

**MINUTES OF THE 05<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY (GSA) HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2019.**

**TYPE OF MEETING:** REGULAR MEETING

**DATE:** 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2019; **TIME:** 03:30 PM

**VENUE:** CONFERENCE HALL, 1<sup>ST</sup> 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 (GSA)**

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr.No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Government of Goa	Chairperson
2.	Shri. Santosh, APCCF & CWLW Representative of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/ Chief Wildlife Warden	Ex Officio Member
3.	Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)	Ex Officio Member
4.	Member Secretary, Goa State Pollution Control Board	Ex Officio Member
5.	Dr. G.N. Nayak, Goa University	Expert Member
6.	Prof. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Goa University	Expert Member
7.	Shri. Devanand Kavalekar, NIO	Expert Member
8.	Dr. Vinod Dhargalkar, Former Scientist, NIO	Expert Member
9.	Director, Department of Environment	Member Secretary
10.	Shri. Patrick Gonsalves, Supervisor, DSLR	Special invitee
11.	Shri. Nitin Mantri, H.S., DSLR	Special invitee
12.	Dr. Mandar Nanajkar	NIO representative
13.	Dr. Akhil V. P.	NIO representative

Chief Secretary, Secretary (Environment), Secretary (Forests), Secretary (Urban Development), Secretary (Rural Development), Secretary (Water Resources), Secretary (Fisheries), Secretary (Irrigation and Flood Control), Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (Tourism), Director- State Remote Sensing Centre and Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Shri. Sreepada Anantha R. 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 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of Goa State Wetland Authority.**

The minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of GSWA were confirmed by the Members present for the meeting.

Proposed by: Shri. Devanand Kavlekar

Seconded by: Dr. Vinod Dhargalkar

**Agenda 2: Appointment of agency for identification and notification of wetlands in the State of Goa after taking their final presentation.**

Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, GSBB, HOD Nodal agency for GSWA informed the members of GSWA that as per order dated 01 August, 2019, National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in O. A. No. 141/2017 (WZ) GSWA has been granted time of three months for inventorization of wetlands in Goa. All the members present went through the order in detail.

Presentation was requested from National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) agency selected for identification of wetlands in the State of Goa, Dr. Mandar Nanajkar,



Scientist, NIO delivered a presentation on the proposal submitted to GSWA. Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Chairperson, GSWA suggested that initially 15 wetlands needs to be identified, and the list for the same will be provided by GSWA. After deliberation, members of the Authority suggested that water analysis should be carried out for estimating nutrient concentration; faecal coliforms count and other important parameters in wetlands in line with requirements mentioned in brief document. Members also suggested that in order to determine the core area of wetland, rainfall data of 10 years with maximum rainfall (flood level) and minimum rainfall (drought level) could be analysed, corresponding imageries to be compared and thereafter average reading could be taken into consideration and accordingly zone of influence to be demarcated. All these requirements were informed to the scientist present from NIO, who has agreed to incorporate the same.

Chairperson, GSWA suggested that work order could be issued to NIO immediately in principle with time limit and suggested that NIO should provide the status report every month. Also he suggested that initial token amount may be released to NIO to initiate the work on urgent basis.

Timelines are set to complete the task of identifying and notifying wetlands in the State of Goa:

- a) Out of 550 wetlands identified by Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad through satellite imageries, first need is to create the list of those wetlands which are in protected areas/ forest/ wildlife areas/ CRZ areas i. e. paddy fields & rivers are to be excluded from the process of identification and notification. However the areas may be noted and set up of wetland needs to be understood to describe and ascertain ecological character of wetland. APCCF opined that wherever larger areas are available, there is opportunity to have high area under

zone of influence. List of those wetlands which are in protected areas/ forest/ wildlife areas to be provided by Forest Department to NIO. However NIO should also assist in the same.

- b) List of wetlands within CRZ areas i. e. paddy fields & rivers to be provided to NIO by National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) on or before 30 September 2019.

Member Secretary, GSBB informed that GSWA is in receipt of 11 proposals to declare water bodies as wetlands from Village Panchayats, villagers and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC). It was unanimously decided that information related to these wetlands could be provided by the departments as under:

- A) Maps (PDF) and area adjustment statement to be provided by Department of Settlement and Land Records (DSLRL) to NIO by 27 August 2019.
- B) Waterscape maps to be provided by Water Resources Department (WRD) to NIO by 27 August 2019.
- C) Landuse maps to be provided by Town and Country Planning Department (TCP) to NIO by 27 August 2019.

Chairperson, GSWA suggested that total list of 15 wetlands may be prepared and submitted to NIO to take up the same on priority basis for identification and notification. However all the other wetlands also should be identified and notified on war footing especially considering order of Hon. NGT.

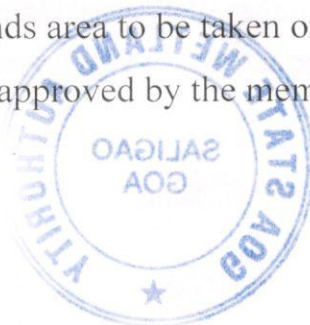
### **Agenda 3: Recruiting staff for GSWA.**

GSWA unanimously approved recruitment of staff for GSWA as per the requirements which will be in line with existing norms followed by Government.



**Agenda 4: Projects to be initiated for restoration of wetlands in various villages of Goa and funds to be approved for the same.**

Member Secretary, GSBB informed the members that 11 letters requesting areas to be declared as wetlands by various village Panchayats / BMCs/ villagers are received by GSWA. Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Chairperson, GSWA suggested that study including ground truthing of these 11 areas requested should be undertaken and inputs from village Panchayats / BMCs could be obtained to determine pre existing rights and privileges. He suggested that at least 15 top priority wetlands could be suggested to NIO in addition to the main exercise. The names suggested include water-bodies like Bondvol Lake, Chimbhel Lake, Salpem Lake, Nanda Lake, Assolna, Carambolim, Curtorim lakes, Ambulor Lake Verna, could be considered on priority along with requests from St Estevam BMC list, Colva BMCs list, Request from Villagers of Quellosim, Requests from individuals namely DoFruto DeSouza from Pilerne and Desmond Alvares from Assagaon. Member Secretary, GSBB informed that GSPCB has proposed list of wetlands to be identified. List of lakes to be included in the framework of restoration & preparation of Action Plan to be prepared by State. It was resolved that the list of wetlands provided by GSPCB should be merged with above list for identification and restoration. MS GSWA, suggested that GSPCB should provide water analysis report of these wetlands. Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Chairperson, GSWA suggested that the list of lakes provided by GSPCB may be also added to the list of wetlands to be taken on priority these names include additional names of Mayem Lake, Raia lake, Batim lake, Sarzora lake, Arambol sweet water lake. Hence the list of total wetlands area to be taken on priority is gone up to 18 nos. The same was unanimously approved by the members present.



**Agenda 5: Creating website for GSWA.**

Member Secretary, GSBB informed that website for GSWA needs to be created and the same was unanimously approved by the members present.

**Agenda 6: Any other matter with the permission of Chair.**

**a. "The Gods Garden" open wedding & celebration garden Ambulor Verna- Prop. Shri. Antonio Jose Pereira.**

Member Secretary, GSBB informed GSWA members about the request from Shri. Antonio Jose Pereira, resident of Pedda Benaolim- Salcete to issue clearance/ NOC for the project 'The Gods Garden' at Ambulor- Verna. After deliberation it was unanimously resolved that Ambular Lake should be taken on priority during the process of identification and notification of wetlands and subsequently decision may be taken in this regard.

**b. Restoration of 100 wetlands as part of transformative ideas within 100 days programme.**

Member Secretary, GSBB informed that as per the discussion with MoEF&CC one wetland could be considered under 'Restoration of 100 wetlands as part of transformative ideas within 100 days programme'. MS GSWA said that since the Bondvol lake brief document is prepared by GSBB for Govt. of Goa and the same was recommended as wetland by committee for suggesting wetlands in Goa for identification and notification, it may be recommended to MoEFCC for the program. Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Chairperson, GSWA requested Member Secretary GSWA to ensure and follow up the same and do the needful. The same was unanimously approved by the members present.

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



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pradip Sarmokadam".

Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam  
Member Secretary, GSBB  
Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA