

# GLOC-2

## Draft elements for a report from the Conference

As presented in the closing plenary of GLOC2

Jerker Tamelander, Rapporteur, GLOC-2



2<sup>nd</sup> Global Conference on Land-Ocean Connections



# Opening

His Worship, Glendon Harris, Mayor of Montego Bay

- Emphasized the importance of the coastal environment to Montego Bay as well as to Jamaica as a whole
- the need to maintain aesthetically pleasing and sustainable coastal ecosystems

Elizabeth Mrema, Interim Director UNEP DEPI

- highlighted the history of the GLOC and its focus on directing future work of the GPA.
- the particular dependence of SIDS on the coastal zone and marine resources.
- while recognizing the progress being made in managing land-based sources of marine pollution, challenged the conference to build on successes and do more, particularly through partnership approaches.

Minister Pickersgill

- noted that the strong and complex link between land and sea, recognizing that this requires wide expertise and collaboration between actors
- highlighted the relevance to the 2014 SIDS conference in Samoa, being organized under the theme of 'sustainable development of SIDS through genuine and durable partnerships'.
- Recognized the need to strengthen regional instruments addressing land base sources of pollution, and mentioned Jamaica's intention to accede to the LBS protocol of the Cartagena convention and commitment to implementing Ridge to Reef approaches.



## Item 2: Organization

Dr. Jacqueline Alder, Coordinator, UNEP/DEPI/FMEB

- introduced the objectives of the conference, including to identify approaches to address current and emerging issues in the marine and coastal sector with a focus on the three priority source categories of the GPA for 2012-2016, namely marine litter, nutrients and wastewater, as well as development of a new partnership on coral reefs.
- outlined how the conference would be structured, including a combination of plenary sessions, parallel sessions, Side Events, posters and speed presentations



## Item 3: Manila Declaration

Vincent Sweeney, GPA Coordinator

- presented a report on progress since January 2012 on the implementation of the Manila Declaration by the GPA
- described the Declaration and the issues prioritized, and the guidance provided on further implementation of the GPA through multi stakeholder partnerships addressing three priority source categories: nutrients, sewage and marine litter.
- pointed out that the Manila Declaration called for technical and policy guidance between GPA IGR meetings, and that GLOC-2 provides such a mechanism



## Item 4. RSCAP as platforms for GPA

Mr Jorge Illueca

- recalled the birth and chronology of the UNEP Regional Seas programme
- Emphasized the unique characteristics of Regional Seas including their degree of political support from developing countries, their function as platforms for supporting regional cooperation on the implementation of global MEAs, and their success in combining soft and hard policy instruments towards coordination and implementation of environmental management.
- Noted that development of RSP largely paralleled that of the UNCLOS, and that the provisions of part 12 of the convention provided the legal basis for much of the work under RS programmes on land based sources of pollution.
- He also called for further and increased efforts towards strengthening Regional Seas programmes

Dr Tim Carruthers, SPREP

- discussed the future of RSCAP and their relevance in implementation of the GPA.
- outlined SPREP's role within regional governance arrangements, including the Pacific Oceanscape Framework, stressing the value of the SPREP in facilitating services to and linkages between countries in addressing the priorities of global MEAs.
- reviewed action towards implementation of the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2013-2016, including data synthesis and streamlined reporting in support of regional planning as well as global efforts such as the World Ocean Assessment,
- He also called for enhanced efforts across Regional Seas to promote and strengthen regional ocean governance, effective management of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, and facilitating a transition to a green economy in a blue world.



## Item 5: Partnerships, trends, approaches

- Moderator: Mr David Coats
- Panelists: Mr. Steve Rochlin, Mr. Stanley Rampair, Mr. Christian Severin, Mr. Peter J. Kristensen, Mrs. Elizabeth Maruma-Mrema
- Partnership trends and approaches on global, regional and national scale were discussed, including approaches to their operationalization.
- a number of critical considerations in establishing partnerships were highlighted, including the need for a common principle and aim from the onset, commitment to common broad goals; the need for room for partners respective and at times differing core values and the different objectives partners may have within a partnership; the importance of allowing time for development of working practices as a foundation for more effective delivery in the longer term; and the need for structural clarity.
- Partnerships should not be seen as primarily a means to access funding, but can often lead to successful funding of activities, as illustrated e.g. by the GEF portfolio of projects
- It was recognized that partnerships to also need to extend to the national level, where much action towards better environmental stewardship ultimately needs to take place.
- The key aspects of transparency and accountability as well as commitment to sharing knowledge and data to promote common understanding were reemphasized
- Desired outcomes of GLOC-2 identified included: common commitment around key priorities and processes; sharing of knowledge; new collaboration; joint action steered by country demand; and strength and support to existing partnerships.



## Item 6: coastal ecosystems and sustainable development

Ms. Jacqueline Alder

- Spoke about possible policy pathways for transition to Green Economy for Oceans, drawing attention to the 'Green Economy in a Blue World' report and the rationale presented therein for incorporating ocean issues into national Green Economy mainstreaming
- she provided examples on sector analyses, noting the economic gains available from cleaner, more robust marine and coastal ecosystems, and that, while technologies are often available, policy pathways and incentives require focus and concerted efforts

Mr. Andreas Hutahaeon,

- presented National Blue carbon science-based policy development in Indonesia
- He noted that out that the commitment made by Indonesia to reduce GHG emissions did not incorporate reductions arising from blue carbon ecosystems, mainly due to lack of scientific information and understanding of the potential provided
- He also illustrated work carried out at demonstration sites, and emphasized the need for effective communication and outreach
- Panel discussion addressed actions to accelerate transition to a Green Economy, including valuation tools and trade off tools, better consideration of non-monetary values of ecosystem services, packaging information better for decision making, raising awareness; and understanding and developing appropriate incentives in close collaboration with the private sector.
- The role of the private sector in taking GE forward on small islands and the need for increased focus on socioeconomic analyses in relation to blue carbon were recognized



## Item 7: Priority Areas of three source categories

Jan Willem Erisman: Nutrients

- Highlighted mandate and guidance in the Manila Declaration and overview of the GPMN in facilitating implementation. Noted strong correlation between population, N and P use and CO2 emissions. Nearly 75% of nutrients used for agriculture are lost to the environment
- Identified a broad range of issues that require policy and management focus, including consumption, food waste, agriculture production, energy use etc. and the need for related extension services. Tasks for a GPA-led process could include development of suitable indicators and targets, building on the preparatory work on nitrogen use efficiency improvement targets [IGR 3]

Steven Ntifo: Wastewater

- overview of problems as well as some opportunities highlighted in the Sick Water report, noting there is a good information base for the global partnership being formed. Progress has been made e.g. bringing access to improved sanitation to 1.8 billion people between 1990 and 2010 but the MDG target is unlikely to be met. Using examples from Europe he illustrated the progress achieved through planning, regulation, monitoring and reporting, and mechanisms for dealing with non-compliance.
- He recommended that a wastewater sector be created in countries, the value and benefits of this outweigh the costs. This requires involvement of a range of international, regional and national actors, and consideration of demand and value of the service.

Peter Kershaw: Marine Litter

- ML is a truly global issue that crosses boundaries and sectors, but one that ought to be possible to control. Plastic litter predominates due to slow degradation and poor waste management and control. Some effects on of knowledge gaps remain in relation to distribution in areas away from shorelines; the population level impacts on ecosystems; the extent of the economic impact; and the potential risks associated with microplastics
- He called for education for an engaged and interested general public, a focused approach to get marine litter concerns communicated to policy makers, enhanced cooperation and harmonization of actions through partnerships involving relevant sectors. In conclusion, he pointed out that actions to address marine litter need to be realistic and tailored to the context, and that any precautionary action needs to be proportionate and adaptive.





# Parallel Session: Marine Litter

## Main Discussion Points included:

- Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) and its future plans; ongoing activities by partners; regional nodes; relevant regional and global initiatives; national partnerships and the role of governments and the private sector
- waste management, assessment and proxy indicators, job creation, policy and behavioral change

## Main Recommendations for action

- pilot projects and baseline studies on ALDFG and retrieval from the marine environment;
- raising awareness and changing attitude towards considering waste as resource;
- implement ml monitoring and management measures, assess the situation, revise targets if necessary and then repeat the whole cycle again;
- partnerships between private sector, environmental NGOs and public sector;
- innovative approaches to recovery of marine litter from the ocean and to convert litter to fuel/energy;
- Marine Litter-related events during the 2016 Olympics in Rio;
- combination of regulations, enforcement and education;
- share experience, knowledge, best practices; use open source tools; make partnership inclusive, attractive for as many stakeholders as possible.



# Parallel Session: Sewage

## Main Discussion Points included:

- Global Perspectives, including lack of sufficient data on effluent, the direct link between country income level and extent of wastewater treatment, the effects on the climate, urbanization as an opportunity
- The need to consider wastewater as a valuable resource rather than waste as key to good management, and how this enables public and private action, the need for monitoring systems and global targets, seeing wastewater as integral to human development and settlement issues

## Main Recommendations for action

- Strengthen collaboration between wastewater management and other topical issues and increase awareness amongst policy makers, producers and users and general public
- Focus should be placed on small industries and those mixed with residential developments and not only large industrial wastewater
- Development of targets for Wastewater management in the formulation of an SDG
- Targets for wastewater management linked to Conventions, particularly RAMSAR.
- Increase public awareness. Increase partnerships with civil societies and industries directly impacted by wastewater management
- Encourage sharing of technologies amongst regions and between engineering professionals towards low cost concepts
- Business models should be developed for resource recovery and reuse of wastewater



# Parallel Session: Nutrients

## Main Discussion Points included:

- Global and Regional Perspectives, including nutrient losses, hypoxic zones, continued development of large livestock farms, task force on reactive nitrogen
- IT was noted that there is no global treaty that links the benefits and threats of altered N& P cycles

## Main Recommendations for action

- explore the trapping Nitrogen in the soils, N loading and run-off correlation and causal relationships, Effective ways of educating farmers on new and innovative methods
- linking NO emissions to Ozone depletion;
- Economic valuation of coastal ecosystems to identify the impacts of nutrient loading; Economic cost of the impact of eutrophication to sectors other than fisheries
- Impacts of oceanic circulatory patterns to N distribution
- research on biological recovery (not just biophysical) in areas that were previously hypoxic
- More work in Latin America on wastewater treatment systems, which ones work effectively
- Research toward the development of an *International Nitrogen Management System*
- Further research in the use of organic fertilizers which may have more N than artificial fertilizers
- Coral Reef specific water quality standards are needed within the Caribbean, including relevant indicators or proxies
- Goals and indicators for the introduction of voluntary best management practices
- Continued animal and fertilizer nutrient management research
- Research on extraction of contaminants and heavy metals (such as Cu and Zn) from manure



# Parallel Session: Coral reefs and coastal ecosystems

Main Discussion Points included:

- development of a coral reef and tropical coastal ecosystems partnership, responding to the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2013-2016
- Recommendations for discussion at partnership forum session on Friday 4 October

Main Recommendations for action

- a partnership mechanism seen as useful to support actions towards internationally and regionally adopted commitments
- the partnership should focus on coral reefs as an integral part of the broader tropical coastal ecosystem, in order to enable and effectively support ecosystem based approaches
- at the national level, support to application of good practice through capacity building and pilot or demonstration interventions
- utilize Regional Seas mechanisms to ensure the partnership responds to national and regional needs common to many coral reef regions, and seek adoption and uptake through the regional intergovernmental mechanisms
- provide a community of practice to support exchange of knowledge and lessons learned between regions and promote more effective utilization of scientific findings in policy
- contribute and input to ongoing efforts in relation to coral reefs and other tropical coastal ecosystems, e.g. on indicators
- Prioritize activities in relation to use of ecosystem service assessment and valuation, and proactively responding to climate change



## Thursday Evening

- Speed Presentations

## Friday Plenary Sessions

- The power of partnerships: Awareness & Outreach
- Institutional financing mechanisms

