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**Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Special Monitoring and Coastal Environmental Assessment
Regional Activity Centre**

**The Seventh NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting
Toyama, Japan, 14-15 September 2009**

**Proposal for implementation of the assessment of eutrophication status
by the NOWPAP member states**

1 Background

In line with the adopted mid- and long-term strategies of CEARAC and goals of NOWPAP WG3/WG4 approved at the 5th CEARAC FPM, CEARAC has developed the Procedures for assessment of eutrophication status including evaluation of the eutrophication status for the NOWPAP region (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 7/Ref2) (the common procedures) in June 2009. The common procedures enable each NOWPAP member state to assess the status and impacts of eutrophication in their respective sea areas, by using information obtained through existing monitoring activities. It is now expected to conduct an assessment of the eutrophication status in each NOWPAP member state, in order to provide arguments to limit or, if possible, to reduce anthropogenic change of coastal ecosystem in the Northwest Pacific region.

This document explains a work plan to conduct an assessment along with the common procedures in each NOWPAP member state, as one activity (specific project) of CEARAC for the 2010-2011 biennium.

2 Objective

Objective of this activity is to contribute to improve the eutrophication status of the NOWPAP sea area through reviewing obtained assessment results by NOWPAP member states.

3 Main tasks

Each NOWPAP member state will be required to conduct an assessment of the eutrophication status in their respectively sea areas based on the common procedures. CEARAC will request CEARAC Focal Points to nominate an expert or organization that is capable of undertaking the following work under MoU with CEARAC.

3.1 Selection of assessment area

Select an assessment area in the NOWPAP sea area of each member state, where water quality degradation and frequent occurrence of red tides were reported in the past. Divide the assessment area into sub areas if necessary to conduct an assessment effectively.

The following areas are considered as potential areas for assessment.

- Yangtze River Estuary and adjacent area, China
- North Kyusyu island, Japan
- Peter the Great Bay, Russia

*Potential area in Korea are being considered by CEARAC Focal Points of Korea

3.2 Collection of relevant information

Collect information and data on the assessment area(s) from existing monitoring and survey activities based on the common procedures.

3.3 Selection of assessment parameters and data

Select all the assessment parameters from the collected data, and then categorize them into the 4 categories indicated by the common procedures.

3.4 Setting of assessment period

Set the assessment period as long as possible in accordance with the assessment objectives and availability of reliable data.

3.5 Data processing

Process the selected monitoring/survey data into assessment values and prepares data sets to conduct assessment.

3.6 Setting of assessment criteria

Set the assessment criteria for each assessment parameter, category and area/sub areas based on the common procedures.

3.7 Preparation of a report on assessment results

Prepare a report based on the assessment results.

Assessment results of each NOWPAP member state will be reviewed by the Expert Advisory Group Meeting scheduled in summer to fall in 2010. CEARAC will then prepare an integrated report on assessment of eutrophication status for the NOWPAP region, based on the assessment results of each member state. Draft table of contents of the integrated report is attached as Annex.

4. Expected outcomes

The obtained assessment results from each NOWPAP member state will be compiled as an integrated report on assessment of eutrophication status for the NOWPAP region, hoping that it will provide essential information for proper management of the marine and coastal environment in the NOWPAP region.

5. Schedule

Proposed schedule will be as follows.

Time		Actions	Main body
2010	Q1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of workplan for implementation of assessment of eutrophication status by the NOWPAP member states 	CEARAC
	Mar (8 th CEARAC FPM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of workplan and budget for implementation of assessment on eutrophication status 	CEARAC / CEARAC FPs
	Q2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conclusion of MoU with experts or organizations 	CEARAC / National experts or organizations
	Q2 to Q3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the assessment on eutrophication status in each NOWPAP member state 	National experts or organization
	Q3 (Expert Advisory Group Meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of interim progress on the assessment of eutrophication status in each NOWPAP member state 	WG3/WG4 experts
	Q4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the assessment on eutrophication status in each NOWPAP member state (continue) 	National experts or organizations
2011	Q1 to Q2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of an integrated report 	CEARAC consultant
	Q3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of integrated report by experts and CEARAC FPs 	National experts or organizations and CEARAC FPs

6. Budget

Contract	Timing	Output	To be completed	Couterpart	Budget (US\$)
Implementation of eutrophication assessment in each NOWPAP member state	2010 Q2	Educational materials	2010 Q4	Expert or organization in China	3,000
				Consultant in Japan	3,000
				Expert or organization in Korea	3,000
				Expert or organization in Russia	3,000
Preparation of integrated report on eutrophication assessment for the NOWPAP region	2011 Q1	Website contents for the educational materials	2011 Q3	Consultant	3,000
Total					15,000

Annex

Draft table of contents for the integrated report of each NOWPAP member state

Executive summary

- I Introduction
- II Outline of the procedures for assessment of eutrophication status including evaluation of land-based sources of nutrients for the NOWPAP region.
- III Results of eutrophication assessment in each NOWPAP member state

➤ China

1. Scope of Assessment

- 1-1 Selection of assessment area
- 1-2 Collection of relevant information
- 1-3 Division of assessment area into sub-areas (if necessary)
- 1-4 Selection of assessment parameters

2. Data processing

- 2-1 Organization of collected data
- 2-2 Screening and sorting of data into sub-areas
- 2-3 Preparation of data sets for assessment

3. Setting of assessment criteria

- 3-1 Setting of identification criteria of the assessment data
- 3-2 Setting of classification criteria of the assessment parameters
- 3-3 Classification criteria of the assessment categories
- 3-4 Classification criteria of the assessment area/sub-areas

4. Assessment process and results

- 4-1 Division of assessment areas and assessment categories
- 4-2 Assessment results in each sub-area

5. Summary

- Japan (table of contents will be same as the one of China)
- Korea (table of contents will be same as the one of China)
- Russia (table of contents will be same as the one of China)

IV Comparison of assessment results of the NOWPAP member states

V Overall conclusions and recommendations