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Fourth Meeting of the Contracting Parties  
(COP) to the Protocol Concerning Specially  
Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the  
Wider Caribbean Region

Montego Bay, Jamaica, 28 November 2006

**FINAL DRAFT**

**GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF PROTECTED AREAS  
TO BE LISTED UNDER THE SPAW PROTOCOL**



**Report of the Electronic Working Group on the Development of Guidelines and Criteria for the Evaluation of Protected Areas to be listed under SPAW**

**Period covered: October 2005 - 2006**

**Context and development process:**

1. During the Third Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC3) to the SPAW Protocol, which took place in Caracas, Venezuela, from 4 to 8 October 2005, having studied the “Final Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Evaluation of Protected Areas to be listed under the SPAW Protocol” (UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.29/3), and the “Revised Draft Annotated Format for the Presentation Reports for the Areas Proposed for inclusion in the SPAW List” (UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.29/4), and

Recognising that the interpretation of a number of criteria is evolving, the Meeting recommended that:

1. **The mandate of the Working Group be extended to continue work on the revised “Final draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Evaluation of Protected Areas to be listed under the SPAW Protocol” (UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.29/3), with a view to:**
  - a) **further clarify the definition of the criteria, as needed;**
  - b) **develop a glossary; and**
  - c) **clearly separate in the criteria document the ‘conditions or prerequisites’ from the ‘principles’ for listing, in particular under “D. Planning and Management Measures”;**
2. **The secretariat prepare a bibliographic review on the use of these concepts by other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, to be used as input by the Working Group in the development of the glossary;**
3. **The Working Group revise the draft annotated format for the nomination reports, in order to make changes that can lead to more precise information based on the definitions adopted in the glossary;**
4. **The Working Group and the secretariat present the results of this Meeting to the COP4 for review and adoption;**
5. **The Working Group ensures that all agreed texts and modifications made to the revised draft by the Meeting have been incorporated as appropriate to the document; and**
6. **In the future, these criteria are reviewed periodically and adapted if necessary.**

**Chronology and main points discussed:**

1. Following STAC3, documents were amended by the Secretariat in accordance with the recommendations provided by the Meeting and outlined in the Report UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.29/6.
2. In accordance with STAC3 Recommendations, the Working Group was effectively reactivated on 7 December 2005. During the course of 2006, three new participants were registered as Working Group members.
3. The three working documents were forwarded to members on 13 January 2006:  
UNEP(DEPI)CAR WG.29/6 (STAC3 Recommendations)  
UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.29/3.Rev.1 (Revised Draft Guidelines and Criteria for the Evaluation of Protected Areas to be listed under the SPAW Protocol)  
UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.29/4 (Revised Draft Annotated Format for the Presentation Reports for the Areas proposed for inclusion in the SPAW List).
4. The Working Group's task was divided into three parts: Guidelines, Glossary and Annotated Format. The documents were amended throughout the discussions.
5. Work on the Guidelines began on 13 January 2006, on the basis of the document updated at the close of STAC3. (UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.29/3.Rev.1). The anticipated result comprised the re-wording of paragraph E.
6. Compilation of a Glossary (see UNEP (DEPI)/CAR WG.29/6 (paras. 68 and 81):  
An initial list of terms was submitted to the Working Group on 17 February 2006, together with a bibliographical background annexed to the working document. The Group subsequently worked on the basis of this document to propose definitions adapted to the context and needs of SPAW. Not all the proposed terms were defined; nevertheless the Working Group did not reach a decision on their withdrawal from the list.
7. The Annotated Format was discussed on 6 July 2006, in accordance with paragraph 90 and Recommendation II of the STAC3 Report (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.29/6) and it only underwent minor changes.
8. At the close of the session, a number of last-minute proposals concerning the Guidelines required the Working Group to resume discussions on texts already studied during the course of the year. These contributions justified the extension of initially set deadlines. Those last contributions for which it was impossible to obtain the Working Group's consent appear in brackets and in italics in the proposed final text.
9. In order to meet the COP4 timeline, the initial deadline for submission of final comments by Group members, was set for 15 September. Due to requests for extensions, it was postponed to 29 September and subsequently to 9 October. After this date, the last contributions were unable to receive the Working Group's consent and thus appear in italics and in brackets in the proposed final texts.

## APPENDIX 1

<b>EXPERTS</b>		<b>Organisation / Country</b>
Sarat	BABU GIDDA	Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
André	BON	Regional Council of Guadeloupe
Georgina	BUSTAMANTE	The Nature Conservancy
Marcela	CANO CORREA	Colombia
Catherine	CIBIEN	UNESCO – MAB France
David	CONNOR	United Kingdom
Robyn	CROSS	Trinidad and Tobago
Nancy	DAVES	NOAA – United States
Carlos	DREWS	World Wildlife Fund
Reinaldo	ESTRADA	Cuba
Philippe	FELDMANN	France
Sarah	GALVEZ	Venezuela
Lloyd	GARDNER	CCA
Jose Luis	GERHARTZ	Cuba
Paul C.	HOETJES	Netherlands Antilles
Henri	JAFFEUX	France
Philippe	KRAMER	The Nature Conservancy
Ronald	ORENSTEIN	Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
Arthur E.	PATERSON	United States
Claudie	PAVIS	France
Antonio	PERERA	UNDP
Philippe	ROBERT	France
Kristin	SHERWOOD	IUCN
Michael L.	SMITH	Conservation International
Marco	SOLANO	Costa Rica
Alice	STROUD	WDCS
Lesley	SUTTY	ECCEA
<b>SECRETARIAT</b>		
Alessandra	VANZELLA KHOURI	CAR/RCU
Heidi	SAVELLI SODERBERG	CAR/RCU
Maurice	ANSELME	SPAW/RAC
Melina	ROTH, Working Group Coordinator	SPAW/RAC

## APPENDIX 2

The group's activity was divided up as follows:

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
<b>Total no. of messages</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>21</b>

A total of 117 messages were exchanged.

## **FINAL DRAFT**

### **GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF PROTECTED AREAS TO BE LISTED UNDER THE SPAW PROTOCOL**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the SPAW Protocol (24-25 September 2001, Havana, Cuba) agreed to develop guidelines and criteria for the evaluation of protected areas to be listed under the SPAW Protocol.
2. The procedures for the establishment of the list of protected areas are outlined in Article 7(3).
3. According to Article 7 of the SPAW Protocol, the Parties shall establish a list of protected areas to create a regional network of protected areas and develop a cooperation programme. The purpose of this List is to identify those areas that are of particular importance to the Wider Caribbean Region, that are to be accorded priority for scientific and technical research pursuant to Article 17, and that are to be accorded priority for mutual assistance pursuant to Article 18, and to protect the listed areas against activities that would undermine the purposes for which they were listed.
4. Nominations to the List must be supported by documentation demonstrating that the nomination fulfils the common guidelines and criteria on matters adopted by the Parties and established pursuant to Article 21 as set forth in this document.
5. Under Article 21, the Parties agree to adopt common guidelines and criteria to assist with the identification, selection, establishment, management and provision of information on protected areas.
6. For the purposes of these listing guidelines, the SPAW Protocol defines “protected areas” in Articles 1 and 4. “Protected Area” refers to an area that has been established pursuant to Article 4.
7. The regional network of protected areas will contribute to achieving the targets of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, 26 August - 4 September 2002) of establishing representative networks of protected areas under multilateral agreements, programmes, and processes.
8. Protected areas that are being proposed for listing will thereby enter a programme intended to assist these protected areas in complying with all the operational/management requirements as stated in this document.

#### **A. General Principles**

In establishing the SPAW List of Protected Areas, the Contracting Parties will be guided by the following general principles:

- I. The List of Protected Areas shall comprise areas protected in order to sustain the natural resources of the Wider Caribbean Region, and to encourage ecologically

sound and appropriate use, understanding and enjoyment, pursuant to SPAW Article 4.

- II. Such areas shall contribute to:
  - Protecting and preserving areas, habitats and species with special ecological, cultural and socio-economic values;
  - Preventing species from becoming endangered or threatened, according to SPAW Article 4(d), Article 3, paragraph 3, and Article 10, paragraph 1, last sentence 3 (3); and
  - Providing for the special needs of threatened, endangered, endemic or migratory species, in particular those species in Annexes I, II, and III.
- III. The Protected Areas will together form a network, which will contribute to the effective conservation of the Caribbean natural heritage.
- IV. The Parties shall develop co-operative agreements on bilateral and multilateral bases in the field of conservation and management of natural areas to promote the effectiveness of the network. The network will be used as a tool to promote regional and international cooperation in relation to complementary environmental treaties, consistent with the SPAW criteria and listing process.
- V. The network should ultimately comprise a comprehensive and representative system of protected areas in the Wider Caribbean Region, across all bioregions and across the range of ecosystems within each bioregion.
- VI. No limit is imposed on the total number of areas included in the List nor on the number of areas any individual Party can propose for inscription.
- VII. The areas will be selected on a scientific, technical, cultural and socio-economic basis and included in the List based on the criteria set out below.
- VIII. Areas proposed for listing should have in place legal, institutional and management frameworks for the protection and conservation of their natural features.
- IX. The network should contribute to the adaptation and mitigation of the impact of global climate change to the extent possible. The protection of the range of functional habitats within the eco-region should be able to enhance the adaptation of species as climatic conditions alter and to increase the resilience<sup>1</sup> of the eco-region.

Any area to be included in the List of protected areas recognized by the SPAW Protocol must fulfill the requirements of the SPAW Protocol, and conform to the following guidelines and criteria:

#### **B. Ecological, Cultural and Socio-Economic Criteria**

Only protected areas established consistent with Article 4 will be considered for inclusion on the List. Article 4 states that protected areas shall be established with a view to sustaining the natural resources of the Wider Caribbean Region, and

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<sup>1</sup> The closest translation to Spanish agreed upon is “elasticidad”

encouraging ecologically sound, and appropriate use, understanding, and enjoyment of these areas, in accordance with the objectives and characteristics of each of them.

A Protected Area must conform to at least one of the Ecological Criteria and, where applicable, to at least one of the Cultural and Socio-Economic Criteria. Where the Protected Area additionally fulfils several of the desirable criteria, the case for its inclusion in the List is strengthened.

It must also be adequate to the long term conservation of the elements for which it seeks to be listed.

### **Ecological Criteria**

- a) Representativeness – The area includes physiographic features, populations of species, habitats and ecosystem types or ecological processes, which are representative of the region or eco-region.
- b) Species viability –The area contributes to the management of species, subspecies or populations of fauna or flora with the objective of preventing them from becoming endangered or threatened. *[An area guarantees the viability of species present on it when possesses reproductive populations of certain size and condition, that ensure the perpetuation of the species at long term].*
- c) Rarity – The area conserves unique or rare species, habitats, or ecosystems. An area or ecosystem is rare if it is among the few of its kind in the country or Wider Caribbean Region or has been seriously depleted across its range. The area may contain habitats that occur in a limited area, or rare, endemic, threatened or endangered species that are geographically restricted in their distribution.
- d) Naturalness – *[The degree to which an area has been protected from, or has not been subjected to, human-induced change, and the natural environment is thus free from biophysical disturbance caused by the human influence<sup>2</sup>.]*
- e) Critical habitats – The area contains populations, habitats or ecosystems that are critical to the survival and recovery of endangered, threatened or endemic species, or to species listed in Annex I, II or III of the Protocol.
- f) Diversity – The area contains the variety or richness of species, communities, ecosystems, landscapes, seascapes and genetic diversity necessary for its long term viability and integrity, especially where there are endangered, threatened, endemic and/or migratory species, and those listed in the Annexes to the Protocol.
- g) Connectivity/coherence – The area is adjacent, ecologically connected or within an ecological or biological corridor, and thus contributes to maintain the ecological integrity of the Wider Caribbean Region. This can apply for Protected Areas within one country or that are across political boundaries.
- h) Resilience – The area contains biological components (habitats, populations of species) that have demonstrated the ability to recover from disturbances in a reasonable timeframe, or are naturally resistant to threats, such as climate change, and the protection of such areas enhance the recovery of damaged ecosystems elsewhere in the eco-region by providing a source of larvae and juveniles.

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<sup>2</sup> The last input has been included but it has not been possible for the group of experts to express their agreement or any comments on those suggestions.

### **Cultural and Socio-Economic Criteria**

- a) Productivity – The protected area helps conserve, maintain or restore natural processes that contribute to increase the abundance of natural resources used by humans, and consequently contribute to regional sustainable development.
- b) Cultural and traditional use – The protected area **has** a special value in a regional context for the conservation, maintenance or restoration of the productivity and biological integrity of natural resources that provide for sustainable traditional or cultural activities, such as those of indigenous communities.
- c) Socio-economic benefits – The protected area **has** a special value in a regional context for the conservation, maintenance or restoration of the productivity and biological integrity of natural resources that provide for economic or social benefits of user groups such as subsistence fishermen and rural communities, or economic sectors such as tourism.

### **C. Criteria of Legal Framework**

- I. The protected area **must** have a legal status, guaranteeing its effective long-term protection, in conformity with the Party's national legislation and international law and consistent with the SPAW Protocol, including Articles 3, 4, 5 and 6.

### **D. Protection, Planning and Management Measures**

Any protected area to be listed **must** have a management framework and a mechanism for implementation that conforms to the following:

- I. Management framework
  - a) The protected area **must** have a management framework that has been adopted by the Party and specifies the legal and institutional framework and protection measures applicable to the area consistent with Article 6 of the Protocol.
  - b) The protected area **must** have a functional management body with the authority and means to implement the framework.
  - c) Conservation and management objectives for the area **must** be clearly defined in nomination documentation, management guidelines and the management framework and be implemented by the measures consistent with Article 5.2.
  - d) The protected area management framework **should**, where possible, be integrated within the larger planning framework of the Party.
  - e) The planning, management and enforcement measures identified **should** be based on available traditional, scientific, technical and management-oriented knowledge and information. The management framework **should** address programmes to fill shortcomings in knowledge and information.

#### **II. Evaluation**

The framework **should** include appropriate indicators to measure the management success, pursuant to Article 6.2(c).

**NOTE:** For the reporting procedure, in order to promote cooperation, documentation should demonstrate that the Party concurs in the participation of the listed area in the cooperation programme pursuant to Article 7.

### III. Stakeholders

The relevant stakeholders and local communities **should** be involved through inclusive and participatory processes in the planning and management of the protected area as appropriate. Such participatory process **should** include institutional arrangements for the effective participation and empowerment of stakeholders and local communities.

### IV. Implementation Mechanism

- a) With regard to the characteristics specific to each area, the management framework **should** address those measures cited in Article 5.2 which are relevant to both the goals and objectives and specific threats at that particular area and that are within the scope of the management framework.
- b) The management framework **should** address public awareness and education programmes for users, decision-makers and the public to enhance their appreciation and understanding of protected areas and of the objectives for which they were established, and empower their participation in planning and management as appropriate.
- c) The protected area **must** have a research and monitoring programme that allows for assessing the effectiveness of the management framework to achieve the conservation goals. The programme should use appropriate indicators to evaluate the impact of conservation measures on the status of species populations, habitats and ecological processes within the protected area and its surroundings, as well as the impact of the management scheme over the local human communities.

### V. Management Effectiveness

The Party **must** demonstrate that the protected area management framework is adequate to achieve its biophysical and socioeconomic objectives.

## E. Preliminary Procedure Proposal (Procedures for Listing and Delisting)

- Each Party making a nomination shall provide the STAC with the necessary supporting documentation, including in particular, the information noted in Article 19(2), and clearly specified boundaries with supporting maps.
- The presentation report shall include the completed nomination form. [Draft Annotated Format for Presentation Reports for the area proposed for inclusion under SPAW Protected Areas List: UNEP(DEC)/CAR WG.29/4].
- The nomination for inclusion of an area or areas in the SPAW Protected Areas List will be assessed by the STAC for SPAW according to the Protocol Provisions and the criteria set out. To this end, the Regional Activity Centre for the SPAW Protocol (SPAW/RAC), will apply a standard evaluation process which includes

external review as appropriate. Parties should attach a summary to their evaluation documents when submitting it to the SPAW/RAC for approval.

- Standard evaluation process: (to be defined for example by reference to IUCN).

Every 5 years from the inscription in the List, Parties shall report to the STAC through the secretariat regarding changes in the status of their listed protected areas pursuant to Articles 15, 19 and 20. Protected areas may be removed from the List by the same procedures by which they were incorporated, pursuant to Article 15.

- Standard delisting process: (to be defined).

## **Draft Glossary**

### **- B -**

- **Biological corridor. See Corridor.**

### **- C -**

- **Conservation**

The application of measures, tools, or activities necessary to protect, preserve and manage species populations, ecosystems' structure and function, or other natural resources and ecological processes to ensure their long-term viable state, and prevent them from becoming threatened or endangered.

- **Conservation status**

An indicator of the state of a species or natural community's likelihood to continuing to survive either in the present day or the future.

Many factors are taken into account when assessing conservation status, but for the *natural community* they can be the following: 1. if the natural range and areas it covers within that range is stable or increasing; 2. if the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; 3. if the conservation status of its typical species is favorable. For a *species*, they are: 1. if the population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as viable component of its natural habitats; 2. if the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and 3. if there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

- **Corridor (Ecological or Biological Corridor)**

Corridor of natural, restored or protected natural areas that link or border core areas of biodiversity and provide biophysical conditions such as hydrological flow, habitat, passage, connection, or buffering from impact due to activities in adjacent areas. In the marine environment, it is applied to a series of adjacent or biologically connected protected areas in order to provide a more effective protection to habitats and species populations.

- **Criterion** (for the evaluation of protected areas to be listed under the SPAW Protocol).

Specific indicators to be used in determining whether a protected area meets the requirements of Article 4 of the Protocol, and in particular its paragraph 2, and those established pursuant to Article 21.

- **Critical (habitats or ecosystems)**

A habitat or ecosystem, or their component, essential for the survival of species, or the occurrence of ecological processes.

### **- D -**

- **Degradation**

Reduction or loss of the biological or economic productivity and the biological complexity of terrestrial and aquatic environments. Should be assessed against the conservation objectives.

- **Disturbance**

Effect of a discrete event, either natural or human induced, that changes the existing conditions of an ecological system.

- **Diversity (Biological diversity or Biodiversity)**

The variety of different living organisms, including terrestrial, marine and freshwater, and the variety of different ecosystems that they form. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems, and the

genetic variability of each species. It is frequently confused with species richness, although the number of species is only one of the elements that compose biological diversity.

## - E -

- **Ecological corridor. (See Corridor).**

- **Ecologically sound and appropriate**

{Human activity that does not affect environmental quality, including the health of the ecosystems and species populations}.

- **Ecoregion**

{In the marine environment, a large-scale geographic unit, smaller than a biogeographic province, that is defined and separated by the adjacent ones by the degree of connection of the biological populations. Due to the lack of data of larval dispersal and migratory movement of most species, it has been defined using biophysical features such as the ocean temperature regime, the geomorphological conditions of the coasts and sea bottom, and the distribution of keys species of marine flora and flora}.

- **Ecosystem**

‘Ecosystem’ means a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.”

*Convention on Biological Diversity, June 5, 1992, 31 I.L.M. 818 (1992) Article 2*

- **Endangered**

“Endangered species are species or sub-species of fauna and flora, or their populations that are in danger of extinction throughout all or part of their range and whose survival is unlikely if the factors jeopardizing them continue to operate”

*SPAW Protocol Article 1*

## - F -

- **Framework (legal, institutional, management and planning framework)**

{Legal, institutional, management and planning scheme under which operates a protected area}.

## - H -

- **Habitat**

“‘Habitat’ means the place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs.”

*Convention on Biological Diversity, June 5, 1992, 31 I.L.M. 818 (1992) Article 2*

Natural habitats means terrestrial or aquatic areas distinguished by geographic, abiotic and biotic features, whether entirely natural or semi-natural”

“Habitat of a species means an environment defined by specific abiotic and biotic factors, in which the species lives at any stage of its biological cycle”

*EUROPEAN COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7)*

## - M -

- **Management / management framework / management measures / management guidelines / management success / management objectives**

*{Working scheme under which operates a protected area. It includes aspects such as conservation objectives, regulations, environmental education and community outreach,, research and monitoring, volunteer, financial plan, institutional arrangements, and surveillance and law enforcement}.*

## - N -

- **Natural heritage**

Natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which are of outstanding universal value from the aesthetic or scientific point of view;

Geological and physiographic formations and precisely delineated areas which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation;

Natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty.

**(The World Heritage Convention, defines the "natural heritage" )**

- **Naturalness**

*{The degree to which an area has been protected from, or has not been subjected to, human-induced change, and the natural environment is thus free from biophysical disturbance caused by the human influence}*

- **Network (of protected areas and persons)**

*{A system of protected areas and people for the exchange of ideas and experiences, scientific and technical cooperation, capacity building and cooperative action. (not to confuse with the ecologically effective network of protected areas which requires considerations such as biological connectivity)}*

- **Natural resource**

*{Naturally occurring substances and organisms that are considered valuable in their relatively unmodified form. A commodity is generally considered a natural resource when the primary activities associated with it are extraction (such as fishing, and forestry) and purification (mining, such as substances extracted from wildlife), as opposed to creation. Natural resources are often classified into renewable and non-renewable resources. Renewable resources are generally living resources (fish, and forests, for example), which can restock (renew) themselves if they are not over-harvested. Biodiversity is also considered an important natural resource because of its many uses (recreation, environmental conservation)}.*

- **Networks (representative systems or networks of marine protected areas)**

*{In general, it is a network or system of marine protected areas that includes the right amount and quality of the main conservation targets (species and habitats) of the country or region, that ensures the sustainable conservation and use of marine resources, considering the social costs. The design of such networks and systems is current research subject, and the methods employed include mathematical modeling with biophysical and socioeconomic data such as the transportation of marine and freshwater drainage, the distribution and abundance of species and habitats, the distribution of economic and social factors (such as population density, economic activities associated to marine resources, and pollution), as well as the social costs associated to potential conservation measures (protected areas, fisheries and tourism regulations, industrial and domestic wastewater treatment, habitat restoration, etc.)}*

## - P -

- **Physiographic features**

{*Geomorphic characteristics, particularly, texture of terrain, type of rocks, and geological structure and history*}

- **Population**

A group of individuals with common ancestry that are much more likely to mate with one another than with individuals from another such group. (*In UNEP WCMC glossary*)

- **Protected area**

"An area of land and/or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed through legal or other effective means". *IUCN definition (1992)*.

An area that has been established pursuant to Article 4 (STAC WG Doc on MPA). (*SPAW Articles 1 and 4*)

## - R -

- **Rareness**

{*Will be considered that an area contains species, habitats or ecosystems unique or rare, when these are inferior to 10% of its remnant*}.

- **Representativeness**

{*Regarding to ecosystems, vegetal formations, landscapes, biomes or regions: It is the property of one area to characterize or to represent this kind of spatial expression of nature. One area will be considered representative when it reaches at least a 10% of its remnant extension*}.

- **Resilience**

{*The capacity of an ecosystem to tolerate disturbance without collapsing into a qualitatively different state that is controlled by a different set of processes. A resilient ecosystem can withstand shocks and rebuild itself when necessary. Resilience in social systems has the added capacity of humans to anticipate and plan for the future. Resilience is conferred in human and ecological systems by adaptive capacity. In the marine environment, it is the capacity of a natural system (fisheries community or ecosystem) to recover from heavy disturbance such as intensive extraction, and pollution. The ecosystem resilience is considered to be an important factor in conservation and so the design and management of an MPA or system of MPAs in order to achieve their long-term conservation objectives*}.

## - S -

- **Species**

{*Groups of actually or potentially interbreeding natural populations that are reproductively isolated from other such groups. It is one of the basic units of biodiversity. In scientific classification, a species is assigned a two-part name, treated as Latin. The genus is listed first (with its leading letter capitalized), followed by a second term, which is the species (with non capitalized leading letter)*}.

- **Sustainable development**

{*The social development that attempts to bridge the divide between economic growth and environmental protection, while taking into account other issues traditionally associated with development. It seeks to develop*}

*means of supporting economic growth while supporting biodiversity, relieving poverty and without using up natural capital in the short term at the expense of long term development}*).

## - T -

▪ **Threatened**

*{A population of organisms (usually a taxonomic species), which because it is either (a) few in number or (b) threatened by changing environmental or predation parameters, is at risk of becoming extinct}.*

*{“Threatened species” are species or sub-species of fauna and flora , or their populations:*

- i) that are likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or part of their range if the factors causing numerical decline or habitat degradation continue to operate; or*
- ii) that are rare because they are usually localized within restricted geographical areas or habitats or are thinly scattered over a more extensive range and which are potentially or actually subject to decline and possible endangerment or extinction} (text from the Definitions of the SPAW Protocol).*

## - V -

▪ **Viability (species viability) :**

*{The probability that a population will go extinct within a given number of years. The concept brings together the species characteristics and the environmental variability to forecast population health and extinction risk. The factors that indicate the species viability are varied and include the environmental quality and the rate of extraction of the species different life history stages}.*

*{An area guarantees the viability of species present on it when possesses reproductive populations that ensure, for its sizes and conditions, the perpetuation of the species at long term}*

Draft Glossary Based on Common International Practice

Word	Agreement Membership	International Definition
<b>C</b>		
<b>Conservation</b>		<p>"b) Conservation status of a migratory species" means the sum of the influences acting on the migratory species that may affect its long-term distribution and abundance;</p> <p>c) "Conservation status" will be taken as "favorable" when:</p> <p>(1) population dynamics data indicate that the migratory species is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its ecosystems;</p> <p>(2) the range of the migratory species is neither currently being reduced, nor is likely to be reduced, on a long-term basis;</p> <p>(3) there is, and will be in the foreseeable future sufficient habitat to maintain the population of the migratory species on a long-term basis; and</p> <p>(4) the distribution and abundance of the migratory species approach historic coverage and levels to the extent that potentially suitable ecosystems exist and to the extent consistent with wise wildlife management;</p> <p>d) "Conservation status" will be taken as "unfavourable" if any of the conditions set out in sub-paragraph (c) of this paragraph is not met"</p> <p>Convention on the conservation of Migratory species of Wild Animals, June 23, 1979, 19.I.L.M. 11 (1980) (entered in force December 2, 1983), Article 1 Paragraph 1</p>
		<p>"Conservation status of a natural habitat means the sum of the influences acting on a natural habitat and its typical species that may affect its long-term natural distribution, structure and functions as well as the long-term survival of its typical species within the territory referred to in Article 2. The conservation status of a natural habitat will be taken as 'favorable' when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— its natural range and areas it covers within that range are stable or increasing, and</li> <li>— the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and</li> <li>— the conservation status of its typical species is favorable as defined [below]"</li> </ul>
		<p>"Conservation status of a species means the sum of the influences acting on the species concerned that may affect the long-distribution and abundance of its populations within the territory referred to in Article 2;</p> <p>The conservation status will be taken as 'favorable' when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats, and</li> <li>— the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and</li> <li>— there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis"</li> </ul> <p>EUROPEAN COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7)</p>

		<p>“The terms ‘conservation’ and ‘management’ mean the collection and application of biological information for the purposes of increasing and maintaining the number of animals within species and populations of marine mammals at their optimum sustainable population. Such terms include the entire scope of activities that constitute a modern scientific resource program, including, but not limited to, research, census, law enforcement, and habitat acquisition and improvement. Also included within these terms, when and where appropriate, is the periodic or total protection of species or populations as well as regulated taking.”</p> <p>United States Marine Mammal Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. §§1361 et seq., Section 3 Paragraph 2</p>
		<p>“ The terms ‘conserve,’ ‘conserving,’ and ‘conservation’ mean to use and the use of all methods and procedures which are necessary to bring any endangered species or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided pursuant to this Act are no longer necessary. Such methods and procedures include, but are not limited to, all activities associated with scientific resources management such as research, census, law enforcement, habitat acquisition and maintenance, propagation, live trapping, and transplantation, and, in the extraordinary case where population pressures within a given ecosystem cannot be otherwise relieved, may include regulated taking.”</p> <p>United States Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. §§1531-1544, Section 3 Paragraph 3</p>
<b>Criterion</b>		<p>“Condition to achieve some development objective, defined through critical review of scientific information (Modified from Calamari and Naeve, 1994). A set of criteria provide a system of reference within which to assess or judge the state of the exploited system as reflected by indicators.”</p> <p>Garcia S.M. (1997) Indicators for sustainable development in fisheries. In: FAO (1997). Land Quality indicators and their use in sustainable agriculture and rural development: 131-162 at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;.</p>
<b>D</b>		
<b>Diversity</b>		<p>Guidelines: “The area should contain the variety or richness of species, communities, ecosystems, landscapes, seascapes and genetic diversity necessary for its long term viability and integrity, especially where there are endangered, threatened, endemic and/or migratory species, and those listed in the Annexes to the protocol.”</p>
		<p>“ ‘Biological diversity’ means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.”</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity, June 5, 1992, 31 I.L.M. 818 (1992) Article 2</p>
		<p>“Biological diversity (biodiversity): The variety of different living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the variety of different ecosystems that they form. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems, and the genetic variability of each species.”</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme Glossary of Environmental Terms available at &lt;<a href="http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm">http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm</a> &gt;</p>
<b>E</b>		
<b>Ecosystem</b>		<p>“ ‘Ecosystem’ means a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.”</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity, June 5, 1992, 31 I.L.M. 818 (1992) Article 2</p>
		<p>“Ecosystem: A dynamic and complex system of plant, animal and microorganism communities and their non-living environment all interacting as a functional unit within a defined physical location. The term may be applied to a unit as large as the entire ecosphere, but usually refers to a division thereof.”</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme Glossary of Environmental Terms available at &lt;<a href="http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm">http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm</a> &gt;</p>
		<p>“A spatio-temporal system of the biosphere, including its living components (plants, animals, micro-organisms) and the non-living components of their environment, with their relationships, as determined by past and present environmental forcing functions and interactions amongst biota.” Food and Agriculture Organization Glossary at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;</p>
		<p>“Ecosystem is the biotic and abiotic components of an environment that interact to produce a flow of energy and cycling of nutrients (...).”</p> <p>CIFOR (1999): The CIFOR criteria and indicators generic template. Center for International Forestry Research : 53 p at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;.</p>

		<p>“The sum total of biological populations and abiotic factors present in a region, and their relationships to each other. No ecosystem is a closed system, hence the precise meaning of the term varies according to the scale of the region to which it is applied.”</p> <p>Cooke, J.G. (1984), Glossary of technical terms. In Exploitation of Marine Communities, R.M. May (ed), Springer-Verlag at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;</p>
<b>Endangered</b>		<p>SPAW Definition</p> <p>“Endangered species are species or sub-species of fauna and flora, or their populations, that are in danger of extinction throughout all or part of their range and whose survival is unlikely if the factors jeopardizing them continue to operate”.</p>
		<p>“Taxa in danger of extinction and whose survival is unlikely if causal factors continue operating. Included are taxa whose numbers have been drastically reduced to a critical level or whole habitats have been so drastically impaired that they are deemed to be in immediate danger of extinction. Also included are those that possibly are already extinct, in so far as they definitely have not been seen in the wild in the past 50 years.”</p> <p>United Nations (1997): Glossary of Environment Statistics. Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 67 at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;.</p>
		<p>“‘Endangered’ in relation to a particular migratory species means that the migratory species is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range”</p> <p>1 Paragraph 1 (e) of the Convention on the conservation of Migratory species of Wild Animals, June 23, 1979, 19.I.L.M. 11 (1980) (entered in force December 2, 1983 available at &lt;<a href="http://www.cms.int/pdf/convtxt/cms_convtxt_english.pdf">http://www.cms.int/pdf/convtxt/cms_convtxt_english.pdf</a>&gt;</p>
<b>H</b>		
<b>Habitat</b>		<p>“ ‘Habitat’ means the place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs.”</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity, June 5, 1992, 31 I.L.M. 818 (1992) Article 2</p>
		<p>“The environment in which the [species] live, including everything that surrounds and affects its life: e.g., water quality; bottom; vegetation; associated species (including food supplies).”</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization Glossary at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;</p>
		<p>“ ‘Habitat’ means any area in the range of a migratory species which contains suitable living conditions for that species”</p> <p>Art 1 Paragraph 1 (g) of the Convention on the conservation of Migratory species of Wild Animals, June 23, 1979, 19.I.L.M. 11 (1980) (entered in force December 2, 1983 available at &lt;<a href="http://www.cms.int/pdf/convtxt/cms_convtxt_english.pdf">http://www.cms.int/pdf/convtxt/cms_convtxt_english.pdf</a>&gt;</p>
		<p>“Habitat: The geographical location(s) and the associated set(s) of environmental conditions that are necessary for the flourishing of a particular type of plant or animal. In other words, their home.”</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme Glossary of Environmental Terms available at &lt;<a href="http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm">http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm</a>&gt;</p>
		<p>“Natural habitats means terrestrial or aquatic areas distinguished by geographic, abiotic and biotic features, whether entirely natural or semi-natural”</p>
		<p>“Habitat of a species means an environment defined by specific abiotic and biotic factors, in which the species lives at any stage of its biological cycle”</p> <p>EUROPEAN COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7)</p>
<b>M</b>		
<b>Management</b>		<p>“The art of taking measures affecting a resource and its exploitation with a view to achieving certain objectives, such as the maximization of the production of that resource. Management includes, for example, fishery regulations such as catch quotas or closed seasons. Managers are those who practice management.”</p> <p>Cooke, J.G. (1984), Glossary of technical terms. In Exploitation of Marine Communities, R.M. May (ed), Springer-Verlag at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;</p>
		<p>“The act of influencing, directing, or controlling use of a resource.”</p> <p>Sutinen, J.G., ed. 2000. A framework for monitoring and assessing socioeconomics and governance of large marine ecosystems. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-NE-158, 32 pp at &lt;<a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a>&gt;.</p>
<b>P</b>		

<b>Population</b>		IUCN def
<b>Protected Area</b>		SPAW Definition art 4 "Protected area ' means the areas accorded protection pursuant to article 4"
		'Protected area' means a geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives. Convention on Biological Diversity, June 5, 1992, 31 I.L.M. 818 (1992) Article 2
		"An area set aside for the preservation and protection of highly important natural and cultural features and for the regulation of the scientific, educational and recreational use. Such areas include national parks, Nature reserves, wildlife sanctuaries, natural monuments, archaeological reserves, forest reserves, and marine reserves." Food and Agriculture Organization Glossary at < <a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a> >
<b>R</b>		
<b>Rarity</b>		Guide lines : "The area should conserve unique or rare species, habitats, or ecosystems. An area or ecosystem is rare if it is among the few of its kind in the country or Wider Caribbean Region or has been seriously depleted across its range. The area may contain habitats that occur in a limited area, or rare, endemic threatened or endangered species that are geographically restricted in their distribution."
<b>Resilience</b>		Guide lines : "The area may contain biological components (habitats, populations of species) that have demonstrated the ability to recover from disturbances in a reasonable timeframe, or are naturally resistant to threats, such as climate change, and the protection of such areas could enhance the recovery of damaged ecosystems elsewhere in the region by providing a source of larvae and juveniles."
		"Capacity of a natural system (fisheries community or ecosystem) to recover from heavy disturbance such as intensive fishing." United Nations (1997): Glossary of Environment Statistics. Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 67 at < <a href="http://www.fao.org/glossary/">http://www.fao.org/glossary/</a> >
<b>Resource</b>		"Biological resources: Includes genetic resources, organisms or parts thereof, populations, or any other biotic component of ecosystems with actual or potential use or value for humanity." United Nations Environment Programme Glossary of Environmental Terms available at < <a href="http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm">http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm</a> >
		"Natural resource: (e.g., tree biomass, fresh water, fish) whose supply can essentially never be exhausted, usually because it is continuously produced." "Non-renewable resources: Natural resources that are not naturally replenished once they have been harvested. Non-renewable resources can be used up completely or else used up to such a degree that it is economically impractical to obtain any more of them. Fossil fuels and metal ores are examples of non-renewable resources." "Renewable resources: Natural resources that have the capacity to be naturally replenished despite being harvested (e.g., forests, fish). The supply of natural resources can, in theory, never be exhausted, usually because it is continuously produced."
		"Resource: A person, thing, or action that is used to produce a desired affect or product, usually for meeting human needs or improving the quality of life." United Nations Environment Programme Glossary of Environmental Terms available at < <a href="http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm">http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm</a> >
<b>S</b>		
<b>Species</b>		" 'Species' means any species, subspecies, or geographically separate population thereof" Article 1 (a) of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, March 3, 1973 available at < <a href="http://cites.org/eng/disc/text.shtml">http://cites.org/eng/disc/text.shtml</a> >
<b>Sustainable development</b>		"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." <i>Our Common Future</i> , 1987 report by the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission) available at < <a href="http://www.are.admin.ch/are/en/nachhaltig/international_uno/unterseite02330/">http://www.are.admin.ch/are/en/nachhaltig/international_uno/unterseite02330/</a> >
		"Sustainable development: Development that ensures that the use of resources and the environment today does not compromise their use in the future." United Nations Environment Programme Glossary of Environmental Terms available at < <a href="http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm">http://www.nyo.unep.org/action/ap1.htm</a> >

		<p>“ ‘Sustainable use’ means the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.”</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity, June 5, 1992, 31 I.L.M. 818 (1992) Article 2</p>
<b>T</b>		
<b>Threatened</b>		<p>SPAW definition</p> <p>“Threatened species’ are species or sub-species of fauna and flora, or their populations :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that are likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all part of their range if the factors causing numerical decline or habitat degradation continue to operate; or</li> <li>2. that are rare because they are usually localized within restricted geographical areas or habitats or are thinly scattered over a more extensive range and which are potentially or actually subject to decline and possible endangerment or extinction”</li> </ol>