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

**The Ninth NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting  
Toyama, Japan, 6-7 September 2011**

**Proposal for refinement of the Common Procedures  
for eutrophication assessment  
towards assessment of the whole NOWPAP region**

## **1 Background**

In line with the approved CEARAC workplan at the 7<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM, CEARAC has conducted case studies on eutrophication assessment to evaluate the suitability of 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). Yangtze River Estuary and adjacent area in China, Northwest Kyushu sea area and Toyama Bay, Japan, Jinhae Bay in Korea, Peter the Great Bay in Russia were selected as areas for the case studies.

The results of eutrophication assessment in each selected sea area were reported at the Expert Meeting on Marine Biodiversity and Eutrophication in the Northwest Pacific Region held on Aug 4-5, 2011 in Toyama. CEARAC secretariat then presented draft integrated report on eutrophication assessment in selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region, and proposed draft workplan of CEARAC related to eutrophication for 2012-2013 biennium.

Realizing technical problems of the Common Procedures, participants of the expert meeting suggested refining the Common Procedure to improve its suitability towards assessment of eutrophication status of the whole NOWPAP region.

This document explains a workplan to refine the Common Procedures and to continue assessment of eutrophication status based on the refined Common Procedures.

## **2 Objective**

Objective of this activity is to improve the suitability of NOWPAP Common Procedures by refinement and to apply the refined Common Procedures in expanded and existing selected sea areas towards assessment of eutrophication status of the whole NOWPAP region.

## **3 Main tasks**

Each NOWPAP member state will be required to cooperate with CEARAC in refinement of the Common Procedures and to apply the refined Common Procedures to assess eutrophication status of expanded and existing selected sea areas.

### **3.1 Refinement of the Common Procedures**

Based on the lessons learned from the case studies on eutrophication assessment in selected sea areas of the NOWPAP member states in 2010-2011 biennium, CEARAC secretariat will prepare draft revision of the Common Procedures through correspondences with experts who conducted the eutrophication assessment. Draft revision will be circulated among stakeholders (relevant ministries, institutions and

organizations) in the NOWPAP member states via CEARAC FPs with assistance of NOWPAP RCU in each country and will be adopted as NOWPAP Common procedures for eutrophication assessment.

### **3.2 Application of the refined Common Procedures to assess eutrophication status**

Upon the refined Common Procedures is adopted by the NOWPAP member states, it is expected to apply the refined Common Procedures in expanded and existing selected sea areas towards assessment of eutrophication status of the whole NOWPAP region. Expanded area will be determined by CEARAC FPs in each NOWPAP member state. Nominated expert by CEARAC FPs in each NOWPAP member state will then apply the refined Common Procedures to the expanded and existing selected sea areas for eutrophication assessment.

## **4. Expected outcomes**

The obtained assessment results from each NOWPAP member state will be updated in integrated report on eutrophication assessment in selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region. Eutrophication status of each case study area will be summarized on CEARAC website and it will be made available for the public.

## **5. Potential partners**

In order to best utilize obtained assessment results for proper management of the marine and coastal environment, it is necessary to share the obtained assessment results with groups or organizations that are working on coastal area management. CEARAC will form a cooperative relationship with relevant organizations within and without NOWPAP framework, such as NOWPAP RACs, HELCOM Secretariat, local governments, and other relevant organizations.

Hence, POMRAC has been implementing activities on integrated coastal and river basin management within NOWPAP framework, CEARAC will provide information referring to requirement from POMRAC.

## 6. Schedule

Proposed schedule will be as follows.

Time		Actions	Main body
2012	Q2 10 <sup>th</sup> CERAC FPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of workplan and budget by CERAC FPM</li> </ul>	CEARAC and FPs
	Q2 to Q3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refinement of Common Procedures by CERAC and national experts</li> </ul>	CEARAC / National experts
	Q3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of refined Common Procedures by stakeholders in NOWPAP member state</li> </ul>	Relevant ministries, institutions and organizations
	Q4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application of the refined Common Procedures in expanded and existing selected sea area</li> </ul>	National experts
2013	Q1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of case study reports in each selected sea area</li> </ul>	National experts / NPEC
	Q2-Q3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of updated integrated report by experts</li> </ul>	CEARAC and experts
	Q3 CEARAC expert meeting		
	Q3 (11th CERAC FPM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of updated integrated report by CERAC FPM</li> </ul>	CEARAC and FPs
	Q4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of updated integrated report</li> <li>Preparation of website contents on CERAC website</li> </ul>	CEARAC

**7. Budget**

<b>Contract</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>To be completed</b>	<b>Counterpart</b>	<b>Budget (US\$)</b>
Refinement of Common Procedures and application of refined Common Procedures in each selected sea area of NOWPAP member states	2012 Q2	Refined Common Procedures and results of eutrophication assessment in each selected sea area	2013 Q1	Expert or organization in China	4,000
				Consultant in Japan	4,000
				Expert or organization in Korea	4,000
				Expert or organization in Russia	4,000
Preparation of updated integrated report on eutrophication assessment in selected areas	2013 Q2	Updated integrated report on eutrophication assessment in selected areas in the NOWPAP region	2013 Q4	CEARAC and consult	4,000
Total					20,000