

**MINUTES OF THE 04th MEETING OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY
(GWSA) HELD ON 13th JUNE 2019.**

TYPE OF MEETING: REGULAR MEETING

DATE: 13th JUNE, 2019; **TIME:** 04:45 PM

VENUE: CONFERENCE HALL, 1ST FLOOR, MINISTERIAL BLOCK, SECRETARIAT,
PORVORIM- GOA

**MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI. NILESH CABRAL, HON'BLE MINISTER
FOR ENVIRONMENT, GOA STATE; CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE WETLAND
AUTHORITY (GWSA)**

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr.No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri. Nilesh Cabral; Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Government of Goa	Chairperson
2.	Secretary (Tourism)	Ex Officio Member
3.	Shri. Santosh Kumar, APCCF & CWLW Representative of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/ Chief Wildlife Warden	Ex Officio Member
4.	Member Secretary, Goa State Pollution Control Board	Ex Officio Member
5.	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	Ex Officio Member
6.	Dr. G.N. Nayak, Goa University	Expert Member
7.	Shri. Sreepada Anantha R., NIO	Expert Member
8.	Shri. Devanand Kavalekar, NIO	Expert Member
9.	Dr. Vinod Dhargalkar, Former Scientist, NIO	Expert Member
10.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)	Ex Officio Member HOD Nodal Agency GWSA
11.	Director, Department of Environment	Member Secretary



Chief Secretary, Secretary (Environment), Secretary (Forests), Secretary (Urban Development), Secretary (Rural Development), Secretary (Water Resources), Secretary (Fisheries), Secretary (Irrigation and Flood Control), Secretary (Revenue), Director, State Remote Sensing Centre and Prof. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Goa University were unable to attend the meeting.

At the onset, Member Secretary, GSWA extended a warm welcome to the members of the Authority.

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the meetings of 3rd meeting of Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA).

The minutes of the 3rd meeting of GSWA were confirmed by the Members present for the meeting.

Proposed by: Shri. Devanand Kavalekar

Seconded by: Dr. Vinod Dhargalkar

Agenda 2: Selection of appropriate agency to conduct detailed study of the wetlands identified for notification under the guidance of appointed committee.

Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, HOD Nodal agency GSWA, informed the members of the GSWA that as decided previously in GSWA meeting offers were invited from reputed Government Institutions giving scope of work as defined in the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017. The offers are received from National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai and National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) and also few agencies such as ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia and Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) Mumbai. The scope of work was provided to them as included in Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rule 4 (a) to (j) which includes physical delineation, ground truthing, public consultations, ecological characterization as well as brief document preparation for notifications of wetlands in Goa.



Member Secretary, GSBB also informed members that approval for finance has been sought. The total cost quoted for carrying out studies i.e. inventorization of wetlands of Goa and wetland conservation and management plan quote received from NIO is rupees 83,00,000 (Rupees Eighty Three Lacs) which is low as compared to others which is above 3 crores and the one quoted by (NCSCM), Chennai is Rs 4.12 crores. .

Member Secretary, GSWA informed members that as per report prepared by Space Application Centre 550 wetlands have been recorded in Goa, however some of these wetlands are in the reserved forests areas and these need segregation.

Hon. Chairperson, GSWA after consulting all the board members suggested that certain conditions could be included in work order such as status report of work to be done every two months and work order could be issued to NIO with time limits not exceeding one year for the work.

It was unanimously resolved that NIO could be awarded the given the task of wetlands in Goa as per the scope - included in Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rule 4 (a) to (j) which includes physical delineation, ground truthing, public consultations, ecological characterization as well as brief document preparation for notifications of wetlands in Goa for the amount eighty three lacs. The request shall be made to Govt. for financial and other necessary support.

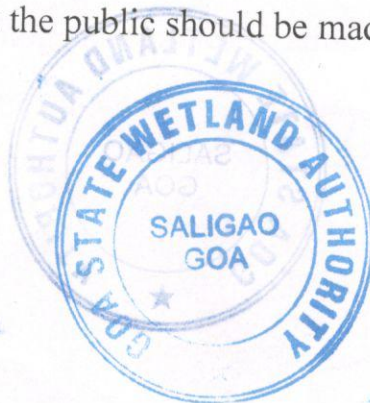
3. Request from villages/ Biodiversity Management Committees to declare various areas as wetlands (List attached)

Member Secretary, GSBB informed members of GSWA that applications are received requesting to declare lakes as wetlands from following villages/ Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC) as given below:



1. From Villagers of Quellossim- Cortalim: Objection to the proposed development of Eco- tourism project and request to declare survey no. 167/1 of Quellossim- Cortalim as a wetland. (Received on: 18/11/2016).
2. From Villagers of Quellossim- Cortalim: Objection to the proposed 'Mini India Park' in survey nos. 170/1 and 171/1 of Quellossim- Cortalim and request to declare them as wetlands. (Received on: 18/11/2016)
3. From Members of Santa Cruz BMC: To notify Bondvol Lake situated at Odlem Bhat, Santa Cruz as a wetland. (Received on: 10/07/2017)
4. From St. Estevam BMC: To notify Tollem Xet at St. Estevam as a wetland. (Received on: 11/07/2017)
5. From Sarpanch, Village Panchayat Chimbhel, Tiswadi: To declare Chimbhel Lake as wetland (Received on: 21/03/2018)
6. From Chairperson, Chimbhel BMC: Declaration of area submerged under survey no 40/1 and surrounding area comprising Chimbhel Lake as wetland(Received on: 19/04/2018)
7. From Chairperson Colva BMC: Proposal to declare survey nos 10,12,13,15,17-22,27,28,48,50,51,56,59,62,125-127,137,138,139/1 to 139/5 of the villages of Colva, Vanelim and Sernabatim as a wetland
8. From villagers of Verna: Notification of Ambulor lake as a wetland.
(Above list was presented to the members along with the Agenda)

Chairperson, GSWA suggested that such applications should be referred to the agency on priority for the process of identification and notification as wetlands in Goa. APCCF suggested that the public should be made aware that no construction would be



permitted within 50m buffer zone of wetland. He stressed on the importance of awareness about the rules.

Member Secretary, GSWA suggested that such application/ requests should be routed through Village Panchayats by BMCs.

Above suggestions were unanimously approved by GSWA members.

4. Overview of meetings conducted of:

a) **'Expert Committee for Suggesting Wetlands in Goa'**

b) **'Working Committee'**

c) Member Secretary, GSWA informed that meetings of 02 committees namely **'Expert Committee for Suggesting Wetlands in Goa'** and **'Working Committee'** have been constituted as per the decisions of previous authority meetings, and their meetings have been conducted. Further he also informed that Technical and Grievance Committees are also constituted as per Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.

5.0 Legal Matter

HOD Nodal Agency GSWA, informed that with reference to PIL - WP bearing no. 10/2017 filed before Hon'ble High Court and as the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and National Green Tribunal are keenly monitoring / observing the process of wetland identification in all the States, declaration of Bondvol Lake, Santa Cruz, Tiswadi- Goa as wetland has been initiated and entrusted to GSBB. As a part of this, stakeholders consultative meeting was held on 12/06/2019 at 04:00 in the hall of Santa Cruz and a crowd of over 308 people attended the same. All the people present strongly supported the proposal of identifying Bondvol Lake as a wetland; however 07 days have been given for submitting the suggestions/ objections.



6.0 Recruiting staff for GSWA

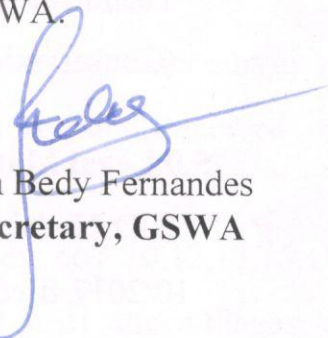
Chairperson, GSWA suggested Member Secretary, GSWA to take appropriate action and to produce it before the Authority for approval during next meeting.

7.0 Any other matter with the permission of Chair

Representative from Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Bengaluru suggested that SEIA committee of the State should appraise the MoEF&CC- regional office about the projects cleared and they may be entrusted with responsibility to adopt or take necessary precautions to protect and preserve the wetlands in the vicinity of wetlands during each phase.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks by Member Secretary, GSWA.




Johnson Bedy Fernandes
Member Secretary, GSWA

