

Background leading to this meeting

The Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) and three Resolutions were adopted at the 1st NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM)(Seoul, the Republic of Korea, 14 September 1994: UNEP (OCA)/NOWPAP/IG.1/5).

In accordance with the workplan approved by the Resolution 1 of the 7th NOWPAP IGM (UNEP (DEC)/NOWPAP/IG.7/10 Annex IV), CEARAC held the 1st CEARAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) (Toyama, Japan, 25-28 February 2003), the 1st Meeting of NOWPAP Working Group 3 (Busan, the Republic of Korea, 28-30 October 2003) and the 1st Meeting of NOWPAP Working Group 4 (Vladivostok, Russian Federation, 1-3 December 2003).

The 1st CEARAC FPM agreed on CEARAC workplan for 2003 and identified main issues to be focused on by NOWPAP Working Group 3 (WG3) and Working Group 4 (WG4). The 1st Meetings of NOWPAP WG3 and WG4 finalized the draft terms of reference for each WG and agreed on long-term plan and workplan for the 2004-2005 biennium of each WG.

The 8th NOWPAP IGM (Sanya, the People's Republic of China, 5-7 November 2003) approved the budget of \$150,000 for the 2004-2005 biennium for CEARAC activities. (UNEP/NOWPAP/IG.8/11 Annex I Resolution 1)

The 2nd CEARAC FPM (Toyama, Japan, 15-17 March 2004) adopted the revised workplan and budget for CEARAC activities for the 2004-2005 biennium and the Terms of Reference(TOR) for NOWPAP WG3 and WG4 (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 2/10). After the 2nd CEARAC FPM, with the consultation and approval of UNEP and CEARAC Focal Points, CEARAC made a slight change in its allocation of the budget. The new budget plan focused on the National and the Integrated Reports of NOWPAP WG3 and WG4.

The 9th NOWPAP IGM (Busan, the Republic of Korea, 2-4 November 2004) agreed on the workplan and budget of entire NOWPAP for the 2004-2005 biennium including the revised budget of US\$150,000 for the CEARAC activities (UNEP/NOWPAP/IG.9/5/1).

Based on the decision of the 2nd CEARAC FPM, CEARAC also held the 2nd Meeting of NOWPAP WG3 (Qingdao, the People's Republic of China, 25-26 November 2004) and the 2nd Meeting of NOWPAP WG4 (Beijing, the People's Republic of China, 14-15 October 2004).In WG3 and WG4, the meetings reviewed the preparation of the National Reports and discussed the contents of the Integrated Reports respectively. Moreover, WG3 reviewed the development of HAB reference database, and WG4 reviewed the development of RS information network system.

The 3rd CEARAC FPM (Toyama, Japan, 15-16 September, 2005) reviewed the progress of CEARAC activities for the 2004-2005 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 3/4) and approved the draft CEARAC workplan and budget for the 2006-2007 biennium which was presented by CEARAC Secretariat (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 3/12). All the reports were agreed to submit to the 10th NOWPAP IGM for adoption.

The 10th NOWPAP IGM (Toyama, Japan, 24-26 November, 2005) approved the workplan and budget of entire NOWPAP for the 2006-2007 biennium including the budget of US\$150,000 for the CEARAC activities (UNEP/NOWPAP/IG.10/8). The meeting also approved the new directions for the NOWPAP RACs including the new activities of CEARAC such as Land Based Sources of Pollution (with other RACs) and Marine Litter (with other RACs).

The 4th CEARAC FPM (Toyama, Japan, 8-9 March, 2006) acknowledged the report on the implementation of CEARAC activities in 2005 and the expenditures on CEARAC budget for the 2004-2005 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 4/3) and adopted the revised workplan and budget for the 2006-2007 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 4/12) based on the decision of the 10th NOWPAP IGM. Following the 10th NOWPAP IGM decisions, the revised Terms of Reference (TOR) for the CEARAC FPM, which enables the FPM to establish and disband Working Groups of CEARAC, was submitted by the Secretariat and agreed to submit to the 11th IGM. It was also agreed to prepare the "Guidelines on establishment and disbanding of Working Groups of CEARAC" for the 5th CEARAC FPM. There was a request to prepare a document on long-term objectives of CEARAC regardless of budget, and it was decided to discuss this issue in WG meetings and the 5th CEARAC FPM.

The 11th IGM (Moscow, Russian Federation, 20-21 December, 2006) approved the revised TOR for the CEARAC FPM with minor amendments that were made at the 4th CEARAC FPM.

The 5th CEARAC FPM (Toyama, Japan, 18-19 September 2007) reviewed implementation and expenditure of CEARAC activities for the 2006-2007 biennium. As for undecided Intersessional Work, the Secretariat proposed to prepare the documents for the 6th CEARAC FPM. The meeting agreed on the entire report. After the draft workplan including 5 proposals of new activities and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2008-2009 biennium were explained, the meeting requested some changes during the discussion and agreed on submission of them to the 12th NOWPAP IGM. The draft mid- and long-term strategies of CEARAC and goals of NOWPAP WG3 and WG4 were presented based on the request at the 4th CEARAC FPM, and the meeting agreed on the documents in general. The draft guidelines on establishment and disbanding of Working Groups of CEARAC, which had also been requested for its preparation in the 4th CEARAC FPM, were presented. After discussion, the

meeting agreed on the draft guidelines. Discussion on the operation of the present WG3 and WG4 will be scheduled for the next biennium..

The 12th NOWPAP IGM (Xiamen, China, 23-25 October 2007) approved the report of CEARAC on the progress in implementation of NOWPAP during the 2006-2007 biennium. The meeting also approved the presented workplan and revised budget for NOWPAP for the 2008-2009 biennium. In line with the shrink of the total budget of NOWPAP, new budgetary allocation of CEARAC activities during the biennium 2008-2009 was reduced from US\$150,000 to US\$140,000. The meeting also approved in principle the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI), a major outcome of the NOWPAP Marine Litter Activity (MALITA) which was implemented for the last two years.

The 6th NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting

Day1 (March 6, 2008)

Agenda Item 1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened at 9:00 at the Conference Room 1 in Tower 111, Toyama, Japan, on 6 March 2008 by the Director of CEARAC. Welcoming remarks by the NOWPAP Coordinator will follow. Representatives of the participating members will be invited to make opening remarks if they wish.

Agenda Item 2. Organization of the meeting

2.1 Election of the officer

The meeting will be invited to elect the chairperson and the rapporteur in line with paragraph 5.2 of the Terms of Reference of the NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting (UNEP/NOWPAP IG.8 7/1).

2.2 Organization of work

Rules of procedure will be established. It is proposed that, for purposes of this meeting, the rules used here will be those of the Governing Council of UNEP, adjusted as appropriate to suit the nature of the meeting.

The CEARAC Secretariat will introduce a suggested programme of work and timetable of the meeting and present a provisional list of the documents

English will be the working language of the meeting.

Agenda Item 3. Adoption of the Agenda

The Secretariat will introduce the Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/1) with the Annotated Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/2). The

meeting will be invited to consider the provisional agenda for adoption.

Agenda Item 4. Report of the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) on the implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP)

The representative of NOWPAP RCU will report to the meeting the progress of the entire NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period including the 12th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) held in Xiamen, the People's Republic of China, 23-25 October 2007 (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/3).

Agenda Item 5. Report on implementation and expenditure of CEARAC activities for the 2006-2007 biennium

The Director of CEARAC will report implementation and expenditure of CEARAC activities for the 2006-2007 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/4). The meeting will be invited to review the report.

Agenda Item 6. Discussion on revision of the proposed workplan and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2008-2009 biennium

The Director of CEARAC will present revision of the proposed workplan and budget of CEARAC for the 2008-2009 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/5) based on the approval of the 12th NOWPAP IGM (Xiamen, the People's Republic of China, 23-25, October 2007).

Agenda Item 6. (contd.) Revised proposals for new activities

The Secretariat will present revised proposals for new activities of CEARAC:

- 6.1 Workplan and budget for HAB Case Studies
(UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/6)
- 6.2 Workplan and budget for development of HAB Integrated Website
(UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/7)
- 6.3 Workplan and budget for development of educational materials for utilization of remote sensing data for marine environment conservation
(UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/8)
- 6.4 Workplan and budget for the second NOWPAP training course on remote sensing data analysis
(UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/9)
- 6.5 Workplan and budget for development of procedures for assessment of eutrophication status including evaluation of land based sources of nutrients for the NOWPAP Region
(UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/10)
- 6.6 Workplan and budget for updating and modification of website on oil spill

monitoring

(UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/11)

6.7 Workplan and budget for Marine Litter Activities based on RAP MALI

(UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 6/12)

The meeting will be invited to consider and approve the revised workplan and budget for the 2008-2009 biennium. Also, the meeting will be invited to consider how to strengthen cooperation and coordination with other regional and international organizations (e.g. PICES, YSLME, PEMSEA, EAS/RCU and so on).

Agenda Item 7. Other matters

The meeting will be invited to raise any other issues relevant to the NOWPAP/CEARAC activities.

Also, the meeting is invited to give comments and suggestions how to implement CEARAC activities in the future based on mid-and long-term strategies of CEARAC and goals of NOWPAP Working Group 3 (WG3) and Working Group 4 (WG4),

Agenda Item 8. Arrangement for venue of the 7th NOWPAP CEARAC FPM

The meeting will be invited to discuss the holding place and the date of the 7th NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting.

Day2 (March 8, 2008)

Agenda Item 9. Adoption of the report of the meeting

A draft report of the meeting will be prepared by the rapporteur and the Secretariat for consideration and adoption.

Agenda Item 10. Closure of the meeting

The meeting will be closed by the chairperson at 11:00 on 8 March 2008.