

African LME/GOOS-AFRICA Session

African Large Marine Ecosystems GOOS-AFRICA and GEOSS in Africa Lessons Learned and the Way forward

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**IOC-IUCN-NOAA-UNEP Large Marine Ecosystem
9th Consultative Meeting
10 July 2007, IOC/ UNESCO Headquarters
Paris, France**

Plan

- 1- Follow up to the Cape Town Recommendations (November 2006)**
- 2- African LMEs Association**
- 3- GOOS-AFRICA and the LMEs:
Vision for further cooperation and joint activities.**
- 4- AOB.**

Joint LMEs/GOOS-AFRICA Cape Town Meetings in 2006

- The Joint LMEs/GOOS-AFRICA Leadership Workshop on Operational Oceanography and Remote Sensing**
- The Pan-African Forum of the African LMEs**
- The Third Forum of the GOOS Regional Alliances**

**New Event: + Forthcoming Geo Ministerial
Conference, 27-30 November 2007
Cape Town, South Africa**

LMEs and GOOS in Africa

The POWER of Cooperation

- **African LMEs have recognized the critical role of operational oceanography to support ecosystem-based management**
- **GOOS AFRICA has the requisite expertise to empower African LMEs to meet the goal of ecosystem-based management**
- **Other stakeholders (OdinAfrica, Met Offices, Maritime and port Services, Oil and Gas Industries, NGOs, etc.) also have a key role to play**
- **This can be achieved ONLY through cooperation, and it is in the best interest of Africa**

PAN AFRICAN LME FORUM DECLARATION

13th November 2006, Cape Town, South Africa

The Pan African LMEs Forum is a major African event that brings together the leadership of marine and coastal areas of the countries of sub-Saharan African LME Programmes.

- Through the establishment of the Benguela Current Commission and the Guinea Current Commission, the Ministers responsible for fisheries, environment, energy, mining and tourism have committed their countries to the recovery of depleted fish stocks, restoration of degraded habitats and reduction and control of coastal pollution. These are the first two LME Commissions worldwide to focus on reducing risks to the sizeable contributions from the goods and services these LME make to the African GDP.**
- The most recent collapse of fisheries in the Benguela Current ecosystem are understood as the combination of over-fishing, and climate change. They call for immediate joint action predicated on, and supported by, science – based assessments, and on the concerns of socio-economic stakeholders and governments.**

- **The African LME Programmes require improved mechanisms for funding from financial institutions and donors in order to rebuild fish stocks, restore marine ecosystems and move towards an ecosystem approach to management and development. With the assistance of the Global Environmental facility (GEF) and other donors, major progress has already been made by the concerted efforts of the countries. In pursuance of these objectives, the Pan African LME Forum recommends action to:**
- **Strengthen strategic partnerships amongst African coastal states, regional and international organisations and agencies, aimed at recovery of the degraded African Large Marine Ecosystems**

- **Adopt best practices and examples of approaches to the recovery and sustainability of LME transboundary goods and services.**
- **Foster closer cooperation and partnerships between civil society, maritime industries and the LME Programmes of Africa, in collaboration with GOOS Africa and other international efforts, to monitor and assess global environmental conditions.**
- **Promote the LME modular approach of productivity, fish and fisheries, pollution, ecosystem health, socio-economics and governance as a means to increase the benefits provided by African LMEs.**
- **Initiate a co-ordinated assessment of African LMEs in relation to adaptation mechanisms for mitigating the effects of Climate Change.**

- **Develop and strengthen co-operation between African LME programmes to advance recovery of depleted fisheries resources and recover and sustain marine ecosystems.**
- **Mobilise financial resources to support the mitigation of ecological and socio-economic disruptions of the LMEs caused by Climate Change.**
- **Develop a harmonised approach to support NEPAD policies on fisheries and environment, and cooperation with existing regional governance mechanisms including the Abidjan and Nairobi conventions, regional fisheries bodies and river basin authorities.**

- **Promote implementation of the WSSD and UN Millennium Goals through integrated management and sustainable development of the African LMEs.**
- **Strengthen efforts to support African countries in enhanced benefits capture from LME fisheries through improved regulation of access, MCS, combating IUU and other measures**

Way forward

- **Your bright ideas and suggestions for further VISION for LMEs, GOOS and GEOSS in AFRICA...**
- **1... (n+1)**
- **And what NEXT**

**THANKS FOR YOUR KIND
COOPERATION AND
SUPPORT**