

## **Submission by South Africa**

### **Views from Parties on content of the workshop on technical and scientific aspects of ecosystems with high-carbon reservoirs not covered by other agenda items under the Convention, such as coastal marine ecosystems, in the context of wider mitigation and adaptation**

**25 March 2013**

South Africa welcomes the opportunity to explore the topic of high-carbon reservoirs in ecosystems in general, especially because of the potential implications of ongoing climate change for ecosystems, and because of the vital role that such reservoirs already play in sequestering human carbon emissions. We believe that there is significant and urgent work necessary to quantify with more precision the location, activity and interannual variability in these carbon stocks and their fluxes.

With this in mind, we suggest that the topics or themes for the envisaged workshop should include the following

- A review of current knowledge on the relative size, flux activity and vulnerability of terrestrial and marine coastal carbon stocks to on-going climate change and the impacts of other human socio-economic activities
- The implications of coastal storms, sea level fluctuation, sea surface temperature change and floods for vulnerable coastal carbon stocks and how adaptation efforts that reduce risk to coastal communities can help to secure and enhance such carbon stocks.
- High carbon reservoirs, ocean acidification, impacts and response measures including ecosystem based adaptation strategies