

MAJOR OUTPUTS OF 4TH SESSION OF THE AFRIMAB GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ACCRA – NOVEMBER, 2015



**Presentation for AfriMaB Regional
Workshop,
4WCBR March 15, 2016**



Outline

- Introduction
- Deliberations
- Key Outputs
- Follow-up Activities

Introduction

- The 4th Session of the AfriMAB General Assembly was held in Accra, Ghana from November 24 – 27, 2016
- Theme: “*AfriMAB: Aligning the MAB Strategy (2015 – 2025) to the Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs (2015 -2030).*”
- Participation: 20 Member States
- Institutions: UNESCO Headquarters,
- UNESCO Multisectoral Regional offices in Southern and Central Africa, UNESCO Country Office - Accra , UNESCO Liaison office to the AU and UNECA in Addis Ababa and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).

Local Participation

- Biosphere Reserve stakeholders across Ghana
- Media
- Ministers for:
 - Lands and Natural Resources
 - Environment, Science, Technology & Innovation
 - Education
- Chair: IPBES



Deliberations

- Review of national and sub-regional Activity Implementation since the last GA
- Updates on some ongoing projects in the region
- Report from the MAB Secretariat
- Presentation on the MAB Strategy
- Review of Draft Lima Action Plan
- Planning for Lima Congress and 20th Anniversary Celebration of AfriMAB
- Full operationalization of African Biosphere Reserve Fund (AfriBiofund)
- Field visit: Proposed Lake Bosomtwe Biosphere Reserve

Key Outputs

- Communique
- List of transboundary Initiatives (some sites not fully specified by countries involved)
- Renewed commitment by members through personal contribution to AFriBiofund (\$530, EU120,1000, N500, GHS900)*
- Initiation of working Groups on 5 strategic Areas (tbc)
 - Sustainable financing and partnerships
 - Effective governance
 - Effective functioning of BRS as models for Sustainable Development
 - Effective and comprehensive communication, information and data sharing
 - Inclusive, dynamic and results-oriented collaboration and networking

Follow-Up Activities

- Regional Workshop on Green Economy in Sao Tome and Principe
- Initiation of GE workgroup
- Submission of project proposal for AfriBiofund, letter of support provided by AfriMAB secretariat, Letter provided by MAB Secretariat for fund raising from GEF and AfDB
- Complete payment of pledges confirmed. Funds soon to be received by UNESCO
- Regional anti-poaching project launched, Eastern Africa bureau member representing AfriMAB on advisory panel

Ongoing

- GEBr project in 3rd year.
- Member contributions to “cocktail” at Lima congress and poster presentations/videos/technical sessions

Outstanding

Submission of concept papers on thematic working groups by bureau members
Completion of registration to WGs by members