

**Framework Convention
for the Protection of the Marine
Environment of the Caspian Sea**

Distr.: General
XX XX 2008

Original:
English

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Second Meeting
Tehran, 10-12 November 2008**

Item xx of the provisional agenda
Convention Programme of Work

Note by the interim Secretariat on the draft CONVENTION PROGRAMME OF WORK

1.

Introduction

Further to Art. 18. 2 of the Tehran Convention, the Contracting Parties shall cooperate in the formulation of an Action Plan for the Protection of the marine environment of the Caspian Sea in order to prevent, reduce and control pollution and to protect preserve and restore the marine environment of the Caspian Sea.

A draft Strategic Convention Action Programme (SCAP) was prepared by the Regional Strategic Convention Action Plan Meeting , held in Baku, Azerbaijan 5-8 May 2008. At that meeting it was agreed that the Programme should be seen as a comprehensive, long-term agenda and framework for the implementation of the Tehran Convention and its Protocols over a period of 10 years and be complemented by a short-term, time-bound, targeted and realistic Convention Programme of Work that would coincide with the period between the COPs, which the delegations agreed should be two years.

The present Programme of Work includes activities related to the development, finalization and implementation of Convention Protocols, activities to support the development of National Protocol Implementation Plans, support for various forms of national and regional capacity building, as well as the mobilization of the civil society and the private sector in support of the implementation of the Convention. The Programme of Work should be seen as important instrument available to the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Tehran Convention at regional level complementing and supporting the work done by the Governments at national levels.

In line with the Institutional arrangements outlined in the SCAP (Section 6), the implementation of the present Programme of Work will be undertaken through the **Tehran Convention** interim Secretariat (TCIS) and its ~~outposted-staff~~ **Outposted Units** in the region. The Terms of Reference and budget related to the interim Secretariat Outposted **staff Units** are attached as Annex I-IV to the present Programme of Work.

The budget section of the Programme of Work contains the proposed breakdown in the contributions by the countries, in the understanding that their contribution to the budget of the Convention in 2010 will be the same as in 2009. Additional financial support for the implementation of the Programme of Work is expected to be provided by the CASPECO project and through contributions by other parts of the donor community.

A detailed report on the implementation of the Programme of Work will be prepared for the consideration of the third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP III).

The interim institutional arrangements as outlined in the SCAP and in Annexes I-IV will be reviewed and revised by COP III, or earlier in case a regional agreement on the location of the Convention Permanent Secretariat is reached prior COP III.

Suggested action

The Conference of the Parties may wish to

Consider, review and adopt the present Programme of Work together with its Annexes;

Consider and approve the budget of the convention contained in the budget section of the Programme of Work;

Decide on the allocation of one priority task to each of the riparian countries, and urge the countries to expedite and finalize the related arrangements for hosting and financing their Secretariat Unit

Decide that the interim institutional arrangements for the Convention will be reviewed at COP III or earlier in case a regional decision on the Convention permanent Secretariat is taken prior to COPIII.

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DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

No.	Timeframe	Description of activity	Expected outputs	Imp
1.	Jan – March 2009	Putting together the arrangements for interim Secretariat outposted staff in line with ToR and budget approved by COPII	Fully operational interim Secretariat with five outposted units	Inter nati
	Jan – March 2009	Support to the establishment of national inter-sectoral coordination structures	National Focal Points and enhanced national cross-sectoral coordination of TC and Protocols implementation established	Inter sup CA
2.	Jan. 2009 – Sept. 2010	Support to development National Protocol Implementation Plans for adopted protocols (3-4 regional meetings; national experts to develop draft Plans)	National Protocol Implementation Plans developed and approved at national level	Inter with Sec sup
3.	Jan. 2009 – Sept. 2010	Support to development of National Strategic Convention Implementation Plans	Existing NSCAPs revised and aligned with SCAP	Inter with Sec sup

¹ See para. 5 of Explanatory Note

4.				
5.				
6.				
7.	Jan. 2009 – Dec. 2010	Establishment of Convention executive structure and donor coordination (2 regional meetings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convention Executive structure negotiated with clear ToR and mandate for approval by the COPII - Donor coordination group formed involving relevant donors and IPs including IFIs - Thematic partnerships with relevant international organizations and other relevant bodies initiated 	Inter national and in the con
8.	April 2009 – September 2010	Promotion and support to the establishment of Partnerships with private sector	Enhanced cooperation between the TC process and the private sector, in particular, the oil industry Scoping paper on “Resource Mobilization”	Inter national
9.	June 2009 – October 2010	Development of regional M&E framework	Developed and aligned indicators for monitoring and evaluation the state of the Caspian environment against regionally agreed targets	Inter with Sec sup gov exp
10.	Jan. 2009 – October 2010	Identify and develop means for efficient and harmonized regional data, information and monitoring mechanism (1-2 regional meeting(s), scoping paper, regional experts)	Operational Shared Environment Information system including regular monitoring, collection and analysis of indicator based regional data and information	Inter with Sec sup gov exp
11.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - 	
12.	Jan. 2009 – Oct. 2010	Capacity building activities: (including, <i>inter alia</i> , Protocol training workshops, cost-benefit analysis of Protocols, national legislative assessments, advisory services):	Strengthened regional/national capacities to implement the TC and its protocols	Inter with Sec nati

13.	Jan. 2009 – Dec. 2009	Support to finalization of draft Protocols (1-2 regional meeting(s))	Finalized Protocols on: - The Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land based sources [and Activities] - Environmental Impact Assessment Transboundary Context ready for adoption and signature at COPIII	Inter- with Sec sup inte coo
14.	March 2009 – Sept. 2010	Support to the development of additional Protocols to TC on: 1) xx 2) xx (3-4 regional meeting(s), preparation of scoping papers, development of draft protocols)	Draft Protocols ready for consideration by COPIII	Inter- outp unit inte coo
	Jan 2009 – Dec. 2010	Outreach and stakeholder involvement: - Alignment of CEP public participation strategy with the requirements of the TC - Establishment of web-based Caspian information center - Facilitate adequate NGO involvement in the TC process - Preparation of “Report on the status of the Caspian Sea environment” Preparation of a “Caspian Biodiversity Atlas”	Enhanced Stakeholders’ involvement in the TC process Enhanced outreach activities Caspian NGO partnerships created Report on the “Status of Caspian Sea environment” ready for distribution at COP III Draft “Caspian Biodiversity Atlas” (to be finalized and printed during year 3 of the CASPECO project)	Inter- con nati
	Sept. 2010	Regional Preparatory Meeting for the third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties	Agenda and major documents for the third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties developed and reviewed, including Programme of work and budget for 2011-2012 Report on arrangements for the Convention permanent Secretariat, and other institutional matters Progress report on the preparation of Convention Protocols Protocols ready for adoption and signing	Inter-
15.	Nov. 2010	Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties	Decisions on, <i>inter alia</i> , arrangements for the Tehran Convention Secretariat, Convention Programme of work and budget, development of new protocols	Inter- Hos

- a)
- b)

- c)
- d)

1.

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- a)
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- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

- e)
- f)

- g)
- h)

