



Second Announcement for the Special 6th Conference of Parties Meeting for the Nairobi Convention; and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the Nairobi Convention, from the 29th March to 2nd April 2010, Nairobi, Kenya

The Nairobi Convention Secretariat is pleased to announce the forthcoming 6th Conference of Parties (COP6) for the Nairobi Convention in Kenya, on 29 March to 2 April 2010. The COP6 will be organised by UNEP in close collaboration with the Government of Kenya, the host and the Government of Mauritius, the Chair of the Bureau of the Nairobi Convention.

Pursuant to Article 4 Paragraph 2 and Article 18 of the Nairobi Convention, the Secretariat will also organise a Conference of Plenipotentiaries which will consider and adopt the Protocol concerning land based sources and activities (LBSA Protocol), back-to-back with COP6, on 2 April 2010.

The 6th Conference of Parties meeting is a defining moment for the Convention, as the meeting is expected to achieve the following: a) endorse a new long term action strategy that will replace the 1985 Action Plan; b) endorse a new structure for implementing the new action strategy; c) adopt a new protocol on LBS/A; and d) endorse a new institutional structure that will take into account the specialized taskforces and regional activity centers to support the implementation of the new action strategy.



The 6th COP and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries will be preceded by two expert sessions on 30 – 31 March 2010. The expert meeting will deliberate on: a) The revised text for the Nairobi Convention; b) the draft protocol on the land based activities (LBS/A Protocol); and c) the Strategic Action Programme (SAP). Subsequent to the expert meeting, a Heads of Delegations meeting for the Nairobi Convention will be convened on the 1 April, 2010.

Ministers responsible for the environment are expected to represent all the 10 states that are Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention.

In preparation for the two Conferences, the Nairobi Convention Secretariat is convening two meetings for the Contracting Parties namely: The Extra-ordinary Meeting of the WIO-LaB Project Steering Committee; and the Nairobi Convention Focal Points Forum from 7th-9th December 2009, in Mombasa, Kenya.

The Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the WIO-LaB Project Steering Committee; and the Nairobi Convention Focal Points Forum from 7- 10 December 2009, Mombasa, Kenya

Introduction

The Secretariat for the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern Africa Region (Nairobi Convention) is organizing the Extra-ordinary Meeting of the WIO-LaB Project Steering Committee that will be held on 7 December 2009, back-to-back with the Nairobi Convention Focal Points Forum on 8 to 9 December 2009 at the Leopard Beach Hotel in Mombasa, Kenya.

The WIO-LaB Steering Committee and Focal Point meetings are part of the preparatory process towards the upcoming Special 6th Conference of Parties (COP6) and the Special Conference of Plenipotentiaries in line with Article 4 Paragraph 2 and Article 18 of the Nairobi Convention.



During the COP5 meeting held in November 2007 in Johannesburg, South Africa, Contracting Parties agreed to convene a Conference of Plenipotentiaries to negotiate and adopt the LBSA Protocol according to decision CP5/4. Similarly, in decision CP5/1 of the same meeting, Contracting Parties called for the expedited negotiation and finalization of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) as an important mechanism for the implementation of the LBSA Protocol.

In the context of the 6th COP and Conference of Plenipotentiaries, the Extra-ordinary Meeting of the WIO-LaB Project Steering Committee will discuss and adopt the final draft of the SAP and its implementation strategy and recommend draft decisions on the SAP for the Special COP6 meetings. On the other hand, the Focal Points Forum will recommend draft decisions on the LBSA and revised Nairobi Convention text; and discuss and adopt the agenda and strategy leading to the Special 6th Conference of Parties meeting as well as the Special Conference of Plenipotentiaries.

Programme Structure and Dates

The Extraordinary Meeting of the WIO-LaB Project Steering Committee will be held on 7 December 2009. The focal points forum will run from 8 to 10 December 2009. The forum will bring together national focal points and invited experts.

Working Languages

The working languages of the meeting are English and French. Interpretation services between English and French will be provided.

Venue

The meetings will be held at Leopard Beach Resort, Ukunda, Kenya. Participants will be booked at the same hotel. Situated on Diani Beach, 34 km south of Kenya's bustling port of Mombasa, Leopard Beach Resort offers a wide range of high quality accommodation, a choice of dining and state-of-the-art conferencing facilities at a rate of approximately US\$ 71 per night (bed and breakfast).

Transport

The organizers will have transport for the participants to/ from the airport to Leopard Beach Resort, Ukunda, Kenya. The hotel shuttle will be available at the airport to pick scheduled participants. Please look out for a signboard with the Leopard Beach Resort/UNEP on it at the airport.

Participants

An estimated 30 participants have been invited to the Meetings, which form a key step in the LBSA and SAP development process. In addition to official government delegates, participants also from other partners of UNEP/Nairobi Convention, experts and NGOs from the Western Indian Ocean region will participate.



Passport and Visa

Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for the issuance of entry visa to Kenya. All participants have received invitation letters to enable them process the necessary travel documents.

Currency

The Kenya Shilling is the currency of the Republic of Kenya. One can obtain local currency at foreign exchange bureaus and in the banks.

Climate and Clothing Required

Diani enjoys a warm and humid climate for most parts of the year. However the period starting December is usually relatively cool with temperatures in the order of 27-28 degree Celsius.

For further information please contact

Either

Dr. Peter Scheren or Dr. Johnson U. Kitheka or Ms. Anne Shiyukah

The WIO-LaB Project Management Unit

The Joint Secretariat of Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions,

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

P.O. Box 47074 – 00100 Gigiri,

Nairobi, Kenya.

Tel: +254 (0)20 7621270, or +254 (0)20 7621248 or +254 (0)20 7621636

Fax: +254 (0)20 7623203/4618/4300

Email: peter.scheren@unep.org mobile tel: +254 (0) 722509186 or

Johnson.kitheka@unep.org mobile tel: +254 (0)714645694 or

Anne.Shiyukah@unep.org mobile tel: +254 (0)722311252

Website: <http://www.wiolab.org/> and <http://www.unep.org/NairobiConvention>

Contact at the Hotel:

Esther, Operations Manager,

Mobile: +254-735-978837

Telephone: +254-40-3203721, 3202110, 3202111, 3202112

Mobile: +254-733-202721, +254-724-255280

Fax: +254-40-3203424

Email: opsmanagement@leopardbeachresort.com

David, F&B Manager,

Email: fbmanagement@leopardbeachresort.com

Website: <http://www.leopardbeachresort.com/>