

Background leading to this meeting

In accordance with the workplan approved by the Resolution 1 of the 7th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) (14 September 1994, Seoul, the Republic of Korea, UNEP (DEC)/NOWPAP/IG.7/10 Annex IV), CEARAC held the 1st CEARAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) (25-28 February 2003, Toyama, Japan). Among the agreements during the meeting, the 1st 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 (RS)

Following this decision, the 1st Meeting of NOWPAP Working Group 3 (28-30 October 2003, Busan, the Republic of Korea) and the 1st Meeting of NOWPAP Working Group 4 (1-3 December 2003, Vladivostok, Russian Federation) were organized. Since then, the prioritized activities of CEARAC have been related to HABs and RS under leadership of WG3 and WG4 members.

The 10th IGM (24-26 November, 2005, Toyama, Japan) 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). Following the decisions of this IGM, new activities related to marine litter were included in CEARAC's workplan from the 2006-2007 biennium on.

In the 5th FPM (18-19 September 2007, Toyama, Japan), a draft workplan and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2008-2009 biennium were presented, including a new activity on eutrophication as a joint activity of WG 3 and WG4, for adoption their submission to the 12th IGM (23-25 October 2007, Xiamen, China) where the presented workplan was approved and a new budgetary allocation to CEARAC activities (US\$140,000) was decided.

In the 7th FPM (14-15 September 2009, Toyama, Japan), along with the report of the progress in implementation of CEARAC activities for the 2008-2009 biennium, a draft workplan and budget of activities for the 2010-2011 biennium were presented and discussed, which included activities on WG3 (HAB) , WG4 (RS), eutrophication as a joint activity of WG3 and WG4, and a new activity on marine biodiversity, based on the views of needs of more

collaboration of WG 3 and 4 and expansion of CEARAC activities taking into account global attention to marine biodiversity.

The 8th FPM (13-15 September 2010, Toyama, Japan) was held back-to-back with the Expert Meeting on Assessment of Eutrophication Status and Marine Environment Focusing on Marine Biodiversity with CEARAC FPs, some experts of WG3 and WG4 and some other experts on marine biodiversity and eutrophication. In this FPM, overall discussion on the entire CEARAC's activities was made while the expert meeting focused on more detailed progress of each activity including clarification and modification of actions to be taken for the second year of the biennium.

Prior to the 9th FPM, the Expert Meeting on Marine Biodiversity and Eutrophication was held (4-5 August 2011, Toyama, Japan) by the Northwest Pacific Environmental Cooperation Center (NPEC), the host organization of CEARAC, to exchange information on existing marine biodiversity-related activities in the NOWPAP member states, to review the final results of the eutrophication assessments implemented in the selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region, and to provide suggestions and advice to a draft workplan of CEARAC for the 2012-2013 biennium.

The 9th FPM (6-7 September 2011, Toyama, Japan) reviewed the progress of CEARAC activities for the 2010-2011 biennium as well as discussed the presented workplan and budget for the 2012-2013 biennium for adoption of their submission to the 16th IGM (20-22 December 2011, Beijing, China) where the presented workplan was approved and a new budgetary allocation to CEARAC activities (US\$112,000) was decided except for the budget for marine litter activities.

The 10th FPM (17-18 April 2012, Toyama, Japan) will discuss the detailed workplan with the revised budget for the 2012-2013 biennium. Taking into consideration of current focus of CEARAC activities on marine biodiversity and eutrophication, revision of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting will also be discussed.

The 10th NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting

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 17 April 2012 by the Director of CEARAC.

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 for 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.

English will be the working language of the meeting.

Agenda Item 3. Adoption of the Agenda

The Director of CEARAC will introduce the Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/1) with the Annotated Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/2).

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 since the ninth NOWPAP CEARAC FPM (6-7 September 2011, Toyama, Japan) (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/3).

Agenda Item 5. Report on the implementation and the expenditure of CEARAC activities for the 2010-2011 biennium

The Director of CEARAC will report implementation and expenditures of CEARAC activities for the 2010-2011 biennium, including RAP MALI (marine litter activities) (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/4).

Agenda Item 6. Proposal for revising the Terms of Reference for the NOWPAP

CEARAC Focal Points Meeting

The Director of CEARAC will explain the necessity of revising Terms of Reference (ToR) for the NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting. The meeting will be invited to review and provide suggestions on this matter in order to submit the revision to the next NOWPAP IGM for approval (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/5).

Agenda Item 7. Workplan and revised budget of CEARAC activities for the 2012-2013 biennium

The Director of CEARAC will present the workplan and the revised budget of entire CEARAC activities for the 2012-2013 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/6). The meeting will be invited to review and discuss how to implement all planned activities effectively and efficiently.

7.1 Workplan and budget for preparing the regional report for conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable use of marine ecosystem services in the NOWPAP region

The Secretariat will present the workplan with the current progress of this activity. CEARAC FPs will be requested to nominate a national expert to take a role of collecting information on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and prepare a report (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/7).

7.2 Workplan and budget for refinement of the NOWPAP Common Procedure for eutrophication assessment towards the assessment of the whole NOWPAP region

The Secretariat will present the workplan with the current progress of this activity. The meeting will be requested to determine case study sea areas for the eutrophication assessment with the revised NOWPAP Common Procedure (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/8).

7.3 Workplan and budget of organization of the 4th NOWPAP training course on remote sensing data analysis

The Secretariat will present the workplan. The meeting will be invited to provide suggestions for effective implementation of this activity especially in finding counterparts in China (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/9).

7.4 Workplan and budget for maintenance of CEARAC website and upgrade of the Marine Environment Watch System

The Secretariat will present the workplan with the current progress of this activity. The meeting will be invited to provide suggestions how to improve the current services of the Watch System (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/10).

Agenda Item 8. Workplan and budget of CEARAC Marine Litter Activities

The Secretariat will present the workplan with the current progress of this activity. (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/11)

Agenda Item 9. Collaborative areas with other RACs and other regional/international organizations

The Secretariat will explain potential areas for cooperation and collaboration with other RACs and/or other regional and international organizations, including introduction of the “State of Marine Environment Report (SOMER-2) ” by POMRAC (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 10/Ref1). The meeting will be invited to provide suggestions and information to explore possibility of collaboration.

Agenda Item 10. Arrangement of the 11th NOWPAP CEARAC FPM

The meeting will be invited to discuss the date of the 11th NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting.

Agenda Item 11. Other matters

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

Agenda Item 12. 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 13. Closure of the meeting

The meeting will be closed by the chairperson at 12:00 on 18 April 2012.