

Annex V

**Report of the CEARAC activities for 2002/2003
and planned activities for 2004/2005**

Annex V
CEARAC report activities 2003-2004
(as of Sep.30, 2004)

1. General Briefing

Background

The Special Monitoring and Coastal Environmental Assessment Regional Activity Centre (CEARAC) is one of the four Regional Activity Centres (RACs) to coordinate activities relevant to specific components of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP).

CEARAC was founded in 1999 and is hosted by the Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center (NPEC), which was established in 1998 at Toyama, Japan, under the auspices of the Ministry of the Environment. Finalization of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNEP was made in July 2002, which provides the overall framework for cooperation between UNEP and NPEC.

Following the Resolution of the 7th Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) (Vladivostok, Russia, March 2002), which allows NOWPAP to evolve toward a RAC-based rather than an Activity-based structure, the CEARAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) was established in order to promote smooth and effective implementation of special monitoring and assessment of the marine and coastal environment. The First CEARAC FPM (Toyama, Japan, February 2003) defined the priorities and initial steps of CEARAC activities. Following the decision of the First CEARAC FPM, CEARAC has been working on monitoring and assessing Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) under Working Group 3 (WG3), and developing new monitoring tools using by Remote Sensing (RS) under Working Group 4 (WG4).

Activities of CEARAC such as CEARAC FPM, WG3/WG4 meeting and other intersessional works are funded by the NOWPAP Trust Fund, and operation of CEARAC is financially supported by Toyama Prefectural Government, including the personal salaries and other miscellaneous costs.

Staff

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2. Report of activities for 2002-2003

The 7th IGM approved \$125,000 for CEARAC activities for 2002/2003. CEARAC spent \$125,000 for the activities for the 2002/03 biennium following the decision of the first CEARAC FPM and the first WG3 and WG4 Meeting.

2.1 The use of the 2002-2003 budget

Activity	Date & Venue	Responsibility	Planned Budget US\$	Actual Expenditures(US\$)
Organization of the Meeting			78,000	67,392
● 1 st CEARAC FPM	Feb. 2003; Toyama, Japan	CEARAC with assistance of RCU,UNEP and IOC-UNESCO	30,000	28,543
● 1 st WG3 Meeting	Oct. 2003; Busan, Korea	CEARAC with assistance of RCU,UNEP, NFRDI (Korea)	24,000	18,937
● 1 st WG4 Meeting	Dec. 2003; Vladivostok Russia	CEARAC with assistance of RCU,UNEP, POI/RAS (Russia)	24,000	19,912
Intersessional Work			26,000	34,873
● Opening a CEARAC Website	October 2003;	CEARAC with assistance of a consultant	10,000	3,080
● Preparation of the Working Documents for WG3	Fall 2003;	CEARAC with assistance of a consultant	6,000	11,693
● Preparation of the Working Documents for WG4	Fall 2003;	CEARAC with assistance of a consultant	10,000	11,500
● Related Work for the development of the reference database on HAB	Fall 2003;	NOWPAP WG3 Experts and a consultant		4,000
● Development of website on oil spill monitoring by RS	Winter 2003	CEARAC with assistance of POI/RAS (Russia)		4,600
Cooperation and Coordination of CEARAC activities			21,000	22,735
● Travel Expenses	Throughout 2002/03	CEARAC		9,894
● Communication and Others	Throughout 2002/03	CEARAC		12,841
TOTAL *			125,000	125,000

*Note: In addition to the budget from NOWPAP Trust fund, NPEC provided about \$30,000 to CEARAC activities such as reception and excursion expenses of the Meetings, and communication expenses.

2.2 Activities for 2003 carried out since the Eight IGM

1) Related Work for the development of the reference database on HAB

CEARAC concluded an MoU with an institute or an expert of each member country in order to carry out the related work for the development of the reference database on HAB of NOWPAP. The activities to be carried out were to obtain scientific publications related to HAB in the NOWPAP region and to enter the necessary information into the database.

2) Organization of First WG4 Meeting

The first meeting of WG4 was held in 1-3 December 2003 in Vladivostok, Russia.

The meeting reviewed workplan for WG4, and discussed the details of WG4 activities.

The meeting first agreed to compile the national report and the integrated report. The meeting also agreed on the development of a portal site on RS in the NOWPAP region as the first step for developing a remote sensing information network. The portal site is proposed as an option to share understanding of the status, challenges, and opportunities of marine environmental monitoring by RS in the NOWPAP region, and to share the information for future monitoring system establishment. In addition, the meeting agreed CEARAC's support for the development of the website on RS for oil spill monitoring by the Pacific Oceanological Institute (POI) of Russia.

3) Development of website on oil spill monitoring by RS: <http://cearac.poi.dvo.ru/>

CEARAC concluded an MoU with Pacific Oceanological Institute in order to develop a CEARAC website on oil spill monitoring by RS. The website provides information about RS techniques of oil pollution detection, updated database of satellite images in the NOWPAP region, and environmental information important for oil pollution monitoring. After final set up, the website opened in fall 2004.

3. Workplan and Budget for 2004-2005

The 8th IGM (Sanya, China, November 2003) approved of the allocation of US\$150,000 on the budget for CEARAC for the 2004/05 biennium. Following the approval of the IGM, the Second CEARAC FPM (Toyama, Japan, March 2004) approved the Workplan and Budget for CAERAC for the 2004/05 biennium.

The Meeting agreed that one of the main activities under WG3 and WG4 for the 2004/05 biennium would be to prepare and compile the National Report and Integrated Report. However, the approved Workplan and Budget did not include the portion of the National Report and the Integrated Report. Thus with a consensus among the Focal Points, the approved Workplan and Budget was revised as it would reflect the actual activities planned (June 2004). It consequently would reduce the number of meetings which meets the 8th IGM's request.

3.1 Workplan and Budget for CEARAC for 2004-05

June 2004, CEARAC

Activity	Planned date	Responsibility	Remarks	Budget US\$
Organization of CEARAC 2 nd FPM	March 2004; Toyama	CEARAC, with assistance of RCU, UNEP, IOC-UNESCO		24,000
CEARAC Newsletter	Aug. 2004;	CEARAC		2,000
Preparation of the National Report of WG3	July 2004 – March 2005	FP with assistance of Expert(s) or consultant from each NOWPAP Member countries	\$4,000 for each NOWPAP member country	16,000
Preparation of the National Report of WG4	July 2004 – March 2005	FP with assistance of Expert(s) or consultant from each NOWPAP Member countries	\$4,000 for each NOWPAP member country	16,000
Organization of 2 nd Meeting of WG3	Fall 2004;	CEARAC with assistance of RCU, UNEP, IOC-UNESCO, Chinese Academy of Science	Qingdao, China	18,000
Organization of 2 nd Meeting of WG4	Fall 2004;	CEARAC with assistance of RCU, UNEP, CNEMC (China)	Beijing, China	15,000
Intersessional work	Throughout 2004	CEARAC in cooperation with relevant organizations		3,000
Harmonization of WG3 National Reports	Spring 2005	CEARAC through regional consultant		3,000
Harmonization of WG4 National Reports	Spring 2005	CEARAC through regional consultant		3,000
Organization of CEARAC 3 rd FPM	July 2005; Toyama	CEARAC, with assistance of RCU, UNEP, IOC-UNESCO		23,000
CEARAC Newsletter	Aug. 2005;	CEARAC		2,000
Preparation of the Integrated Report of WG3	Throughout 2005	CEARAC through regional consultant		5,000
Preparation of the Integrated Report of WG4	Throughout 2005	CEARAC through regional consultant		5,000
Printing of National Reports/Integrated Reports	Throughout 2005	CEARAC		4,000
Intersessional work	Throughout 2005	CEARAC in cooperation with relevant organizations		3,000
Cooperation and Coordination of CEARAC activities	Through-out 2004/5	CEARAC in cooperation with UNEP, IOC-UNESCO and relevant organizations		8,000
TOTAL *				150,000

* **Note:** In addition to the budget from NOWPAP Trust fund, NPEC provides about \$40,000 to CEARAC activities.

3.2 Activities and the use of the budget for 2004-2005 (as of Sep.30, 2004)

1) Organization of CEARAC Second FPM

The Second CEARAC FPM was held on 15-17 March 2004 in Toyama, Japan.

First, the Meeting reviewed and approved the activities and expenditure of CEARAC for the 2002/03 biennium. During the discussion of CEARAC activities, it was suggested that NOWPAP/CEARAC should build up partnerships with other organizations such as IOC/WESTPAC, which conducts activities similar to those of NOWPAP/CEARAC.

The Meeting also approved the ToR and workplans for WG3 and WG4 after reviewing them. One of the important activities for both WG3 and WG4 is to publish the National Reports and the Integrated Reports. The FPM pointed out that cooperative work and communication between the two WGs can be made because the WGs have common focuses such as red tide and eutrophication. The Meeting also recognized the importance of cooperation with other RACs in order to implement the NOWPAP activities efficiently.

Finally the FPM approved the Workplan and Budget of CEARAC activities for the 2004/05 biennium.

2) Preparation and compilation of the National Report

CAERAC concluded an MoU for preparing and compiling the National Report on WG3 /WG4 with the WG Expert/consultant of each member country whom the CEARAC Focal Point of each member country designated to do the work. The scope of work is to collect existing information; to analyze the wide variety of collected information; to make recommendation for national priorities and future activities; and to summarize and report these research activities.

3) Publication of CEARAC Newsletter

The first issue of the CEARAC Newsletter was published in August 2004. It carries the reports of implementation of CEARAC activities and future workplan and budget of CEARAC. Contributions from the NOWPAPA interim Coordinator and CEARAC Focal Points make it colorful. The Newsletter serves a precious information source of CAERAC and is distributed free of charge to people who are interested in CEARAC activities and special monitoring and coastal environmental assessment.

4) Preparation for organization of the Second WG3 and WG4 Meeting

The Second WG3 Meeting is scheduled in 25-26 November in Qingdao China, with a support of the Institute of Oceanology of Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS) while the Second WG4 Meeting is scheduled in 14-15 October in Beijing, China with a support of China National Environmental Monitoring center (CNEMC). CAEARC concluded MoUs for preparing and assisting the smooth organization of the Second Meeting of WG3 and WG4 with CNEMC and IOCAS respectively.

CEARAC is preparing for working documents for coming WG3/WG4 Meeting.

5) Other Activities under WG3 and WG4

WG3 The development of the reference database on HAB in the NOWPAP region is in the stage of constructing a prototype. CAERAC continues to work for its open in 2005.

The development of the Cochlodinium Corresponding Group (CCG) is in the organizing stage of the Group. CEARAC proceeds constructing website and technical report for the CCG in 2005

WG4 The development of the portal site on RS in the NOWPAP region is in the basic design phase. CEARAC continues to collect more information to complete its development in 2005.

The use of the 2004-2005 budget (as of Sep.30, 2004)

Activity	Date & Venue	Responsibility	Planned Budget US\$	Actual Expenditures(US\$)
Organization of CEARAC 2 nd FPM	Mar.2004; Toyama, Japan	CEARAC with assistance of RCU,UNEP and IOC-UNESCO	24,000	19,183
CEARAC Newsletter	Aug. 2004;	CEARAC	2,000	2,005
Preparation of the National Report of WG3	July 2004 – March 2005	FP with assistance of Expert(s) or consultant from each NOWPAP Member country (\$4,000 each)	16,000	*16,000
Preparation of the National Report of WG4	July 2004 – March 2005	FP with assistance of Expert(s) or consultant from each NOWPAP Member country (\$4,000 each)	16,000	*16,000
Organization of 2 nd Meeting of WG4	Oct. 2004; Beijing, China	CEARAC with assistance of RCU,UNEP, CNEMC(China)	15,000	*2,500
Organization of 2 nd Meeting of WG3	Nov. 2004; Qingdao, China	CEARAC with assistance of RCU,UNEP, Chinese Academy of Sciences	18,000	*2,200
Cooperation and Coordination of CEARAC activities	Throughout 2004/05	CEARAC	8,000	500
		Travel Expenses Communication and Others	6,000 2,000	0 500
TOTAL			-	58,388

* unliquidated obligation