



**WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN**

## **MANGROVE NETWORK**

**DECLARATION STATEMENT  
5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2011, MOMBASA, KENYA**



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We the delegates<sup>1</sup> meeting during the *Regional workshop on vulnerability assessment of mangroves to climate change and associated anthropogenic pressures* from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Mombasa, Kenya

**Recognizing** the important role that mangroves play by providing many critical ecosystem goods and services to millions of people in the region;

**Appreciating** that these ecosystems face a myriad of similar management challenges across the region ranging from overexploitation, conversion, pollution and more recently climate change related impacts

**Acknowledging** that there is currently no forum which brings together regional mangrove scientists, managers and policy makers;

**Proposed and approved** the formation of a WIO Regional Mangrove Network as a Forum which will *inter alia* facilitate:

- *Expertise sharing/capacity development in mangrove research and management across the region*
- *Standardization of methodologies in conducting assessments and management practices*
- *Production of regional publications and policy briefs on mangrove research and management and ensuring dissemination of such outputs*
- *Raising the profile of mangroves as a critically important ecosystem supporting many livelihoods in the region*
- *Development and delivery of community based training programs on sustainable mangrove management and conservation*

**Recommended** that this Network be anchored at a Regional Body whose vision engenders **the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment (and associated resources) of the Eastern Africa Region**; to take advantage of the such a Body's established and proven engagement with different stakeholders especially regional governments so as to encourage these governments to recognize the importance of mangroves as critically important national resources by:

- *Supporting inclusion of mangrove forests specifically when conducting reviews of Forest/Sector legislations in the different countries and ensure provision of comprehensive community involvement and participation in mangrove management*
- *Appointing Officers at Senior Management levels within the Ministries responsible for forest management whose sole mandate will be to spear-head mangrove management as well as ensure decentralization and devolution of this management*

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<sup>1</sup> Other country representatives not in the meeting will be reached out to in due course e.g. S. Africa, Mauritius, Comoros

- *Developing national programs to address the current widespread mangrove degradation and support sustainable mangrove conservation and management and*
- *Supporting project level carbon assessment and financing initiatives (e.g. REDD+ and PES in general) as climate change adaptation and mitigation options whose proceeds can provide much needed resources to enhance mangrove conservation*

***And finally agreed*** that the first major output of the Network will be a Regional Workshop Report and a high impact factor scientific publication on the ***Vulnerability of WIO mangroves to climate change and associated anthropogenic pressures.***

#### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE MANGROVE REGIONAL WORKSHOP**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>
1. Mwita Mangora	University of Dar es Salaam, Institute of Marine Sciences, Zanzibar
2. Sware Semesi	WIOMSA, Zanzibar
3. Salomao Bandeira	Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique
4. Sarika Mitra	India
5. Celia Macamo	Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique
6. Harifidy O. Ralison	WWF, Madagascar
7. Tiana Ramahaleo	WWF, Madagascar
8. Joseph Maina	Macquire University, Australia
9. Jared Bosire	KMFRI, Kenya
10. James Kairo	KMFRI, Kenya
11. Benard Kirui	KMFRI Kenya
12. Nasir Amiyo	WWF Kenya
13. Charles Magori	KMFRI Kenya
14. Jacob Ochiewo	KMFRI Kenya
15. Dedan Nderitu	KFS Kenya
16. Nicolas Munyao	KFS Kenya
17. Dennis Macharia	CORDIO, Kenya
18. Jason Rubens	WWF, Tanzania
19. Joseph Langat	KMFRI, Kenya
20. Michael Njoroge	Kenyatta University, Kenya
21. Lillian Mugi	Egerton University, Kenya
22. Joyce Kaino	Egerton University, Kenya
23. Judith Nyunja	KWS – Kenya
24. Judith Okello	KMFRI - Kenya
25. Alfred Obinga	KMFRI - Kenya
26. Noel Mbaru	KMFRI – Kenya
27. Jacqueline Benard	KWS – Kenya
28. Josphine Mutiso	KWS - Kenya