



11th Symposium of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)

Special Session on Ocean Governance in the Western Indian Ocean Region
Friday 05 July 2019, Port Louis Mauritius

Session Report

Introduction

1. The Nairobi Convention, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and Institute of Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS- Potsdam) organized a Session on Ocean governance for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region held on 05 July 2019 at the 11th WIOMSA Symposium in Mauritius. The aim of this session was to discuss and identify the governance needs and priorities for safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed Western Indian Ocean and provide a basis and context for policy discussion on ocean governance. Additionally, the session sought to identify relevant stakeholders and discuss science-based policy approaches which will inform the development of the WIO ocean governance strategy.
2. In August 2018, the Ninth Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention adopted *Decision CP.9/6 on Ocean Governance* in the WIO region. The session recognizes the efforts of Contracting Parties, including those of the Governments of Seychelles, South Africa and Mauritius towards a sustainable ocean economy and the need for a robust ocean governance mechanism.
3. The meeting objectives were as follows:
 - a) To map key stakeholders for a WIO Ocean Governance strategy
 - b) To discuss and identify problems and priorities to be addressed in the WIO Ocean Governance strategy
 - c) To discuss the context of the WIO Ocean Governance Strategy (institutional set-up, ocean governance themes and emerging concerns)
 - d) To align the development of the WIO ocean governance strategy with the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and with the ongoing global discussions on Biological Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), the ocean dimension in the Paris Agreement, the UN Decade for Ocean Science as well as other global ocean governance initiatives
 - e) To discuss the mechanisms to support and promote effective ocean governance among WIO countries.

Opening remarks

Kenya's position on ocean governance in the WIO region - Dr. James Kairo, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI)

4. Kenya has been actively participating in initiatives supporting ocean governance in the region including:



- a) Hosting the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in November 2018 in Nairobi where His Excellency the President Uhuru Kenya pledged that Kenya would play a leading role in implementing policies and mechanisms to harness Sustainable Blue Economy; managing wastes, enforcing sustainable fishing and ensuring security and safety in high seas. The President further pledged establishment of 'blue bank' to finance 'blue growth in the country and enhance tertiary training on 'blue economy and oceans' at our premier University of Nairobi.
 - b) Contributing to the completion of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the WIO region during the 4th Negotiations Meeting on the ICZM Protocol held in March 2019 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. ICZM is an important tool supporting sustainable Ocean Governance in the WIO region.
 - c) Taking steps to support sustainable management of our oceans by banning plastic carrier bags as a follow up to its voluntary commitment on SDG target 14.1 on reducing marine pollution, during the Ocean Conference in June 2017 in New York
 - d) Involvement in the global Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ); and is in discussions on governance issues and ecological connectivity of areas beyond country Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs)
 - e) Working with Tanzania in the establishment of a Transboundary Conservation Area (TBCA) between the two countries. This is to demonstrate implementation of Marine Protected Areas as a tool to promote sustainable management of shared coastal and marine resources; considering that ecosystems have no administrative boundaries.
 - f) In line with SDG 13 (climate action), Kenya is revising its climate commitments under Paris Agreement to incorporate blue carbon ecosystems (such as mangroves and seagrass beds) in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Mainstreaming blue carbon in development and climate change agenda of the country have far reaching benefits to fishery productivity and community livelihood; which are key elements of good ocean governance.
 - g) Kenya is part of the 14 members of the High Level Panel (HLP) for a Sustainable Ocean Economy. The Panel is calling for ocean-based climate solutions in meeting Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals. Kenya will co- chair the Ocean Conference in September 2019 with Portugal in Lisbon.
5. The need to define ocean governance in the context of the WIO region and how operationalize it in the region was highlighted as a key issue that must be addressed. The information generated would then be used in the development of the WIO region Ocean Governance strategy which in turn will feed into Africa-wide Ocean Governance strategy. The importance of making use of regional agreements to meet the needs of national and local priorities was also highlighted as key to ensuring sustainable management.

Presentations

Promoting regional cooperation for ocean governance – Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Nairobi Convention Secretariat.

6. The presentation set the scene for discussions on the need to develop a framework that brings together various regional players to discuss ocean governance at WIO regional level and at the Africa continent level
7. The presentation highlighted (i) the Nairobi Convention contracting parties decisions on ocean governance (Decision CP9/6.1 and Decision CP9/13.2); (ii) the African Union Agenda 2063; (iii)

significance of ocean governance in the WIO region in supporting coastal community livelihoods, protection of biodiversity and sustainable exploitation of ocean resources; (iv) the ocean as a resources base for blue growth; (v) stakeholders in ocean governance including Regional Seas Programme (RSPs), Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs), Regional Fisheries Management organizations (RFMOs) and Regional Economic communities and cooperation among these regional frameworks; and (vi) Areas of on-going regional cooperation

8. Key discussion following the presentation were as follows
 - a) It was noted that none of the regional governance frameworks have an integrated policy across the board dealing with ocean governance
 - b) Science has a role in definition of ocean governance therefore there is need to identify what science is requires and which scientist should be involved in the discussions.
 - c) SDG 14 provides a vehicle to the global discussions and this can also drive regional discussions in supporting countries to report on progress in attaining to the SDG targets.

Aligning spatial conservation priorities with connectivity across management and maritime boundaries – Dr. Stephanie D’ Agata, Macquarie University

9. The presentation highlighted: (i) WIO -Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) spatial definitions; (ii) Cumulative effort and net worth of fisheries in WIo region; (iii) Spatial patterns of high seas fishing profits; (iv) Fish landings; (v) Management and the lack of a mechanism for countries to establish marine reserves; (vi) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi Target 11 on conservation of at least 11% terrestrial and inland waters and 10% coastal and marine areas by 2020; (vii) representativeness of geomorphic habitats; (viii) estimation of functional connectivity, marine connectivity (ABNJ to EEZ), larval density and settlement by EEZ; (ix) connection between WIO marine reserve networks; (x) climate change impacts on connections and regional patterns of climate trajectory classes; and (xi) Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) to ensure representativeness, connectivity and cost-based objectivity.
10. It was noted that there is need to improve evidence basis for protecting ABNJ and studies on feasibility, options and scenarios for establishment of marine protected areas in ABNJ could be carries out in consultation with countries involved and engaging relevant stakeholders.
11. Key discussions following the presentation were as follows:
 - a) It was noted that some areas that need to be protected are disputed zones therefore the protection may not possible
 - b) There is need to establish appropriate linkage between ABNJ and Climate change impact scenarios and the linkage needs to be strong to inform policy making.
 - c) It was mentioned that the practicality of establishing MPAs on the ABNJ would be difficult considering that there are still major challenges in managing illegal fisheries in the EEZ alone. It was suggested that closing high seas fisheries could be more beneficial.

Understanding connectivity between EEZs and ABNJs – Dr. Ekaterina Popova, National Oceanography Center, UK

12. The presentation highlighted the following: (i) the ocean ecological connectivity and migratory connectivity; (ii) Langrangian approaches as a tool for assessing connectivity; (iii) The most ABNJ connected least developed countries including Somalia and Tanzania in the WIO region (which are located towards the north and have great variability promoting connectivity) and areas of ABNJ most connected to the costal zones which include the central Indian Ocean-the ABNJ portion of the Mascarene Plateau among others; (iv)Connectivity footprint of WIO countries.

13. Key messages from the work on connectivity were that ABNJ have tight ecological connectivity to coastal waters, the level of county connectivity and subsequent exposure to direct effects of ABNJ activities varies significantly between countries and regions, some coastal areas/states may be more impacted by human activities in ABNJ and some areas of ABNJ are more prominent in their influence on coastal waters. Current debates on criteria to identify marine managed and marine protected areas in the ABNJ often focus on the ecological and biological significance of the habitat/area in question. The criteria for establishing MPAs in ABNJ must include potential socio-economic benefits for vulnerable coastal communities downstream of these areas.
14. A scientific paper and a briefing were developed from the work on marine connectivity.
15. Key discussions from the presentation were:
 - a) Socio-economic benefit to the coastal zone is one key aspect to consider in development of a management strategy based on the connectivity
 - b) It was suggested that MPAs could be established with flexible boundaries that can be reviewed based on climatic and ecological changes to climate-proof ecological connectivity
 - c) Addressing issues of equity and access is an important consideration
 - d) There is need to process the information received from science to inform decision and policy making on actions such as establishment of MPAs. The link must be clearly understood by policy makers in order for them to take the right action.
 - e) It was noted that the discussions on connectivity could be triggered from an economic angle so as to get the attention of government and local communities and make them understand the connection between EEZs and ABNJ and why ABNJ needs protection. Most countries do not bother much with ABNJ since they lack adequate capacity to manage the EEZs in the first place.
 - f) An important factor to consider would be how much emerging activities could potentially undermine coastal ecosystems that are important for ecological and economic benefits. Development is necessary but there is need to ensure sustainability of the ecosystems hence some tradeoffs may be necessary.
 - g) Ocean governance should have ocean resources at its core, who controls these resources, how they are accessed and distributed which must all be understood clearly for ocean governance to be effective.
 - h) There is need for further research on operationalization of flexible boundaries for MPAs and the legal implications that come with it that would make the boundaries absolute but temporary.
 - i) There is need for clear definition on the future environment for which the ocean governance strategy is being designed. We should look beyond the current benefits (social, ecological and economic) of the plans we make now and seek to project how the strategy will provide benefits for the future.
 - j) It is necessary to understand the environment in context of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5° C and factor in what measures we need to take in the next 10-20 years to come. IPCC will be releasing another document in September 2019 which would also be important to the regional ocean governance discussions.
 - k) It was noted that the use of the term 'high seas' was not agreeable to some countries since the countries do not have a mandate over the high seas. It was suggested that Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) be used instead in line with the policies for some countries.



- l) The removal of harmful fisheries subsidies was highlighted as an important measure that need to be taken in the region to protect its ecological diversity and provide economic benefits. Good fisheries subsidies can be retained to provide incentives to the countries.
- m) It was noted that connectivity should also be considered in terms of species since connectivity may be species specific.

SDG 14, BBNJ and other progress in global ocean governance: Opportunities and challenge for the WIO region – Mr. Sebastian Unger, IASS-Potsdam

- 16. The presentation highlighted the following: (i) The ocean governance challenges and opportunities (ii) the fragmented institutional framework that currently exists in ocean governance; (iii) the legal jurisdictional distinction between zones with minimal consideration of connectivity between the zones which affects wholistic ocean governance; (iv) Global and regional governance regimes in the WIO region and the limited cross-sectoral and global-regional cooperation; (v) Ocean governance processes in the context of SDG 14 and the co-benefits of achieving SDG 14 targets; (vi) the BBNJ Agreement currently being developed under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); (vii) Elements of BBNJ negotiations including marine genetic resources, area-based management tools, environmental impact assessments, and capacity building and technology transfer; (viii) Challenges and opportunities for ocean governance in the WIO region; (ix) the need for integrated ocean management and cross-sectoral cooperation and coherence between global, regional and national processes of ocean governance and (x) the key global ocean governance processes including Agenda 2030 SDG 14, BBNJ Negotiations, the Paris Agreement and Blue COP, the Mining Code of the International Seabed Authority and the UN Ocean Decade (2021-2030).
- 17. The key challenges highlighted were: Sectoral approach and management on different governance levels, limited cooperation and coordination across sectors, and legal gaps such as no comprehensive regime for BBNJ.
- 18. The key opportunities highlighted were: the global processes and heightened awareness for improving ocean governance, and the regional ocean governance being a 'broker' to facilitate integrated approach across sectors and complementarity between governance levels from global via regional to national level. Enhanced regional ocean governance and development of an integrated approach across governance levels should be an area of major focus.
- 19. The discussions following the presentation were as follows:
 - a) It was mentioned that in 2020, the Ocean conference will take place in Lisbon, Portugal and will review the SDG 14 and progress in achieving its targets. 4 out of the 11 targets have deadlines set at 2020 and it is likely that the targets may not be realized by then. The region can support in meeting these targets by focusing on existing synergies so as to strategize on the SDG 14 targets.
 - b) It was mentioned that the 1st draft of BBNJ treaty has been put on UN DOALOS website and this can be accessed and reviewed to see how to link the ocean governance discussions at the region with the global BBNJ discussions.
 - c) It was noted that WIOMSA provides a good example of how science can inform policy through the Symposium which provides input and recommendations to policy.
 - d) There is need for explicit linkages to demand, cost and drivers of change that need to be considered in development of an ocean governance strategy for the region.
 - e) SDG 14 provides a good vehicle to pursue ocean governance in the region and can be well linked to SDG 13 on climate change to provide further justification for sustainable ocean governance. While SDG 14 may be a suitable framework for development of

Ocean Governance, it is still a policy that is not legally binding and thus requires the legally binding agreement linked to it to strengthen its effectiveness in the ocean governance strategy.

- f) There is need for inclusion of aspects such as development of functional capacity and financial assessment in the development of the ocean governance strategy since countries in the region vary in terms of technical and resources capacity.
- g) It was noted that there is need to look into how to maximize on some of the platforms initiated by governments in the region that are already engaging other states in order to gain political will for the ocean governance process
- h) There is need for a coherent network of stakeholders to be considered at the regional level to promote coordination of the different sectors and avoid working in silos.
- i) The WIO region can be proactive in the global ocean governance and BBNJ discussions by developing the regional perspective and mechanism for ocean governance which would then inform the global processes rather than waiting for the global process to give the input and the region reacts.
- j) It was mentioned that Seabed mining is a parallel process taking place and the new BBNJ agreement is not expected to undermine the competence of existing institutions but will promote an integrated management approach among the different sectors in oceans. In order to address ocean governance, issue a wholistic manner, the region needs to target organizations with the mandate in this and bring into the regional discussions.

West Indian Ocean Governance and Exchange Network (WIOGEN) – Prof. Anna-Katharine Hornidge, Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) and Dr. Adnan Awad, international Ocean Institute (IOI)-Africa region

20. The presentation highlighted work of WIOGEN which is a science and policy network that brings together scientist, practitioners and policy makers of ocean governance over a period of 2 years to work on joint publishing exercises, training courses, staff exchanges and the development of teaching material. This will culminate in the development of a joint concept for a Graduate School on Ocean Governance in the WIO region. The presentation also highlighted (i) WIOGEN's key partnerships at national, regional and international level; (ii) the WIOGEN Ocean Governance Working groups – Nutritional security, sustainable fisheries, aquaculture and livelihoods, Marine spatial planning and coastal management and Biodiversity conservation, pollution and habitat loss; (iii) WIOGEN structure including the scientific co-chairs, coordination office, scientific advisory council, working group leads and the management committee; (iv) the milestones and deliverables in the 2 years of the project (2019-2020) including joint conferences, scientific and training exchange mission (STEMs), sea campus training, science policy event, joint publications, co-design and production of open access educational, virtual lecture material and submission of concept for a Graduate School; (v) the project budget and the in kind contributions from ZMT and (vi) the partnership approach adopted by WIOGEN working together with CORDIO and WIOMSA.
21. Discussion following the presentation were as follows:
 - a) There is need to think of how to synergize WIOGEN works with the Science-Policy platform under the Nairobi Convention. Nairobi Convention and ZMT are currently in the process of drafting a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for four projects and will seek to have joint discussions and joint activities to share and exchange ideas. This is to avoid duplication but instead complement the on-going work in the region.

- b) It was mentioned that WIOGEN has funding for training schools and are looking to collaborate with other partners in the region with interest in development of capacity for different stakeholders in the region.
- c) It was noted that there is need for balance between academic and non-academic institutions involved in the project. The academic pillar is necessary for embedding the proposed Graduate School. WIOGEN will incorporate not only institutions but also individuals and youth to provide their expertise to the activities.
- d) There is need for clarification on what the focus of the ocean governance graduate school be that is whether it will solely deal with ocean governance or will be multi-disciplinary. This will be clarified as the project progresses and there is more understanding on what will be suitable for the region. The current proposed structure is to first start with training schools for each of the 3 working groups under the project. These working groups will not be closed but will be interactive with other thematic areas and cross cutting issues.
- e) It was mentioned that there is consideration on the sustainability of the work post the project period and the work can be institutionalized under the IOI which is a well-established institution.

Group Discussions Session

22. Participants were divided into two groups and tasked to discuss the following key areas:

- a) The stakeholders that need to be involved in the development of the ocean governance strategy for the region
- b) Priority areas for ocean governance that need to be included in the strategy
- c) Role of the Science -Policy Platform in supporting the development of the ocean governance strategy

Key Area 1: Stakeholders to be involved in the Development of the Ocean Governance Strategy.

23. These include:

- a) Governments: Ministries of Environment (Nairobi Convention Focal Points), Fisheries, Shipping (maritime transport), Foreign Affairs, Energy (Oil and Gas), Ocean/Blue Economy, Mining, Trade
- b) Civil Society Organizations
- c) Private Sector (Bio-prospecting, mining, shipping, oil and gas, renewable energy and tourism industries)
- d) Scientific Research institutions/practitioners (such as policy scientists, marine scientists, ecologists, oceanographers, governance experts)
- e) Academic Institutions
- f) Regional Seas Programmes (RSP)
- g) Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO)
- h) Regional Economic Commissions/ Communities (REC)
- i) Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFB)
- j) Regional Organizations such as Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), Ports Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA)
- k) Oceanographic institutions such as IOC-UNESCO (for science and cultural heritage)

24. The following comments were made:

- a) The national level processes should be a starting point for the ocean governance discussions. This is in order to bring all the relevant sectors together and agree at national level who will represent national priorities at the regional discussions.
- b) Consideration should be given to the inclusion of the military/navy in the discussions since they are involved in maritime security and in some countries these institutions have the mandate to deal with ocean jurisdictional issues.
- c) There is need for clear criteria for stakeholder engagement in the ocean governance discussions and at what level (of seniority, particularly for governments) these stakeholders will be involved. Some work done under the SAPPHIRE project could build on the process of identification of the stakeholders
- d) Ocean champions can be included among the stakeholders – these can be identified as ocean ambassadors for the region
- e) It was suggested that it may be easier to work with the regional institutions such as IORA which already brings together scientist, diplomats (foreign affairs), navy and trade sectors from national level. These bodied have established contacts with various ministries in various sectors rather than beginning to identify these national stakeholders afresh.
- f) At the government level it may be necessary to include the ministry of Finance. Representation from the ministry can be reached through the RECs
- g) There is need to identify those who are impacting the ABNJ areas so that they can also be included in the discussions.
- h) There is need to also consider practitioners in the Science- Policy dialogue who engage both with Scientists and Policy makers- they can be a source of data and information and can support in reflecting the true reality.
- i) An aspect of success would be to set up a framework to bring all the different actors together to discuss the challenges affecting the ocean governance. This will support to meet SDG 14. Different actors are coordinating different SDG 14 targets. With linkage to other SDGs more organizations will be involved.
- j) It was suggested that the International Waters be considered as a stakeholder as the area is like 'no-man's land' yet it is an important area.

Key Area 2: Priority Areas for Ocean Governance.

25. These include:

- a) Combating Marine pollution
- b) Sustainable Management of shared fisheries resources
- c) Climate Change
- d) Integrated Governance
- e) Harmful subsidies and industrial fishing in the high seas
- f) Connectivity between EEZs and the ABNJ: Fishing efforts in the high seas
- g) Regional monitoring and surveillance mechanisms
- h) Deep Seabed mining (benefit sharing and intellectual property rights)
- i) Maritime Security (piracy)
- j) Marine Resources Management
- k) Bio-prospecting
- l) Sustainable Development Goal 14 and linkage to other SDGs
- m) Regional Cooperation and collaboration

- n) Science-Policy Interface
- o) Management system for data sharing of shared ecosystems
- p) Poverty and food security (economic and livelihood support from oceans)
- q) Blue Economy
- r) Marine Spatial Planning
- s) Policy review (alignment and harmonization)
- t) Area Based Planning Tools
- u) Collaboration and capacity building
- v) UN Decade of Ocean Science (2021-2030) which is a supportive political process
- w) Economic Incentives for Sustainable development (defining regional application of available tools in transboundary and bilateral contexts)

26. The following comments were made:

- a) The Ocean governance strategy is a strategic document that seeks to provide guidance and should not be expected to function like a legally binding agreement
- b) There is need for country representation in global discussions for example in the case of Seabed Mining where licenses are issued by ISA which is a global institution, and countries are not consulted. The ocean governance strategy should provide a structure for communication and consultation between countries and global frameworks such as ISA.
- c) There is need to conduct assessments (to establish a baseline of ocean governance that already exists) and policy review at national and regional levels to ensure there is alignment and harmonization.
- d) Existing data from previous projects such as WIOLaB and ASCLME can be useful in supporting the process. The priorities identified in the Strategic Action Programmes developed under the projects should also be taken into account
- e) There should be better communication mechanisms within and between national and regional level to promote cooperation and effectiveness in development and implementation of the ocean governance strategy.
- f) There is need for better linkage of national efforts to the achievement of SDG 14 as these efforts may at times be overlooked when considering national contributions towards the achievement of SDG 14 targets.
- g) There is need to carry out a gap analysis identifying what data/information and capacity is available and what is missing and will be required for the development and implementation of the ocean governance strategy.
- h) There is need to identify a mandated regional institution to facilitate the development and implementation of the ocean governance strategy
- i) There is need to provide tangible input to processes such as BBNJ and how it can help countries in delivering SDGs
- j) Gender sensitive ocean governance should also be considered in the strategy. There is need to include men, women, youth and elderly people in ocean governance issues.
- k) Connectivity aspects should include priority areas international waters and biodiversity e.g. seamounts
- l) The frameworks provided by SDGs and different goals would be supportive in identifying key priorities and challenges.
- m) There is need to think of aspects of best practices, equity, transparency and consider these under the guiding principles that are already existing and adopted policy instruments

- n) There is need to consider how progress in terms of ocean governance will be measured. The ocean governance strategy should have a section on monitoring and surveillance as a cross cutting issue.
- o) The Joint Management Area (JMA) between Seychelles and Mauritius provides a good test case of how we can manage an area between two countries and could be considered for adoption in management of other areas such as between Tanzania and Seychelles on Aldabra Island. The project is however still quite new for the two countries and also at the global scale.
- p) The ocean governance strategy should not be re-inventing the wheel but can consider bridging key issues such as sectoral harmonization and alignment in the legal division of zones. This could build on seeds such as collaboration between Nairobi Convention a regional seas programme and South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) a regional fisheries management organization and how to apply regional governance approach to move ahead in these already existing initiatives.

Key Area 3: Role of Science – Policy Platform in supporting the development of the ocean governance strategy.

27. These include:

- a) Science agenda setting from the region-using existing scientific networks
- b) Development of a database for experts
- c) Strengthening WIOMSA as a coordinating body
- d) Strengthening regional ocean assessment process
- e) Scientists provide data as a basis for policy and decision making
- f) Policy makers present their policy needs and priorities which require scientific input
- g) Development of decision support tools to guide policy making

28. The following comments were made:

- a) There is need for better communication of science by the scientists to inform policy and decision making. The information should be made readily available and accessible
- b) There is need for capacity development (training) for both scientists and policy makers – for scientists to communicate the information better and for policy maker to understand information better and uptake this into decision making processes.

Conclusions from the session:

- 29. It is important to ensure that the ocean governance strategy does not remain a shelf document but rather is a document of utility in the region and can be updated as necessary. This can be achieved by having a clear definition of what the strategy intends to achieve for the region and in line with national and regional priorities.
- 30. There is no one institution has the mandate to cover all aspects of the ocean. Ocean governance should improve the coordination of all the different actors key in ocean management and ocean governance discussions to address the different governance needs and priorities of the region.
- 31. In follow -up to this session it is envisaged that outcomes from the session will be presented for further discussions on the structure of the ocean governance strategy at the WIO regional ocean governance workshop in September 2019. The session was the beginning of a journey not an end in itself. The outcomes of the WIO regional ocean governance will be presented at the Marine Regions Forum in at the end of September in Berlin, as an example of how regions are

working to deal with the complexities of ocean governance. The outcomes are also expected feature in the ocean discussions in 2020 in Portugal.

32. The development of the ocean governance for the WIO region is also expected to influence ocean governance discussion as the Africa continent level in the African Union (AU). The AU is weak on ocean governance issues yet it is the structure from which governments take their instructions to deal with their transboundary issues. It is therefore necessary for the region to provide input so as to raise the profile of oceans in the AU agenda.
33. Depending on available capacity, the region can go a step further to ensure some countries have ocean policies at national level which would be a great stride beyond what has been envisaged.

Annex

Annex 1: Session Agenda

Friday, 05 July 2019		
Time	Event	Speaker
Session I: Official Opening of the Meeting		
11.30 – 11.40	Opening of the meeting	Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Nairobi Convention Secretariat Dr James Kairo, Government of Kenya Mr. Sebastian Unger, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS- Potsdam)
11.40 – 12.00	Introduction to the session: Rationale for session and the need for an ocean governance perspective for the region, Objectives of the session and expected outcomes	Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Nairobi Convention Secretariat
Session II: Overview of ocean governance (regional and global perspectives)		
12.00 – 12.15	Aligning Marine Spatial Conservation priorities with Functional Connectivity across Maritime Jurisdiction	Dr. Stephanie D'agata, Macquarie University
12.15 - 12.30	Understanding connectivity between EEZs and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)	Dr. Ekaterina Popova, National Oceanography Centre, UK
12.30 - 12.45	SDG14, BBNJ and other progress in global ocean governance: Opportunities and challenges for the Western Indian Ocean	Mr. Sebastian Unger, IASS-Potsdam
12.45 – 13.00	Plenary discussions/feedback	
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.15 – 14.30	Development of the Western Indian Ocean Governance Exchange Network (WIOGEN)	Prof. Anna-Katharina Hornidge, Leibniz Centre for Marine Tropical Research (ZMT) / Dr. Adnan Awad, International Ocean Institute (IOI Southern Africa)
14.30 – 15.45	Round Table Discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying stakeholders to be involved in the development of a WIO region ocean governance perspective 	Round table discussion facilitators Prof. Anna-Katharina Hornidge, Leibniz Centre for Marine Tropical Research (ZMT)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority areas and issues for ocean governance in the WIO region• The role of science/policy interfaces in ocean governance	Mr. Sebastian Unger, IASS Potsdam
15.45 – 16.15	Coffee/Tea Break	
16.15 – 16.30	Plenary feedback from round table discussions	Round table discussion facilitators
16.30 – 17.15	Plenary Discussion	Dr. Julius Francis, WIOMSA (Moderator)
17.15 – 17.30	Next Steps and Closing of the Session	Mr. Sebastian Unger, IASS – Potsdam Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Nairobi Convention Secretariat