème marin du Courant de Guinée va justement répondre entre autres aux attentes de la Convention.

La Guinée-Bissau est parmi les pays qui n'ont pas encore ratifié la Convention. Pour faciliter la compréhension des décideurs, nous aurions souhaité à ce que la Convention nous soit traduite en langue portugaise.

Pour ce qui est de la contribution financière, nous n'allons pas manager d'efforts pour convaincre notre gouvernement de donner sa cotisation.

Je vous remercie

Guinée-Bissau  
Abidjan, 17 – 05- 2002

## DECLARATION DE LA GUINEE

Monsieur le Ministre de l'Environnement de la Côte d'Ivoire  
Monsieur le Directeur Régional du Bureau Afrique UNEP  
Messieurs les Représentants des institutions internationales  
Messieurs les experts des pays

Ma délégation que je conduis à cette présente réunion, adresse ses vives félicitations à son Excellence M. Le Ministre de l'Environnement de la Côte d'Ivoire pour sa brillante élection au poste de président à la COP 6 ainsi qu'aux membres de son bureau.

Monsieur le Ministre, permettez-moi de vous informer que le Ministre guinéen des Mines, de la Géologie et de l'Environnement a bien reçu une invitation, mais pour des raisons de calendrier, il m'a demandé de le représenter solennellement à cette importante réunion des parties contractantes à la Convention d'Abidjan. C'est pourquoi, au nom du Gouvernement de la Guinée, je remercie le Gouvernement de Côte d'Ivoire pour sa disponibilité totale pour l'Afrique.

En effet, c'est grâce à la Côte d'Ivoire que cette COP 6 se tient maintenant avec l'appuis du PNUE et du Bureau Régional pour l'Afrique. C'est la première fois qu'une convention a son siège en Afrique. La République de Guinée qui n'est pas en reste pour le paiement de ses cotisations, continuera à fournir des efforts dans ce cadre.

La République de Guinée qui est partie à cette convention depuis 1984, a pris plusieurs textes relatifs à la gestion et à la protection de son milieu marin et côtier. La Convention d'Abidjan ne peut que recueillir le soutien de toutes les parties contractantes; Ma délégation souhaite que les résolutions issues de cette réunion soit transmis au Directeur Exécutif du PNUE afin d'avoir un soutien lors du sommet de Johannesburg en septembre 2002.

Je vous remercie

## BENIN

Avant tout propos, je tiens à vous présenter les excuses de votre frère et ami, le ministre de l'Environnement de l'Habitat et de l'Urbanisme du Bénin, qui m'a fait part de l'invitation personnelle que vous lui avez adressée, et a pris toutes les dispositions pour être parmi nous mais hélas les empêchements de dernière minute ne lui ont pas permis d'être présent ici. Il me charge de vous dire qu'il est de cœur avec nous.

Ceci étant, je remercie au nom du Gouvernement béninois, le Gouvernement ivoirien pour tous les efforts fournis pour faire de cette Sixième Conférence une réussite totale.

Je les remercie aussi pour avoir mis à la disposition de la Convention d'Abidjan un cadre de travail approprié. Je suis convaincu qu'il contribuera à rendre dynamique notre convention.

Mes remerciements vont également vers le PNUE pour tous les efforts qu'il ne cesse de déployer pour rendre dynamique cette convention.

Enfin, je remercie tous les organismes ici présent pour leur apports à la réussite de cette Sixième Conférence.

Monsieur le Président,

Au niveau national,

- en ce qui concerne l'aménagement, mon pays est en train de mettre en œuvre sur fonds propre, un projet d'aménagement du littoral.
- Pour les problèmes liés aux informations océanographiques, mon pays vient cette année 2002, de passer du Comité National Océanographique, sur fonds propre au Centre national de Recherches Océanographiques ; vous comprenez pourquoi monsieur le président GOOS-AFRICA ne peut être que la bienvenue pour le Bénin.
- Dans le domaine de protection du milieu marin mon pays a entamé ou est en train de réaliser des actions suivantes :
  - L'élaboration du Plan National d'Urgence en cas de pollution critique
  - la prise de décret fixant les normes de rejet des eaux résiduaires dans la nature
  - la mise en œuvre dans la plus grande ville de la zone côtière (Cotonou) du projet de renforcement des capacités en matière de gestion des ordures ménagères
  - la mise en application du décret portant Etude d'Impact Environnemental
  - la mise en œuvre du décret portant audit environnemental afin d'amener les anciennes industries à se conformer à la législation en vigueur et les nouvelles à respecter leur plan de gestion environnementale.
    - En ce qui concerne l'érosion côtière, mon pays sur fonds propre et avec l'appui de l'OUA a réalise certaines actions qui ont permis plus ou moins de réduire plus ou moins la puissance de ce phénomène ; il s'agit de :
      - projet stabili plage
      - projet gabien réalisé avec l'appui financier de l'OUA
      - le projet de renforcement de l'épi à l'Est du port Autonome de Cotonou.

Monsieur le Président, en dépit du fait que mon pays soit un mauvais payeur des cotisations, il essaie avec des maigres ressources de mettre en application la Convention d'Abidjan. Je vous promets de faire sur ce point un compte rendu bien détaillé à mon ministre afin que le Bénin devienne comme la Gambie un exemple.

Enfin, je terminerai mon propos en souhaitant monsieur le président que les pays qui fournissent un tout petit d'effort comme les miens puissent aussi bénéficier dans le cas du possible de l'aide internationale.

Enfin, j'inviterai le PNUE et le FEM de mettre tout en œuvre afin qu'on puisse mettre fin au silence qui entoure le démarrage de la deuxième phase du projet GCLME.

Je vous remercie.

## DECLARATION DU REPRESENTANT DU GABON

Monsieur le Président,  
Excellence, Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le Représentant du Gabon est heureux de prendre la parole à l'occasion de la 6<sup>ème</sup> Conférence des parties à la Convention d'Abidjan.

Monsieur le Président,

Permettez-moi tout d'abord de vous adresser mes sincères félicitations pour votre élection à la présidence de notre Conférence.

Je voudrais aussi exprimer l'appréciation de la délégation gabonaise au Secrétariat de la délégation pour l'excellente organisation de cette session.

Par la même occasion, j'adresse mes félicitations à la République de Côte d'Ivoire pour avoir accepté d'abriter la sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan ; et au PNUE pour l'appui à la mise en œuvre de cette Convention.

Monsieur le Président,

Excellence, Mesdames et Messieurs,

L'organisation des présentes assises donne l'opportunité à nos pays de faire le point sur l'évolution de la mise en œuvre de la Convention d'Abidjan par son protocole.

En 1998, les pays africains qui reconnaissent que la Convention d'Abidjan avait du mal à atteindre ses objectifs ont convoqué deux conférences panafricaines très importantes, l'une à Maputo au Mozambique en juillet, l'autre à Cape Town en Afrique du Sud en décembre. Toutes ces deux réunions avaient pour but d'examiner les progrès accomplis et les obstacles qui entravent l'exécution des programmes et des accords de collaboration relevant de la Convention.

Je reste convaincu que la présente Conférence nous donnera l'occasion de réaffirmer notre engagement commun en faveur de la coopération en matière de protection et de développement de l'environnement marin et côtier de la région de l'Afrique de l'ouest et du centre.

Monsieur le Président,

Avec 800 km, la zone côtière gabonaise est sujette aux dégradations liées à l'activité économique du pays. Cette situation est de plus en plus préoccupante puisqu'elle menace l'équilibre écologique de la zone côtière. Les conséquences de ces atteintes à l'équilibre écologique de la zone côtière ne se limitent pas seulement à la dimension environnementale. Car toute détérioration du milieu physique affecte aussi les activités économiques qui se déroulent dans la zone où ces impacts se produisent.

Comme on peut le constater, les enjeux écologiques et économiques de la zone côtière sont colossaux et méritent donc des mesures appropriées.

C'est dans ce contexte que le Gouvernement gabonaise a décidé la mise en place d'un observatoire côtier. L'Observatoire de la zone côtière se présente comme un instrument à même d'analyser les données existantes, collecter et fournir des informations utilisables par les acteurs et les gestionnaires

de la zone côtière et du milieu marin. Ce projet s'intègre dans la vision globale du grand écosystème marin du golf de Guinée.

En effet, un tel instrument doit permettre au pays de:

- gérer rationnellement les aménagements et l'implantation des infrastructures socio-économiques ;
- mettre en œuvre un schéma de mise en valeur de la Mer (SMVM) ;
- évaluer les impacts des activités telluriques ayant des répercussions sur l'environnement marin et côtier et élaborer une stratégie qui permettra d'atténuer ces impacts, etc. .

La mise en place d'une telle structure ne sera possible sans l'appui des partenaires au développement. C'est pourquoi, l'intérêt que cette initiative suscite dans notre sous-région du Bassin du Congo notamment à travers tous les pays côtiers, s'inscrit dans le processus de la Convention d'Abidjan ; Notamment à travers un partenariat fort avec l'ADIE qui a été chargée de la mise œuvre de cette activité régionale du PRGE.

Monsieur le Président,

La délégation gabonaise est sensible aux difficultés que traverse la Convention d'Abidjan. C'est pourquoi nous prenons l'engagement solennel d'apporter notre contribution au renforcement de la convention pour la réalisation du Plan d'Action adopté en mars 1981 lors de la première conférence d'Abidjan. A cet effet, une réponse concrète et ferme du Gouvernement gabonais vous sera rapidement faite par votre collègue.

Je vous remercie

INTERVENTION BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OSPAR COMMISSION  
AT MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE ABIDJAN CONVENTION

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates, colleagues, I am very pleased to have this opportunity to speak on behalf of the OSPAR Commission for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic.

As you know, the OSPAR Commission brings together Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the European Community to work for the protection of their regional seas. Their cooperation with each other has been built up over the past thirty years.

The OSPAR Commission would have liked to have sent a representative to this meeting who is fully conversant with all their work and who could discuss details of possible cooperation. Unfortunately, this week sees the regular half-yearly meeting in London of the Heads of Delegation of the OSPAR Commission. So the Chairman, the senior delegates and the secretariat are fully occupied and could not get away. They have asked me to present their apologies.

However, as most of you know, it was possible last year to arrange discussions between representatives of the OSPAR Commission and the Abidjan Convention, including some Ministers on both sides. This took place in Montreal last November, during the UN Environment Programme's review of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from land-Based Activities.

That meeting discussed the call from the Governing Council of the UN Environment Programme for the countries of the Abidjan and OSPAR Conventions to work together to develop collaboration. On both sides, there was a ready agreement to develop and deepen such collaboration.

To work out practical ways of collaboration, the OSPAR Commission is inviting the official chairman of the meeting of the parties to the Abidjan Convention and a representative of the secretariat to attend the annual meeting of the OSPAR Commission in Amsterdam at the end of June. The OSPAR Commission hopes that it will be possible to identify practical methods whereby both conventions can work together to improve the protection and sustainable use of the whole of the eastern Atlantic.

The experience of the OSPAR Commission over the past thirty years is that major achievements are possible, but that it is essential to have clear and strong political backing at the highest possible level. Without high political commitment, it is difficult for the experts to find ways around the many obstacles that inevitably arise.

Equally, it is also essential to ensure the involvement of all stakeholders. Not only do they frequently know more about the problems to be overcome than Government officials, but unless they understand and accept what is proposed, it will be difficult to implement even the best of plans.

Plans to combat pollution and other forms of degradation of the marine environment must also be based on knowledge of the marine environment and of the best practical approaches for the local situation. OSPAR does not have the function of providing international aid – that is for other parts of the Governments involved. But, with its experience, the OSPAR Commission may well be able to assist in an advisory capacity in devising and implementing structures appropriate to the circumstances of West Africa.

In conclusion, the OSPAR Commission has asked me to wish the new Abidjan Secretariat all the best as it sets out on the long task of creating a new focus for work to protect the marine environment of the Atlantic and to encourage the Contracting Parties of the Abidjan Convention to work together to protect and develop the sustainable use of the important resources of your seas for the benefit of the local people who depend on them. The OSPAR countries have found that their collaboration with each other has been fruitful and productive for the benefit of the health of their seas and the benefit of the local people. They hope that they can assist in developing systems which are equally effective in this part of the world.

#### ALLOCUTION DU REPRESENTANT DE LA COMMISSION OSPAR A LA REUNION MINISTERIELLE DE LA CONVENTION D'ABIDJAN

Vos excellences, délégués distingués, chers collègues,

Je suis très heureux d'avoir la possibilité de prononcer quelques mots au nom de la Commission OSPAR pour la protection du milieu marin de l'Atlantique du Nord-Est.

Comme vous le savez, la Commission OSPAR rassemble la Belgique, le Danemark, la Finlande, la France, l'Allemagne, l'Islande, l'Irlande, le Luxembourg, les Pays-Bas, la Norvège, le Portugal, l'Espagne, la Suède, la Suisse, le Royaume-Uni et la Communauté européenne pour effectuer des travaux visant à la protection des mers régionales. Une coopération entre tous ces pays s'est consolidée durant les trente dernières années.

La Commission OSPAR aurait souhaité que participe à cette réunion un de ses représentants tout à fait au courant des travaux en cours et qui aurait pu débattre des détails d'une coopération éventuelle. Durant la présente semaine, les chefs de délégation à la Commission OSPAR se réunissent à Londres pour leur réunion semestrielle régulière. Le président, les chefs de délégation et le Secrétariat sont très occupés et ne peuvent s'absenter en aucun cas, ce qui est fortement regrettable. Ils m'ont demandé de bien vouloir vous présenter leurs excuses.

Cependant, comme la plupart d'entre vous en a déjà été informée, des débats entre des représentants de la Commission OSPAR et de la Convention d'Abidjan se sont déroulés l'année dernière et des ministres des deux organisations y étaient

également présents. Ces débats ont eu lieu en novembre dernier, à Montréal, pendant la révision du programme mondial d'action pour la protection du milieu marin contre la pollution due aux activités terrestres du Programme des Nations-Unies sur l'Environnement.

La réunion a débattu d'un appel du Conseil du Programme des Nations-Unies sur l'Environnement aux pays des Conventions d'Abidjan et d'OSPAR à travailler ensemble pour développer une collaboration. Les deux organisations ont démontré un vif intérêt à développer et approfondir une telle collaboration.

Afin de mettre au point les aspects pratiques d'une collaboration, la Commission a le plaisir d'inviter le président officiel de la réunion des parties à la Convention d'Abidjan ainsi qu'un représentant du Secrétariat à participer à la réunion annuelle de la Commission OSPAR qui se déroulera à Amsterdam, à la fin du mois de juin. La Commission OSPAR espère vivement qu'il sera possible de trouver des méthodes pratiques permettant aux deux Conventions de travailler ensemble en ayant pour objectif l'amélioration de la protection et de l'utilisation durable de la totalité de l'Atlantique de l'Est.

De l'expérience de la Commission OSPAR durant les trente dernières années, des accomplissements majeurs sont possibles mais il est indispensable d'avoir un support politique clair et solide et au plus haut niveau possible. Sans engagement politique, il s'avère difficile, pour les experts, de trouver les moyens de surmonter les obstacles qui surgissent inévitablement.

Il est également essentiel de s'assurer que toutes les personnes impliquées participent. Non seulement elles ont souvent une meilleure connaissance que les fonctionnaires gouvernementaux des problèmes à surmonter, mais, à moins que ceux-ci ne comprennent et acceptent ce qui est proposé, la mise en œuvre même du meilleur des plans n'est pas réalisable.

Les plans visant à lutter contre la pollution et autres formes de dégradation de l'environnement marin doivent être fondés sur une bonne connaissance du milieu marin et des approches pratiques les plus adaptées pour la situation locale. OSPAR n'a pas pour fonction de fournir une aide internationale - ceci est le rôle d'autres instances au sein des gouvernements impliqués. Cependant, avec son expérience, la Commission OSPAR peut sûrement apporter son aide, sous la forme de conseils, à la création et à la mise en œuvre des structures les plus appropriées aux circonstances de l'Afrique de l'ouest.

Pour conclure, la Commission m'a prié de présenter au nouveau Secrétariat de la Convention d'Abidjan ses meilleurs vœux de réussite dans la longue tâche qu'elle s'est fixée de créer un nouveau point focal dans les travaux de protection du milieu marin de l'Atlantique et d'encourager les Parties contractantes de la Convention d'Abidjan à travailler ensemble pour protéger et développer l'utilisation durable des ressources importantes de vos mers au bénéfice des peuples locaux qui en dépendent. Les pays d'OSPAR ont trouvé que la collaboration qu'ils ont établie entre eux a été fructueuse et productive pour la santé de leurs mers et pour le bénéfice des populations locales. Ils espèrent qu'ils pourront aider au développement de systèmes tout aussi efficaces dans cette partie du monde.

## DECLARATION DE LA REPUBLIQUE DEMOCRATQUE DU CONGO

Je remercie tous les organisateurs pour la tenue et la réussite de cette conférence.

Je voudrais dire un mot concernant l'absence de mon ministre à ces assises qui n'a pas été invité parce que la RDC n'a pas encore ratifié la Convention d'Abidjan.

Depuis septembre 2001, mon ministre a déposé tous les documents de ratification auprès du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères qui bloque ce processus de ratification peut être à cause de la guerre qui frappe le pays depuis plus de 3 ans. Malgré cette situation, mon ministre a organisé en décembre 2001 des journées ouvertes de sensibilisation sur les différentes conventions pertinentes de l'environnement. A cette occasion, en tant que point focal WACAF, j'ai eu à présenter la Convention d'Abidjan qui a suscité beaucoup de questions dans la salle car étant peu connue du public congolais.

Je demande aux autres pays de la Région de mettre aussi un accent particulier sur la sensibilisation de différentes Conventions en général et de la Convention d'Abidjan en particulier.

La RDC à travers le Ministère de l'Environnement que je représente dans ces assises soutient efficacement la Convention d'Abidjan et déploie tous les efforts pour sa ratification et sa mise en œuvre.

Je vous remercie

## DECLARATION DU CONGO

Excellences Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres,  
Mesdames et Messieurs,

Au nom du Ministre de l'Industrie Minière et de l'Environnement du Congo-Brazzaville, nous prenons la parole ce jour pour exprimer notre volonté sur la mise en œuvre de l'ensemble de décisions qui seront issues de nos travaux.

En effet, le Congo-Brazzaville, partie à la Convention pour la Coopération en matière de Protection et de Développement de l'Environnement marin et côtier de la région de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre, depuis février 1983, a toujours pris une part active aux initiatives d'application des plans d'action de la Convention et de son Protocole. C'est ainsi qu'il s'est aligné à:

- Exécuter la seconde phase du projet GCLME;
- Adhérer aux résultats auxquels sont parvenues les experts qui venaient de prendre part aux réunions de GOOS-AFRICA et de l'ACOPS, selon l'esprit des recommandations de Maputo et du Cap.

Cependant, nous recommandons que l'Unité de Coordination et le Bureau préparent avec l'appui du PNUE, un PTM en vue d'évaluer l'ensemble des acquis du Plan d'Action d'Abidjan, telles que les activités ont été réalisées par les Etats, et que les projets qui seront soumis au super PreCom d'Abuja soient examinés préalablement par un groupe d'experts afin que soient intégrées aussi les projets identifiés en Afrique Centrale, étant entendu que les pays de cette sous-région avaient pris une part active au Processus Africain.

Par ailleurs, pour permettre à la Convention de compenser ses faiblesses, et consciente des efforts du gouvernement de Côte d'Ivoire, dépositaire et pays de siège, en dotant l'Unité de Coordination d'un cadre de travail à usage de secrétariat permanent, la délégation du Congo-Brazzaville soutient l'Accord

d'Accra en proposant qu'il soit mis fin à l'intérim de la coordination, et qu'il soit engagé une réforme opérationnelle par création d'un groupe de contact, à visage sous-régional, avec les membres du bureau pour rechercher des réponses positives pour :

- La ratification ou à l'adhésion des pays de l'aire de répartition de la WACAF qui hésitent encore à nous rejoindre ;
- Les contributions des Etats au fonds fiduciaire.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

En guise de précision, la délégation du Congo- Brazzaville insiste en affirmant que si nous voulons d'une Convention d'Abidjan renforcée, au sortir de nos travaux, au moment où il est question d'un Nouveau Partenariat pour le Développement de l'Afrique (NEPAD), et que la terre africaine s'appête à abriter le Sommet Mondial sur le Développement Durable, à Johannesburg en Afrique du Sud, il nous faut mobiliser les utilisateurs qui tirent leurs revenus des ressources du milieu marin et des zones côtières de notre région, sans oublier qu'il faille engager aussi la coopération avec les autres Convention dont les objectifs sont liés aux écosystèmes marins et côtiers, à savoir : RAMSAR, Biodiversité, Changement Climatique, Sécheresse et Dégradation des Terres, etc.

Mesdames et messieurs, c'est à ces seules conditions que nous pourrons savourer des retombées positives futures de notre Convention.

Enfin, nous ne saurons quitter ces lieux si nous ne reconnaissons à sa juste valeur, les nombreux efforts du gouvernement de Côte d'Ivoire et du PNUC, en faveur de notre Convention. Cette reconnaissance, nous l'adressons aussi au FEM, qui devrait être plus regardant des multiples initiatives au bénéfice de l'environnement de la région de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre.

Nous vous remercions

ALLOCUTION DU MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DU CADRE DE VIE  
MONSIEUR GILBERT BLEU-LAINE  
A L'OCCASION DE LA CEREMONIE DE CLÔTURE DE LA SIXIEME CONFERENCE DES PARTIES  
A LA CONVENTION D'ABIDJAN

MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES REPRESENTANTS DES CABINETS MINISTERIELS,  
MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES MINISTRES ET LES CHEFS DE DELEGATIONS  
MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES DIRECTEURS ET CHEFS DE SERVICES,  
MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS LES REPRESENTANTS DES ORGANISATIONS BILATERALES ET  
MULTILATERALES,  
DISTINGUES PARTICIPANTS,  
HONORABLES INVITES,  
MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS,

L'Atelier Thématique sur le Processus Africain pour le Développement et la Protection de l'Environnement Marin et Côtier de l'Afrique Subsaharienne après trois jours d'intenses réflexions. Succédant ainsi à la Réunion relative au projet de mise en place d'un Système d'Observation et Prévisions Marines et Côtières en Afrique Subsaharienne.

A ces deux événements importants s'est ajoutée la Réunion du Groupe d'Experts de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan. Comme une cerise sur le gâteau, le Segment Ministériel de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan vient clore cette série de rencontres très enrichissantes qui convergent toutes vers le Développement et la Protection de l'Environnement Marin et Côtier en Afrique Subsaharienne.

Je voudrais, avant tout propos, remercier et féliciter tous les experts nationaux et internationaux qui ont eu à travailler d'arrache-pieds pour trouver des solutions novatrices, identifier des moyens de contrôle de l'état de l'environnement marin et côtier, tout en proposant les conditions d'amélioration de l'efficacité des institutions chargées de la gestion du milieu marin et des zones côtières.

Ainsi, de Maputo à Abidjan en passant par Le Cap pour retourner à Johannesburg pour Rio+10, l'Afrique Subsaharienne n'ira pas les mains vides à la table de négociation de la Conférence sur le Partenariat. Des décisions importantes et concrètes ont été prises dont la première est le renouvellement du Bureau de la Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan.

La Côte d'Ivoire, se trouve ainsi honorée de diriger ce bureau pour le biénium 2002-2003. Je voudrais donc, au nom du Gouvernement ivoirien, remercier toutes les Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan, qui ont fait confiance à notre pays en lui donnant à gérer ce mandat de tous les défis. Qu'il me soit permis de relever et d'apprécier, à sa juste valeur, l'excellent travail accompli sous la présidence du Ghana, avec le concours tout aussi apprécié du PNUE et des autres organisations bilatérales et multilatérales pour redonner vie à la Convention d'Abidjan.

En effet, dans le rapport du Directeur Exécutif du PNUE, il est clairement mentionné toutes les difficultés de fonctionnement de la Convention d'Abidjan et les voies pour transformer ces obstacles en opportunités.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

La détermination de tous à lever ces obstacles transparaît dans le rapport et les décisions qui viennent d'être livrés et adoptés par la Sixième Conférence des Parties Contractantes. Permettez-moi donc, une fois de plus, de marquer ma satisfaction totale pour la pertinence des décisions qui viennent d'être prises par notre instance.

La tâche première du nouveau Bureau de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan, avec l'appui du PNUE, sera de définir les priorités, faire une évaluation financière des projets et élaborer la stratégie de négociation pendant la Conférence sur le Partenariat. L'autre question importante est l'appel à plus de ratifications de la Convention d'Abidjan pour renforcer la portée juridique de cet instrument.

Toutes les questions liées à la mise en œuvre du nouveau Programme de Développement et de Protection de l'Environnement Marin et Côtier de l'Afrique Subsaharienne ne pouvant être épuisées ici et maintenant, il revient donc au Bureau de la Conférence d'approfondir les réflexions pour porter les réponses idoines aux attentes des Parties Contractantes et à leurs partenaires.

Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres,

Voici que se terminent les travaux de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan. Cette étape est en même temps la ligne de base à partir de laquelle se développeront les autres activités du biénium 2002-2003. Je voudrais vous remercier et vous féliciter pour votre contribution significative aux travaux de ce Segment Ministériel. C'est en votre nom à tous et au mien propre que je voudrais féliciter tous les membres du nouveau bureau et les inviter par la même occasion au travail. Ceci sans laisser le temps au temps parce que le biénium est déjà largement entamé.

Au nom du Bureau de la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan, je voudrais en retour, renouveler toutes mes félicitations et ma profonde gratitude à tous les Experts pour le travail accompli.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Je ne voudrais pas mettre un terme à mon propos sans adresser mes félicitations au Comité d'organisation de cette Conférence des Parties, avec à sa tête Madame Nasséré Kaba, Coordonnateur intérimaire de l'Unité de Coordination Régionale de la Convention d'Abidjan. Mes derniers mots de félicitations et non des moindres sont à nos interprètes qui ont su traduire fidèlement les propos de chaque intervenant, à toute la presse et aux responsables du Golf Hôtel pour avoir offert son magnifique cadre de travail.

A tous ceux qui nous quittent et en attendant de nous revoir au prochain Sommet Mondial sur le Développement Durable à Johannesburg, je dis au revoir et bon retour dans vos familles respectives. C'est sur cette note que je déclare close la Sixième Conférence des Parties à la Convention d'Abidjan.

Je vous remercie.

## FINAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

COUNTRIES THAT HAVE RATIFIED THE ABIDJAN CONVENTION			
NO.	COUNTRY	PARTICIPANT	FOCAL POINT
1.	C O N G O	<p>Mr. Germain Kombo            Conseiller a l'Environnement            Ministre de l'Industrie Minière et de            l'environnement            B.P. 958, Brazzaville - Congo            Tel: (242) 810 291/689 331            Fax: (242)812611            Email:&lt;kombo_g@yahoo.fr&gt;</p>	<p><b>Focal Point</b>            M. Marius Issanga NGAMISSIMI            Point Focal Nationale de WACAF            Bureau de Coordination WACAF            BP 5558 Pointe-Noire            République du Congo            Tel: (242) 539861            Fax: (242) 53 98 61            Email: marissanga@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>Experts</b>            Mr. Alain P. Gamassa            Centre Inter-entreprises dans le            dépistage, le traitement et l'évaluation            des risques sanitaire dus à la pollution            marine et côtier            BP : 1881 Pointe Noire            CONGO            Tel : 242 205653            Email : <a href="mailto:alain_gamassa@yahoo.fe">alain_gamassa@yahoo.fe</a></p> <p>Maitre Anatole Elenga            Avocat            Centre Inter-entreprises dans le            dépistage, le traitement et l'évaluation            des risques sanitaire dus à la pollution            marine et côtier            BP : 1881 Pointe Noire            CONGO            Tel : 242 382553            Fax : 242 942244            Email : <a href="mailto:anotole-elenga@yahoo.fr">anotole-elenga@yahoo.fr</a></p> <p>Mr. André KAYA            Centre Inter-entreprises dans le            dépistage, le traitement et l'évaluation            des risques sanitaire dus à la pollution            marine et côtier            BP : 1881 Pointe Noire            CONGO            Tel : 242 51 95 06/ 242 67 78 56</p>

	<b>COTE D'IVOIRE</b>	<p>H.E. Mr. Pascal Affi N'Guessan Prime Minister Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Gilbert Bleu-Lainé Ministre de l'Environnement et du Cadre de Vie Tour D - 10ème étage, Cité Administrative 20 BP 650 Abidjan 20 (Côte d'Ivoire) Tel. (225)20 22 61 35/20 22 20 50 Fax (225)20 22 20 50</p>	<p><b>WACAF Interim Coordinator</b> Mrs. Nassere Kaba WACAF Interim Coordinator Ministry of Environment 20 BP 650 Abidjan 20 Cote d'Ivoire Tel: (225) 20211183 Fax: (225) 202 22 050 Email: <a href="mailto:biodiv@africaonline.co.ci">biodiv@africaonline.co.ci</a>, <a href="mailto:pglittoral@africaonline.co.ci">pglittoral@africaonline.co.ci</a></p> <p>Mr. Boubacar Diarra Directeur de l'Agence Nationale de l'Environnement (ANDE) 08 BP 9 Abidjan 08 Tel. (225)20 22 61 35/20 22 20 50 Fax (225)20 22 20 50</p> <p>Commandant Brou Clément Ministère des Transports Administrateur des Affaires Maritimes Direction de la Navigation et de l'Administration des gens de Mers BP V67 Abidjan Tel : 225 20 21 52 53</p>
1.	<b>GABON</b>	<p>Monsieur Michel Mbomoh-Upiangu Secrétaire Général Adjoint Ministere de l'Economie Forestiere, des Eaux, de la Peche, Charge de l'Environnement t de la Protection B.P. 3903, Libreville G A B O N Email : <a href="mailto:nnbomoh@adieaprigie.org">nnbomoh@adieaprigie.org</a></p>	<p><b>Focal Point</b> Dr. Georges Rigondja Directeur Général Adjoint de l'Environnement B.P. 3903 Libreville Tel: (241) 763905/722700 Fax: (241) 766186 Email: <a href="mailto:dgegabon@internetgabon.com">dgegabon@internetgabon.com</a></p>
2.	<b>GAMBIA</b>	<p>Ms. Fatou Jasseh-Kuyateh Permanent Secretary Department of State for Fisheries, Natural Resources and Environment State House Banjul, The Gambia Tel: (220) 22 75 48/22 67 47 Fax: (220) 22 39 87/22 97 01 E-mail: <a href="mailto:nea@gamtel.gm">nea@gamtel.gm</a></p>	<p><b>Focal Point</b> Mr. Momodou Cham Executive Director National Environment Agency 5 Fitzgerald Street PBM 48 Banjul, The Gambia Tel: (220) 228056 Fax: (220) 229701 Email: <a href="mailto:nea@gamtel.gm">nea@gamtel.gm</a></p>
3.	<b>GHANA</b>	<p>Hon. Anna Nyamekye Deputy Minister Ministry of Environment and Science P.O. Box M 232 Accra, Ghana Tel: (233-21) 666 049/662013/66 92 84 Fax: (233-21) 66 68 28/666 182 Email: <a href="mailto:mest@africaonline.com.gh">mest@africaonline.com.gh</a></p>	<p><b>Expert</b> Mr. Daniel Amlalo Director-Operations Environmental Protection Agency P.O. Box M 326 Accra, Ghana Tel: 233 21 664 697/8 Fax: 233 21 662 690 Email: <a href="mailto:damlalo@hotmail.com">damlalo@hotmail.com</a></p>

4.	<b>GUINEE</b>	<p>Madame Idiatou CAMARA  Directrice Nationale de l'Environnement  Ministère des Mines, de la Géologie et  de l'Environnement  Conakry  Guinee  Tel: (224) 4412513  Fax: (224) 414913</p>	<p><b>Focal Point</b>  Monsieur Théophile RICHARD  Chef Section milieu marin et côtier,  Direction Nationale de l'Environnement  B.P. 3118 Conakry  Tel: (224) 45 15 89  Fax: (224) 45 15 89  Email: <a href="mailto:chmdivbiodne@mirinet.net.gn">chmdivbiodne@mirinet.net.gn</a></p>
5.	<b>NIGERIA</b>	<p><b>Head of Delegation/Focal Point</b>  Mr. Akin Awobamise  Zonal Director/Desk Officer  Federal Ministry of Environment  Federal Government Secretariat  P.M.B. 007 Secretariat  Ikolaba, Ibandan, Oyo State  Nigeria  Tel: (234-2)231 2994  Fax: 234-2)2410811  Email: <a href="mailto:akinawobamise@yahoo.com">akinawobamise@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p>Mr. Victor Ojogbo  Assistant Chief Environmental Scientist  Federal Ministry of Environment  Federal Secretariat  Shehu Shagari Way  P.M.B. 468  Garki, Abuja  Nigeria  Tel: (234 9) 523 4119  Fax : (234-9) 523 4119  Email : <a href="mailto:fmenv@hyperia.com">fmenv@hyperia.com</a></p>
6.	<b>SENEGAL</b>	<p>Son Excellence  Monsieur Modou Diagne FADA  Ministre de la Jeunesse, de  l'Environnement et de l'Hygiène  Publique Building Administratif, 7ème  étage  B.P. 4055, Dakar, Senegal  Tel: 221 821 0725/821 6211  Fax: 221 822 6212  Email: <a href="mailto:denv@telecomplus.sn">denv@telecomplus.sn</a></p>	<p><b>Focal Point</b>  Monsieur Elimane BA  Chef du Bureau Etudes d'Impact  environnemental  A la Direction de l'Environnement et  des Etablissements Classés  DENV-23 Rue Calmette,  B.P. 6557, Dakar  Senegal  E-mail: <a href="mailto:denv@telecomplus.sn">denv@telecomplus.sn</a></p>
7.	<b>TOGO</b>		<p><b>Focal Point</b>  Mr. Tata Amegboh  BP 4825  Tel: (228) 221 2897/221 0600  Fax: (228) 221 0333  Email: <a href="mailto:tjmegboh@yahoo.fr">tjmegboh@yahoo.fr</a></p>

FOCAL POINTS FROM COUNTRIES THAT HAVE NOT RATIFIED THE ABIDJAN CONVENTION		
NO.	COUNTRY	PARTICIPANTS
1.	<b>BENIN</b>	Mr. Wabi Marcos Point focal convention d'Abidjan Chef Division Legislation Environnementale Ministere de l'Environnement de l'Habitat et Urbanisme BP: 01-3621, Cotonou Rep du Benin Tel: (229) 315 596 Fax: (229) 315 081 Email: wmarcos@intnet.bj
2.	<b>D. R. OF CONGO</b>	<b>Focal Point</b> Mrs. Marie Rose Mukonkole-Maye Ministry of Environment (Point Focal WACAF) BP 12348 Kinshasa – Gombe (RD CONGO) Tel: 34355 – 34390 Fax: 243 8843675 Email: <a href="mailto:mayerose@yahoo.fr">mayerose@yahoo.fr</a>
3.	<b>GUINEA BISSAU</b>	<b>Focal Point</b> Mr. Hilario Sanha Tel: (245) 2219 25 Fax: (245) 2035 8/223149/221019 –FAO Email: hilariosanha@yahoo-com.gr
4.	<b>SAO TOME &amp; PRINCIPE</b>	<b>Focal Point</b> Mr. Fernando Lima da Trindade Direcção , Serviços Geográficos e Cadastrais Ministry of Building, Infrastructure, Natural Resources and Environnement C.P. 67, Praca de Amizade Sao Tome e Principe Tel: (00-239) 12 22 936 Fax: (00 239) 12 22 936 Email: gefamb@cstome.net

INVITED EXPERTS FROM THE GCLME PROJECT		
NO.	COUNTRY	EXPERT
1.	<b>CAMEROON</b>	Ms. Prudence Galega Legal Department Court of Appeal, Centre Province B.P. 13 432 Yaounde Cameroun Tel: (237) 231 90 74 Fax: (237) 231 0376 Email: <a href="mailto:galegapru@yahoo.com">galegapru@yahoo.com</a>

2.	<b>GUINEA BISSAU</b>	Mr. Alziro Adriano Da Silva Ministère des Ressources Naturelles et de l'énergie Direction Général de l'Environnement BP 225 Bissau Guinée-Bissau Tel :245 22 35 78 Fax :245 20 10 19 Email: <a href="mailto:alziroasilva@yahoo.com">alziroasilva@yahoo.com</a>
3.	<b>NIGERIA</b>	Dr. E. A. Ajao Nigeria Institute for Oceanography & Marine Research P.M.B. 12729 Lagos, Nigeria Tel: 234 – 1 – 2617530/617385 Fax: 234 – 1 – 617385 Email: <a href="mailto:niomr@hyperia.com">niomr@hyperia.com</a>
4.	<b>GHANA</b>	<b>Consultant for GCLME Project</b> Dr. Kwame A. Koranteng ) Consultant, GCLME Project Marine Fisheries Research Division ) P. O. Box BT-62 - Tema Ghana Tel: 233 22 402665/208048 Fax: 233 22 203066 <a href="mailto:kwamek@africaonline.com.gh">kwamek@africaonline.com.gh</a>
5.	<b>TOGO</b>	Dr. Blivi Adoté Coordonateur Technique du Project LME- Togo Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Production Forestière BP/60047/1515 Lomé, Togo Tel: 228 221 6817/227 0850/905 3914 Fax: 228 221 8595 Email: <a href="mailto:adoblivi@hotmail.com">adoblivi@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:cgile@desticknet.com">cgile@desticknet.com</a>
<b>NAIROBI CONVENTION</b>		
<b>NO.</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>PARTICIPANT</b>
1	<b>KENYA</b>	Mr. Ali Mohamed Coordinator, Coastal and Marine Programmes Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources P.O. Box 67839 Nairobi, Kenya Tel: 254 2 243839/247795 Fax : 254 2 248851 Email : <a href="mailto:biofish@africaonline.co.ke">biofish@africaonline.co.ke</a>
2	<b>MOZAMBIQUE</b>	Mr. Evaristo Baquete National Director of Environmental Management Ministry of the Coordination of Environmental Affairs (MICOA) Av. Acordos de Lusaka, 2115 CP 2020 Maputo, Mozambique Tel:(258 1) 466 407/465 947 Fax:(258 1) 465 849/466 020 Email: <a href="mailto:ebaquete@tropical.com.mz">ebaquete@tropical.com.mz</a>

3.	<b>SEYCHELLES</b>	<p>Mr. Terry Jones  Director-General  Ministry of Tourism &amp; Transport  P.O. Box 92  Victoria, Seychelles  Tel: 248 225 348  Email : <a href="mailto:terry@seychelles.net">terry@seychelles.net</a></p>
4.	<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<p>Hon. Rejoice Mabudafhasi  Deputy Minister  Ministry of Environmental Affairs and Tourism  Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the African Process  Private Bag X477  Pretoria 0001  Republic of South Africa  Tel: 2712 3103905  Fax: 2712 3201849</p> <p>Mr. Mervin Kamoetie  Head, Office of the Deputy Minister  Ministry of Environmental Affairs and Tourism  Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the African Process  Private Bag X477  Pretoria 0001  Republic of South Africa  Tel:(2712) 310 3900  Fax: ( 2712) 320 1849  Email: <a href="mailto:mkamoeti@iafrica.com">mkamoeti@iafrica.com</a></p> <p>Mr. André Share  Head, Secretariat of the African Process  Marine and Coastal Management  Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism  Tel: (27 21) 402 3035/8  Fax: (27 21) 418 2582  Email: <a href="mailto:ashare@mcm.wcape.gov.za">ashare@mcm.wcape.gov.za</a></p> <p><b>Focal Point</b>  Ms. Lynette Frances Jackson  Deputy Director  Department of Environmental Affairs &amp; Tourism  Cape Town, South Africa  Tel: (27 21) 21402 3344  Fax: (27 21) 421 5342  Email: <a href="mailto:ljackson@mcm.wcape.gov.za">ljackson@mcm.wcape.gov.za</a></p>

<b>ORGANIZATIONS - OBSERVERS</b>		
<b>NO.</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>PARTICIPANT</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>ACOPS</b>	<p>Dr. Viktor Sebek Executive Director ACOPS 11 Dartmouth Street London SW1H 9BN United Kingdom Tel: (44 171) 799 3033 Fax: (44 171) 799 2933 Email: <a href="mailto:acopsorg@netcomuk.co.uk">acopsorg@netcomuk.co.uk</a></p> <p>Ms. Paula Caballero Assistant Executive Director Cra. 12 No. 110-57 Bogota, Colombia Tel: 571 214 3631 Email: <a href="mailto:agua@cable.net.co">agua@cable.net.co</a></p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>GOOS-AFRICA</b>	<p>Dr. Affian Kouadio Université de Cocody – Abidjan, CURAT 22 BP 582 Abidjan Cote d'Ivoire E-mail : <a href="mailto:kaffian@yahoo.fr">kaffian@yahoo.fr</a></p> <p>Mr. Charles Magori P.O. 81651 Mombasa, Kenya Tel: 254 11 475153/4 Fax: 254 11 475157 <a href="mailto:Cmagori@recoscx.org">Cmagori@recoscx.org</a></p>
<b>3.</b>	<b>IMO</b>	<p>Mr. Honorat Hoba Coordannateur Regional de l'OMI 20 BP 45, Abidjan 20 Cote d' Ivoire Tel : 225 202 213 11 Fax : 225 202 165 44 Email : <a href="mailto:honorathoba@imo.org">honorathoba@imo.org</a></p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>OSPAR</b>	<p>Mr. Martin Rickerd Première Secrétaire Ambassade de Grande Bretagne 01 BP 2581 Abidjan Tel: (225) 20 30 08 00 Représentant COMMISSION OSPAR Londres</p>

5.	<b>COI - UNESCO</b>	<p>Mr. Julian Barbieri  Programme Specialist, ICM and Regions  Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO  1 rue Miollis  75732 Paris Cedex 15  France  Tel: (33 1)456 84045  Fax: (33 1) 456 85815  Email: <a href="mailto:j.barbieri@unesco.org">j.barbieri@unesco.org</a></p> <p>Mr. Justin Ahanhanzo  International Consultant  Oceanography-Fisheries &amp; Global Environment, (IOC)/UNESCO  1, rue Miollis  75732 Paris, Cedex 15  93160 Noisy le Grand, France  Tel: 33 1 45683641/33 1 43 045210  Fax: 33 2 45 68 58 10/33 1 43 04 91 08  Email: <a href="mailto:j.ahanhanzo@unesco.org">j.ahanhanzo@unesco.org</a>  <a href="mailto:j.ahanhanzo@magic.fr">j.ahanhanzo@magic.fr</a></p>
6.	<b>UNIDO</b>	<p>Mr. Chika Ukwe  Industrial Development Officer  United Nations Industrial Development Organization  Programme Development and Technical Cooperation Division  Cleaner Production and Environmental Management Branch (PTC/PEM)  Water Management Unit,  P.O. Box 300, A-1400 Vienna, Austria  Tel: +43-1-26026 3465  Fax + 43-1-26026 6819  E-Mail: <a href="mailto:c.ukwe@unido.org">c.ukwe@unido.org</a></p> <p>Prof. (Sir) Chidi Ibe Kt.S.C.  Regional Programme Advisor for Africa (POPS)  UNIDO Regional Office  Immeuble CCIA 17<sup>th</sup> floor  Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire  Tel/fax: 225 20 43 00 11 (Office)/225 22 43 00 11 (Home)  Email: <a href="mailto:ibechidi@aviso.ci">ibechidi@aviso.ci</a></p>
7.	<b>UNEP-GPA</b>	<p>Mr. David Osborn  Programme Officer  GPA Coordination Office  UNEP  P. O. Box 16227  2500 BE, The Hague  The Netherlands  Tel: (31 70) 311 4468  Fax: (31 70)345 6648  Email: <a href="mailto:d.osborn@unep.nl">d.osborn@unep.nl</a></p>
8.	<b>UNDP-GEF</b>	<p>Dr. W. A. Rodges  UNDP-GEF Biodiversity  P.O. Box 1041  Arusha, Tanzania  Tel: 255 27 254 8609  Fax: 255 27 250 8609  Email: <a href="mailto:alan.rodgers@twiga.com">alan.rodgers@twiga.com</a></p>

9.	<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<p>Mr. Richard S. D. Hawkins  Regional Environmental Officer for West and Central Africa  United States Embassy  5, Rue Jesse Owens  01 B.P. 1712  Abidjan 01, Côte d'Ivoire  Tel: 225 20 21 09 79  Fax: 225 20 21 10 59  Email: <a href="mailto:hawkinsrsd@state.gov">hawkinsrsd@state.gov</a></p>
10.	<b>NORWAY</b>	<p>Mr. Jon L. Fuglestad  Advisor  Representative  Norwegian Ministry for Foreign Affairs  P.O. Box 8100 DEP  0032 Oslo  Norway  Tel: 47 22 573400  Fax: 47 22 676706</p>

11.	GEF-MSP	<p>Ms. Sylvie Goyet Lead Consultant GEF-MSP African Process 104 rue du Petit Arbois 54520 Laxou, France Email : <a href="mailto:sgoyet@aol.com">sgoyet@aol.com</a></p> <p>Dr. Jacques Abe Centre de Recherches Océanologiques BP V18 Abidjan Tel: 225 21 35 58 80 Fax: 225 21 35 11 55 Email: <a href="mailto:jabel@hotmail.com">jabel@hotmail.com</a>/ <a href="mailto:abe@cro.ci">abe@cro.ci</a></p> <p>Dr. L. F. Awosika Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research P.M.B. 12729 Victoria Island Lagos, Nigeria Email: <a href="mailto:L.Awosika@unesco.org">L.Awosika@unesco.org</a> or <a href="mailto:niomr@glory.linkserve.com.ng">niomr@glory.linkserve.com.ng</a></p> <p>Dr. E. O. Oyewo Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research P.M.B. 12729 Victoria Island Lagos, Nigeria Email: <a href="mailto:niomr@glory.linkserve.com.ng">niomr@glory.linkserve.com.ng</a></p> <p>Mr. A. K. Armah Department of Oceanography &amp; Fisheries University of Ghana Legon, Ghana Tel: (233-21) 67 3336 Fax: (233-21) 66 6282 Email: <a href="mailto:akarmah@yahoo.com">akarmah@yahoo.com</a></p> <p>Mr. Julius Wellens-Mensah Hydrological Services Department Box MB 501 Accra, Ghana Email: <a href="mailto:hsd@ghana.com">hsd@ghana.com</a></p> <p>Mme Isabelle Niang-Diop Regional Coordinator for the African Process Dept of Geology, Faculty of Sciences University of C.A. Diop Dakar-Fann Senegal Tel: (221) 825 0736 Fax: (221) 824 6318 Email : <a href="mailto:isabelle@enda.sn">isabelle@enda.sn</a></p> <p>Dr. A. M. Hogueane Eduardo Mondlane University Department of Physics Maputo, Mozambique Tel:(258 1) 493102 Fax:(258 1) 493 049 Email: <a href="mailto:Hogueane@hotmail.com">Hogueane@hotmail.com</a></p>
-----	---------	--

		<b>UNEP SECRETARIAT</b>
	<b>UNEP-ROA</b>	<p>Mr. Sékou Touré  Director  Regional Office for Africa (ROA)  UNEP, UN Gigiri Complex  P. O. Box 30552  Nairobi, Kenya  Tel: 254-2-624284  Fax: 254-2-623928  Email: <a href="mailto:Sekou.Toure@unep.org">Sekou.Toure@unep.org</a></p>
	<b>UNEP-DEC</b>	<p>Mr. Ellik Adler  Regional Seas Coordinator  Division of Environmental Conventions  UNEP, UN Gigiri Complex  P. O. Box 30552  Nairobi, Kenya  Tel: 254-2-624544  Fax: 254-2-624618  Email: <a href="mailto:ellik.adler@unep.org">ellik.adler@unep.org</a></p> <p>Mr. Dixon Waruinge  Programme Officer, Regional Seas  Division of Environmental Conventions  UNEP, UN Gigiri Complex  P. O. Box 30552  Nairobi, Kenya  Tel: 254 2 622025  Fax: 254 2 624618  Email: <a href="mailto:dixon.waruinge@unep.org">dixon.waruinge@unep.org</a></p> <p>Ms. Patronila W. Njuki  Project Assistant  UNEP, UN Gigiri Complex  P. O. Box 30552  Nairobi, Kenya  Tel: 254 2 62 312  Fax: 254 2 624618  Email: <a href="mailto:petronila.njuki@unep.org">petronila.njuki@unep.org</a></p>
	<b>UNEP-DPDL</b>	<p>Ms. Sylvia Bankobeza  Legal Officer  Division of Policy Development and Law (DPDL)  UNEP, UN Gigiri Complex  P. O. Box 30552  Nairobi, Kenya  Tel: 254 2 623365  Fax: 254 2 230198  Email: <a href="mailto:Sylvia.Bankobeza@unep.org">Sylvia.Bankobeza@unep.org</a></p>
	<b>UNEP-GEF</b>	<p>Ms. Marie Prchalova  Programme Officer  UNEP, UN Gigiri Complex  P. O. Box 30552  Nairobi, Kenya  Tel: 254 2 624085  Fax: 254 2 623557  Email: <a href="mailto:marie.prchalova@unep.org">marie.prchalova@unep.org</a></p>

