

1. Background

1.1 The Special Monitoring and Coastal Environmental Assessment Regional Activity Centre (CEARAC) CEARAC has been working on monitoring and assessing Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) under Working Group 3 (WG3), and developing new monitoring tools using Remote Sensing (RS) under Working Group 4 (WG4) following the decision of the 1st CEARAC FPM (February 2003, Toyama, Japan).

1.2 The 10th NOWPAP IGM (24-26 November, 2005, Toyama, Japan) approved the new direction for the NOWPAP RACs including new activities of Marine Litter. Since then, NOWPAP Marine Litter Activity (MALITA) was included in workplan of CEARAC activities. Since the 2008-2009 biennium, the major outcome of MALITA became part of NOWPAP marine litter-related activities (RAP MALI), and some of them have been allocated to CEARAC including participation in International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) in cooperation with other RACs.

1.3 In the 2008-2009 biennium, CEARAC planned to initiate an activity on eutrophication as a joint activity of WG3 and WG4 and added some budget on it.

1.4 CEARAC also initiated an activity on marine biodiversity in the 2010-2011 biennium with in-kind support from the Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center (NPEC), host organization of CEARAC.

1.5 The status of implementation of the CEARAC activities and expenditure for the 2010-2011 biennium including the abovementioned activities are reported in Agenda Item 5(UNEP/NOWPAP/CERAC/FPM 9/4).

1.6 NOWPAP Med-Term Strategy (MTS) has been prepared under the leadership of NOWPAP RCU and in cooperation of all four RACs since 2009, and the report includes an estimated biennium budget as US\$107,000 to each RAC excluding budget of Marine Litter (ML), which is the same amount for the 2010-2011 biennium. In the report of the Mid-Term Strategy, major activities of CEARAC are mentioned: marine biodiversity, eutrophication, RS training course and FPMs.

1.7 The following planned activities and budgets are prepared by the Secretariat of CEARAC based on the history, outcomes of the current biennium, 2010-2011 activities

(included expected ones) and directions stated in the NOWPAP Mid-Term Strategy, and the current constraint situation of NOWPAP Trust Fund.

1.8 Considering the recent situation of NOWPAP Trust Fund, CEARAC proposes two budget plans as follows:

(1) In case the 16th NOWPAP IGM decides that an allocation to CEARAC for 2012-2013 is same level as the current biennium (2010-2011): USD 97,000+budget for 1 marine biodiversity activity excluding budget for ML.

(2) In case the 16th NOWPAP IGM decides an increased allocation to RACs for 2012-2013: USD 127000+budget for 2 marine biodiversity activities excluding budget for ML.

Upon the ending of the 2010-2011 biennium, the 9th CEARAC FPM is kindly requested to review and discuss proposals for the activities and budget of CEARAC for the next biennium: 2012-2013, taking into consideration the performance of current CEARAC activities and approve either proposal above or another to be developed in the course of a discussion.

2. Proposal for activities for the 2012-2013 Biennium

2.1 Organization of the 10th and 11th CEARAC Focal Points Meetings and Expert Meeting (2013)

The Tenth and Eleventh CEARAC Focal Points Meetings will be held in Toyama, Japan in the spring 2012 and September 2013 respectively. The next Expert Meeting will be held in 2013.

Each FPM will review the progress of current activities and gives practical advice for completion and achievement of objectives of planned activities. In addition, the Eleventh FPM will discuss and approve a proposal of CEARAC workplan and budget for 2014-2015.

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

Budget: USD 54,000

2.2 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

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

*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.

Budget: USD 9,000

For the budget plan (2) ONLY

CEARAC plans to develop new web pages on eutrophication and marine biodiversity.

Budget: USD 10,000

2.3 Specific Projects -CEARAC Projects-

CEARAC will implement the following specific projects in the 2012-2013 biennium.

2.3.1 Marine biodiversity

To be determined at 9th CEARAC FPM (1 or 2 activities)

- Developing the criteria for selecting ecologically and biologically significant sea areas
- Publishing the status report on MPAs in the NOWPAP region

2.3.2 Eutrophication assessment

- **Refinement of the Common Procedures for eutrophication assessment towards assessment of the whole NOWPAP region**

CEARAC will refine the Common Procedures to improve its quality towards assessment of eutrophication status of the whole NOWPAP region. Each NOWPAP

member state will be required to cooperate with CEARAC in refinement of the Common Procedures and to apply the refined Common Procedures to assess eutrophication status of expanded and existing selected sea areas.

Budget: USD 20,000

2.3.3 Organization of the fourth NOWPAP training course on remote sensing data analysis

CEARAC will 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.

Budget: USD 10,000

For the budget plan (2) ONLY

2.3.4 International workshop on the third coastal environment assessment in NOWPAP region

In order to support implementation of CEARAC specific projects for 2012-2013 biennium, CEARAC will organize the 3rd coastal environment assessment workshop in the NOWPAP region. Experts in the field of eutrophication assessment, marine biodiversity and ecological modeling are expected to be invited from the NOWPAP member states. The workshop is scheduled in 2013.

Budget: USD 20,000

2.4 Cooperation, coordination with NOWPAP and other international activities throughout the 2012-2013 biennium

CEARAC will keep close contact with NOWPAP RCU, other RACs, UNEP and relevant regional and international organizations in order to promote implementation and development of NOWPAP. 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 next “State of Marine Environment Report” (SOMER)
- With PICES for sharing information on HAB

3. Additional Workplan

3.1 Activities on marine litter

CEARAC will implement activities based on RAP MALI. The detailed workplan and budget will be prepared following the decision of NOWPAP Marine Litter Working Meeting (20-21 September, Lianyungang, China).

3.2 Upgrade of the Marine Environmental Watch System

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.

4. Proposal for new activities for the 2012-2013 biennium

4.1 workplan and budget (1)

Estimated budget for the 2012-2013 biennium is US\$ 97,000+budget for 1 marine biodiversity activity. The proposed workplan, budget and timetable are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Workplan and Budget of CEARAC for the 2012-2013 biennium

Activity	Planned Budget (US\$)			Tentative Time
	2012	2013	Total	
2 CEARAC Focal Points Meetings and 1 Expert Meeting	27,000	27,000	54,000	FPM10-Spring 2012 FPM11-Sep. 2013 EM- Summer 2013
Maintenance of Websites - HAB - RS			9,000	throughout the biennium
<Specific project> - Marine Biodiversity (1 activity)			TBD at FPM9	
-Refinement of the Common Procedures and its application to expanded sea area	4,000	16,000	20,000	
- 4 th NOWPAP Training Course on RS Data Analysis		10,000	10,000	
Cooperation and coordination of CEARAC activities	2,000	2,000	4,000	
Upgrade of Marine Environmental Watch System		In kind	In kind	
TOTAL			97,000 +MB	

4.2 workplan and budget (2)

Estimated budget for the 2012-2013 biennium is US\$ 127,000+budget for 2 marine biodiversity activities. The proposed workplan, budget and timetable are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Workplan and Budget of CEARAC for the 2012-2013 biennium

Activity	Planned Budget (US\$)			Tentative Time
	2012	2013	Total	
2 CEARAC Focal Points Meetings and 1 Expert Meeting	27,000	27,000	54,000	FPM10 - Spring 2012 FPM11 - Sep. 2013 EM - Summer 2013
Maintenance of Websites - HAB - RS			9,000	throughout the biennium
New Web pages on eutrophication and marine biodiversity			10,000	
<Specific project> - Marine Biodiversity (2 activities): - Developing the criteria for selecting ecologically and biologically significant sea areas - Publishing the status report on MPAs in the NOWPAP region - Refinement of the Common Procedures and its application to expanded sea area - 4 th NOWPAP Training Course on RS Data Analysis - 3 rd international workshop on coastal environment assessment in the NOWPAP region	4,000	16,000 10,000 20,000	20,000 10,000 20,000	TBD at FPM9
Cooperation and coordination of CEARAC activities	2,000	2,000	4,000	
Upgrade of Marine Environmental Watch System		In kind	In kind	
TOTAL			127,000 +MB	