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Eleventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP) to  
the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas  
and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region

Virtual Meeting, 27 July 2021

#### PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region held in Kingston, 15 to 18 January 1990, adopted the SPAW Protocol to the Cartagena Convention, which came into force on 18 June 2000. Article 23 of the SPAW Protocol provides for the convening and functioning of the Meetings of the Parties and calls for these ordinary meetings to be held in conjunction with the Ordinary Meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena Convention. In light of the above, this Meeting is convened by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Cartagena Convention Secretariat by means of a virtual meeting, on 27 July 2021 preceding the Nineteenth Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Sixteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean, Virtual Meeting 21-23 July 2021.
2. The main objectives of this Eleventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP11) to the SPAW Protocol are to:
  - **Review** and **adopt** the Recommendations of the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC9) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region, Virtual Meeting;
  - **Review** and **approve** the 2021-2022 Workplan and Budget of the SPAW Subprogramme for subsequent approval by the Nineteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Fifteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region;
  - **Review** and **approve** the reports on protected areas presented by Parties for listing under the SPAW Protocol;
  - **Review** and **adopt** the SPAW STAC9 recommendations on the species proposed for listing under the SPAW Protocol;

*For reasons of economy and the environment, Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of the Working and Information documents to the Meeting, and not to request additional copies.*

3. The seventeen Contracting Parties to the SPAW Protocol are invited to nominate their respective representatives to participate in the Meeting. Representatives of governments that are non-Contracting Parties and of international, regional, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, have also been invited to attend the Meeting as Observers. The Provisional List of Participants will be presented in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.44/INF.2.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING**

4. The Meeting will be opened by the Secretariat on Tuesday, 27 July 2021, at 8:00 using a virtual platform.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 2: ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING**

##### 2.1 Rules of Procedure

5. The Rules of Procedure for the meetings of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) (UNEP, 2012) will apply, *mutatis mutandis*, for the conduct of the Meeting.

##### 2.2 Election of Officers

6. The Meeting will be invited to elect from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties to SPAW; the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Rapporteur for the conduct of the Meeting.

##### 2.3 Organisation of Work

7. English, French and Spanish will be the working languages of the Meeting. Simultaneous interpretation in these languages will be provided for the Meeting, and the Working Documents will be available in all the working languages. The Provisional List of Documents of the Meeting is presented in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.44/INF.1.
8. The Secretariat proposes to convene the Meeting in plenary sessions, with the assistance of working groups if necessary, which may be established by the Chairperson. No simultaneous interpretation will be available for the working groups. Participants will be reminded that, given the length of the Meeting, breaking into working groups might not be feasible. Participants are therefore expected to come prepared, having reviewed all working documents as appropriate, in order to provide concrete inputs at the time of discussion.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

9. The Meeting will be invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda, prepared by the Secretariat based on inputs received from the Contracting Parties during preparations for the Meeting, on relevant recommendations and decisions from previous STAC and COP Meetings of the SPAW Protocol, as well as on emerging issues of relevance to the biodiversity of the Wider Caribbean. The Provisional Agenda proposed by the Secretariat is presented in UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.44/1.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: STATUS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE SPAW SUBPROGRAMME FOR 2019-2020, INCLUDING ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR SPAW (SPAW-RAC) IN GUADELOUPE**

10. The Secretariat will present the “Status of Activities of the SPAW Subprogramme for 2019-2020” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.3), including a brief presentation by SPAW-RAC of the “Report of the SPAW Regional Activity Centre (SPAW-RAC) in Guadeloupe with regard to RAC operations and budget for the period 2019-2020” (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.4).

11. During the presentation the Secretariat will also briefly refer to the following documents:
- The State of Nearshore Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean (SoMH) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.5) and Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030 (RSAP) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.6);
  - Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.7 Add.1) and Strategic Directions and Plan for CaMPAM (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.8); and
  - Developing an Ecological Network between the SPAW-listed MPAs (Marine Protected Areas) of the Wider Caribbean (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.10).
  - Review of the Dominican Republic’s proposal for listing of the “Cotubamana National Park” under the SPAW Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.22)
  - Summary report on the update of the Marine Mammals action plan and implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals (MAMP) in the Wider Caribbean: A Scientific and Technical Analysis (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.29 Add.1);
12. The Meeting will be invited to provide any comments on the activities implemented during 2019-2020 and to make the necessary recommendations. Parties will also be requested to complement the information provided by the Secretariat and inform the Meeting on their activities in support of SPAW objectives within their countries, including SPAW workplan activities in which they have participated and their impact.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: WORKPLAN AND BUDGET OF THE SPAW SUBPROGRAMME FOR THE 2021-2022 BIENNIUM**

13. The Secretariat will present the “Draft Workplan and Budget of the SPAW Subprogramme for the 2021-2022 Biennium” (contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/5), developed following Decisions of previous COP Meetings, to address relevant and emerging global and regional biodiversity issues and initiatives, and to continue the development of strategic alliances.
14. The Meeting will be invited to approve the draft SPAW Workplan and Budget as revised by SPAW STAC9 and provide specific comments and recommendations as needed. Subsequently, the Workplan and Budget will be presented to the Nineteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Sixteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, as part of the Workplan and Budget for the Caribbean Environment Programme for the 2021-2022 Biennium, for its final adoption.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC9) TO THE SPAW PROTOCOL**

15. The Secretariat will present the Recommendations of the SPAW STAC9 for review and approval (virtual meetings 17-19 March and 14-15 April 2021) (contained in documents UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/9 and/8). The Secretariat will call to the attention of the Meeting, the relevant documents in support of the STAC9 Recommendations:
- Review of the Dominican Republic’s proposal for listing of the “Cotubamana National Park” under the SPAW Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.4 and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.44/INF.22 and Proposal of the “Cotubamana National Park” by the Dominican Republic for Listing Under the SPAW Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.22 Add.1) regarding **STAC9 Recommendation V(2)**.

- The Report of the Working Group on the Listing of Species under the Annexes to the SPAW Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.34 **STAC9 Recommendation XI (1)**;
- The State of Nearshore Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean (SoMH) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.5) and Regional Strategy Action Plan for the Valuation, Protection and/or Restoration of Key Marine Habitats in the Wider Caribbean 2021–2030 (RSAP) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.6) STAC9 Recommendation IX (1);
- Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM) (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.7 Add.1) and Strategic Directions and Plan for CaMPAM (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.8) STAC9 Recommendation V (6);
- Developing an Ecological Network between the SPAW-listed MPAs (Marine Protected Areas) of the Wider Caribbean (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.10) STAC9 Recommendation V (8).
- Sargassum White Paper 2021: Turning the Crisis into an opportunity (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.35) STAC9 Recommendation VII (2 and3).
- Summary report on the update of the Marine Mammals action plan and implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals (MAMP) in the Wider Caribbean: A Scientific and Technical Analysis (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.29 Addendum 1) STAC9 Recommendation XI (7).

#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

16. Participants will be invited to raise any other issue not covered by the preceding Agenda items, but relevant to the scope of the Meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE MEETING**

17. The Rapporteur of the Meeting will present the draft Decisions of the Meeting (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR IG.44/3). The Meeting will be invited to adopt decisions, with amendments and corrections to be introduced, as appropriate. The decisions will be made available to the Nineteenth Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Sixteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region Virtual Meeting for adoption.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 9: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

18. The Meeting is expected to be closed on Tuesday, 27 July 2021 at 2:00 p.m. by the Chairperson of the Meeting and the Secretariat.