

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) (14 September 1994, Seoul, Korea: UNEP (OCA)/NOWPAP/IG.1/5).

In accordance with the workplan approved by the Resolution 1 of the 7<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM (UNEP (DEC)/NOWPAP/IG.7/10 Annex IV), CEARAC held the 1<sup>st</sup> CEARAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) (25-28 February 2003, Toyama, Japan). Among the agreements during the meeting, the 1<sup>st</sup> CEARAC FPM approved the establishment of two Working Groups (WGs) under CEARAC, aiming to implement its prioritized activities related to coastal environmental assessment and special monitoring:

WG3: monitoring and assessment of Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) including red tides

WG4: remote sensing of the marine and coastal environment

Following this decision, the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of NOWPAP Working Group 3 (28-30 October 2003, Busan, Korea) and the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of NOWPAP Working Group 4 (1-3 December 2003, Vladivostok, Russia) were organized.

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

The 2<sup>nd</sup> CEARAC FPM (15-17 March 2004, Toyama, Japan) 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM (2-4 November 2004, Busan, Korea) 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 2<sup>nd</sup> CEARAC FPM, CEARAC also held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of NOWPAP WG3 (25-26 November 2004, Qingdao, China) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of NOWPAP

WG4 (14-15 October 2004, Beijing, China). 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 3<sup>rd</sup> CEARAC FPM (15-16 September, 2005, Toyama, Japan) 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 the CEARAC Secretariat (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 3/12). All the reports were agreed to submit to the 10<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM for adoption.

The 10<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM (24-26 November, 2005, Toyama, Japan) 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 4<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM (8-9 March, 2006, Toyama, Japan) 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 10<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM. Following the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> IGM. It was also agreed to prepare the "Guidelines on establishment and disbanding of Working Groups of CEARAC" for the 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of NOWPAP Working Group 3 and Working Group 4 were organized in a partial collaborated manner for the first time (6-7 July 2006, Toyama, Japan). The participants acknowledged the importance of cooperation between WG3 and WG4.

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

The 5<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM (18-19 September 2007, Toyama, Japan) reviewed implementation and expenditure of CEARAC activities for the 2006-2007 biennium and discussed the draft workplan including 5 proposals of new activities and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2008-2009 biennium for approval of submission to the 12<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM. The draft mid- and long-term strategies of CEARAC, goals of NOWPAP WG3 and WG4 and draft guidelines on establishment and disbanding of Working Groups of CEARAC were presented based on the request at the 4<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM. After discussion, the meeting agreed on all the documents. Discussion on the operation of the present WG3 and WG4 will be scheduled for the next biennium.

The 12<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM (23-25 October 2007, Xiamen, China) approved the report of CEARAC on the progress in implementation of NOWPAP during the 2006-2007 biennium and 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 2008-2009 biennium 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 6<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM (6-8 March 2008, Toyama, Japan) approved the the report of CEARAC on implementation of NOWPAP during the 2006-2007 biennium and reviewed the revised workplan and budget for the 2008-2009 biennium, based on the decision of the 12<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM. The meeting emphasized cooperation and possible collaboration of CEARAC with other RACs and other regional/international organizations for smooth implementation of the planned activities.

The 4<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP WG3 and WG4 Meetings were held simultaneously (10-12 September 2008, Toyama, Japan), aiming at exchanging information between experts of WG3 and WG4 in an effective manner since the activities of both WGs are closely related. The expenditure of the meetings was economized by joint organization.

The 13<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM (20-21 October 2008, Juju, Korea) discussed the new activities of NOWPAP RACs for 2008-2011 bienniums and approved them, including CEARAC activities.

The 7<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM (14-15 September 2009, Toyama, Japan) reviewed the progress in implementation of CEARAC activities for the 2008-2009 biennium and discussed draft workplan and budget of activities for the 2010-2011 biennium. Draft workplan for the new biennium includes activities of WG3 and WG4, a joint activity of WG3 and 4: assessment of eutrophication status, and a new activity on biodiversity, based on the views of needs of more collaboration of WG3 and 4 and expansion of CEARAC activities to other assessment indicators besides HABs and eutrophication. After discussion, the meeting agreed on the draft workplan and budget, in general, with some modifications, to submit to the 14<sup>th</sup> IGM for approval.

The 14<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM (8-10 December 2009, Toyama, Japan) decided the cut-down of the entire budget of NOWPAP for the 2010-2011 biennium due to the current severe situation of the NOWPAP Trust Fund. Therefore, with the allocated budget of US\$107,000 to each RAC, CEARAC needed to revise its workplan and budget. Besides that amount, CEARAC was allocated US\$10,500 for RAP MALI activities. The entire budget of NOWPAP for the 2010-2011 will be reviewed during the 15<sup>th</sup> IGM.

Based on the agreement of the 7<sup>th</sup> CEARAC FPM and the 14<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM, the 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP CEARAC FPM and the Expert meeting on assessment of eutrophication and marine biodiversity will be held on 13-15 September 2010. The Expert Meeting is a collaborative meeting with experts of HAB, Remote Sensing, eutrophication and marine biodiversity, aiming to have more thorough discussion on CEARAC activities and to enhance information and opinion exchange among CEARAC-related experts. The involvement of eutrophication and marine biodiversity are in accordance with specific activities of CEARAC for the 2010-2011 biennium.

## **The 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting**

### **Day1 (13 September, 2010)**

#### **Agenda Item 1. Opening of the meeting**

The meeting will be opened at 9:00 at the Conference Room "Sky Gallery" in Tower 111, Toyama, Japan, on 13 September 2010 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 officers**

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 8/1) with the Annotated Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/2). The meeting will be invited to consider the 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 the progress of the entire NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period including the 14<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) held in Toyama, Japan, 8-10 December 2010 (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/3).

## **Agenda Item 5. Report on implementation and expenditure of CEARAC activities for the 2008 -2009 biennium and revised workplan and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2010-2011 biennium**

The Director of CEARAC will report implementation and expenditure of CEARAC activities for the 2008-2009 biennium, including RAP MALI (marine litter related activities). He

will also introduce briefly the revised workplan and budget for the 2010-2011 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/4), based on the decision of the 14<sup>th</sup> IGM. The meeting will be invited to review the reports.

## **Agenda Item 6. Discussion on specific projects for the 2010-2011 biennium**

The Secretariat will explain the revised workplan and budget of each activity of CEARAC for the 2010-2011 biennium and introduce the progress of them respectively.

### **6.1 Report of development of the new marine assessment method focusing on marine biodiversity (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/5)**

The Secretariat will explain a new activity of Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center (NPEC), the host organization of CEARAC, on developing a new marine assessment method focusing on marine biodiversity. The progress report on the pilot study in Toyama Bay will be made by NPEC during the Expert Meeting on the following day.

### **6.2 Report of implementation of the assessment of eutrophication status by the NOWPAP member states (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/6)**

The Secretariat will explain the workplan on assessment of eutrophication status by the NOWPAP member states. The detailed progress report of the activity will be made by a selected expert of each member state during the Expert Meeting on the following day.

### **6.3 Report of updating the Integrated Report on HAB for the NOWPAP Region based on the HAB Case Studies (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/7)**

The Secretariat will explain possible additional information collected from the member states to the Integrated Report on HAB and the progress of the activity.

### **6.4 Report of updating the Integrated Report on Ocean Remote Sensing for the NOWPAP Region (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/8)**

The Secretariat will explain possible additional information collected from the member states to the Integrated Report on Ocean Remote Sensing and the progress of the activity.

### **6.5 Report of preparation status of the 3<sup>rd</sup> NOWPAP training course on remote sensing data analysis (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/9)**

The Secretariat will explain the arrangement with the other organizations for the preparation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> NOWPAP training course on remote sensing data analysis. Draft proposal to conduct the next training course in Russia 2011 jointly with IOC/WESTPAC and

PICES was approved at the 8<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Session IOC Sub-Commission. The same proposal was also submitted to PICES and it will be further discussed at the PICES annual meeting in October in Portland.

The meeting will be invited to review the progress of each activity and give suggestion for more efficient and effective implementation.

**Agenda Item 7. Report of implementation of the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (MAP MALI)**

The Secretariat will explain RAP MALI related activities allocated to CEARAC for the 2010-2011 biennium with the workplan and budget (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 8/10).

**Agenda Item 8. Potential collaborative areas with other RACs**

The representatives of other RACs (DINRAC, MERRAC and POMRAC) will introduce their activities which are related to CEARAC activities.

**Agenda Item 9. Arrangement of the 9<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP CEARAC FPM**

The meeting will be invited to discuss the date of the 9<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting. It is planned to be organized back to back with the next Expert Meeting.

**Agenda Item 10. Other matters**

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

**The Expert Meeting on Assessment of Eutrophication and Marine Biodiversity**  
**(14 September 2010)**

**Agenda Item 11. Report of implementation of the assessment of eutrophication status by the NOWPAP member states**

The selected expert in each NOWPAP member state will explain the progress of

assessment of eutrophication status in their countries.

- 11.1 Preliminary assessment of eutrophication by remote sensing in the Northwest Pacific region
- 11.2 Report of interim result of eutrophication assessment from China
- 11.3 Report of interim result of eutrophication assessment from Japan
- 11.4 Report of interim result of eutrophication assessment from Korea
- 11.5 Report of interim result of eutrophication assessment from Russia

**Agenda Item 12. Report of development of the new marine assessment method focusing on marine biodiversity**

The progress of the pilot study in Toyama Bay will be explained.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting**  
**Day2 (15 September, 2010)**

**Agenda Item 13. 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 14. Closure of the meeting**

The meeting will be closed by the chairperson at 11:00 on 15 September 2010.