

**Science to Policy Forum for the UNEP/Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean**

**VIRTUAL MEETING 23-25 March 2021**

**Theme:** *Transition to a Sustainable Western Indian Ocean Blue Economy: Addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities*

**Provisional Programme**

Tuesday, 23 March 2021		
Time	Event	Responsible
<b>Session 1: Official Opening of the Meeting</b>		<b>Chair: Nairobi Convention Secretariat</b>
10:00	Introduction to the Workshop	Nairobi Convention Secretariat
10:10	Opening statements	WIOMSA
10:20		Government of Kenya
10:30	Election of the Chair	Chair of the Nairobi Convention Bureau
10:35	Adoption of the Agenda	
<b>Chair: Chair of the Nairobi Convention Bureau</b>		
<b>Session II: Keynote presentation I</b>		
10:40	Ocean Finance: Financing the Transition to a Sustainable Ocean Economy' focusing on Africa	Rashid Sumaila
11:00	<b>General Discussions</b>	
<b>Session III: Assessment and Conservation of critical habitats and endangered species</b>		
11:10	Working towards a better understanding of Western Indian Ocean deep sea ecosystems	Lucy Woodall & Sheena Talma
11:20	Supporting national and regional alignment in coral reef management: The Western Indian Ocean Coral Reef IUCN Red List of Ecosystems Assessment	David Obura <i>et al</i>
11:30	Protecting threatened sharks and rays in the Western Indian Ocean	Rhett Bennett
11:40	<b>General discussions</b>	
<b>11:50</b>	<b>10 Minutes Break</b>	
12:00	Towards a Regional Mangrove Vision	Harifidy Ralison <i>et al</i>
12:10	Underwater Noise and Shipping and the threats they pose to marine species in the Western Indian Ocean	
12:20	Strengthening regional regulatory frameworks and national capacity for handling marine biodiversity data in the Western Indian Ocean	Hauke Kegler <i>et al</i>
12:30	<b>General discussions</b>	
<b>Chair: Ademola Ajabe</b>		

12:40	Overview of oceanographic data and research for improved ocean governance in the Western Indian Ocean Region	Kwame Koranteng & Bernadine Everett
12:50	Ecosystem Monitoring Framework for the Western Indian Ocean	Warwick Sauer
13:00	Proposed Strategic Framework for Marine Water Quality Management in the Western Indian Ocean	Susan Taljaard <i>et al</i>
13:10	<b>General discussions</b>	
<b>Session IV: Climate change adaptation and mitigation</b>		
13:20	Ocean Acidification - a hidden risk to sustainable development in the Western Indian Ocean	Sam Dupont <i>et al</i>
13:30	The Climate and Ocean Risk Vulnerability Index: Measuring Complex Climate Threats in Coastal Cities to Enable Action	Jack Stuart <i>et al</i>
13:40	Prioritization of climate refugia in the Western Indian Ocean	Nyawira Muthiga
14:00	<b>General discussions</b>	
14:10	End of the Day	

<b>Wednesday, 24 March 2021</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
10:00	Recap of the First Day	Arthur Tuda
<b>Chair: Jacqueline Uku</b>		
<b>Session V: Keynote presentation II</b>		
10:05	The role of the private sector in the management of plastics as an environmental challenge	Douw Steyn
10:25	<b>General Discussions</b>	
<b>Session VI: Establishing and Managing area-based conservation measures</b>		
10:35	Establishment of Marine Transboundary Conservation Areas in WIO: From Theory to Practice	Arthur Tuda <i>et al</i>
10:45	Strengthening the WIO MPA Network and cooperative actions of governments and society	
10:55	Mainstreaming community managed marine areas into the Western Indian Ocean's governance frameworks	Melita Samoilys <i>et al</i>
11:05	<b>General Discussions</b>	
11:15	The ongoing role of the Nairobi Convention in delivering well-connected and effective systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures	
11:25	Western Indian Ocean Marine Protected Areas Outlook: Towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	Arthur Tuda <i>et al</i>

11:35	Addressing shifting governance contexts and development objectives in the Quirimbas National Park, Mozambique	
11:45	<b>General Discussions</b>	
<b>Chair: Dr. Akunga Momanyi</b>		
<b>Session VII: Regional Ocean governance: Emerging issues/frameworks</b>		
11:55	Improving the understanding and regional awareness of illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing occurring in small-scale	Keith Roberts <i>et al</i>
12:05	Coastal cities and Blue economy	Valentine Ochanda <i>et al</i>
12:15	Co-Design as the basis for collaboration and science to policy uptake in the Western Indian Ocean	Ron Fluegel <i>et al</i>
12:25	Plastic Pollution Hotspotting and Shaping Action for Eastern and Southern Africa	Peter Manyara
12:35	<b>General Discussions</b>	
12:50	<b>10 Minutes Break</b>	
13:00	A regional Marine Spatial Planning strategy for the Western Indian Ocean	Amanda Lombard <i>et al</i>
13:10	Engaging the Private Sector in Regional Ocean Governance in the Western Indian Ocean Region	Alex Benkenstein <i>et al</i>
13:20	Regional Ocean Governance - the road to a regional strategy	Yvonne Waweru <i>et al</i>
13:30	<b>General Discussions</b>	
13:45	End of the Day	

Thursday, 25 March 2021		
Time	Event	Responsible
<b>Chair: Sinikinesh Beyene Jimma</b>		
10:00	Recap of the Second Day	Ulrika Gunnartz
10:05	COVID-19 and the future of Ocean Sustainability – supporting adaptation to post-COVID changes in the Western Indian Ocean	David Obura <i>et al</i>
10:15	A review of the current status of marine litter and microplastics knowledge in the Western Indian Ocean region: amounts, sources, fate and resultant ecological and human health impacts on the coastal and marine environment	
10:25	Economic consequences of unmanaged plastics and the economic opportunities in the WIO region	
10:35	A review of marine plastic litter in the WIO region: Effectiveness of measures undertaken, and opportunities	

10:45	Sans frontières - Ocean and Coastal Sustainability of the Western Indian Ocean	Louis Celliers <i>et al</i>
10:55	Open Data for Regional Marine Spatial Planning Decision Support	Duncan Hume & Gustav Kågesten
11:15	<b>General discussions</b>	
<b>Session VIII: Summary of 2021 SPP recommendations</b>		
11:35	Presentation of proposed recommendations	Nairobi Convention
11:50	General discussions	
<b>Session IX: Closing Ceremony</b>		
12:00	Closing remarks	WIOMSA
		Nairobi Convention
		Government of Kenya