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Seventh Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities in the Wider Caribbean.

Virtual, 22-25 July 2025

### **PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA**

#### **Introduction and Objectives**

1. This meeting serves as the Seventh Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), established under Article XIV of the LBS Protocol, following the entry into force of the LBS Protocol in August 2010. Under Article XIII.2.c, the Secretariat of the Cartagena Convention is responsible for providing such assistance that the STAC may require to carry out its functions, as referred to in Article XIV.
2. In accordance with the approved Work Plan and Budget for 2023-2025, the Seventh LBS STAC Meeting is being held from 22 to 25 July 2025.
3. The proposed objectives of the Seventh LBS STAC Meeting are to:
  - Evaluate the projects and activities implemented by the Secretariat and the LBS Regional Activity Centres (RACs) within the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) Sub-Programme during the period 2023-2025;
  - Review the progress made in the implementation of the Recommendations of the Sixth LBS STAC Meeting, Decisions of the Sixth Conference of Parties to the LBS Protocol, and relevant Decisions of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention;
  - Review the status of ratification and/or implementation of the LBS Protocol in member countries;
  - Review and provide technical input to the Draft AMEP Work Plan for the 2026-2027 biennium for subsequent submission to, and approval by, the Seventh Conference of Parties to the LBS Protocol; and
  - Provide recommendations concerning the implementation of the LBS Protocol for consideration by the Seventh Conference of Parties to the LBS Protocol.

**Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting**

4. The Meeting will be opened by the Secretariat on Tuesday, 22 July 2025 at 8:00 a.m. (GMT-5).

**Agenda item 2: Election of Officers**

5. The Meeting will be invited to elect from among the Parties a President, two Vice Presidents, and a Rapporteur for the Meeting.

**Agenda item 3: Organization of the Meeting**

(a) Rules of procedure

6. The rules of procedure for meetings of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention) as contained in UNEP, 2010 and adopted pursuant to Article 20 of the Cartagena Convention, will apply for the conduct of the Meeting.

(b) Organization of the 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. The working documents of the Meeting will be available in all working languages.
8. The Secretariat proposes to convene the Meeting in plenary sessions, with the assistance of working groups. The President may also establish other working groups. Simultaneous interpretation will not be available for working groups.

**Agenda item 4: Adoption of the Agenda**

9. The Meeting will be invited to adopt the Agenda of the Meeting. The Provisional Agenda proposed by the Secretariat is contained in document **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/1** and the Provisional Annotated Agenda in **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/2**.

**Agenda item 5: Review of the AMEP Sub-Programme Activities for the period 2023-2025**

(a) Review of the Status of Ratification and Accession to the LBS Protocol

10. The Secretariat will present the current status of ratifications and/or accessions to the LBS Protocol as provided by the Government of Colombia, as Depositary for the Cartagena Convention and as provided in **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/INF.3**.

(b) Review of Activities

11. The Secretariat will be invited to make a presentation on the projects and activities implemented within the scope of the LBS Protocol, and their achievements. During its presentation, the Secretariat will refer to document **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/INF.4**, as well as other relevant information and reference documents as appropriate. During this presentation, the Secretariat will also summarize the progress made in the implementation of the Recommendations of the Sixth LBS STAC, Decisions of the Sixth LBS COP and the relevant Decisions of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties

to the Cartagena Convention.

12. The two LBS Regional Activity Centres will be invited as part of the Secretariat's presentation, to report on their activities in support of the LBS Protocol **(UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/INF.5).**
13. The Meeting will be invited to comment and/or seek additional clarification on any of the projects and activities implemented during the biennium and make recommendations, as appropriate.
14. The President will invite the Government of Trinidad and Tobago as Chair of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment to report on the working group's activities **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/INF.6.**
15. The Meeting will be invited to comment and/or seek additional clarification and make recommendations, as appropriate.

#### **Agenda item 6: Information Papers**

16. The President will invite the Regional Activity Centres CIMAB and IMA to introduce the following information papers for discussion and recommendations on the way forward:
  - Draft guidelines for the classification of waters: **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.44/INF.16 Rev.1**
  - Regional criteria and standards for Nitrogen (N) and Phosphorus (P) loads in domestic and industrial wastewater discharges: **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.44/INF.17 Rev.1.**
  - Recommendations for amendments to the LBS Protocol to facilitate increased reuse of domestic wastewater including adoption of new criteria or standards for domestic wastewater discharges **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/INF.13.**
  - Assessment and recommendations on the management of freshwater resources within the framework of the Cartagena Convention **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.44/INF.9 Rev.1.**

#### **Agenda item 7: Draft Work Plan for the AMEP Sub-Programme for the 2026-2027 biennium**

17. The Secretariat will present the Draft Work Plan for AMEP/LBS Protocol for the 2026-2027 biennium as contained in document **UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/3 and that for the LBS RACs as contained in documents UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/4a and UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/4b.** The work plan was prepared based on inputs received from governments, recommendations of regional project steering committees, recommendations and decisions of relevant regional and global decision-making fora including of relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), members of the Regional Activity Network (RAN) and other regional partner organizations.
18. The Meeting will be invited to review and comment on the draft documents from the AMEP Sub-Programme and, subject to any proposed modifications, endorse the Draft Work Plan for 2026-2027 and the Work Plans presented by the LBS RACs. The updated Draft Work Plan and a Draft Budget will be forwarded to the Seventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties for the LBS Protocol for approval.
19. The Meeting will be invited to provide additional comments and/or recommendations for national and regional actions to promote the ratification and implementation of the LBS Protocol.

**Agenda item 8: Other Business**

20. The participants of the Meeting will be invited to raise other issues not covered by the preceding agenda items, but relevant to the scope of the Meeting.
21. Requests from member governments or observer organizations to make brief presentations to the Meeting will be accommodated at this time.
22. The Meeting will be invited to comment and/or seek additional clarification and make recommendations, as appropriate.
23. The Secretariat will invite member governments to indicate any interest in hosting upcoming meetings of the Secretariat.

**Agenda item 9: Adoption of the Recommendations of the Meeting**

24. The Rapporteur of the Meeting will present the draft Recommendations of the Meeting (**Document, UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.46/5**). The Meeting will be invited to adopt the recommendations, with amendments and corrections to be introduced in the draft, as appropriate.

**Agenda item 10: Closure of the Meeting**

25. The Meeting is expected to be closed on Friday, 25 July 2025 at 13:00 by the President of the Meeting and the Secretariat.