



United Nations
Environment
Programme



UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/2/
Add.1

Distr.: General
10 August 2007

Original: English

**Fifth meeting of the Contracting Parties
to the Convention for the Protection,
Management and Development of the
Marine and Coastal Environment
of the Eastern African Region**
Johannesburg, South Africa, 5 – 8 November 2007

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR COP 5 & OTHER MEETINGS
5TH – 8TH NOVEMBER, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

WIO-LAB PROJECT TRIPARTITE REVIEW AND STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

(5 NOVEMBER)

Part I. Opening

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Organization of the meeting (election and designation of Chairman and Rapporteur)

Part II. Tripartite Review

4. Presentation of key findings of the Mid-Term Review of the WIO-LaB project
5. Review of recommendations made as part of the Mid-Term Review and discussion on appropriate management responses
6. Review of consequences of management responses to the project workplan and related budgetary implications
7. Adoption of the draft decisions and recommendations of the Tripartite Review

Part III. Project Steering Committee meeting

8. Consideration and discussion on the Framework Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the WIO region
9. Consideration and discussion on the process of adoption and ratification of the proposed new Protocol on Land-Based Sources and Activities to the Nairobi Convention

10. Adoption of the draft decisions and recommendations of the Project Steering Committee

Part IV. Closure

11. Administrative matters

12. Any other business

13. Closure of the meeting

A. STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP

(5 NOVEMBER)

(a) The Nairobi Convention Stakeholders Workshop will be held on Monday, 5 November 2007 as part of the Joint Conferences of Parties to the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions. The workshop will gather partners to the Nairobi Convention from civil society to review and discuss the draft work programme for the Nairobi Convention for 2008-2012 (UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/6), and the draft decisions for the fifth Conference of Parties (COP5) of the Nairobi Convention (UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/5). The output from the workshop will be recommendations for amendments on the draft work programme and decisions that will be passed on to the Nairobi Convention COP5 Experts Meeting, which will review and integrate the recommendations into the draft work programme and decisions to be passed on the COP5 Heads of Delegations meeting. The workshop will support joint programming for civil society, stakeholders and governments in the implementation of the Nairobi Convention.

(b)

(c) Item 1: Opening of the Workshop

(d) The opening session will be introduced by the Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention, Mr. Rolph Payet, until a Chair for the meeting has been elected. He will invite the representative from the UNEP Nairobi Convention Secretariat will be invited to make a brief statement, and thereafter the representative from the host Government of South Africa will be invited to open the meeting and make an opening statement.

(e)

(f) Item 2: Organisational matters

a. Election of officers

(g) The meeting will elect a Chair and a Rapporteur. The Rapporteur will assist in the formulation of recommendations to be brought forward to the COP5 Experts Meeting. A drafting group, led by the Rapporteur, will be established to consider any additional draft decisions to be forwarded to the COP5 Experts Meeting.

b. Adoption of the agenda

(h) The meeting will review and adopt the provisional agenda (UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/2) and annotated provisional agenda (UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/2/Add.1) that have been previously circulated.

(i)

(j) Item 3: Highlights of the UNEP EDs report

(k) A representative from the UNEP Nairobi Convention Secretariat will present the highlights of the UNEP's Executive Director's report on the state of implementation of the Nairobi Convention (UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/3), and make a brief presentation on the contribution of civil society and partners to the implementation of the Nairobi Convention Work Programme 2004-2007.

(l)

(m) Item 4: Issue-based discussions on the Work Programme and Decisions

(n) Presentation by representative from the UNEP Nairobi Convention Secretariat of the draft 2008-2012 Work Programme (UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/6) and COP5 decisions (UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/5), and the drafting process leading up to these documents. The workshop participants will be split into working

groups, according to their preferred topic of discussion. The topics of discussion reflect the main themes of the draft work programme and COP5 decisions. Each group will nominate a chair and a rapporteur who will support the discussions and ensure that all recommendations are noted for later presentation in plenary. The topics of discussion and division of groups will be the following:

- a. The Convention's visibility and sustainable financing
- b. Progress on implementation of WIO-LaB's SAP
- c. Work Programme and Decisions
 - (o)
 - (p) Item 5: Adoption of recommendations of the Stakeholders Workshop
 - (q) Working group recommendations are integrated into a Summary of Recommendations by the drafting group which is reviewed and discussed in plenary. The workshop adopts the finally agreed Summary of Recommendations, for forwarding to the COP5 Experts meeting.
 - (r)
 - (s) Item 6: Summary of outcomes and closure of the Workshop
 - (t) The Chair will give a brief summary of the outcomes of the workshop and will then close the workshop before the lunch break on the 5th November. Participants will be invited to continue additional discussions during the lunch break.

B. EXPERTS MEETING

(5-6 NOVEMBER)

- (u) *Presentation: WIO-LaB project activities and outputs*
 - (v) Mr. Peter Scheren, Project Coordinator of the WIO-LaB project will hold a 5 minute presentation on WIO-LaB project activities and outputs.
 - (w)
 - (x) Item 1: Opening of the Experts Meeting
 - (y) The Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention, Dr. Rolph Payet, Special Advisor to the President of Seychelles on Environment, will call the meeting to order and request the experts to introduce themselves. Thereafter, he will invite the Nairobi Convention Secretariat to make a short opening statement on behalf of UNEP. Thereafter the Interim Coordinator will lead the meeting through the next agenda item.
 - (z)
 - (aa) Item 2: Organisational matters
- a. Election of officers
 - (bb) The Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention will introduce the above mentioned agenda item. He will also introduce the Chair and Rapporteur of the Bureau of Nairobi Convention held by Madagascar and Mozambique, respectively. The Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention will then propose that the meeting be chaired by the Chair of the Bureau of the Nairobi Convention. Following the acceptance of the proposal, the representative of the Chair of the Nairobi Convention will proceed to lead the experts through the remaining agenda items. The Rapporteur represented by Mozambique will keep track of the key recommendations of the meeting and report back as appropriate.
- b. Adoption of agenda and organisation of work
 - (cc) The Chair will introduce the provisional agenda and request the invited experts to review the same and adopt it with or without amendments.
 - (dd)
 - (ee) Item 3: Discussions on key issues
- a. Report on the SAP document

(ff) The UNEP/Nairobi Convention Secretariat will present an outline of framework Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the WIO Region as it pertains to land-based sources and activities. He will also introduce the relevant draft decisions and request the experts to review the appropriateness of the stated decisions as it pertains to SAP.

(gg) The Secretariat will also present the key outcomes of the WIO-LaB Project Tripartite Review and the Steering Committee meeting held on 5th November 2007. The meeting of experts will be requested to take note of the outcomes of the Steering Committee meeting.

b. Decisions and the 2008 – 2012 Work Programme including the LBSA Protocol

(hh) The UNEP/Nairobi Convention Secretariat will present the 2008-2012 Work Programme as well as the relevant draft decisions (CP 5/1). Experts will be requested to review the draft workplan including the associated draft decisions.

c. Financial report

(ii) The Chair will invite the Secretariat to present the Financial Report and Budget, as presented in background document UNEP(DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/4. Thereafter, the Chair will open the floor for discussion of the Financial Report and Budget.

d. Key documents

(jj) Following the review of the 2008-2012 Work Programme and the outline of SAP, the experts meeting will be requested to take note of the following documents (including the recommendations contained therein):

(i) The Regional Report on the Development of Environmental Quality Objectives and Targets (EQO/T): The Secretariat will introduce the document including key recommendations and the relevant draft decisions.

(ii) The Regional Guidelines for Environmental Assessment: WIO-LaB Project Manager will introduce the document including key recommendations and the relevant draft decisions.

(iii) The draft Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBSA) Protocol, amendments to the Nairobi Convention and the notice of motion: The Secretariate will present the documents including their key recommendations and the relevant draft decisions.

(iv) The Consortium for the Conservation of the WIO Coastal and Marine Ecosystems (WIO-C) and the Forum of Academic and Research Institutions (FARI). A representative of WWF and WIOMSA will introduce the consortium, including the recommendations of the Nairobi meeting, and the relevant draft decisions.

(kk)

(ll) *Poster session: Presentations by Nature Seychelles and RMCO*

(mm) Before leaving for Tea Break the Chair will invite the participants to view the poster display outside the meeting room and mention that Nature Seychelles and RMCO will make presentations by their posters during the Tea Break.

(nn)

(oo) *Presentation: ReCoMaP*

(pp) Upon return from the Tea Break Dr. Winnifried Wiedmeyer from the ReCoMapProject will make a brief 5 minute presentation on the project.

(qq)

e. Group discussions

(rr) Following the introductory presentations, the expert meeting will be split up in two groups to review the 2008-2012 Work Programme and the outline of the SAP. The groups will elect their chairs and rapporteurs. Following the group discussions, the groups will report back in plenary and review and endorse the related decisions to be presented to the COP, as listed in background document UNEP (DEPI)/EAF/CP.5/5.

f. Presentation of outcomes from group discussions

(ss) The chair will invite the rapporteurs of the discussion groups to make 5-10 minute presentations of the outcomes of the group discussions followed by brief plenary discussions.

(tt)

(uu) *Poster session: Presentations by EPCO and IOC- MPA Network*

(vv) Before leaving for Tea Break the Chair will invite the participants to view the poster display outside the meeting room and mention that EPCO and the Indian Ocean Commission MPA Network will make presentations by their posters during the Tea Break.

(ww)

(xx) *Presentation: The Coral Reef Task Force*

(yy) Upon return from the Tea Break Dr. Nyawira Muthiga from the Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF) will make a brief 5 minute presentation on the progress of the CRTF.

(zz)

(aaa) Item 4: WTO and Fisheries

(bbb) The Chair will invite the representative of the government of South Africa to make a presentation on WTO and Fisheries, with focus of fisheries trade agreements.

(ccc)

(ddd) Item 5: Draft Declaration for the Joint heads of Delegations Meeting

(eee) The Chair will invite the representative of the Secretariat to present the draft Joint Declaration. Thereafter, the Chair will open the floor for review and suggestions for amendments of the Joint Declaration.

(fff)

(ggg) Item 6: Any other business

The Experts Meeting may wish to consider any other matters raised by its experts and observers.

(hhh)

Item 7: Summary of outcomes and closure of the Meeting

It is expected that the Experts Meeting will conclude its work at 13:00 on Tuesday, 6 November 2007. The Chair will invite the Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention to make closing remarks.

The Chair will then thank the participants including representatives of the host Government and declare the meeting closed.

(iii)

(jjj) *Side event: Civil Society in partnership - the PRCM and the WIO-C*

(kkk) Before leaving for Lunch Break the Chair will invite the participants to attend the side event on Civil Society in partnership, featuring the PRCM and the launch of a new NGO Consortium, the WIO-C. The side event will take place during the lunch break.

(lll)

(mmm) *Presentation: The African Marine Atlas*

(nnn) Upon return from the Lunch Break, Mr. Mika Odido from IOC-UNESCO will make brief 5-minute presentation on the African Marine Atlas.

(ooo)

C. JOINT EXPERTS MEETING

(6 NOVEMBER)

(ppp) Item 1: Opening of the meeting

The Joint Experts Meeting, which will be held together with the Nairobi Convention, will run from 14:00 to 18:00 on 6 November, 2007. The representative of the Joint Secretariat will introduce the general purpose of the meeting, highlighting the key issues common to both Conventions which require concerted action by the Contracting Parties, including Article 7 of UNCLOS, Oil and Gas and Strategic Environmental Assessment, Climate Change and the Joint Declaration. Representatives of key partner organisations and institutions will be invited to make brief presentations on these specific issues.

(qqq)

(rrr) Item 2: Organisational matters

(a) Election of officers

The meeting will be invited to elect a chair, co-chairs and rapporteurs. It shall be suggested that the host Government (South Africa) will chair the meeting with support from the current Chairs of the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions (Gabon and Madagascar), and that the Rapporteurs of the two Conventions will jointly take track of the discussions and the recommendations.

(b) Adoption of agenda and organisation of work

The meeting will review and adopt the agenda with or without amendments.

(sss)

(ttt) Item 3: Discussions on Article 76 of United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

The Chair will invite representatives of UN Office of Legal Affairs- Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN-DOALOS) and Dr. Joan Fabres of the UNEP- GRID Arendal Continental Shelf Programme to make brief presentations on the Article 76 of UNCLOS including the inclusion of this issue in the draft decisions for the two COPs and the Joint declaration. Thereafter, there will be a short discussion on the presentations and the associated draft decisions.

(uuu)

(vvv) Item 4: Outcomes of the COP8 and COP5 Expert Meetings on the Work Programmes of both Conventions

The Chair will invite the representative of the Rapporteurs of the Parallel Expert Meetings of the two Conventions to make brief presentations on the main outcome of their respective meetings.

(www)

(xxx) Item 5: Oil and gas, strategic environmental assessment and climate change

The chair will invite the WWF-(East Africa Marine Eco-region (EAME) to make a brief presentation on oil and gas and in this context the role of strategic environmental assessment, including the required draft decisions on these issues. Thereafter, there will be a short discussion on the presentation and the associated draft decisions. The Chair will then invite the Consultant on Environmental Impact Assessment to make a brief presentation of the Regional Guidelines on the application of EIA in a trans-boundary context. The consultant will also highlight the required draft decisions. Thereafter, there will be a short discussion on the presentations and the associated draft decisions. Finally the Chair will invite Mr Neville Sweid from the CSIR will make a presentation on climate change impacts on the coastal and marine environment and the newly established ACCESS project.

(yyy)

(zzz) *Poster session: The IOI-SA Marine Pollution, Marine Invasive Species and marine Bio-Informatics Programmes*

(aaaa) Before leaving for Tea Break the Chair will invite the participants to view the poster display outside the meeting room and to attend a presentation by IOI-South Africa on their programmes for Marine Invasive Species and marine Bio-Informatics, which will be held by their poster during the Tea Break.

(bbbb)

(cccc) *Launch: The Africa Coastal Tourism Project*

(dddd) Upon return from the Tea Break, Mr. Chika Ukwe from UNIDO will make brief 5-minute launch of the GEF-funded Africa Coastal Tourism Project.

(eeee)

(ffff) Item 6: Draft Declaration for the Joint heads of Delegations Meeting

The Chair will invite the Joint Secretariat to present the draft Joint Declaration highlighting the main issues action to address the marine and coastal environment. Thereafter, there will be discussion on the presentation and the associated draft decisions. The Joint Experts Meeting will provide pertinent recommendations on the common issues which will be transformed into decisions, some of which will be integrated into the declaration. A committee will be elected to draft resolutions and prepare the final text of the declaration.

(gggg) Item 7: South-South Cooperation

The Chair will invite, Mr Bob Kakuyo from the Division of regional Cooperation of UNEP, to make a presentation on South-South Cooperation.

(hhhh)

Item 8: Any other business

The Joint Experts Meeting may wish to consider any other matters raised by its experts and observers.

Item 9: Summary of outcomes and closure of the Meeting

It is expected that the Joint Expert Meeting will conclude its work at 18:00 on Tuesday, 6 November 2007. The Chair will invite the Interim Coordinators of both the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions to make closing remarks. The Chair will then thank the participants including representatives of the host Government and declare the meeting closed.

D. HEADS OF DELEGATIONS MEETING

(7 NOVEMBER)

Item 1: Opening of the Meeting

The Fifth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the Eastern African Region will be opened at 9:00 on Wednesday, 7 November, 2007.

(a) Statement by a representative of UNEP Secretariat

The representative of the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention will call the session to order and invite a representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to make a statement.

(b) Statement by out-going Chair

The meeting will be opened by the out-going Chair of the Convention, a representative from the Ministry of Environment of Madagascar.

(c) Statement by the representative of host Government

The representative of the Government of South Africa will make an opening statement.

Item 2: Organisational Matters

(a) Election of officers

The Chair will brief the session by introducing the current Bureau (Officers) of the Convention and thereafter invite the delegations to elect and adopt the agenda and organisation of work. The Chair will invite the Head of Delegations to elect the following Officers for the Bureau: Chair, a Vice-Chair and a Rapporteur

(b) Adoption of agenda and organisation of work

The representative of the Joint Secretariat will introduce the Provisional Agenda and Organisation of Work. The Chair will invite participants to consider and adopt the two documents.

(iii)

(jjjj) *Launch: Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse Mechanism and Information Sharing System*

(kkkk) Upon return from the Tea Break, Mr. Johannes Akiwuni from UNEP-DEWA and the WIO-LaB project will make brief 10-minute launch of the Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse Mechanism and Information Sharing System.

(III)

Item 3: Report of the Executive Director of UNEP

The Chair will inform the session that four elements will be presented under this item, namely: a Summary of the Status Report by the UNEP Executive Director, the 2008-2012 Work Programme, the draft LBSA Protocol and the Summary of the Financial Report.

(a) Summary Status Report

The report of the Executive Director addresses key aspects of the activities undertaken by the Nairobi Convention while keeping under review the situation of the marine and coastal environment in the region covered by the Convention. The document also provides relevant information on the efforts being

made by other multi-stakeholder partners. The Chair will invite the UNEP Executive Director or his representative to represent the Summary status report.

(b) Report on the SAP document

(mmmm) The UNEP/Nairobi Convention Secretariat will present an outline of framework Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the WIO Region as it pertains to land-based sources and activities. The Secretariat will also present the key outcomes of the WIO-LaB Project Tripartite Review and the Steering Committee meeting held on 5th November 2007. The Heads of Delegation meeting will be requested to take note of the outcomes of the Steering Committee meeting during the adoption of the draft decisions from the meeting.

(c) Summary of the Financial Report

The summary of the financial report provides information on the current financial status of the Nairobi Convention. The Chair will invite Mr. Rolph Payet, Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention to present the Summary of the financial report.

(d) The 2008-2012 Work Programme

The 2008-2012 Work Programme provides information on key areas in addressing the marine and coastal environment of the sub-region as well as activities for implementation at the country and sub-regional levels. The Chair will invite Mr. Rolph Payet, Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention to present this element of the agenda.

Launch: Regional Guidelines for EIA in the Transboundary Context

(nnnn) Upon return from the Lunch Break, Mr. Peter Scheren from the WIO-LaB project will make brief 10-minute launch of the Regional Guidelines for EIA in the Transboundary Context.

(e) Draft LBSA Protocol

The draft protocol concerns cooperation of the Contracting Parties of the Nairobi Convention to prevent, reduce, mitigate and control pollution and degradation of the environment from land-based sources and activities, and to ensure environmentally sound management of natural resources. Therefore the document provides information on various land-based sources of pollution which affect the marine and coastal environment as well as measures that can be taken to effectively address the impacts. The Chair will invite the representative of the WIO-LaB project to present the draft Protocol including the required decisions for consideration.

(oooo)

(pppp) Item 4: Draft Declaration for the Joint Heads of Delegations Meeting

The Chair will invite a representative from the drafting committee to present the draft Declaration for the Joint Heads of Delegations Meeting, highlighting the main issues action to address the marine and coastal environment. Thereafter, there will be discussion on the presentation and the associated draft decisions. The Heads of Delegations Meeting will provide pertinent recommendations on the common issues which will be transformed into decisions, some of which will be integrated into the declaration.

Item 5: Adoption of the draft Decisions

Following the above presentations, the Chair will invite the delegates to discuss these elements of the agenda item and will also request them to make pertinent recommendations including decisions. Further, the Chair will inform the delegates that discussions should take into full account the Recommendations of the Stakeholders workshop, the Draft LBSA Protocol, and the Draft decisions and the 2008-2012 Work Programme. Delegates will be requested to focus on these to ensure that clear and appropriate decisions are stated. Under this item, the Chair will invite the Rapporteur to present the decisions for consideration and adoption.

Item 6: Venue of the next Meeting

The Chair will invite the delegates to consider the venue of the next meeting and request Contracting Parties to the Convention to make offers to host the next meeting.

Item 7: Any other business

Under this item, the Chair will invite delegates to raise any other matters that they would like to discuss before the closure of the session.

Item 8: Summary of outcomes and closure of the Meeting

It is expected that the session will conclude its work at 18:00 on Wednesday, 7 November, 2007. The Chair will make brief closing remarks to thank delegates and host government as well as other participants and the Secretariat, and will then declare the conference officially closed.

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E. JOINT MEETING OF HEADS OF DELEGATIONS & NEPAD

(8 NOVEMBER)

This will be the first jointly held Conference of Contracting Parties of the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions which brings together the Heads of Delegations of the two Conventions to discuss and agree on the common issues for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment in sub-Saharan Africa as well as to build on the commitment shown by member States as demonstrated by the number of ratifying countries to the respective Conventions.

Item 1: Opening of the Meeting

The meeting will be Co-Chaired by the Republic of South Africa and the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), S.E. M. Andre Okombi Salissa, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Congo. It will be opened by these Co-Chairs at 10:00 on Thursday, 8 November, 2007.

(a) Introduction of the Co-Chairs

The representative of the Secretariat of AMCEN will introduce the Co-Chairs of the Meeting.

(b) Statement by the representative of the host Government

The Minister of Environment of the Republic of South Africa will make a welcoming statement and proceed to chairing the opening session.

(c) Statement by a representative of NEPAD

The Chair will invite the representative of NEPAD to make a statement.

(d) Statement by the Executive Director of UNEP

The Chair will invite the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme will make a statement.

(e) Opening statement by the President of AMCEN

The President of AMCEN, S.E. M. Andre Okombi Salissa, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Congo, will make the opening statement.

Item 2: Adoption of the Agenda

Under this agenda item, the Chair will invite the representative of the Joint Secretariat to introduce the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work. The Chair will invite delegates to consider the agenda and organization of work for adoption.

Item 3: Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

Article 76 of the UNCLOS is an important article relating to the geological conditions for juridical delineation of the continental shelf for the purposes of territorial rights, particularly on the control of economic development for known and as of yet unknown natural resources and the promotion of marine protected areas.

The presentation on Article 76 of UNCLOS will provide much needed information on the importance of delineation of the continental shelf and how this can be done. The AMCEN President will invite the representative of the UNCLOS to make a presentation and thereafter the representative of the UNEP Grid Arendal Continental Shelf Programme will be to make a presentation on the same agenda item. Following the two presentations, the Chair will invite delegates to discuss this issue. The Co-Chair will request the delegates to make pertinent recommendations including resolutions on the issue.

Item 4: Presentations of the outcomes of COP5 and COP8 and the Work Programmes of both Conventions

(a) Outcome of COP8 of the Abidjan Convention

The Chair will invite the Rapporteur of COP8 of the Abidjan Convention to make a brief presentation on the main outcome of the Stakeholders workshop, Experts Meeting and Heads of Delegations Meeting of the COP8.

(b) Outcome of COP5 of the Nairobi Convention

The Chair will invite the Rapporteur of COP5 of the Nairobi Convention to make a brief presentation on the main outcome of the Stakeholders workshop, Experts Meeting and Heads of Delegations Meeting of the COP5.

Item 5: Adoption of the Joint Declaration

The Chair will invite the Rapporteur of the Joint Expert Meeting of the Abidjan and Nairobi Conventions to present the draft Joint Declaration. Following the presentation, the Chair will invite the delegates to review and adopt the Joint Declaration.

Item 6: Closure of the Meeting

It is expected that the Joint Meeting will conclude its work at 6:00 pm on Thursday, 8 November 2007. The Chair will call on the President of AMCEN to make brief closing remarks and thereafter declare the meeting closed.