



IGCC NEWSLETTER



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NEWS OF THE INTERIM GUINEA CURRENT COMMISSION

IGCC AT THE GEF-UNDP-IMO GLOBALLAST PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAMME 3rd GLOBAL TASK FORCE MEETING IN SOUTH AFRICA

Following the African union meeting on fisheries management held in June 2012 in Abidjan, IGCC was represented at the 3rd Global Task Force meeting (GPTF) under the initiative of GEF-UNDP-IMO Globallast Partnerships Programmes. The two days event took place in Cape Town, South Africa from 17th-19th September 2012.

The workshop saw the participation of major Global Task Force members who seize the opportunity to

exchange ideas, learn about innovations and also share problem solving initiatives all within the scope of improving on water related issues and ensuring acceptable ballast water quality in the continents' harbors.

WORKSHOP MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS:

A briefing paper on the progress in the implementation of project activities presented by Fredrik Haag of the PCU was endorsed by the meeting after a general exchange of views. The presentation was followed by discussions.



Group Photograph of the GEF-UNDP-IMO Globallast Partnerships Programme 3rd Global Task Force Meeting

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Abe Meets with His Excellency
Dr. Remi Allah-Kouadio, Minister
of Environment and Sustainable
Development of Cote d'Ivoire**



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Introduction of the Programme by Fredrick Haag (1st left), on his right Andrew Hudson (UNDP-GEF), John Paul Muindi (IMO) and Adnan Awad (IOI South Africa)

The Regional Coordinating Organizations (RCO) reported on the State of Progress of activities implementation at both Regional and

National levels. The presentations focused on the organizational and communications aspects with LPCs and PCs, the regional



Left to right Andrew Hudson the chairman , UNDP-GEF, and assisted by IMO PCU Secretariat which is represented by Fredrik Haag, Aicha Cherif and Antoine Blonce.



Participants on the visit to Cape Town Harbor water treatment plant

mechanisms/forums, and the current state of regional discussions on ballast water issues. The RCOs also summarized the progress made in each of the 15 LPCs. The IGCC presented the progress made by Ghana and Nigeria towards ratification of the Convention and preparation of National Strategies.

One of the Strategic Partner Organizations, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) presented to the meeting his specific interest in the ballast water issues, and ensure that the bank is ready to endorse a regional action in terms of capacity building. The progress made under the IMO-EBRD Marine Biosafety Initiative was also presented. The PCU presented the state of Project expenditures as of 1st September 2012, as well as the co-financing so far achieved in order to support the objectives of the Project. The revised plans of activities taking into account the progress achieved so far and the eventual project timeline extension to two years were adopted by the assembly.

A first field trip was conducted to the harbor to visit Cape Town water treatment plant. The second visit took the participants down the peninsula to Cape of Good Hope, where Indian and Atlantic Oceans meet. A stop over was marked on the way at Boulder Beach to visit the colony of African Penguins.

The last meeting organized for the WMU, RCOs and the University of Cape Town was held in the premises of *Cape Town botanical garden*. During the meeting, Raphael Baumler of the World Maritime University (WMU) provided detailed information about the MSC and PhD Programmes. The WMU organizes every year courses on Ocean Governance for developing countries and also on all other aspects of Maritime Affairs.



*Participants 2nd field visit to Cape of Good Hope with IGCC
Officer-in-Charge Dr. Abe J. 3rd from left*



Dr. Andrew Hudson (left) and Dr Jacques Abe (right) at Cape Point South Africa.



African Black-footed Penguins breed in colonies along the length of Boulder Beach



IGCC AT THE GEF-INTERNATIONAL WATERS SCIENCE CONFERENCE IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

Theme: Setting the international Waters Science Priorities for the next Decade.

In the run-up to the conference of the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) on international waters science held in Bangkok in September 2012, the group of water scientists headlined the centrality for better water management around the globe. The Bangkok meeting was the occasion to enhance understanding by decision-makers and scientists to facilitate science-based policy interaction and feedbacks on the status of water systems and their management.



Group Photograph of Participants during the GEF International Waters Science Conference (IWSC) in Bangkok, 24-26 September, 2012.

CONFERENCE STATEMENT

At the end of the Conference, a statement prepared by the participants has concluded:

1. That the GEF TDA/SAP process is an appropriate tool for ensuring robust science-based transboundary water body assessment and management, offering a sound methodology for linking science to policy. The GEF IW focal area is currently updating the TDA/SAP methodology in order to provide projects with more scientific guidance and advice on emerging issues and horizon scanning, outcomes of this conference will greatly contribute to this process.
2. That the establishment of project Scientific Evidence Panels

(including cooperation with the wider scientific community) and project Science Policy Fora should be considered where beneficial to the implementation of project interventions.

3. That the full IW project cycle

should be based on sound scientific evidence and ensure that documentation (including data), access, dissemination and archiving of scientific results facilitate future ex-ante impact monitoring and assessment.



IWSC Workshop exhibition room at the UN Conference Centre in Bangkok

IGCC INTERIM SECRETARY DR. JACQUES ABE MEETS WITH HIS EXCELLENCY DR. REMI ALLAH-KOUADIO, MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COTE D'IVOIRE 18TH OCTOBER, 2012

Six months after the establishment of a permanent guinea current commission by Ministers of the sixteen GCLME countries in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, the officer-in-charge of the Interim Guinea Current Commission call on the Ivorian Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development H.E. Dr. Remi Allah-Kouadi who is currently seating at the presidency of the project interim commission for the next 2 years.

The meeting was the occasion to discuss IGCC near future perspectives on one hand, and on the other hand set up a global road map at the regional level.

The IGCC/OIC informed the Minister on the work done since the Ministerial meeting held in May 2012, which includes preparation and submission

of the Project Identification Form (PIF) by Agencies and the participation of the Project to regional

meetings and workshops. The Minister provided some advice and requested some key documents for follow up.



The Ivorian Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development H.E. Dr. Remi Allah-Kouadio actual chair of the IGCC