



Minutes of Meeting
2nd Teleconference
Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment
TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2011

Chair: Country - Jamaica - Anthony McKenzie and Paulette Kolbusch (alternately)

Participants: *Jamaica* -Anthony McKenzie, Paulette Kolbusch, *Bahamas* -Richard Cant, *Colombia*-Carlos Arturo Álvarez Monsalve, Martha Liliana Gómez García, *Mexico* -María del Carmen Porras-Pérez, *U.S.A* -Patrick Cotter, Steve Morrison, *RAC-IMA/(Trinidad & Tobago)* -Darryl Banjoo, *France* -Bernard Moutou, *CEP Secretariat* -Christopher Corbin, Nadia-Deen Ferguson , Sanya Wedemier, and Chrishane Williams.

Apologies: Anthony Headley (Barbados) was unable to participate as he had a previous work commitment. Antonio Villasol (RAC-Cimab, Cuba) was unable to participate as it was a public holiday in Cuba.

Rapporteur: CEP Secretariat

- Purpose:**
- 1) To review and adopt the recommended Draft Terms of Reference (TORs) for the Interim Working Group and to continue work related to monitoring and assessment of water quality conditions in the Convention Area as described in these Terms of Reference.
 - 2) To develop a road map of activities in preparation for the Regional Workshop (September 2011).

Meeting Date and Time: Tuesday 26th July 2011, 9:30 am – 11:00am, Jamaica time (1hr 30 mins)

Agenda Item 1:	Opening and Welcome
	Welcome and opening was done by Mr. Anthony McKenzie. Special welcome was extended to Mr. Bernard Moutou (France).
Agenda Item 2:	Minutes of Meeting from the meeting of June 21, 2011
	Comments were requested for the minutes of the last meeting. No additional comments were received.
Decision or Recommendation	The decision was made to adopt the minutes. This was confirmed by Steve Morrison (U.S.A.) and seconded by Richard Cant (Bahamas).

Agenda Item 3:	Matters arising from the meeting of June 21, 2011
Points Raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional comments were invited on the Amended Draft TORs for the Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment. No additional comments were received. • Nominations were requested for the positions of Technical Secretary and Recording Secretary. None were received. • Further clarification was requested for the position of Technical Secretary- it was clarified that the person would provide technical support in review of documents developed/compiled by the group, and assist in technical matters as they arise.
Decision or Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision was made to adopt the TORs. • Decision was made that AMEP Secretariat would continue to act as the recording secretary for the Interim Working Group until a separate recording secretary was deemed necessary by the Working Group. • Suggestion was made by Chris Corbin that instead of using one person for the position of technical secretary, depending on the specific topic under discussion, one or two persons from the group could be co-opted to serve in this capacity. External technical experts could also be consulted if a particular expertise did not reside within the Working Group. • Patrick Cotter (U.S.A) endorsed the suggested approach and indicated that the U.S. would be willing to assist the Chair in the manner recommended by Chris Corbin.
Agenda Item 4:	Organization and Prioritization of Tasks for the IWG
Points Raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was acknowledged that documents relating to Quality Indicators were provided by RAC-Cimab. • Patrick Cotter (U.S.A.) advised that he and colleagues are comparing LBS limits, with indicators listed in the Know-why Network report and U.S. National Coastal Assessment Programme with the view towards preparing a position paper for consideration by the Working Group. He highlighted the benefit of looking at coastal conditions as part of a more complete assessment process. • Looking at existing standards in the LBS protocol - point was raised as to whether there would be a need to refine criteria in any way. • Existing UNEP Publications on water quality guidelines should be reviewed. Documents were sent to the various countries but to date there has been no decision to adopt guidelines • Clarification was sought as to whether it was a role of the group to prepare and develop documents. • Chris Corbin - clarified that the role of the group is not really to prepare

documents, but to bring attention to and make recommendations on documents for consideration by the STAC and/or COP. To facilitate review of any such documents, they could be made available through the CEP website.

- A list of the documents compiled will be circulated and the secretariat will resend the link to where documents relating to the work of the Interim Working Group are located on our website.
- Anthony McKenzie (Jamaica) - expressed that he thought that standards and criteria for indicators to be used would come from the TR33.
- It was noted that we needed to look at broader indicators for watersheds that contribute to water quality and include those as well in the review process.
- It was noted that there are Regional Agencies that have been involved at the project level and it was identified that there is limited knowledge of existing monitoring capacity of the region. Through the IWCAM project and REPCar project, some resources were provided to labs for environmental monitoring and support was also provided to strengthening the LBS RACs.
- Funding of capacity building- partnership with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) who had done similar work.
- Question was raised by Paulette Kolbusch as to how to strengthen information exchange and capacities of existing laboratories and networks
- Patrick Cotter (U.S.A) noted that there are EPA training materials that support Coastal Monitoring that could be provided to the group. He further suggested that the Interim Working Group could look at training opportunities to develop laboratories for Monitoring and Assessment of the Convention Area.
- Nadia-Deen Ferguson (Secretariat) indicated that there are other regional projects (e.g., GEF-IWCAM, UNU-INWEH (United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health) that completed laboratory capacity reports and needs assessments that could also be used to help steer the group in the right direction. She added that the CEP- AMEP is conducting a Regional laboratory capacity survey and invited the group to further disseminate this survey to other laboratory facilities within the region.
- Richard Cant (Bahamas) acknowledged that the Laboratory Assessment Survey was received and supporting information from the GEF IWCAM Project Bahamas Lab Capacity resent to the Secretariat.
- Chris Corbin highlighted events that may be of interest to the working group on the issue of pollution prevention. (1) Global Programme of Action (GPA) Intergovernmental Meeting 2012. (2) RIO + 20 Conference preparatory meeting to discuss oceans pollution prevention and ways in

	<p>which ocean management can be given an increased profile at RIO + 20.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be continued efforts to encourage countries to ratify the LBS protocol
Decision or Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darryl Banjoo (RAC-IMA Trinidad and Tobago) suggested that water quality criteria, standards or guidelines to be established for use in the LBS protocol are in categories of (1) Recreational Water Quality (2) Water Quality for the Protection of Aquatic Life and (3) Point or Effluent Discharges. CEP Technical Report # 8 should be consulted in which work was already done to establish these criteria for the Wider Caribbean Region. • Darryl Banjoo (RAC-IMA Trinidad and Tobago) recommended that in order to minimize pollution, we need to also consider Integrated Coastal Zone Management Approaches and to ensure that Industries become ISO 14001 certified and use best management practices • Patrick Cotter (U.S.A.) was in support of the suggestion from Daryl Banjoo, and added that we develop recommendations and guidelines, and that it would be good to have a range of best management practices. • Carlos Alvarez (Colombia) suggested that there should be a definition for criteria. He also mentioned that emission limits, interactive ecosystems, and laboratory capacity could be included in criteria and guidelines. • EPA training material will be provided by the U.S.A. • Email will be sent to the members of the Interim Working Group regarding the current status of the CEP- AMEP Regional Laboratory Capacity Survey.
Agenda Item 5: Update on plans for Regional Workshop (September 2011)	
Points Raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first face to face meeting of the Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment will take place during the last week in September. It will be held September 26-30, 2011. It will also be used to showcase the results of the IWCAM hotspot diagnostic assessment in selected SIDS; and to present prizes to the winners of the Regional LBS Collage Competition. A Draft Agenda for the workshop will be developed and finalized during the next teleconference meeting in August 2011. • Workshop will be funded through the AMEP Secretariat with additional support from the GEF IWCAM Project. It will not only be for countries that have ratified LBS Protocol but all members of the Interim Working Group as well as additional experts that the group recommends.
Decision or Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following members indicated their willingness to assist with preparing the draft agenda for the face to face meeting of the Interim Working Group

	<p>in September: Anthony McKenzie (Jamaica) Patrick Cotter (U.S.A.) Paulette Kolbusch (Jamaica) Darryl Banjoo (RAC-IMA Trinidad & Tobago)</p>
Agenda Item 6:	Agenda items for the Regional Workshop (September 2011)
Points Raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Technical Report 33 was adopted at the 14th IGM and 11th COP. • The updated TR 33 will be produced as a New Technical Report available in English, Spanish and French. • Chris Corbin will follow up with RAC-Cimab and Antonio Villasol, concerning which types of assessments need to be done and what would be the most appropriate type of regional assessment.
Decision or Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patrick Cotter (U.S.A) - Ratification of LBS Protocol is something that the Interim Working Group should have on the agenda for the September meeting. • Patrick Cotter- (U.S.A.) –Group should look at the reporting requirements of the LBS Protocol, and have discussions on the state of the convention area; it is open to the group to recommend on whether future reports will follow the same format as the updated TR33. • Pollutant loadings should be a topic for discussion at the meeting in September. RAC Cimab could discuss and share the difficulties encountered in compiling information for the update of TR 33 and in the Know Why Network Project with the members of the Interim Working Group. We could then determine the most effective way in looking at the state of the convention area. • It was recommended by Carlos Alvarez (Colombia) that the meeting logistics should be finalized within short order; advanced notification and official invitations which will be necessary for their delegates to attend the September meeting. At minimum a month in advance is necessary to get the required permission and documents in order to attend
Agenda Item 7:	Any Other Business
Points Raised:	<p>Paulette Kolbusch (Jamaica) indicated that the Bureau of Standards of Jamaica is seeking advice on suitable standards for detergents. NEPA is to provide a paper of resource documents within the next 2- 3 weeks. Any guidance on standards for detergents is welcomed from the members of the Interim Working Group.</p>
Agenda Item 8:	Time and Date of Next Meeting
	<p>The next teleconference meeting of the Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment will be August 23, 2011 at 9:30am (Jamaican Time).</p>
	Adjournment

	The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.	
Action Items		
Task to be done	Person Responsible	Due Date
Circulation of Update on the Lab Capacity Survey	CEP Secretariat	22 nd August 2011
Circulation of Draft Minutes of Meeting	Chair/CEP Secretariat	15 th August 2011
Draft participants list for the meeting in September	CEP Secretariat	22 th August 2011
Draft Agenda for Meeting of Interim Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment 26-30 September 2011	CEP Secretariat	22 st August 2011

Date of Next Meeting: 23 August, 2011