

Annotated Provisional Agenda

Background leading to the meeting

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).

Since its inception in 1999, CEARAC has been mainly working on monitoring and assessing harmful algal blooms including red tides (under Working Group 3) and application of remote sensing techniques to the study on the marine and coastal environment (Working Group 4).

Since 2008, when CEARAC initiated an activity on eutrophication as a joint work of WG3 and WG4, its foci has shifted to eutrophication and marine biodiversity, and CEARAC has implemented some activities during the past bienniums on these areas.

Then, NOWPAP Med-Term Strategy 2012-2017 (MTS) suggests five thematic elements such as “Regular assessments of the state of the marine environment” and “Biodiversity conservation” including the development of a NOWPAP action plan for biodiversity conservation, with which CEARAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium are expected to be aligned.

Based on the output and outcomes of the past activities and the progress of the on-going activities as well as the directions of the NOWPAP MTS, the Secretariat of CEARAC presented a draft workplan and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium, which had been discussed at the 11th CEARAC FPM (11-12 September 2013, Toyama Japan) and approved to be submitted to the 18th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (4-6 December 2013, Toyama, Japan).

Since the 18th IGM could not reach a consensus on financial matters of NOWPAP including the budget for RAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium until the beginning of April 2014, all planned activities of CEARAC had been suspended until that time. Taking into consideration this long delay of the schedule, the Secretariat of CEARAC has modified its workplan and budget to be discussed at the Twelfth CEARAC FPM.

The Twelfth NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting

DAY 1 (2 July 2014)

Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting will be opened at 9:00 at the Conference Room One in Tower 111, Toyama, Japan, on 2 July 2014 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 of the NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting.

2.2 Organization of work

Rules of procedure will be established. It is proposed that, for the purpose 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 Secretariat will introduce the Provisional Agenda. The meeting will be invited to consider the agenda for adoption (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/1, UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/2).

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 Eleventh NOWPAP CEARAC FPM (11-12 September 2013, Toyama, Japan) (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/3).

Agenda Item 5. Report on CEARAC activities for the 2012-2013 biennium

The Secretariat will report output and outcomes and final expenditures of CEARAC activities for the 2012-2013 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/4).

Agenda Item 6. Workplan and budget for CEARAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium

The Secretariat will present the revised workplan and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium including three specific projects. The meeting will be invited to review and provide guidance to the workplan (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/5).

6.1 Activity on Marine Biodiversity (Pilot assessment on the impacts of major threats to marine biodiversity in selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region)

The Secretariat will explain a revised workplan on implementation of pilot assessments on the impacts of major threats to marine biodiversity in selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region with implementation procedures (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/6).

6.2 Activity on Eutrophication (Trial applications of the screening procedure of the NOWPAP Common Procedure for eutrophication assessment)

The Secretariat will explain a revised workplan on implementation of trial application of the “screening procedure” of the NOWPAP Common Procedure for eutrophication assessment (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/7).

6.3 Activity on Seagrass Mapping (Case studies on seagrass and seaweed mapping in selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region)

The Secretariat will explain a revised workplan on implementation of case studies on seagrass and seaweed mapping in selected sea areas in the NOWPAP region (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/8).

Agenda Item 7. Workplan for CEARAC Marine Litter Activities (RAP MALI)

The Secretariat will explain a workplan on marine litter activities (RAP MALI) for the 2014-2015 biennium and the Northwest Pacific Regional Node supported by UNEP GPA fund (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 12/9).

Agenda Item 8. Collaboration with other RACs and other regional/international organizations

The Secretariat will explain working areas and/or events of CEARAC activities which could be conducted in a collaborative manner with other NOWPAP RACs and/or regional/international organizations.

Agenda Item 9. Arrangement of the 13th NOWPAP CEARAC FPM

The Secretariat will propose a venue and period of the 13th NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting for approval

Agenda Item 10. Other matters

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

DAY 2 (3 July 2014)

Agenda Item 11. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

A draft report of the Twelfth NOWPAP CEARAC FPM will be prepared by the rapporteur and the Secretariat for consideration and adoption.

Agenda Item 12. Closure of the Meeting

The meeting will be closed by the chairperson at 12:00 on 3 July 2014.