

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, marine biodiversity, and seagrass and seaweed. CEARAC has implemented several activities during the past biennia on these areas by using the knowledge and experiences in working on HABs and applying remote sensing techniques at the same time.

In recent years, based on the outputs and outcomes of the specific projects in each biennium as well as in accordance with the directions of the NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy (MTS) 2012-2017, the Secretariat of CEARAC has developed its draft workplan and budget for every biennium.

While reviewing the progress of the planned activities for the 2014-2015 biennium, the 13th CEARAC FPM (25-26 August 2015, Toyama, Japan) discussed proposed activities for the 2016-2017 biennium, which was agreed to be submitted to the twentieth Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) held on 28-30 October, 2015 in Beijing, China for adoption.

The 14th CEARAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) will be held in Toyama, Japan on 7-8 April in 2016 to review the progress of its current activities for the 2016-2017 biennium.

The Fourteenth NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting

DAY 1 (7 April 2016)

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 7 April 2016 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 procedures will be established. It is proposed that, for the purpose of this meeting, the rules of procedures used here will be those of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA, previously the rules of procedures of the Governing Council of UNEP) with appropriate adjustments 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 14/1, and UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/2).

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 Thirteenth NOWPAP CEARAC FPM (25-26 August 2015, Toyama, Japan) (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/3).

Agenda Item 5. Report on CEARAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium

The Secretariat will report outputs and outcomes and final expenditures of CEARAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/4). Some detailed report on respective projects will follow.

Agenda Item 6. Workplan and budget for CEARAC activities for the 2016-2017 biennium

The Secretariat will present the workplan and budget of CEARAC activities for the 2016-2017 biennium, which was adopted at the twentieth Intergovernmental meeting of NOWPAP (28-30 October 2015, Beijing, China). The meeting will be invited to review and provide guidance to the workplan (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/5).

6.1 Activity on marine biodiversity (Development of a draft common procedure for assessment of the impacts of major pressures on marine biodiversity in the NOWPAP region)

The Secretariat will explain a workplan on development of a draft common procedure for assessment of the impacts of major pressures on marine biodiversity in the NOWPAP region with quarterly milestones and the progress of the activity for the 1st quarter of 2016 (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/6).

6.2 Activity on seagrass mapping (Feasibility study towards assessment of seagrass distribution in the NOWPAP region)

The Secretariat will explain a workplan on feasibility study towards assessment of seagrass distribution in the NOWPAP region with quarterly milestones and the progress of the activity for the 1st quarter of 2016 (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/7).

6.3 Activity on marine litter

The Secretariat will explain a workplan on marine litter-related activities of CEARAC for the 2016-2017 biennium and the progress of them for the 1st quarter of 2016 (UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/8).

Agenda Item 7. Collaborative areas with other RACs and other regional and 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 and /or international organizations.

Agenda Item 8. Arrangement of the 15th NOWPAP CEARAC FPM

The Secretariat will propose a venue and period of the 15th NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting for approval.

Agenda Item 9. Other matters

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

DAY 2 (8 April 2016)

Agenda Item 10. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

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

Agenda Item 11. Closure of the Meeting

The meeting will be closed by the chairperson at 11:00 on 8 April 2016.