UNITED
NATIONS

EP

United Nations
Environment
Programme

Distr.: General

UNEP/GPA/WG.1/1.rev1
15 December 2011

Original: English

**Global Conference on
Land-Ocean Connections
'Towards A Greener Coastal
Economy'**

Manila, 23-24 January 2012

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND PROGRAMME

Introduction

The Global Conference on Land-Ocean Connections (GLOC) is a two-day gathering of scientists, experts, policy makers and NGOs who will make recommendations for the Third Intergovernmental Review (IGR-3) on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (GPA) that follows this conference (25-27 January 2012). This conference will explore current and emerging issues that originate from land-based activities and the options to manage these issues.

Conference Objectives:

The object of this conference is to bring together scientists, experts, policy makers and NGOs to discuss current and emerging issues in the marine and coastal sector with a focus on GPA related topics. The overall purpose of Conference is:

To review policy and implementation frameworks addressing key marine and coastal issues and emerging solutions ensuring that those frameworks are:

(a) Contributing effectively to the development of strengthened and resilient marine and coastal ecosystems serving coastal and upstream communities; and

(b) In so doing helping to meet the new environmental resource management challenges which the international community is facing in developing –more resource efficient a lower carbon economy based on sustainable food, energy and water security and quality.

The conference will provide sound science-based and objective recommendations for the IGR-3 meeting, which immediately follows the GLOC, as well as a draft key message for addressing GPA related issues and actions at Rio+20. The GLOC is structured around the proposed priority themes for the GPA: water quality (nutrients and wastewater); marine litter, and integrated coastal zone management at regional, national and sub-national levels, as a platform for mainstreaming the GPA and associated National Programmes of Action (NPAs).

Expected Outcomes

The conference will transmit recommendations to the IGR-3 of the GPA related to:

- Advancing GPA implementation by incorporating recent and emerging approaches and concepts such as the Green Economy;
- Setting a target for improved nutrient management efficiency;
- The scope and focus of a marine litter partnership;
- Initiation of a wastewater partnership;
- Maintaining and protecting the multiple benefits of ecosystem services, especially in the management of deltas;
- Policies and actions for improved management of nutrients, wastewater and marine litter in catchments and coasts; and
- The role of other agencies including the GEF, UN Agencies and Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans.

Target Audience

Government policy makers; Scientists; NGOs; Regional Institutions; National Institutions; Local government.

Provisional Agenda[1] and Programme

Monday 23 January – Day 1 of Conference

Morning (09.00 – 13.00)

Item 1: Opening of Conference

Welcoming address by host government.

Opening statement by the representative of UNEP

Item 2: Organisation of the Conference: co-chairs, rapporteurs and moderators.

Discussions in English only and all documentation is issued in English alone.

Adoption of the Agenda and Programme

Item 3: Introduction of relevant documents for Conference

[1] Detailed agenda for each session will be posted on www.gpa.unep.org#

Item 4: Introduction to the Conference: output of Conference and contribution to the IGR-3; introductory presentation outlining overall purpose of Conference, which is:

To review policy and implementation management frameworks addressing key marine and coastal issues and emerging solutions ensuring that those frameworks are:

(a) Contributing effectively to the development of strengthened and resilient marine and coastal ecosystems serving coastal and upstream communities; and

(b) In so doing helping to meet the new environmental resource management challenges which the international community is facing in developing a more resource efficient and lower carbon economy based on sustainable food, energy and water security and quality.

09.30 – 10:30

Item 5: Presentation – *UNEP's Foresight Process to Identify Emerging Global Issues* by Professor Joseph Alcamo, Chief Scientist, UNEP.

10.30 – 11.00 *Coffee Break*

11.00 -13.00

Item 6: Break out groups.

These sessions will pursue 'an issues based focus on a green economy in a blue world'. Suggested break out groups are:

- Managing the Global Nutrient Cycle.
- Marine litter – the role of a global partnership.
- Coastal Ecosystems – the value of the ecosystem services which mangroves, sea-grasses and coral reefs provide, including their contribution to climate change adaptation and CO_2 storage and sequestration.

Lunch Break: Events to be scheduled

Afternoon (14.00-15.00)

14.00-15.00

Item 7: Break out groups cont.

15.00-15.30 *Coffee Break*

15.30-18.00

Item 8: Break out groups - Second session

- Wastewater - collaborative approaches to accelerate global efforts to address wastewater issues.

- Deltas – managing the unique interface between freshwater and coasts.

Tuesday 24 January - Day 2 of Conference

Morning (08.30 – 12.30)

08.30 – 9.15

Item 1: Moderated plenary session *to consider the reports from the break out groups and the morning session with a view to reaching overall consensus on conclusions and recommendations consistent with the 1st day's work.* Co-chairs reflect on Day 1 and set out emerging thoughts and conclusions from Day 1 for short plenary discussion.

09.15 - 09.30

Item 2: Chair introduces the main theme for the Day around which work will be organised:

'Current coastal policy development – trends and achievements on a global scale - Marine and coastal management mechanisms at the national, regional and global levels and their contribution to sustainable development'

To instigate and develop initial thoughts and conclusions, a moderated plenary discussion will focus on policy and management frameworks for *coastal management on a national, regional and global scale. The discussion will cover different approaches including the Green Economy, financial mechanisms, and the emerging challenges in developing integrated and ecosystem approaches to coastal and marine management.*

09.30 - 10.45

Item 3: A moderated expert panel addressing the following key theme:

'A green economy in a blue world – the contribution of marine and coastal ecosystems and management to move towards higher use efficiency, sustainable food, and water security, and improved water quality'.

Moderator: Dr. Linwood Pendleton, Director of Ocean and Coastal Policy, Duke's Nicholas Institute, Senior Economic Advisor, NOAA

10.45 – 11.15 *Coffee break*

11.15 - 13.00

Item 4: Break out groups to consider in more depth a range of marine and coastal management mechanisms and approaches (with a view towards Rio+ 20), namely:

- Regional Seas management and co-operation around the world, including the role of the Regional Seas Programme and the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, and the development of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) protocols.

- The role of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and UN agencies in delivering transformative integrated water and coastal zone strategies and levering resources through partnerships.

- IWRM: forging an agenda between upstream and down-stream management – linking IWRM with the coastal zone.

- Ecosystem-based coastal planning and management – steps to making it operational and influencing the policy drivers in countries.

Lunch Break: Events to be scheduled

Afternoon (14.15 – 18.00)

14.15-15.15

Item 5: Break out groups cont.

15.15-16.15

Item 6: Moderated plenary session *to consider the reports from the break out groups for the Day 2 sessions with a view to reaching overall consensus on conclusions and recommendations*

16.15-17.00 Coffee Break

17.00 – 18.00

Item 7: Final plenary session: Introduce draft elements for a report from Conference to the IGR-3, reflect on draft emerging conclusions including possible additional elements for the IGR-3 Ministerial Declaration and GPA work programme, and messages for Rio+20.

Item 8: Closing of the Conference