

DECISIONS OF THE 4TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CLME PROJECT

The CLME Steering Committee:

Having convened the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project Steering Committee, in Cartagena, Colombia 5-6 March 2013 Co-Chaired by Bahamas and Colombia;

Taking into account the draft Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Strategic Action Programme (CLME⁺ SAP);

Noting the draft reports produced under the CLME Project, namely Transboundary Diagnostic Analyses (TDA), the Regional Governance Framework report, the final reports from the CLME Pilot Projects and Case Studies;

Noting also the number of relevant initiatives, partners and organisations in the CLME⁺ concerned and involved with the management of shared living marine resources;

Acknowledging the results attained under the CLME Pilot Projects and Case Studies and having commended the efforts of the Project Partners and collaborating organizations in the successful execution of these projects;

Commends the Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) in the CLME⁺ Strategic Action Programme development process and overall project coordination;

Gratefully recognizing the generous support provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the implementing and executing agencies, participating governments, organizations and partners towards the successful implementation of the CLME Project;

Mindful of the opportunity available to obtain further support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to assist implementation of the SAP and the need to act expeditiously to take advantage of this opportunity and avoid undue delay:

1. **Approves** the implementation by the CLME PCU of the 2012 Annual Work Plan, as presented by the CLME Regional Project Coordinator.
2. **Approves** a no costs extension of the CLME Project duration until 31 August 2013.
3. **Approves** the Annual Work Plan and associated budget proposal prepared by the CLME PCU for the year 2013, as presented by the CLME Regional Project Coordinator.

4. **Approves** the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Caribbean and the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME⁺) with the changes approved by the Steering Committee
5. **Urges** CLME countries and project partners to continue or initiate implementation of the SAP objectives, collaborative strategies and actions while awaiting formal SAP endorsement by governments.
6. **Recommends** that all efforts will be undertaken by CLME countries and project partners to ensure timely and broad endorsement of the final CLME⁺ SAP document.
7. **Requests** the PCU to give high priority to: delivering the final SAP document, achieving endorsement of the SAP, and the development, endorsement and submission to the GEF Secretariat of a "CLME SAP implementation" Project Identification Form (PIF).
8. **Agrees** to seek to the extent possible simultaneous endorsement of the CLME⁺ SAP and the CLME⁺ SAP implementation Project Identification Form (PIF).
9. **Urges** the CLME PCU, countries and project partners to undertake all efforts to adhere to the following timeline in order to maximise opportunities to obtain financial support for SAP implementation from the Global Environment Facility (GEF):
 - SAP endorsed at the Ministerial level by a sizeable quorum of CLME countries by 31 May 2013
 - Preparation of CLME SAP implementation PIF & securing sizeable quorum of GEF Operational Focal Points endorsements by 15 June 2013
 - Submission of the SAP implementation PIF to the GEF Secretariat by 15 June 2013
 - Operationalize a Project Preparation Grant (PPG) for the development of the full-sized project document proposal by 21 June 2013
10. **Urges** CLME countries and project partners to support the CLME Project Terminal Evaluation process including the provision of the required information on the actual co-financing to the Evaluator no later than end of April 2013.
11. **Thanks** the Government and People of Colombia and the Co-Chairs for their kind assistance with making the meeting a success.