



Distr.: Restricted

25 juin 2019

Original: English

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**Plenipotentiaries Meeting of the Contracting Parties to  
the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection,  
Management and Development of the Marine and  
Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West,  
Central and Southern African Region (Abidjan  
Convention)**

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire from 4 July 2019

**Working Session for the Implementation of the Abidjan Convention  
Monitoring and Evaluation Plan**

**Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire**

**Wednesday 4 July, 2019**

## **I. Context**

The Abidjan Convention, administered by the United Nations Environment, is an agreement arising from the need to adopt a regional approach for the prevention, reduction and control of pollution of marine environment, coastal waters and related river waters of West, Central and South Africa. The Convention has evolved and updated its mandate through various instruments, including additional Protocols. Today, the Convention engages Contracting Parties into a wide range of strategic and operational objectives, including, cooperation in the domains of the marine and coastal environment, knowledge, environmental risks, pollution, habitats, biodiversity, sustainable resource development, and other activities that may have a negative impact on the health of marine and coastal ecosystems. The Convention also assist on scientific and technological collaboration (including the exchange of information and expertise) for the identification and management of environmental issues.

Various studies and decisions of the 12th Conferences of the Parties recommended that the Secretariat of the Convention be equipped with a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (M&E Plan). This M&E Plan shall provide the Parties and partners of the Convention with common vision, mechanisms and system to ensure the monitoring and reporting of activities and results as well as the establishment of common indicators and data collection methodologies.

Following this Decision, The Abidjan Convention M&E Plan was developed in close collaboration with the West Africa Biodiversity and Climate Change program (WA BiCC) of the USAID. The plan has been tailored to the Secretariat's reporting needs and aligned with the strategic and operational plans of the organization. This M&E Plan has been presented and technically validated by the Convention's Parties on June 2017 during the Abidjan Convention Monitoring and Evaluation Plan Validation Workshop in Dakar Senegal.

Since then, the Secretariat of the Abidjan Convention pursued their collaboration with WA BiCC to implement the recommendations of the Parties by updating the M&E Plan and initiating the implementation of the M&E system. These efforts resulted in updating some indicators of the Convention as well as developing the data collection tools necessary to initiate the implementation of the M&E System. These tools and mechanism will allow the Convention to prepare for the development of the first M&E Report of the Convention which shall be presented to the Parties during the next Conference of the Parties

In addition, the Secretariat initiated the development of a new mechanism to better track and report the progress made regarding each CoP' Decisions. This process will require a close collaboration with the Parties and most specifically with the Convention's Focal Points to collect data and identify the progress made at the national level.

In this context, The Abidjan Convention, with the support of WA BICC, is planning the organization of a M&E Workshop to present, review and approve the new M&E Tools with the Focal Points of the Convention. The present Concept Note presents the objectives and expected results, as well as the agenda of this working session.

## II. Objectives of the meeting

This M&E working session will be held right after the meeting of the Focal Points and will provide a unique opportunity to gather all the Focal Points of the Convention to initiate the implementation of the M&E System and related tools.

This working session intends to present and review the M&E indicators reference sheets and the M&E tools recently developed and discuss the data collection methodology with the Focal Points with the view of preparing the M&E report and National Reports for the upcoming CoP.

The specific objectives of the meeting will be to:

1. Present and review the M&E Indicators reference sheets of the Abidjan Convention
2. Present and review the new M&E tools of the Abidjan Convention M&E system
3. Define and Adopt a mechanism to start reporting against the priority indicators at the national and regional levels
4. Define a roadmap for the preparation of the Conference of Parties report

## III. Expected Outcomes:

1. A common understanding of indicators on their definition and data collection mechanisms is reached by the different countries' representatives;
2. A mechanism for data collection at the national and regional levels is discussed and established and constraints identified;
  1. The indicators' reference sheets are presented and approved by the Focal Points
  3. The tools for the data collection are adopted
  4. A roadmap to prepare the Convention CoP reports is defined and adopted;

## IV. Agenda

Time	Activity	Facilitator
08:30 - 09:00	Opening Ceremony Presentation Adoption of the Agenda	Abidjan Convention
09:00 - 09:30	Presentation of the AbC M&E Plan and Recall of the Design and Validation Process	Kenan Mogultay
09:30 - 12:00	Working session on the Indicators: definition, data collection methodologies, responsibilities	Lamine Cisse
12:00 - 13:00	Definition of a reporting mechanism	Lamine Cisse
<b>13:00 - 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
14:00 - 16:00	Review of reporting tools	Abel Gbala
16:00 - 17:00	Preparation of the CoP report	Richard Dacosta
17:00 - 17:30	End of the Workshop	