

Background

Taking into consideration the suggestions and advices that were provided from the experts at the Expert Meeting on Marine Biodiversity and Eutrophication in the Northwest Pacific Region (4-5 August 2011, Toyama, Japan) as well as the progress of the activities for the 2010-2011 biennium, the CEARAC Secretariat presented proposals for its workplan with two budget options (US\$117,000 and US\$147,000) for the 2012-2013 biennium at the 9th CEARAC FPM (6-7 September 2011, Toyama, Japan). After reviewing the detail of the workplan, the meeting agreed to submit it to the 16th NOWPAP Inter governmental Meeting (IGM) (20-22 December, Beijing, China) for approval.

After review and discussion of each RAC's workplan and budget for the 2012-2013 biennium as well as NOWPAP medium-term Strategies, and the current situation of the NOWPAP Trust Fund, the 16th NOWPAP IGM decided to allocate US\$112,000 to each RAC for implementing their planned activities and US\$3,000 to CEARAC for its designated activities on RAP MALI. Following the decision of the IGM, the CEARAC Secretariat presents the workplan and the revised budget for the 2012-2013 for discussion at the 10th CEARAC FPM.

1. Workplan for the 2012-2013 biennium

1-1. Meetings (FPM10 and 11, and 1 Expert Meeting)

CEARAC FPM will be organized annually in 2012 (March) and 2013 (September) and one Expert Meeting will be organized in summer in 2013.

Each FPM will review the progress of current activities and give practical advice for completion and achievement of objectives of planned activities. In addition, the 11th FPM will discuss and be expected to approve a proposal of CEARAC workplan and budget for the 2014-2015 biennium.

In the Expert Meeting, the interim report of specific activities will be reported and the discussion for potential activities for the next biennium will be made.

1-2. Maintenance of CEARAC websites

CEARAC plans to implement some routine work for improving the quality of the existing CEARAC websites on HAB and RS in close consultation and cooperation with

FPs and relevant experts and other RACs and organizations. The following website contents will be periodically added or updated.

- Latest information on HAB occurrences and references in the HAB integrated website
- Latest information on educational materials, website links, references in NOWPAP Ocean Remote Sensing Portal
- Establishing link to the Chlorophyll Globally Integrated Network (ChloroGIN*) from the Marine Environmental Watch Website

*ChloroGIN project aims to promote in situ measurement of chlorophyll in combination with satellite derived estimates. (<http://www.chlorogin.org/world/>)

Previously, CEARAC and its activities have been publicized through annually printed CEARAC newsletters. From 2012 on, CEARAC will provide information of CEARAC and its activities, NOWPAP and related activities of other RACs and organizations through CEARAC website.

1-3. Specific Activities

1-3-1. Preparation of the regional report for conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable use of marine ecosystem services in the NOWPAP region

CEARAC will collect basic information on the existing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the NOWPAP member states, based on the database on MPAs by NOWPAP DINRAC, and analyze the current status of them. The experts who are nominated by CEARAC FPs collect information on monitoring and management in the selected MPAs and conduct a research for the status in selected MPAs.

In addition, CEARAC will hold a workshop in order to discuss the possibilities for application of new concepts for conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable use of marine ecosystem services in the NOWPAP region.

1-3-2. Refinement of the NOWPAP Common Procedure for eutrophication assessment

CEARAC will refine the NOWPAP Common Procedure to improve its quality towards assessment of eutrophication status of the whole NOWPAP region. The refined Common Procedure will be applied for assessment of the eutrophication status for the existing or newly selected sea areas.

1-3-3. Organization of the 4th NOWPAP Training Course on Remote Sensing Data Analysis

CEARAC plans to organize the fourth NOWPAP training course on remote sensing data analysis in 2013. The venue will be in China as the last three courses were held in Japan, Korea and Russia. Support of DINRAC is highly appreciated to determine the venue of the training course.

1-4. Cooperation, coordination with NOWPAP and other international organizations

Taking every opportunity, CEARAC will participate in meetings and/or workshops held by NOWPAP RCU, other RACs, UNEP and relevant regional and international organizations to exchange information and data and disseminate past and present CEARAC activities.

In addition, CEARAC will closely cooperate with other RACs and relevant regional and international organizations for implementation of the following activities in the 2012-2013 biennium:

- With DINRAC and/or PICES for implementation of Marine Biodiversity activities
- With IOC/WESTPAC and PICES for organization of the 4th NOWPAP Training Course on Remote Sensing Data Analysis
- With POMRAC for preparation of the “State of Marine Environment Report” (SOMER-2)
- With PICES for sharing information on HAB

1-5. Upgrade of Marine Environmental Watch System (in-kind)

Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center (NPEC) plans to upgrade the Marine Environmental Watch System with the anticipated support from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan in the fiscal year 2013. New functions such as Web-GIS based information provision services and time series plot are expected to be added.

1-6. Activities on Marine Litter (RAP MALI)

CEARAC will continue implementing designated activities on marine litter in cooperation with NOWPAP RCU, marine litter FPs, experts and other RACs including:

- Compiling information on government measures and best practices for prevention of marine litter input from land sources in the NOWPAP member

- state, including cooperation between central and local governments and other entities, and will prepare a summary report
- Compiling and harmonizing the marine litter monitoring data on beaches and submit the collected data to DINRAC
 - Continuing sharing this information on current status of marine litter in the NOWPAP region among member states

2. Revised Budget for the 2012-2013 biennium

Following the decision of the 16th NOWPAP IGM, the proposed budget for CEARAC activities for the 2012-2013 biennium, which had been submitted and approved at the 9th CEARAC FPM, was revised as the following Table 1. The meeting is requested to review and adopt the revised budget.

Table 1 Revised Budget for CEARAC activities for the 2012-2013 biennium

Activity	Planned Budget (US\$)			Tentative Time
	2012	2013	Total	
Meetings - 2 CEARAC Focal Points Meetings and 1 Expert Meeting	27,000	27,000	54,000	FPM10-April 2012 FPM11-Sep. 2013 EM- Summer 2013
Maintenance of Websites - mainly HAB and RS	2,000	2,000	4,000	throughout 2012-13
Specific project - Preparing the regional report for conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable use of marine ecosystem services in the NOWPAP region (including a workshop)	6,000	14,000	20,000	throughout 2012-13 (WS-Winter 2012)
- Refining the NOWPAP Common Procedure for eutrophication assessment	16,000	4,000	20,000	throughout 2012-13
- 4 th NOWPAP Training Course on RS Data Analysis	0	10,000	10,000	2013
Cooperation and coordination	2,000	2,000	4,000	throughout 2012-13
Upgrade of Marine Environmental Watch System		In kind	In kind	throughout 2012-13
TOTAL	53,000	59,000	112,000	

* Budget for implementing RAP MALI-related activities (US\$3,000) is excluded.