

Report of the 20th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO)

Durban, South Africa
31 October – 1 November 2018

FINAL DRAFT DECISION REPORT (As on 1 November 2018)

The 20th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) took place at the Southern Sun Elangeni and Maharani hotel in **Durban, South Africa** on 31 October to 1 November **2018**. The Meeting was chaired by Ambassador Anil Sooklal, Deputy Director-General Department of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, and was attended by representatives of IORA Member States namely **Commonwealth of Australia, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Republic of India, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Madagascar, Malaysia, Republic of Mauritius, Republic of Mozambique, Sultanate of Oman, Republic of Seychelles, Republic of Singapore, Federal Republic of Somalia, Republic of South Africa, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, Kingdom of Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Republic of Yemen**. The **Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT)**, the **Fisheries Support Unit (FSU)** as Specialised Agencies of IORA as well as the **Chair in Indian Ocean Studies at the University of Mauritius (CIOS)** also attended the meeting.

OVERVIEW

1. OPENING SESSION

1.1 Welcome Address and Opening Remarks (Chair)

Outcome: CSO took note of the Chairperson's Welcome Address and Opening Remarks.

1.2 Outline of Arrangements and Adoption of the Agenda (Chair)

Outcome: The gathering observed a moment of silence in respect of the recent tragedies of tsunami in Sulawesi and Lion Air JT610 airplane crash in Indonesia.

The Draft Agenda was adopted by the CSO with the addition of the following new items:

- Proposal for the Second Workshop on Institutional Strengthening of the IORA Secretariat
- Proposal for a two-day Workshop on Strategic Issues in the Indian Ocean region
- Signature of MOU between RCSTT and Water Resource Commission (WRC) under Any Other Business on 1 November 2018
- Reversal of order of Agenda Item numbers 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 in keeping with the order under the agenda for the 8th IORA Biannual CSO on 30-31 July 2018.

1.3 Report of the Secretary-General (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report of the Secretary-General and placed on record appreciation for the contributions and services rendered by outgoing Directors of IORA Secretariat, Mr Graham Anderson (seconded from the Republic of South Africa) and Mrs Ruchika Rishi (seconded from the Republic of India), and welcomed Mr Marc Livsey as the new Director seconded from the Commonwealth of Australia. CSO also noted the update by UAE that the process of seconding a Director to the IORA Secretariat is in an advanced stage and would be completed by the first half of 2019.

2. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORTS BY CHAIRPERSONS OF IORA MECHANISMS

2.1 Report: Fifth Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD), 1-2 August 2018 and the 24th Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG), Durban, South Africa, 3 August 2018 (Chair of IORAG)

Outcome: CSO endorsed the Chairperson's Report of the 24th IORAG and 5th IOD and recommended it for adoption by the COM.

2.1.1 Institutionalization of IOD and IORAG (Chair)

Outcome: CSO agreed that IOD and IORAG would be held back to back and that the IORA Chair and India would host the IOD and IORAG on alternate years.

India, as host for alternate years, would consult IORA Chair and Vice Chair to finalize the program. India would host an Experts Group Meeting on the Priority Area of Academic, Science and Technology in 2019 at the same time.

2.2 Report: Sub-Committee on Finance (SCF), Durban, South Africa, 31 October to 1 November 2018 (Chair of SCF)

Outcome: CSO noted and welcomed the Chairperson's Report from the Sub-Committee on Finance including its recommendations, and that the report would be circulated by Secretariat to Member States for consideration before the end of February 2019, noting that the Secretariat's Audit Report for 2017 would be circulated by mid December 2018.

CSO recommended that the rules governing the IORA Special Fund be reviewed by South Africa before February 2019 and be circulated to Member States for consideration at the next CSO. IORAG Chair and CIOS to be consulted by IORA Chair to propose new ways of utilization of the Special Fund. The IORA Chair, together with SG, to consult with Member States on arrears.

CSO appealed to Mauritius to expedite the secondment of an expert to manage finance and administration at the Secretariat.

2.3 18th Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI), and 24th Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF), Durban, South Africa (South Africa)

Outcome: CSO noted the update regarding the hosting of the 18th WGTI meeting and 24th IORBF meeting. South Africa informed that the meetings are proposed to be held in March 2019 and would focus on the revitalization of both bodies. Dates would be communicated upon finalization.

CSO recommended that it should be a business-led meeting, to be led by Chambers of Commerce of Member States. Member States were requested to provide information on their respective Chambers of Commerce to the Secretariat.

3. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (Chair/Secretariat)

3.1 Member States

3.1.1 Republic of Maldives

Outcome: CSO confirmed its recommendation that COM approve the application of Maldives.

3.1.2 Republic of Union of Myanmar

Outcome: CSO confirmed its recommendation that COM approve the application from Myanmar.

3.2 Dialogue Partners

3.2.1 Republic of Turkey

Outcome: CSO confirmed its recommendation that COM approve the application of Turkey.

3.2.2 Republic of Korea

Outcome: CSO confirmed its recommendation that COM approve the application by the Republic of Korea.

3.3 Observers

3.3.1 Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)

Outcome: CSO confirmed its recommendation that COM approve the application of WIOMSA.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IORA ACTION PLAN (Chair/Secretariat)

4.1 Report on progress of projects in the Action Plan following Durban Bi-annual (CSO) meeting in July 2018 (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the progress report of projects in the IORA Action Plan.

CSO welcomed the announcement by Iran to join the cluster groups for Blue Economy, Fisheries Management and Tourism and Culture, and encouraged other Member States to also indicate their cluster groups of interest to the IORA Secretariat.

CSO considered the proposal of relocation of particular topics within the Action Plan with a view to suitability as per priority area and tasked the Secretariat to address the issue of alignment as well as better coordination of the Working Groups and to prepare a document for the consideration of the CSO.

4.2 Maritime Safety and Security (Sri Lanka)

Outcome: CSO took note of and welcomed the successful outcomes of the *Initial Workshop on the establishment of the IORA Maritime Safety and Security Working Group (WGMSS)* which was held on 4 – 5 September 2018 in Colombo, Sri Lanka and recommended for approval to the COM the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the WGMSS as a new institutional body of IORA.

CSO extended its appreciation to the Governments of Sri Lanka and Australia for hosting and funding the Workshop on the establishment of the IORA WGMSS.

CSO recommended that the TORs of the WGMSS be taken forward to COM for endorsement and that the initial Work Plan of the WGMSS be finalized by Sri Lanka by the first quarter of 2019 in order for the WGMSS to hold its first meeting by the next quarter of 2019, to be hosted in Sri Lanka.

4.3 Blue Economy (South Africa)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by South Africa of the *First Preparatory Meeting for the establishment of IORA Working Group on the Blue Economy (WGBE)* and for the operationalization of the WGBE.

CSO extended its appreciation to the Government of South Africa for hosting and funding the Workshop which was held on 12-13 September 2018 in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province in South Africa.

CSO welcomed the successful outcomes of the Workshop and recommended to the COM to approve the Terms of Reference to establish the WGBE as a new institutional body of IORA. CSO requested the Secretariat to circulate the Work Plan which is to be finalized by South Africa by the end of January 2019 and recommended that a SIDS country host the first meeting of the WGBE in the first half of 2019. The meeting may be considered for financing under the IORA Special Fund.

4.4 Women's Economic Empowerment (Australia)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by Australia on the Women's Economic Empowerment priority area and extended gratitude to Australia and Mauritius for leading on the finalization of the Terms of Reference and Work Plan for the Working Group on Women's Economic Empowerment (WGWEE).

CSO noted the update by UAE on the IORA Workshop on Financial Inclusion for Women Entrepreneurs, to be held from 10 to 11 December 2018 in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

4.4.1 Report: IORA Ministerial Conference - Women's Economic Empowerment: A pre-requisite for Sustainable Development, Balaclava, Mauritius, 28-29 August 2018 (Mauritius)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by Mauritius on the IORA Ministerial Conference - Women's Economic Empowerment: A pre-requisite for Sustainable Development.

CSO commended the Inaugural Meeting of the WGWEE that was held on 28 August 2018, which resulted in the establishment of the first new institutional body of IORA and recommended the Terms of Reference of the WGWEE to the COM for approval.

CSO welcomed the outcome documents including the Balaclava Declaration on Women's Economic Empowerment and Gender Equality as a Pre-requisite for Sustainable Development and the Work Plan of the WGWEE to be noted by COM.

CSO extended their appreciation to the Governments of Australia and Mauritius for hosting and funding of the WGWEE.

4.5 Trade and Investment Facilitation (Mauritius)

Outcome: CSO expressed concern at the slow progress on the Priority Area of Trade and Investment Facilitation.

4.6 Fisheries Management (Indonesia)

Outcome: CSO took note of the status update by Indonesia on the progress made on the priority area on Fisheries Management, including the information that the consolidated concept note on Fisheries Management would be circulated to all Member States and FSU at the earliest. CSO also noted the addition of Iran, Kenya and Madagascar as Cluster Group members.

Secretariat was requested to look into modalities of integrating Specialized Agencies into the activities of the Working Groups based on inputs to be provided by RCSTT and FSU.

4.7 Disaster Risk Management (India)

Outcome: CSO welcomed the announcement by India of a proposed Cluster Group Meeting on Disaster Risk Management, to be held on 5-6 February 2019 in New Delhi, India.

4.8 Academic, Science and Technology Cooperation (India)

Outcome: CSO noted that India would circulate a concept note on the Priority Area and hold an Experts Meeting at the earliest. The proposed meeting is envisaged to be held in conjunction with the 6th IOD and 25th IORAG.

4.9 Tourism and Cultural Exchanges (UAE)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report provided by UAE and the commitment to hold a meeting on Tourism and Cultural Exchanges in 2019.

4.9.1 The Core Group for Tourism: Terms of Reference and Work Plan and Second IORA Tourism Ministerial Meeting, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa, 21-23 October 2018 (South Africa)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by South Africa on the Second IORA Tourism Ministerial Meeting and recommended that COM may approve the Terms of Reference for the Core Group on Tourism as a new institutional body of IORA and note the Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism Declaration. CSO also noted the Work Plan of the Core Group.

CSO extended their appreciation to the Government of South Africa for hosting and funding the Second IORA Tourism Ministerial Meeting.

CSO noted the Concept Note on the establishment of a Tourism Resource Centre in the Sultanate of Oman, the work of which should be anchored in the Core Group.

4.10 Institutional Arrangements and Broadening Engagement (South Africa)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by South Africa on the status update on the Institutional Arrangements and Broadening Engagement.

CSO noted the proposal to hold a one-day review workshop on the implementation of the recommendations of the first Workshop for Institutional Strengthening of the IORA Secretariat, which was held in March 2018, along with a two-day workshop to discuss strategic issues in the Indian Ocean region in the first half of 2019. The IORA Chair, Vice Chair and Secretariat were requested to draft an agenda, objectives and scope for the Workshop, for circulation before the end of January 2019.

CSO noted with gratitude the additional resources provided by Member States for the strengthening of the Secretariat.

4.11 Other areas of focus (Chair)

4.11.1 Water and Water Management (India)

Outcome:

CSO noted the proposal by India to set up an IORA Digital Water Database including a pilot project in one of the SIDS, and that a concept note would be circulated shortly.

5. PROGRAMMES/SPECIFIC PROJECTS

5.1 Report: Second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting, New Delhi, 2-4 October 2018 (India)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by India on the Second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial and Experts' Meetings that took place in New Delhi on 2-4 October 2018, which was held alongside the First International Solar Alliance (ISA) General Assembly and Second REINVEST Meet and Expo. The events were jointly inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India and the UN Secretary General.

CSO welcomed the outcome documents of the event including the MOU between IORA and ISA, the Key Takeaways of the Experts' Meeting and the Delhi Declaration on Renewable Energy and recommended that the COM take note of the documents.

CSO took note of the proposal by India for a pilot project on LED bulbs for which a concept note is to be circulated shortly.

5.1.1 International Solar Alliance (ISA) – Signing of MOU (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by India/Secretariat and welcomed the signing of the MOU for sustainable development and deployment of solar energy between IORA and ISA in New Delhi, on 3 October 2018 and recommended that COM welcome the same. IORA looks forward to its implementation.

5.2 Update: Third IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference (BEC-III), 2019 (Bangladesh)

Outcome: CSO took note of the update by Bangladesh on the Third IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference (BEC-III) to be held in 2019. The concept note for the conference is to be circulated shortly.

CSO noted updates by Kenya on the forthcoming First Global Sustainable Blue Economy Conference to be held in Nairobi on 26-28 November 2018 and that IORA would be represented by the CIOS.

5.3 Consideration of recommendations: Familiarization Visit for Media Personnel/ Journalists from IORA Member States, New Delhi, 12-17 November 2017 (India)

Outcome: CSO noted the recommendations made at the conclusion of the Visit for Media Personnel / Journalists from IORA Member States, as provided in its outcome document entitled the "IORA Core Media Strategy".

CSO welcomed the proposal by South Africa to host the Second Familiarization Visit for Media Personnel in March 2019. The details will be circulated at the earliest.

5.4 Update: Second Somalia and Yemen Development Programme (SYDP) (UAE/Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO noted that Member States may indicate their interest in hosting the Second Somalia and Yemen Development Programme (SYDP).

5.5 Update on the screen acting training programme for IORA Member States (India)

Outcome: CSO welcomed the update of the proposal, which is to be held from 3-4 March 2019 in Pune, India, to be organized by the Film and Television Institute of India. The concept note for the training programme is to be circulated shortly.

5.6 Update on the concept of the Indo-Pacific (Indonesia)

Outcome: CSO noted the status update provided by Indonesia on the concept of the Indo-Pacific and recommended it to be included at the proposed Strategic Issues Workshop in 2019.

5.7 Future financing: Journal of the Indian Ocean Region (JIOR) (Australia)

Outcome: CSO took note of the update and suggestion by Australia that the IORA Chair consider financing of publication of the JIOR. Member States were invited to offer assistance on the future financing of JIOR in order to ensure its continuity.

5.8 Consideration of draft criteria for assessing the performance and value added for all IORA structures, as well as for Dialogue Partners and Observers (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO noted with appreciation the matrix prepared by the Secretariat on the assessment of the performance and value added by Dialogue Partners and Observers and its utility as a basis for engaging the Dialogue Partners.

CSO recommended that the IORAG consider the definition of the Indian Ocean and other criteria with a view to determining the full membership of IORA, in addition to developing criteria for membership of Dialogue Partners and Observers, preferably by the end of January 2019 and for inclusion at the proposed Strategic Issues Workshop in 2019.

5.9 Consideration of the draft document on Impact Assessment Framework (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO recommended that the Secretariat may circulate the draft by the end of February 2019 for inputs by Member States.

6. PROGRESS TO STRENGTHEN ENGAGEMENT WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS / UN SPECIALISED AGENCIES/INSTITUTIONS

Dialogue Partners (Chair)

6.1 Preparations for the Interactive Dialogue between Senior Officials and Dialogue Partners on 1 November 2018 (Chair)

Outcome: CSO took note of the information by South Africa on the preparations for the meeting.

6.2 Collaborative activities proposed by Dialogue Partners

6.2.1 United Kingdom: Update on Technical assistance programme for Women's Economic Empowerment in the Blue Economy (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO noted progress on collaboration with the UK.

6.2.2 United States of America: Update on collaboration with IORA to promote public-private partnerships and development of a women's business forum in the Indian Ocean (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the announcement by the USA and to await a detailed project proposal.

6.3 Food and Agriculture Association (FAO) (Secretariat)

6.3.1 Work Plan between FAO and IORA

Outcome: CSO noted the update by the IORA Secretariat on the collaboration between FAO and IORA.

6.3.2 Report: Workshop on 'Effective fish trade and sustainable development for Small Island Developing States', Mahe, Seychelles, 27–29 August 2018

Outcome: CSO took note of the report by the Secretariat.

6.3.3 MOU between IORA and Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

Outcome: CSO took note of the update regarding establishment of a relationship with IOTC.

6.4 Finalization of MOU for signature: United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

Outcome: The CSO took note of the update by the Secretariat that the MOU with UNITAR is ready for signature.

6.5 MOU Between IORA and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO)

Outcome: CSO took note of the update by the Secretariat on the engagement with IOC-UNESCO and that the draft MOU will be circulated shortly for consideration by Member States.

6.5.1 International Indian Ocean Expedition-2 (IIOE-2)

Outcome: CSO took note that the Secretariat will provide an update to be circulated by December 2018.

Institutions

6.6 African Union (AU) (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO noted the update by the Secretariat on the status on signing of MOU between IORA and the AU, and requested South Africa in its capacity as Chair of IORA to facilitate the same.

6.7 Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

6.7.1 Implementation of MOU: Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation in Indonesia (Indonesia)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report on proposed activities between IORA and the NAM-CSSTC.

6.7.2 Formalization of relationship with NAM Science and Technology Centre in India (India)

Outcome: CSO noted that India is to follow up and provide a status report on the formalization of the relationship with the NAM Science and Technology Centre in India.

6.8 International Seabed Authority (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note that the Secretariat would revert on the engagement with the International Seabed Authority (The Authority).

6.9 The World Bank (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the report and tasked the Secretariat to provide an updated concept note and MOU for the consideration of Member States.

6.10 International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) (UAE)

Outcome: CSO welcomed the report by the UAE and requested the IORA Secretariat to explore an MOU between IORA and IRENA.

7. IORA SPECIALISED AGENCIES/ CHAIR IN INDIAN OCEAN STUDIES

Outcome: CSO recommended that IORA Specialized Agencies and CIOS be involved in IORA activities and initiatives related to their areas of expertise.

7.1 Consideration of the Concept Note and MOU on the Maritime Transport Council (MTC) (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO agreed that the deadline for comments on the draft MOU and Concept Note be extended to the end of December 2019.

7.2 Report and future activities of the Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT) [Signing ceremony between RCSTT and WRC]

Outcome: CSO took note of the status report and the future as well as ongoing activities of RCSTT. CSO welcomed the signing of the MOU between RCSTT and WRC on 1 November 2018.

7.3 Report and future activities of the Fisheries Support Unit (FSU)

Outcome: CSO took note of the FSU Report and the current, as well as future proposals of the FSU.

7.4 Consideration of Template for future reports by Specialized Agencies (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO recommended that the template for future reports by Specialized Agencies to the CSO, as prepared by the Secretariat may be utilized in future.

7.5 Report of the activities of the Chair in Indian Ocean Studies (CIOS)

Outcome: CSO took note of the Report of the Chair in Indian Ocean Studies (CIOS).

7.6 Consideration of Concept Note to provide greater clarity on the effective interface and arrangements between the CIOS and Secretariat (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the update by the Secretariat on the draft Concept Note, which is to be circulated for comments by Member States.

8. PROGRESS ON THE STRENGTHENING OF IORA SECRETARIAT

8.1 Dialogue Partners' support for the strengthening of the IORA Secretariat (Secretariat)

8.1.1 Update: Germany's proposal to strengthen the IORA Secretariat

Outcome: CSO took note of the status update by the Secretariat on Germany's proposal to strengthen the IORA Secretariat.

CSO requested Member States to come up with proposals for the utilization of the funding provided by Germany. Secretariat to compose a list of priority projects and areas and circulate a formal note in this regard by the end of January 2019.

8.1.2 New proposals submitted by Germany under the funding support allocated

Outcome: CSO requested an update on the funds available from the overall amount pledged by Germany.

8.2 Update on the support to the Secretariat by India, Bangladesh, South Africa and UAE (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the status update by the Secretariat on the support provided for the refurbishment of the new additional office space by India, Bangladesh, South Africa and UAE.

8.3 Update on the implementation of IORA Centre of Excellence – Digital Knowledge Hub (ICE) for the IORA Member States (India)

Outcome: CSO took note of the status update by India on the progress of ICE, which is to be implemented by the end of 2019.

CSO recommended that the project may be implemented incrementally in consideration of its vast scope and that more time may be provided to Member States and Specialized Agencies to revert with feedback on the recently circulated Concept Note.

8.4 Update on the secondment of an official responsible for Administration and Finance of the Secretariat by Mauritius (Mauritius)

Outcome: CSO took note of the status update by Mauritius on the appointment of an Official to be responsible for Administration and Finance of the Secretariat, for an initial period of two years. CSO welcomed the progress on the initiative and awaits an early conclusion of the same.

9. UPDATE: SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS (Secretariat)

9.1 Signature of the Charter (Sultanate of Oman)

Outcome: CSO welcomed confirmation of signature of the IORA Charter by the Sultanate of Oman.

9.2 MOU signature by Member States on the promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

Outcome: CSO welcomed the update by Mozambique that they would be signing the MOU between Member States and IORA for the promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

9.3 MOU signature by Member States on Search and Rescue

Outcome: CSO welcomed that Mozambique and Somalia would be signing the MOU on Search and Rescue.

10. NEW PROPOSALS BY MEMBER STATES

Outcome: CSO took note of the proposal for a biennial review of IORA Fisheries and Aquaculture sectors to be developed and circulated to Member States by the Fisheries Management Cluster and the FSU.

Member States were encouraged to give their inputs on the "Guide for IORA events" as a guideline document for Member States planning to host IORA activities in the future.

11. IORA SPECIAL FUND (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO referred to the discussion held previously under Agenda Item 2.2

11.1 Report on IORA Sustainable Development Programme (ISDP) (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO took note of the update by the IORA Secretariat, Bangladesh, Comoros, Madagascar and Tanzania on IORA ISDP.

11.2 Current project proposals for financing (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO considered the current project proposals for funding support from the IORA Special Fund.

11.2.1 Workshop on Salts and Chemicals Extraction from Saline Waters, Tehran, 2019, Special Fund (RCSTT)

Outcome: CSO approved the proposed Workshop on Salts and Chemicals Extraction from Saline Waters as proposed by RCSTT for funding support from the IORA Special Fund.

11.2.2 Workshop on the Effects of Climate Change on the Indian Ocean Marine Environment, Tehran, 2019, Special Fund (RCSTT)

Outcome: CSO approved the proposed Workshop on the Effects of Climate Change on the Indian Ocean Marine Environment as proposed by RCSTT for funding support from the IORA Special Fund.

11.2.3 Sustainable Development for Ports and Shipping in the Indian Ocean Region for Maritime Connectivity, Special Fund (Malaysia)

Outcome: CSO took note of the update by the IORA Secretariat and Malaysia on the preparation for the Training Programme on 'Sustainable Development for Ports and Shipping in the Indian Ocean Region for Maritime Connectivity' to be held on 22-26 April 2019 in Malaysia.

11.3 New project proposals for funding (If any) (Chair)

Outcome: CSO encouraged Member States to suggest new project proposals for funding.

11.4 Review of the Administrative Arrangements of the Special Fund (Secretariat)

Outcome: CSO requested the IORA Secretariat to improve the Special Fund guidelines regarding the "seeking of new funding" for a new project.

12. PREPARATIONS FOR THE 18TH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' MEETING, DURBAN, 2 NOVEMBER 2018, DISCUSSION ON:

12.1 Draft COM Agenda (Chair)

Outcome: CSO considered and finalised the draft Agenda of the 18th COM.

12.2 Draft Declaration on Guidelines for Enhancing Interaction with Dialogue Partners in IORA (Chair)

Outcome: CSO discussed and finalised the Draft Declaration on Guidelines for Enhancing Interaction with Dialogue Partners in IORA.

12.3 Consideration of draft document on “The IORA-Nelson Mandela Be the Legacy Internship Programme” (Chair)

Outcome: CSO considered and finalised the document on “The IORA-Nelson Mandela Be the Legacy Internship Programme” and recommended it for endorsement by the COM.

12.4 Draft Special Declaration on the Commemoration of the Centenary of the Birth of Nelson Mandela

Outcome: CSO considered and finalized the Special Declaration on the Commemoration of the Centenary of the Birth of Nelson Mandela and recommended it for endorsement by the COM.

12.5 Draft eThekwini Communiqué (Chair)

Outcome: CSO considered and finalized the eThekwini Communiqué and recommended it for endorsement by the COM.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AOB) (Chair)

Outcome: CSO took note of the matters raised by Member States.

14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSING REMARKS (Chair)

Outcome: CSO adopted the Decision Report of the 20th CSO Meeting and noted the closing remarks by the Chair.