

**Amendment No. 1 to the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

between

**THE INTERNATIONAL LAKE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FOUNDATION**

and

**THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding of (hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement”) between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (ILEC), the two Parties have agreed to amend the Agreement.

The purpose of this Amendment is to (a) amend paragraph 3 of the Preamble of the Agreement to reflect the new name of the Division as Science Division; (b) include new areas of potential cooperation in the Agreement; and (c) extend the duration of the Agreement between the two Parties.

**General Provisions**

**1.1. The Preamble of the Agreement is hereby amended in its entirety as follows:**

**WHEREAS** the United Nations Environment Programme (hereinafter referred to as UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment;

**WHEREAS** one major focus of UNEP’s global mandate is the monitoring, assessment, conservation, protection and management of the environment, its natural resources and its ecosystem goods and services, including biodiversity and sustainable management of freshwater systems worldwide;

**WHEREAS** UNEP undertakes the goal of contributing substantively to environmental sustainability in managing water resources, including a special focus on comprehensive, holistic and participatory management of freshwater lake and reservoir basins and other linked lentic and lotic water systems for the sustainable use of their ecosystem services to address human and ecosystem needs, thereby also facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and, notably, SDG 6 “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” **WHEREAS** UNEP’s Science Division has the mandate to lead science and scientific assessments, including the production of the World Water Quality Assessment, that provide required data, information and experiences to conserve, protect and support nature and its natural resources, including biodiversity and freshwater, worldwide;

**WHEREAS** the International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (hereinafter referred to as ILEC) was established in 1986 by Shiga Prefecture, Japan and authorized as an incorporated foundation by the Government of Japan. It has the continuing mission of advancing international cooperation for conserving lake environments and promoting environmentally-sound management of world lakes

through encouraging investigations and research on rational methods for achieving harmony between environmental management and sustainable development, and scientific knowledge on lake environments internationally;

**WHEREAS** UNEP and ILEC (hereinafter collectively referred to as “Parties”) share common goals and objectives with regard to conserving, protecting, enhancing and supporting our global environment and its natural resources, including biodiversity and freshwater worldwide, consistent with UNEP’s vital concern in achieving a global understanding of lakes and their watersheds, as a means of moving closer to a broad-based awareness of the importance of lakes and other lentic water systems, and the life-supporting ecosystem goods and services they provide worldwide in support of the SDGs;

**WHEREAS** UNEP and the ILEC pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding dated 13 April 2011, had previously collaborated towards achieving a global understanding of lakes and their watersheds;

**WHEREAS** the Parties intend to conclude this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as “MOU”) with the aim of consolidating, developing and detailing their cooperation and effectiveness to achieve the common objectives in the field of environment;

NOW THEREFORE, UNEP AND ILEC HAVE AGREED TO COOPERATE UNDER THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AS FOLLOWS:

**1.2. Article 2 of the Agreement is hereby amended in Number 1 as follows :**

1. The purpose of this MOU is to provide a framework for joint cooperation and understanding, and to facilitate collaboration between the Parties to further share their goals and objectives within their organizational capabilities regarding the conservation, protection, enhancement and support of global environment and natural resources, including biological diversity and freshwater worldwide, and the multiple ecosystem goods and services they provide to humanity.

**1.3. Article 3 of the Agreement is hereby amended in its entirety as follows:**

**Article 3**

**Areas of Cooperation**

1. Areas of Cooperation are agreed jointly through the cooperation mechanism in the MOU. Policies and Priorities under this MOU may also be jointly reviewed annually by the Parties pursuant to Article 4. This also will facilitate the ability of the Parties to identify and respond jointly as appropriate to emerging issues in the environmental dimension of sustainable development.
2. In the spirit of continuing cooperation and collaboration, the Parties have agreed to the following overarching and flexible themes for this MOU, which form part of UNEP’s mandate and Programme of Work which has been approved by UNEP’s Government Council.

3. Joint exploration, identification, analysis and prioritization of potential areas of collaboration that fall within the mandates and specialty program domains of respective Parties, including those which have already been successfully developed and evolved, as well as those which are considered to become critically important in the upcoming decade. Such program areas for ILEC can include compilation, among others, analysis and development of resource materials and guidelines for application of the Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM) at the individual basin, national, and regional and trans-national levels. Such program areas for UNEP can include, among others, identification, compilation, analysis, updating and dissemination of the knowledge transcending from the Global Lake Survey, the World Water Quality Assessment (WWQA).
4. With the above in mind, the following areas of cooperation listed below are also priorities for ILEC activities consistent with its general mandate:
  1. JOINT promotion, implementation and refinement of **Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM), including;**
    - i) Collaboration in identifying and assessing the range of lake and other lentic water basin **governance and socio-economic challenges** for effective implementation of ILBM, and the means to integrate and infuse the ILBM concept to complement Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and related activities;
    - ii) Collaboration in identifying, compiling, analyzing, updating and disseminating through accessible channels and formats (such as open data platforms) and in appropriate languages, **knowledge and data and management experiences** related to the respective program domains of respective Parties, with due consideration for the need to take into account the indigenous knowledge and consideration of nature-based solutions, to facilitate guidance for assessment and management efforts directed to lentic water systems and the ecosystem services they provide;
    - iii) The recommendations for “Mainstreaming Lakes” will be infused as feasible into an upgraded IWRM, and joint efforts considered to position the mainstreaming and sustainable management of lakes and other lentic water systems as a priority issue in IWRM, ideally to be reflected by 2030;
  2. Joint development, promotion, and dissemination of monitoring and **assessment protocols, methods and indicators** to identify, assess, refine and address lake and other lentic water basin environmental and governance issues, including;
    - i) Collaboration in developing and promoting **the initiatives of UNEP and ILEC within the capabilities of both organizations that support achievement of the Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs)**, including the Mainstreaming of Lakes into the Global Water Agenda, and the World Water Quality Alliance and its workstreams relating to lake health;
    - ii) Collaboration in developing, refining and implementing effective **assessment methods** to evaluate the sustainability of ecosystem services, including relevant stakeholder perceptions,

and also for facilitating non-transboundary water system assessments as relevant TWAP-FSP follow-up activities;

- iii ) Jointly develop assessments, monitoring and management activities on lakes and other lentic water systems relevant to Climate Change and Adaptation, Pollution, Ecosystem Changes, Biodiversity and application of Nature-based Solutions, within the capabilities of both organizations, including use of monitoring data and information, and working together to disseminate these initiatives globally through creation of topically focused task force activities;
3. Joint collaboration in undertaking as feasible relevant lake **water-related programmes, activities and workshops at the international, regional, national and local level** of interest to and consistent with the mandates and capabilities of the Parties, including holding jointly-organized information, dissemination and synthesis sessions of these programmes and activities at ILEC’s World Lake Conferences, UNEP’s Global Environment Outlook development activities, the WWQA and other relevant activities as deemed useful by the Parties.
4. **Utilization of knowledge** developed and produced by ILEC and UNEP
    - i) Jointly use and disseminate existing resource materials produced by the Parties, and develop new resource materials where feasible, including legal, institutional, technical, stakeholder and ecosystem surveys, to implement respective local, national and global projects, programmes and activities pertaining to lakes and other lentic water basins and their inter-linkages, where appropriate and feasible;
    - ii) Jointly develop Programmes and Training as feasible in coordination with relevant National, Sub-Regional and Regional UNEP’s Offices, to enhance individual and institutional capacity for building an effective ILBM Platform for addressing governance and management challenges to the sustainable use of lakes and other lentic water systems to promote their sustainable development and conservation worldwide.

**1.4. Article 15 of the Agreement is hereby amended in its entirety as follows:**

**Article 15**

**Duration**

1. This MOU shall be effective upon the last date of signature of the approving officials and remain in force for five years and shall expire on 31 December 2026, unless otherwise revised or updated in accordance with Article 10 above, or terminated in accordance with Article 12 above. Its content shall be reviewed every year by both Parties.

**1. Entry into force**

- 1.1 This Amendment No. 1 shall enter into force upon the date of the last signature of the approving officials below.

**Amendment No. [ 1 ]/[MOU][Science Division] /[2021] /003**

All other terms and conditions of the Agreement remain valid and unchanged.

This Amendment shall be appended to the Agreement and shall be construed an integral part of it.

For

**United Nations Environment Programme**

**International Lake Environment**

**(UNEP)**

**Committee Foundation (ILEC)**



Kelly West,  
Deputy Director,  
Officer In Charge



.....  
**Name: Jian Liu**  
**Title: Director,**  
**Science Division**

.....  
**Name: Kazuhiko TAKEMOTO**  
**Title: President**

Date: 20/12/2021

Date: 22/12/2021

Parties' initials: