



PEMSEA Meeting Report 13

PROCEEDINGS OF
THE SEVENTH EAST ASIAN SEAS
PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

**Palawan, Philippines
23-25 June 2015**



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**Princesa Garden Island Resort,
Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines
23-25 June 2015**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Seventh East Asian Seas (EAS) Partnership Council Meeting was held at the Princesa Garden Island Resort, Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines from 23 to 25 June 2015. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines co-hosted the Meeting with assistance from the Palawan Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office. The Meeting was attended by representatives from 10 Country Partners and 6 Non-Country Partners. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and The World Bank participated in the Project Steering Committee Meetings for Scaling up the Implementation of Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia and Applying Knowledge Management to Scale up Partnership Investments for Sustainable Development of LMEs of East Asia and their Coasts, respectively.

The Partnership Council focused on the following key issues: (a) Updating of the SDS-SEA, setting of post-2015 Targets, and Ministerial document; (c) the East Asian Seas Congress and Ministerial Forum 2015; (d) PEMSEA's progress towards becoming a self-sustaining international organization; and (e) Collaborative Planning, among others.

The Council decisions covered:

- Completion of the Regional Review on SDS-SEA Implementation 2003-2015;
- Adoption in principle of the updated SDS-SEA, the post-2015 SDS-SEA targets and related indicators, and the draft Ministerial Document;
- Preparations for the EAS Congress 2015 and the Fifth Ministerial Forum;
- Collaborative activities with Country and Non-Country Partners over the next two years;
- 2015-2016 Work Plans and Budgets for two GEF-supported projects and for the PEMSEA Resource Facility

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INTRODUCTION

- i. The 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting was held at the Princesa Garden Island Resort, Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines from 23 to 25 June 2015. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines co-hosted the Meeting with assistance from the Palawan Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office.
- ii. The Meeting was attended by representatives from ten PEMSEA Partner Countries, namely: Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, Japan, Lao PDR, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Timor-Leste and Vietnam. Six representatives from Non-Country Partners were in attendance, namely: ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB); IUCN-Asia Regional Office (IUCN-ARO); Korea Maritime Institute (KMI); Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM); Oil Spill Response (OSR); and Ocean Policy Research Institute, Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI, SPF).
- iii. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Manila and the UNDP Regional Hub Bangkok, as well as The World Bank were present during the Programme Steering Committee Meetings, on behalf of the implementing organizations. The PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as the Secretariat for the Meeting.
- iv. The full list of participants is found in Annex 1.

1.0 OPENING CEREMONY

1.1 Summary of Opening Ceremony Speeches

- i. On behalf of the Executive Committee and the Council Chair Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng, Dr. Antonio La Viña, Council Co-Chair, opened the Meeting by welcoming all the participants to the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting. The Council Chair was unable to attend due to other pressing matters in Singapore. Dr. La Viña underscored the importance of the 7th EAS Partnership Council in ensuring that target deliverables for 2015 are met, particularly in preparation for the East Asian Seas Congress 2015 and the Fifth Ministerial Forum scheduled in November 2015.
- ii. In particular, Dr. La Viña highlighted the need to arrive at consensus and complete the necessary country consultations on the Ministerial documents including the updated SDS-SEA, and regional strategic post-2015 targets to be adopted at the Fifth Ministerial Forum. He further emphasized the value of the

- collaborative planning sessions and activities with both Country and Non-Country Partners to strengthen the scaling up efforts on the SDS-SEA implementation. On the sustainability of PEMSEA, Dr. La Viña called on the Partners' support in the continuing development and promotion of PEMSEA services, the EAS Sustainable Business Network, and development of collaborative projects with various partners and collaborators. In closing, Dr. La Viña encouraged all the delegates to actively participate in the discussions while enjoying the beautiful sceneries in Palawan.
- iii. On behalf of the Government of the Philippines and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, delivered the welcome speech of DENR Sec. Ramon Paje. In his speech, Secretary Paje expressed a warm welcome to the members of the EAS Partnership Council and raised three important questions to the Council: "Why are we pushing so hard to have a successful EAS Congress? Why do we long for better SDS-SEA? Why do we aim for future targets?" In all these questions, he highlighted the common motivations of the East Asian countries to protect the region's coastal and marine environment and ensure the sustainable development of the East Asian Seas.
 - iv. In line with this, Secretary Paje emphasized the transformation of PEMSEA into a recognized international organization, and the growing geographical and functional coverage of PEMSEA that moves PEMSEA's branding into a more global character. As part of PEMSEA's new branding, he emphasized that apart from using unique marketing and communication strategies, the "best means to bear a trustworthy and favored name is still by way of exhibiting excellent performance." Secretary Paje expressed confidence that PEMSEA will be able to do this particularly with the move to adopt the updated SDS-SEA and post-2015 targets that complement the countries' international commitments.
 - v. On behalf of the PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF), Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross, PRF Executive Director, welcomed the participants to the Meeting and expressed appreciation to the Government of the Philippines for hosting the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in Palawan. Mr. Ross highlighted the importance of collaboration with Partners in moving forward PEMSEA's targets and objectives. He underscored that the PRF has been meeting with PEMSEA Country Partners as well as Non-Country Partners over the past year to discuss their perspectives on PEMSEA as well as identify areas of enhanced collaboration in line with the scaling up of SDS-SEA implementation. Mr. Ross requested the Partners to share their ideas to further strengthen PEMSEA during the meeting, including the planning and organization of the East Asian Seas Congress 2015 and the Fifth Ministerial Forum, which are critical events for the year.
 - viii. The full text of Opening Ceremony speeches is attached as Annex 2.

1.2 Organizational Matters

The Secretariat introduced the principal reference documents for the Meeting.

A. COUNCIL SESSION

Dr. Antonio La Viña, Council Co-Chair, chaired the Council Session on behalf of Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng

2.0 ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA (PC/15/DOC/02)

Discussion Highlights:

2.1 The Secretariat presented the agenda and the schedule for the meeting.

Recommendation:

2.2 The Council Session recommended the adoption of the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting agenda as presented (Annex 3).

3.0 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE 6TH EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL, 15TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, AND EXPANDED 16TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AND STATUS OF ACTIONS TAKEN (PC/15/DOC/03)

3.1 The Council Session noted the recommendations and decisions that had been completed by the PRF in collaboration with the Partners, and the ongoing activities that will be discussed under specific agenda items of the Meeting.

4.0 REPORT OF THE COUNCIL CHAIR (PC/15/DOC/04)

4.1 Dr. La Viña presented the Council Chair's report.

Recommendation:

4.2 The Council Session recommended that the Council Chair Report be adopted as presented.

5.0 REPORT OF THE PRF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PC/15/DOC/05)

5.1 The PRF Executive Director presented the major accomplishments of PEMSEA in line with the implementation of the SDS-SEA Regional Implementation Plan 2012-2016.

Recommendations:

The Council Session recommended that:

5.2 The PRF Executive Director's Report be adopted.

- 5.3 PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners provide additional information and inputs to the Accomplishment Report by corresponding with the PRF on or before 31 July 2015.
- 5.4 The PRF finalize the report, taking into consideration the inputs from the Country and Non-Country Partners.
- 5.5 The PRF publish the report for dissemination during the EAS Congress 2015.

With the completion of business, Dr. Tony La Viña closed the Plenary Session of Council.

B. TECHNICAL SESSION

The Technical Session was chaired by Prof. Chul Hwan Koh, Technical Session Chair.

6.0 REGIONAL REVIEW ON SDS-SEA IMPLEMENTATION 2003-2015 (PC/15/DOC/06)

Discussion Highlights:

- 6.1 The Secretariat presented the draft regional report on SDS-SEA implementation (2003-2015). It was noted that the regional review serves to establish the baseline for the proposed post-2015 targets and as well as providing a key reference document in the development of the 5-year SDS-SEA Regional Implementation Plan for 2016-2021.
- 6.2 The following comments were raised by the meeting during the discussion:
- Pertaining to the target on 20 percent coverage of coastline by ICM programs, there is a need to consider coastal planning activities at the local level in accordance with relevant national laws, and how those relate to meeting the target.
 - Clarification on the criteria for establishing the percentage of coastline coverage in a country and for nominating an ICM site is required. In some cases there are limited number of ICM sites in a country, however, there are numerous national and local efforts in the country in pursuit of sustainable coastal development which are contributing to SDS-SEA and ICM implementation (e.g., Tokyo Bay in Japan).
 - While recognizing the large number of policies and legislations that have been put in place by Country Partners, there is also a need to capture the results and impact of policy implementation. This information may be made available through PEMSEA's SEA Knowledge Bank Portal in order to make such information more accessible and useful to a wider audience.
 - The advantage of using square kilometers instead of length of coastline as an indicator, in order to align the target with other conventions in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- 6.3 The Secretariat clarified that the 20 percent target for coastline coverage involves six elements that may be used by governments to assess qualification of a site as implementing an ICM program. These six elements are in accordance with PEMSEA's ICM Code, and include:
- (1) a multisectoral mechanism in place and composed of representatives of relevant government and non-government sectors and stakeholders. The interagency multisectoral coordinating mechanism is responsible for coordination of policymaking, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the ICM system;
 - (2) an ICM project/program coordinating office established within the local government, staffed with personnel trained in ICM, and supported by a work plan and budget;
 - (3) an approved annual work plan and budget for ICM program development and implementation;

- (4) an SOC baseline report or similar site documentation completed, including existing social, economic and ecological conditions in the ICM site;
 - (5) multisectoral stakeholders informed, consulted and participating in the planning and development of the ICM program, with a communication plan prepared, adopted and under implementation;
 - (6) a coastal strategy or similar long-term strategy prepared, which provides the vision and strategic directions for coastal area development and management, along with a multi-year coastal strategy implementation plan (CSIP) or similar plan completed to delineate the specific activities to achieve the priority objectives and targets of the coastal strategy.
- 6.4 Several Country Partners highlighted required corrections/updating in the draft regional SDS-SEA report, including:
- Ratification of Nagoya Protocol in May 2015 by Cambodia;
 - Two new policies recently developed in Lao PDR;
 - Possibility of recognizing peatland as a distinct coastal ecosystem;
 - Confirmation of 22 priority and replication sites to scale up ICM implementation, and additional legislations in China;
 - Names of specific watersheds in Vietnam,;
 - Establishment of the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) of RO Korea; and
 - Inclusion of updated information on Non-Country Partners' initiatives in support of the SDS-SEA implementation.

Recommendations:

- 6.5 The Technical Session recommended that the PRF:
- Request Non-Country Partners to provide synopsis of their respective programs, initiatives and knowledge products in support of the implementation of the SDS-SEA since 2012;
 - Update the draft Regional Review of SDS-SEA Implementation based on comments, latest national reviews, or information provided/to be submitted by the Country and Non-Country Partners;
 - Circulate the revised draft on or before August 1, 2015, for Country and Non-Country Partners' review and validation;
 - Invite Country and Non-Country Partners to provide comments, feedback and validate the draft Regional Review of SDS-SEA Implementation report by end of September 2015;
 - Publish and disseminate the final regional Review of SDS-SEA Implementation (2003-2015) during the EAS Congress 2015 as supporting document to the updated SDS-SEA, post-2015 targets and Ministerial document.
- 6.6 The Technical Session further recommended that the KM platform be used to update and share information from updated country reviews and the regional review on SDS-SEA implementation to make the information available to a wider audience.

7.0 UPDATED SDS-SEA AND PROPOSED POST-2015 TARGETS (PC/15/DOC/07)

Discussion Highlights:

- 7.1 The Secretariat presented a brief overview on the status of and progress made on the following documents pertaining to the updating of the SDS-SEA and setting of post-2015 targets since the 6th EAS Partnership Council Meeting, as a result of the two TWG meetings and the 15th and expanded 16th EC meetings:
- Updated SDS-SEA
 - Adapt Strategy
 - Post-2015 Targets and Indicators
 - Draft Ministerial Document
- 7.2 The comments raised by the meeting were incorporated into the working documents, and are included in Annexes 4, 5 and 6 of this meeting report. In addition, the following points were made:

Adapt Strategy

- 7.3 Include the term “green technology” in the glossary as it is a new terminology used in the SDS-SEA as well as in various fora or newly developed instruments;

Updated SDS-SEA (SDS-SEA 2015)

- 7.4 While the development/discussions on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are still ongoing, the PRF needs to keep track of developments to ensure that key elements of the SDGs are considered in the updating of the SDS-SEA.

Post-2015 Targets

- 7.5 Target 1 on establishing a self-sustaining PEMSEA Resource Facility by 2017 is in line with the commitment with the GEF to achieve a self-sustained PEMSEA by 2017;
- 7.6 Target 2 on implementing a regional State of Oceans and Coasts reporting system by 2018 is consistent with the triennial reporting to the Ministerial Forum. The regional SOC reporting has been scheduled for initiation in 2015 and is targeted for reporting at the Ministerial Forum in 2018.
- 7.7 Targets 3 and 4, respectively covering national coastal and ocean policies, legislation and institutional arrangements, and increasing ICM coverage to 25% of the region’s coastline and contiguous watershed areas by 2021, are in line with the 5-year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan for 2016-2021 (pending).
- 7.8 The meeting further suggested the need to ensure consistency in the use of terms in the text, and ensure coherence with various international conventions.

Draft Ministerial Document (referred to as the Danang Compact on the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia 2015)

7.9 In view of the apparent difficulties of some Non-Country Partners in getting approval to sign the Danang Compact, it was concluded that the document will only be signed by the Ministers from the PEMSEA participating countries during the Fifth Ministerial Forum. Non-Country Partners were encouraged to collaborate on the development and implementation of the 5-year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2016-2021, as identified in the Danang Compact.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended that:

- 7.3 The draft documents be adopted in principle, taking into consideration the amendments provided by the meeting:
- Updated SDS-SEA 2015, including the Adapt Strategy (Annex 4);
 - Post-2015 targets and indicators (Annex 5); and
 - Draft Ministerial Document (Annex 6)
- 7.4 The PRF proceed in completing and finalizing the remaining sections of the SDS-SEA, including the introductory sections and annexes;
- 7.5 The proposed work schedule for completing the in-country review and approval of the Ministerial documents be adopted (Annex 7); and
- 7.6 As part of the finalization of the documents, the PRF review and standardize the terminologies to ensure consistency in all the Ministerial documents, as well as to provide annotations to the term “green technology”, “blue economy” and other similar terms where applicable.

**8.0 COLLABORATIVE PLANNING SESSION
(PC/15/DOC/08a)**

8.1 Collaborative Planning in Support of SDS-SEA and post-2015 SDS-SEA Targets

Discussion Highlights:

Developing a 5-Year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2016-2021

- 8.1.1 The Secretariat introduced the document and the background, process and timeframe for developing a 5-year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan (2016-2021) and possible areas of collaboration among Country and Non-Country Partners in the development of the Plan.
- 8.1.2 In particular, the following areas of collaboration were highlighted:
- Gathering and submission of existing or proposed programmes and projects highlighting opportunities for collaborative or joint projects;
 - Providing inputs to the outline and proposed Implementation Plan;

- Contributing on on-line review of the draft Implementation Plan;
- Participating in regional technical workshop to review, refine and build consensus on the draft; and
- Finalizing and endorsing the document through the EAS Partnership Council Meeting.

Preparing a Regional State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting System

- 8.1.3 The Secretariat presented the objectives and process of the development of the regional State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting system. In particular, the proposed SOC report with a blue economy theme aims to provide support in sound policy- and decision-making that will contribute to protecting the coastal and marine environment, assessing and promoting growth potential and investment opportunities, and in providing direction to ocean governance.
- 8.1.4 The meeting also sought clarification on whether the regional SOC report was intended to be: (i) a consolidation of individual countries' SOC reports; or if it would be: (ii) a report solely on regional collaborative programmes. The Secretariat clarified that the regional SOC was envisioned more like a consolidation of countries' SOC reports. However, where applicable, it would also include sections reviewing collaborative initiatives.
- 8.1.5 To initiate the process for developing the regional SOC report, a regional inception workshop is being organized in July 2015 in Manila for the development of the methodologies on assessing blue economy contribution to national GDP. A number of experts from the region are invited to the workshop in order to conceptualize the methodologies.
- 8.1.6 The meeting recognized the value of developing the regional SOC report focusing on blue economy. The meeting also acknowledged that there is no global definition of the term "blue economy", although the Changwon Declaration (2012) provided an operational definition for the East Asian Seas region.
- 8.1.7 The meeting confirmed the need to identify experts related to blue economy assessment in the region and the development of case studies related to blue economy assessment. It was concluded that the proposed regional workshop as well as establishment of a regional Technical Working Group for SOC reporting system will help address these issues.

Strengthening PEMSEA's Knowledge Management Platform and Support Network

- 8.1.8 The Secretariat presented the background, process and timeframe for Strengthening PEMSEA's KM Platform and Support Network and possible areas of collaboration among Country and Non-Country Partners. The three-year project is designed to capture knowledge products, innovations and lessons learned from relevant initiatives of the six GEF/WB investment projects that are part of the GEF/WB framework program, Scaling up Partnership Investments for Sustainable Development of LMEs of East Asia and their Coasts. It is envisioned that PEMSEA's KM platform can be employed for even larger purposes, namely to strengthen and scale up KM applications, services and investments across regional, national and local programs and initiatives in support of the SDS-SEA objectives and targets.

- 8.1.9 The Country and Non-Country Partners expressed their willingness to collaborate and contribute to the PEMSEA KM platform by providing KM products, services, tools, best practice and case studies that are generated from the implementation of their projects and the country programs. The Partners also expressed their willingness to provide inputs to the structure and content of PEMSEA and collaborate in projects, capacity development and sharing of knowledge products.
- 8.1.10 The meeting discussed the need to consider the work of other organizations, including, for example, the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP). It was suggested that these organizations have resources to feature in the KM platform, such as GIS, bibliographic database and regional maps.
- 8.1.11 The meeting emphasized that livelihood investment projects developed under the KM platform must be conducted with a proper business approach.

Initiatives of Country and Non-Country Partners in line with the SDS-SEA Implementation

- 8.1.11 The Country and Non-Country Partners presented their respective programs and initiatives that are contributing to SDS-SEA implementation and are opportunities for collaboration. The summary of presentations from the Country and Non-Country Partners is included in Annex 8.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended that:

- 8.1.12 SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2016-2021:
- The PRF move forward with collaborative planning in the development of the 5-Year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan (2016-2021) in accordance with the approved timeframe (Annex 9);
 - PRF follow up with Non-Country Partners on areas of collaboration particularly on areas pertaining to knowledge platform, capacity building and development and implementation of State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting system.
- 8.1.13 Regional State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting System:
- The PRF proceed with preparing a Regional State of Oceans and Coasts (SOC) reporting system, including establishing and operationalizing a multidisciplinary and multisectoral regional Technical Working Group (TWG) to prepare a methodology for development of a SOC report, conduct national scoping studies and initial assessments, prepare national SOC reports and integrate into a regional SOC Report;
 - Non-Country Partners with expertise in valuation of coastal and marine ecosystems and assessment of blue economy share experiences and contribute to the regional inception workshop to be held on July 28-31, 2015 as well as the EAS Congress workshop on Blue Economy in November 2015.

8.1.14 Knowledge Management:

- The PRF follow up with Country and Non-Country Partners who expressed willingness to collaborate in projects, capacity development and sharing knowledge products and report the progress in the next EAS Partnership Council meeting; and
- The PRF follow up with Country and Non-Country Partners regarding complimentary existing knowledge management platforms that can be linked to the SEAKnowledge Bank.

8.2 East Asian Seas Congress 2015 Preparations (PC/15/DOC/08b)

Discussion Highlights:

8.2.1 The Secretariat presented the updates on the preparations for the East Asian Seas Congress 2015, focusing on actions taken by the PRF in collaboration with PEMSEA Partners, collaborators and sponsoring organizations, including:

- the Prime Minister's office of Vietnam issued Notification of the Government Office No. 3293 on May 11, 2015 confirming Danang City as the venue of the EAS Congress 2015 and the Fifth Ministerial Forum;
- various workshop and special events programs for the EAS Congress are in place. To date, 15 conveners have been confirmed, while discussions with other organizations/entities are in their final stages of confirmation. Securing of key speakers are also ongoing.

8.2.2 Mr. Ngo Tuan Dzung, Deputy Director, DICST, Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands, Vietnam, presented a status report on the preparations undertaken by Vietnam in line with the EAS Congress and Ministerial Forum 2015. In particular, Mr. Dzung confirmed that the tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among MONRE, Danang and PEMSEA have been formally endorsed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam and is ready for signature any time in July 2015.

8.2.3 As part of the preparations, the VASI/MONRE in collaboration with Danang have undertaken the following:

- Venue- taking into consideration the number and size of function rooms, required for the EAS Congress, the Furama Resort Danang has been identified as main venue for EAS Congress major events. Other possible venues are being assessed.
- A National Implementation Plan has been developed and submitted to the Office of the Prime Minister for approval. Following the approval of the plan, the national organizing committees and sub-committees shall be established.
- Two field visit programs are being developed: (1) for EAS Congress participants, sites with good examples of integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) in Danang's Coastal Zone are being identified; and (2)

for the Ministers, a visit to Hoi An and My Son and other cultural and historical sites are being considered.

- 8.2.4 In line with the preparations for the Fifth Ministerial Forum, MONRE will be issuing Vietnam's official invitation letter no later than August 2015 to secure the participation of Ministers from the PEMSEA participating countries. Security and protocol preparations are also to be coordinated with the Danang People's Committee, the Ministry of Security and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 8.2.5 As a host country, Vietnam will also be showcasing its key achievements and plans to further strengthen its efforts related to sustainable coastal and ocean development and governance. In particular, VASI/MONRE is planning to convene a special Vietnam session and a Vietnam corner at the EAS Congress.
- 8.2.6 With only five months left before the EAS Congress 2015 in November, the meeting urged Vietnam to fast track the preparations and internal coordination with support from the PRF, to facilitate finalization/confirmation of required administrative and logistical arrangements.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended that:

- 8.2.7 The PRF coordinate closely with VASI/MONRE and Danang City to finalize the signing of the MOU on hosting of the EAS Congress 2015 as soon as possible and confirm specific logistical arrangements for the EAS Congress 2015;
- 8.2.8 Partners, serving as workshop conveners, coordinate with the PRF in finalizing the workshop programs including identification and confirmation of workshop Chairs, speakers, and panelists by 30 July 2015;
- 8.2.9 Country and Non-Country Partners identify and submit final list of delegations for the EAS Congress 2015 by 15 August 2015;
- 8.2.10 Country and Non-Country Partners assist in the promotion of the EAS Congress 2015 in their respective countries and networks;
- 8.2.11 Country Partners in collaboration with the PRF facilitate the preparations of the following:

International Conference

- Identification and confirmation of paper presenters, panelists, workshop Chairs/Co-Chairs and keynote speakers;

Fourth EAS Youth Forum:

- Promote the Youth Forum in respective countries and assist in short listing of qualified youth;
- Confirm financial support for youth delegates

Fifth Ministerial Forum:

- Secure the confirmation/participation of the Ministers and Senior Government Officials to the events involving Ministers during the EAS Congress and Fifth Ministerial Forum;
- Prepare Ministers for the various events at the EAS Congress and the Fifth Ministerial Forum; and
- Facilitate country approval of the updated SDS-SEA and post-2015 SDS-SEA targets for adoption at the Fifth Ministerial Forum;

Environmental Exhibition:

- Identify government agencies, local governments, businesses and universities and other entities in countries to take part in the “country pavilion”
- Prepare the respective “country pavilion” for the exhibition; and
- Assign a coordinator for each country to facilitate necessary preparations.

9.0 PEMSEA’S PROGRESS TOWARDS BECOMING A SELF-SUSTAINING ORGANIZATION

Discussion Highlights:

- 9.1 The Secretariat presented the document outlining PEMSEA’s plans and progress towards becoming a self-sustaining organization.
- 9.2 As part of the objective to establish base knowledge and thought leadership on blue economy and encourage stronger engagement of private sector in the EAS region in sustainable development and blue economy initiatives, a workshop is being organized for the EAS Congress 2015 to identify cross-industry issues and develop potential programming for 2016. As part of the workshop preparation, a research report on Blue Economy for Business has also been initiated. Thus far, four companies have expressed interest to participate in the Congress workshop or are otherwise interested in the EAS-SBN, and additional companies in coastal tourism, fisheries, shipping and environmental services have also expressed some level of interest.
- 9.3 The ongoing initiatives towards self-sustainability involve new approaches that also serve as a learning process for PEMSEA. It was recognized that there is much potential in the initiative, but it will require PEMSEA to tune into customer needs and raise the good profile of PEMSEA. It will also be necessary to continue developing new projects while building and maintaining staff capacity and skills.
- 9.4 The meeting commented positively on the new logo. It was suggested that the PRF keep potential competitors in mind and strategically prioritize its services. Stronger marketing in line with PRF’s plans was also recommended.
- 9.5 In response to query on the status of development of Certifications Services, the meeting was informed that the Certification Services is already being rolled out. In particular, a number of ports in the region have already received the Certificate

of Recognition for PSHEMS. Several local governments (members of the PNLG) are also undergoing certification audits and are gearing towards ICM System Level 1 Certification.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

- 9.6 Country and Non-Country Partners provide further comments and suggestions on the strategy and activities for achieving a self-sustained PEMSEA; and
- 9.7 Country and Non-Country Partners provide further suggestions for identifying possible companies to participate in the EAS-Sustainable Business Network.

C. INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION

The Intergovernmental Session was chaired by Usec. Analiza Rebuelta Teh, Intergovernmental Session Chair.

10.0 ELECTION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION CO-CHAIR

Discussion Highlights:

- 10.1 The Secretariat reported the procedures employed and the result pertaining to the nomination and election of the Intergovernmental Session Co-chair.
- 10.2 In line with the recommendations of the Expanded 16th EC meeting to proceed with the nominations and election of the Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair, the PRF on behalf of the Election Board (EC) issued the call for nominations to all Country Partners on April 1, 2015. On April 30, 2015 the nomination process was closed and the PRF received nominations and concurrence of two candidates, namely: Dr. Zhang Haiwen, PR China and Dr. Jong Sang Hun, DPR Korea. From May 1 to June 12, the PRF conducted country consultations and consensus building on a lone nominee.
- 10.3 At the close of the consensus building process on June 12, 2015, consensus was reached for Dr. Zhang Haiwen to be elected as the Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair.
- 10.4 The DPR Korean delegation endorsed Dr. Zhang Haiwen as the new Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair. This was seconded by the delegations from Cambodia and RO Korea.

Decision:

- 10.5 The Intergovernmental Session formally elected Dr. Zhang Haiwen as Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair. Dr. Zhang was sworn into office by the Intergovernmental Session Chair.

11.0 FIFTH MINISTERIAL FORUM (PC/15/DOC/11)

Discussion Highlights:

- 11.1 The Secretariat presented the revised provisional programme of the 5th Ministerial Forum in line with the recommendations of the 16th Expanded Executive Committee Meeting in March 2015.
- 11.2 Dr. Ngo Tuan Dzung of Vietnam informed the meeting that preparations for the Ministerial Forum are well underway in collaboration with the People's Committee of Danang. In particular, the security and protocol plan is already being developed to ensure the safety of the participating Ministers. Danang is also identifying the possible field trip venue and program for the Ministers.

- 11.3 The PEMSEA Country Partners reported that they are in varying stages of preparation for the Ministerial Forum. The meeting indicated that:
- confirmation of the participation of Ministers is expected in the coming months.
 - in addition invitation letters issued by MONRE Vietnam, it would also be important to have an invitation letter issued by UNDP.
 - there is an urgent need to issue the invitation letters as soon as possible in order to facilitate the participation of Ministers.
- 11.4 To help Ministers prepare for facilitated discussions during the closing session of the International Conference and the Ministers Forum, it was suggested for the PRF to develop guide questions for circulation and review by National Focal Points.
- 11.6 To facilitate interaction with the Ministers, the meeting discussed the possibility of inviting representatives from the business sector and from the local government to deliver a presentation on their respective initiatives and interests in sustainable development of marine and coastal areas during the Ministerial Luncheon on 20 November 2015. This would provide the Ministers with a better appreciation of the work being done or proposed by these two sectors in relation to SDS-SEA objectives and targets, as well as provide an opportunity for discussion on future collaboration.

Decisions:

The Intergovernmental Session decided that:

- 11.7 The provisional programme of the Ministerial Forum be adopted in principle as presented;
- 11.8 The Government of Vietnam (VASI/MONRE) issue invitation letters as soon as possible to facilitate the process of securing the participation of the Ministers from respective countries as well as in identifying country delegates to the EAS Congress 2015;
- 11.9 Country Partners nominate/identify their respective delegations for the Fifth Ministerial Forum as soon as possible in order to facilitate necessary security and protocol preparations;
- 11.10 For the moderated discussions during the closing of the International Conference and the Ministerial Forum, the PRF prepare questions for circulation to the countries to enable identification of Ministers that are interested/willing to participate in the moderated discussions;
- 11.11 To facilitate the interaction between important stakeholders and Ministers, a formal luncheon will be organized for the Ministers, which will include presentations from the business sector and a representative member local government of the PNLG.

12.0 PEMSEA WORK PLAN AND BUDGET 2015-2016

Discussion Highlights:

- 12.1 The Secretariat introduced the PEMSEA workplan and budget for 2015-2016. Due to the delayed distribution of the document, the Secretariat requested the Intergovernmental Session to consider approving the document in principle, and providing specific feedback to the document by July 31, 2015.
- 12.2 Ms. Ameila Supetran, UNDP Manila emphasized the need to shift from coastal area conservation approach to ridge-to-reef approach whereby integrated water resource management (IWRM) and ICM can be planned and implemented under a single framework. She further identified adaptation to climate change as an emerging area and opportunity for collaboration between countries in the EAS region. In this regard, it was suggested that the PRF consider organizing a regional workshop on climate change adaptation for donors and other partners to share experiences in application of tools and instruments, to assess the vulnerability to climate change and associated disasters, and where gaps exist in the EAS region. This could be the basis for a new project initiative among PEMSEA Partners.
- 12.3 Dr. Jose Padilla, Regional Technical Advisor, UNDP Regional Knowledge Hub, commended the good outcome from the PRF's mission to launch the Validation Workshop for ATSEA Project Preparation Grant in Dili, Timor Leste in May 2015. He advised that the ATSEA Project Document will be completed and reviewed at a regional workshop that is tentatively scheduled to take place in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in October 2015. He invited PRF to participate in the workshop, with a view to being the Implementing Partner for the project. It was noted that the anticipated good collaboration with ATSEA, will open opportunities for PEMSEA in terms of providing project services to countries in the ATSEA region.

Decision:

- 12.4 The Intergovernmental Session decided to approve the 2015-2016 work plan and budget in principle, pending Country Partners review and feedback by 31 July 2015.

13.0 OTHER BUSINESS

Headquarters Agreement

- 13.1 In line with the efforts to securing the final ratification of the Headquarters Agreement between PEMSEA and the Government of the Philippines, the Intergovernmental Session Chair announced the issuance of the Philippine Senate Resolution concurring on the ratification of the PEMSEA Headquarters Agreement with the Government of the Philippines on May 12, 2015. The resolution confirms PEMSEA as an international organization with principal office or headquarters operating in the Philippines. The resolution has been forwarded to the Department of Foreign Affairs as well as to Office of the President of the Philippines for record purposes.

Hosting of the EAS Congress 2018

13.2 In response to the invitation of the PRF for PEMSEA Partner Countries to consider hosting the EAS Congress 2018, Mr. Long Rithirak, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia, reported on the status of consultation within Cambodia. In particular, Mr. Rithirak confirmed the initial positive feedback from the MOE. Further consultations will be undertaken in the coming months to secure Cambodia's formal confirmation in time for the EAS Congress 2015.

Decisions:

13.3 The Intergovernmental Session noted with appreciation the final ratification of the PEMSEA Headquarters Agreement with the Government of the Philippines. The Intergovernmental Session expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Philippines, and especially to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, for the substantial effort that has been made to achieve the final ratification. The Intergovernmental Session also thanked all PEMSEA Partners and collaborators who have been instrumental throughout the development and approval process of the Agreement.

13.4 The Intergovernmental Session noted with appreciation the initial consideration from Cambodia on the hosting of the EAS Congress 2018, subject to further consultation and confirmation by the Government of Cambodia.

14.0 Closing Ceremony

14.1 The Intergovernmental Session Chair, Usec. Analiza Teh, expressed her gratitude to all the Country Partners for their active participation in the meeting.

14.2 The Intergovernmental Session Chair declared the Council Meeting closed at 4:15 pm, 25 June 2015.

ANNEX 1
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 2
OPENING CEREMONY SPEECHES

Opening Remarks of Dr. Tony La Viña EAS Partnership Council Co-Chair

Honorable Undersecretary Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, members of the PEMSEA Executive Committee, representatives from PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners, representatives from our sponsoring agencies, ladies and gentlemen, friends,

Good morning.

On behalf of the Partnership Council Officers and our Council Chair, Ambassador Mary Seet-Cheng who is unable to join us for this meeting due to other pressing matters in Singapore, I would like to welcome you all to the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting.

Since our last meeting in June 2014, we have undertaken a number of activities and made significant progress, but at the same time we are faced with myriad issues and crucial deliverables as we approach our biggest event for this year-- the East Asian Seas Congress 2015.

As members of the Council, we are therefore given the crucial task to provide the necessary guidance and support to ensure the successful completion of our key targets for this year.

In line with our preparations for the EAS Congress 2015 and the Fifth Ministerial Forum, the 7th Council Meeting will focus on the key documents related to the updating of the SDS-SEA and setting of our regional post-2015 strategic targets. As you know, these documents will require further in-country consultations and approval prior to adoption as part of the Ministerial Commitment at the Fifth Ministerial Forum. These documents, targets and commitments will also be crucial to the future direction of PEMSEA. As we only have five months to go before the Congress, it is therefore of utmost importance that we arrive at consensus in these documents. It is also critical that we closely and actively coordinate in completing the different programs and arrangements with the full support of our host country Vietnam as well as the Danang City Government.

Under our Technical Session, I urge all of you to make full use of our collaborative planning discussions to further strengthen our partnership and to clearly identify areas for joint planning and implementation. With our joint efforts we can be more effective in assisting our countries in meeting their needs as well as in strengthening and scaling up the implementation of the SDS-SEA.

As part of the continuing efforts to build PEMSEA's self-sustainability, we will look into the progress made and efforts undertaken in the past months with the support of our countries, and our next steps forward. In particular, we will look at the continuing development and promotion of PEMSEA's services, the consultations and discussions in line with the East Asian Seas Sustainable Business Network, the development of collaborative projects with various sponsoring organizations, partners and collaborators in support of the SDS-SEA implementation.

The Council meeting will also convene two Project Steering Committee Meetings focusing on the GEF/UNDP Project on Scaling up the Implementation of the SDS-SEA

and the GEF/World Bank Project on Knowledge Management which are both implemented by PEMSEA. As these projects are vital to the sustainability of PEMSEA, we will need to ensure that we are on track and that gaps are addressed in a timely manner.

While we have a daunting task ahead, may the beauty of Palawan inspire us in our discussions and enable us to produce meaningful results at the end of this meeting.

May I express our sincere appreciation to the Philippine Government, through the DENR and the local government of Palawan for hosting this important event. May I also thank our local secretariat from PENRO and the PRF Secretariat for the wonderful arrangements for the meeting.

Thank you and good morning.

Welcome Remarks on behalf of the host country, the Philippines
Secretary Ramon J.P. Paje
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Her Excellency Mary Seet-Cheng
Ambassador of Singapore and Council Chair of PEMSEA;

Members of the Council and Executive Committee of PEMSEA;

Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross
PRF Executive Director;

Representatives of Country and Non-Country Partners;

Representatives of the GEF, WP, UNOPS, and the World Bank;

Fellow workers in government;

Welcome to the 7th East Asian Seas (EAS) Partnership Council Meeting!

It is a great privilege for the Philippines to once again host the EAS Partnership Council Meeting.

First of all, I want to congratulate our Council Chair, her Excellency Mary Seet-Cheng, for her tremendous efforts in laying out a clear agenda for our work in 2014 and this year. I also extend my congratulations to the members of the Council and the Executive Committee for their great efforts in working out the Updated SDS-SEA and Post 2015 Strategic Targets and for organizing the coming EAS Congress.

Today and the next two days' schedules will surely be pretty tight for most of us, as we tie up the loose ends for the 2015 East Asian Seas Congress, this coming November 16-21, 2015 in Danang City, Vietnam.

And perhaps, as our tough job today gets on top of us, these questions will probably enter our minds again. Why are we pushing too hard to have a successful EAS Congress? Why do we long for better SDS-SEA? Why do we aim for future targets?

Since we had four Congresses in the past, perhaps we have asked ourselves these questions at least four times. And as members or partners of this regional organization, I'm sure our motivations have been pretty much the same. We do them because, we, as nations of the East Asian Region have the responsibility to protect and take care of our region's marine and coastal environment. We push for all of these because we want, if not to completely eliminate, minimize the identified threats in our environment so as to help ensure the sustainable development of our seas in East Asia.

However, today, I am hopeful that everyone finds the second big motivation to achieving such objectives. This year's Congress theme is "Global Targets, Local Benefits: Setting the Sustainable Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015". If we can notice from our theme, we are now moving to the "vision of the world" kind of PEMSEA branding.

Our transformation into a recognized international organization requires our growing coverage to expand not just geographically, but also functionally- thus, our need to take higher global goals and targets.

Truly, strong branding, to a certain extent, can take PEMSEA to greater heights. Promotion on the organization's credibility and for global recognition does not only facilitate a strong sense of pride and purpose within the organization; it also creates the potential of drawing more or increasing partner memberships. This will help ensure PEMSEA's financial capability and self-sustainability.

We can use different marketing and communication strategies to obtain strong branding. However, in my opinion, the best means to bear a trustworthy and favored name is still by way of exhibiting excellent performance.

Yes, PEMSEA should capture the world's attention through its excellent performance. And with our current move to adopt our Updated SDS-SEA and Post 2015 Strategic Targets, I am confident that we will be able to do so.

In our focus to level up our engagement with our SDS-SEA and ICM implementations, let us consider that we work them out in a manner that they will be significant enough to help comply with our international commitments, such as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As for the Philippines, PEMSEA's aspiration to make global impact is our aspiration too. This is the reason why we have the National Greening Program, which aims to plant 1.5 billion trees in 1.5 million hectares of forestlands. This is 80 percent more than what we have accomplished in reforestation in 25 years. In the same way, we are making sure that our comprehensive program to protect and conserve our coastal and marine resources are effectively implemented.

One significant development in our ICM application for climate change adaptation is our move to complete our inventory, mapping, and vulnerability assessment of all foreshore areas to determine their proper allocation and use; and continuous rehabilitation of our country's mangrove and beach forests. Aside from the significant number of marine protected areas added to our list, our current focus is also in improving their management, this includes the management of new conservation sites. Our intensive campaign to protect marine and coastal resources from wildlife traffickers and poachers and to reduce water pollution remains to be one of our priorities. Likewise we continue to pursue reforms to strengthen the capacities of our natural ecosystems and improve environmental quality, for such programs complement marine and coastal protection and conservation.

And so, my fellow country and non-country partners, I urge everyone to work harder and continue levelling up our SDS-SEA and ICM implementations. Specially let us all look forward to the challenges that our Updated SDS-SEA and Post 2015 Strategic Strategies shall take us.

For now, let us roll up our sleeves and be ready to work our best in this Council Meeting. We have so much to accomplish for these three days. Let us all do our best! Thank you very much.

Again, welcome to the 7th Partnership Council Meeting. Mabuhay tayong lahat

ANNEX 3
MEETING AGENDA

MEETING AGENDA

June 23, 2015 (Tuesday)

A. Council Session

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|--|
| 09:00 – 09:10 | 1.0 | Opening Ceremony |
| 09:10 – 09:15 | 2.0 | Adoption of Meeting Agenda |
| 09:15 – 09:30 | 3.0 | Summary of Recommendations and Decisions of the 6th EAS Partnership Council (June 2014), 15th Executive Committee Meeting (October 2014), and Expanded 16th Executive Committee Meeting (March 2015) and Status of Actions Taken |
| 09:30 – 09:45 | 4.0 | Report of the Council Chair |
| 09:45 – 10:00 | 5.0 | Report of the PRF Executive Director |
| 10:00 – 10:05 | | Closing of the Council Session |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | | Group Photo and Coffee Break |

B. Technical Session

Opening of the Technical Session

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|--|
| 10:30 – 11:30 | 6.0 | Regional Report on SDS-SEA Implementation (2003-2015) |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | 7.0 | Updated SDS-SEA and Proposed Post-2015 Targets |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | | Lunch Break |
| 14:00 – 15:45 | | Continuation of Agenda Item 7.0 |
| 15:45 – 16:00 | | Coffee Break |
| 16:00 – 17:30 | | Continuation of Agenda Item 7.0 |
| | | Closing of Day 1 |

June 24, 2013 (Wednesday) Continuation of the Technical Session

09:00 – 11:30	8.0 Collaborative Planning Session
	8.1 Collaborative Planning in Support of SDS-SEA 2015 and post-2015 SDS-SEA Targets
	8.2 East Asian Seas Congress 2015 Preparations
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:30	Continuation of Agenda Item 8.0
11:30 – 12:30	9.0 Implementation of the Plan for Achieving PEMSEA's Self-Sustainability
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 14:30	Recommendations of the Technical Session
14:30 – 14:40	Closing of the Technical Session

C. Intergovernmental Session

Opening of the Intergovernmental Session

14:40 – 15:30	10.0 Election of the Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair
15:30 – 16:00	11.0 Fifth Ministerial Forum
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 – 17:30	Continuation of Agenda Item 11.0
	Closing of Day 2

June 25, 2015 (Thursday) Continuation of the Intergovernmental Session

Project Steering Committee Meetings

09:00 – 10:30	1.0 Project Steering Committee Meeting of the GEF/UNDP Project on Scaling up the Implementation of the SDS-SEA (2014-2019)
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:00	Continuation of Agenda Item 12.0
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:30 **2.0 Project Steering Committee Meeting of the GEF/World Bank Project on Applying Knowledge Management to Scale up Partnership Investments for Sustainable Development of LMEs of East Asia and their Coasts (2013-2016)**

Closing of Project Steering Committee

15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee Break**

Resumption of the Intergovernmental Session

16:00 – 17:00 **12.0 PEMSEA Work Plan and Budget 2015-2016**

17:00 – 17:15 **13.0 Other Business**

17:15 – 17:45 **Decisions of the Intergovernmental Session**

17:45 – 18:00 **Closing of the Intergovernmental Session**

Closing of the 7th EAS Partnership Council

ANNEX 4
UPDATED SDS-SEA

UPDATED SDS-SEA
SDS-SEA STRATEGIES

SUSTAIN

The East Asian countries shall ensure sustainable use of coastal and marine resources

Principles

The needs of the present generation must be met without compromising the quality of life of future generations.

To achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies.

Biological diversity and its components must be conserved for their intrinsic value as well as their ecological, genetic, social, scientific, educational, cultural, recreation, and aesthetic values.

Subregional, regional, and global cooperation is needed to conserve and manage living resources of the sea.

Managing the natural resource base in a sustained and integrated manner is essential for sustainable development.

Objective 1: Conservation and redress of biological diversity

Action Programmes

1. Implement policy and a strategic framework for the conservation and management of biological diversity by:
 - a. Developing national policy to integrate management of natural/biological resources and economic development, business ventures and investments in accordance with international agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and its protocols and decisions, such as the Jakarta Mandate, the Nagoya Protocol, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the Aichi Biodiversity and the Pyeongchang Roadmap, as well as the Manado Ocean Declaration and the Ramsar Convention;
 - b. Crafting an agreed approach to determining coastal and marine areas of significant biological diversity and natural value and identifying the allowable limits of their use;
 - c. Expanding regional cooperation to conserve and manage environmental resources, including overexploited and endangered migratory species and coastal areas of transboundary importance; and
 - d. Formulating cooperative agreements on biotechnology research, intellectual property rights (e.g., traditional medicines), and bioprospecting activities by third parties.
2. Restore and enhance coastal habitats and related resources in support of maintaining the integrity of their ecosystem services and value:

- a. Identifying major threatening activities and processes to coastal and marine areas of significant environmental value;
- b. Incorporating new planning schemes into national and municipal development plans which will restrict development of, misuse or conflicting use of significant sites, habitats, and resources;
- c. Developing capacities at the local government level to plan, develop, and implement sustainable environmental management programmes, including rehabilitation of altered critical habitats;
- d. Setting in place appropriate legal and economic instruments covering restoration and compensation for damage to habitats and biological diversity; and
- e. Exploring innovative investment opportunities, such as “blue carbon,” payment for ecosystem services, trust funds, and private-public partnerships.

Objective 2: Maintenance and enhancement of the quality of coastal waters

Action Programmes

1. Strengthen the compatibility and balance of fresh water and marine water uses by:
 - a. Modifying or formulating economic development policies which take into account:
 - the value of water as a catalyst for sustainable social progress and economic growth;
 - mechanisms to address intersectoral conflicts; and
 - ecological impacts of infrastructure projects;
 - b. Establishing national policies on water resource development and management, addressing consumptive and nonconsumptive use, food security, public health, and protection/ conservation of natural resources.
2. Integrate subregional arrangements for environmental management of international water systems with coastal and marine ecosystems by:
 - a. Extending the implementation of integrated watershed development and management programmes to all major river basins, lakes, and international water systems in the region;
 - b. Incorporating appropriate water quality elements into watershed, lake, coastal and marine management programmes, with a view to both ecosystem integrity and public health protection;
 - c. Integrating water resource development into land and sea use plans; and
 - d. Preparing and implementing regulations, well-defined property rights, economic instruments and management programmes at the local, national, and subregional level which promote sustainable and rational use of coastal waters.

Objective 3: Equitable and sustainable fisheries and conservation of fish stocks

Action Programmes

1. Enhance transboundary cooperation in subregional sea areas for fisheries management by:
 - a. Engaging coastal States to adopt and implement the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;
 - b. Increasing recognition of coastal and marine habitats that are vital to the fisheries resource of the subregional sea area;
 - c. Strengthening capacity to manage living resources in the EEZ; and
 - d. Putting in place subregional institutional measures to monitor the effectiveness of resource management measures.

2. Utilize living resources in a responsible manner by:
 - a. Reducing excessive fishing capacity through such measures as buy-back schemes and territorial use rights;
 - b. Maintaining or restoring fish stocks to levels that can sustainably support present and future generations;
 - c. Applying an ecosystem management approach, inclusive of fisheries management, to planning and development of coastal and marine areas;
 - d. Producing shared ownership of fisheries management through cooperative and partnership arrangements, including joint assessment of shared stocks;
 - e. Enforcing fisheries regulations at national and local levels; and
 - f. Developing and implementing national, and where appropriate, regional, arrangements to put into effect the FAO international plans of action, in particular, those measures to prevent, deter, and eliminate illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.
3. Integrate fisheries management into coastal management programmes at the local level by:
 - a. Taking appropriate measures to protect the rights and livelihoods of small-scale fishers and fish workers, including community-based management;
 - b. Implementing measures against destructive fishing methods and practices that result in excessive by-catch, waste of fish catch, and loss of habitat;
 - c. Building capacities in appropriate aquaculture technologies to bring about fish stock conservation and diversification of income and diet;
 - d. Increasing community benefits through diverse and innovative approaches to fisheries management, involving commercial, municipal, and recreational fishing, as well as cultural, conservation, trade, and tourism purposes;
 - e. Preserving appropriate indigenous/traditional knowledge and practices in fisheries management, including territorial use rights in fisheries; and
 - f. Developing sustainable alternative livelihoods for displaced fishers.

PRESERVE

The East Asian countries shall preserve species and areas of coastal and marine environment that are pristine or of ecological, social and cultural significance

Principles

Pristine habitats and areas of ecological, social, and/or cultural significance are irreplaceable assets, the benefits of which may not yet be fully understood and they must therefore be preserved.

Wild flora and fauna in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the earth which must be protected for this and the generations to come.

Wetlands perform fundamental ecological functions as regulators of water regimes and as habitats supporting characteristic flora and fauna, especially waterfowl.

States shall take all measures necessary to prevent, reduce, or regulate the intentional or accidental introduction of species, alien or new, to a particular part of the marine environment, which may cause significant and harmful changes thereto.

Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from use of genetic resources are essential to our planet, human well-being, and the livelihood and cultural integrity of people.

Objective 1: A common management system for marine protected areas¹ of transboundary importance

Action Programmes

1. Select and prioritize coastal and marine protected areas of transboundary importance by:
 - a. Agreeing on selection criteria² for identifying coastal and marine areas which:
 - contain rare, vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities within the region;
 - maintain populations of plant and/or animal species important to the biological diversity of the region;
 - support regionally important fish stocks; and
 - provide refuge, a source of food, nursery, and/or migration path for migratory species of regional and/or international importance;
 - b. Classifying protected areas on the basis of types and uses, taking into account guidelines, criteria and standards for protected areas and particularly sensitive sea areas under international instruments³; and

¹ The term "protected areas" is used in this document as a generic term to include all forms of preservation, conservation and protection.

² Such criteria are the Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) criteria of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Areas for Zero Extinction, Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas of BirdLife International, and Key Biodiversity Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

- c. Prioritizing marine protected areas that are of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services serving critical transboundary ecological and/or economic functions.
2. Establish appropriate management regimes for marine protected areas and particularly sensitive sea areas of transboundary significance by:
 - a. Adopting a management framework that encompasses the various classifications of protected areas, and provides an integrated approach to the planning, management, and assessment of impacts and benefits derived from the use of the areas, and regularly reviewing the effectiveness of this framework;
 - b. Building capacity and engaging local stakeholder groups/government units, and the private sector to manage marine protected areas;
 - c. Applying complementary land and sea-use planning and development schemes at the national and local levels;
 - d. Institutionalizing innovative administrative, legal, economic, and financial instruments that encourage partnership among local and national stakeholders; and
 - e. Conducting surveys, developing inventories of marine flora and fauna, and storing/sharing acquired information through national, regional, and international databases.

Objective 2: Safeguarding of rare, threatened and endangered species and genetic resources

Action Programmes

1. Establish a regional accord for the protection of species at risk by:
 - a. Outlining commitments for designating species at risk across the region, based on internationally accepted criteria such as the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, protecting their habitats and developing recovery plans;
 - b. Developing partnerships among national governments, industry (e.g., fishing/aquaculture, tourism, trade, transportation), the private sector, local governments, conservation groups, and the scientific community to effectively protect species at risk; and
 - c. Adopting complementary legislation, regulations, policies and programmes to identify and protect threatened and endangered species and their critical habitats.
2. Implement national recovery and management processes for species at risk across the region by:
 - a. Engaging stakeholders at the local level in the preparation of recovery strategies, bringing together the best available scientific, traditional, and community knowledge of the species;
 - b. Formulating and implementing local action plans under the umbrella of the recovery strategy; and
 - c. Levying economic incentives and disincentives and innovative programmes at the local level to help protect the species.
3. Create regionwide safety nets for species at risk and genetic resources by:
 - a. Preventing the introduction of controlling or eradicating alien species that threaten indigenous species, their ecosystems or specific habitats;

³ Such international instruments are the Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Migratory Species, World Heritage Convention, Ramsar Convention, MARPOL, UNCLOS and the IMO Revised guidelines for the identification and designation of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs)

- b. Prohibiting trade in endangered species in accordance with the provisions of CITES and networking with existing trade monitoring programmes;
- c. Adopting measures regarding commercial exploitation of valuable species and addressing by-catch of endangered species;
- d. Establishing protected areas, which also function as in situ gene banks, in accordance with international guidelines, criteria and standards for protected areas; and
- e. Developing benefit-sharing arrangements for bioprospecting activities, based on mutually agreed terms and subject to prior informed consent from both the government and local communities.

Objective 3: Conservation of transboundary areas of social, cultural, historical and geological significance

Action Programmes

1. Protect cultural and natural properties deemed to be of outstanding regional value by:
 - a. Agreeing on criteria for cultural and natural properties which represent the most outstanding values from a regional perspective;
 - b. Setting in place a nomination and review process for listing transboundary areas as cultural heritage or natural heritage sites, including the participation of local communities, indigenous people, and other pertinent stakeholders in the identification and nomination process;
 - c. Ensuring that legal and/or traditional protection and management arrangements adequately preserve the valued properties; and
 - d. Implementing a monitoring and evaluation procedure to ascertain that listed transboundary areas maintain characteristics of outstanding value, including a procedure for disqualification from the regional list for cause.
2. Manage transboundary cultural heritage and natural heritage sites by:
 - a. Adopting the requirements for protected areas under international instruments⁴;
 - b. Implementing appropriate legislation and regulations at the national and local levels, including provisions to maintain/reinforce traditional protection and management mechanisms;
 - c. Setting in place suitable administrative arrangements to cover the management of the property, its conservation and its accessibility to the public; and
 - d. Integrating sites into land and sea use zonation planning and development schemes at the national and local levels, including the delineation of appropriate buffer zones around the properties.

⁴ Such as the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the ASEAN Declaration on Heritage Parks.

PROTECT

The East Asian countries shall protect ecosystems, human health and society from risks which occur as a consequence of human activity

Principles

Protection of the coastal and marine environment has direct and indirect economic benefits.

States should use the best practicable means at their disposal and in accordance with their capabilities to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment.

In taking measures to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the marine environment, States shall act so as not to transfer, directly or indirectly, damage or hazards from one area to another or transform one type of pollution into another.

States shall take all measures necessary to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the marine environment resulting from the use of technologies under their jurisdiction or control.

The polluter shall bear the costs of pollution through the employment of economic instruments and internalization of environmental costs.

Objective 1: Subregional mechanisms to combat transboundary environmental threats in regional seas, including LMEs and subregional sea areas

Action Programmes

1. Strengthen and extend intergovernmental cooperation in environmental management of regional seas by:
 - a. Assessing and applying the lessons learned from ongoing “international waters” projects in the region;
 - b. Adopting a systematic and transparent process for identifying and prioritizing transboundary environmental risks;
 - c. Institutionalizing a complementary environmental management framework and strategy to enhance the effectiveness of national efforts to reduce transboundary environmental risks;
 - d. Organizing regional contingency plans, emergency response and cleanup cost recovery and compensation systems to combat catastrophic environmental events of natural or human origin, and to this end, undertaking measures to enhance the capabilities of the countries concerned;
 - e. Incorporating intergovernmental initiatives in environmental management of river basins, subregional sea areas and LMEs into a management framework for regional seas; and
 - f. Implementing integrated environmental monitoring programmes, utilizing appropriate environmental indicators to determine the effectiveness of management interventions.
2. Reinforce national and local governments’ roles, responsibilities and capabilities in environmental management of regional seas by:
 - a. Adopting national policies on environmental management of regional seas, including the implementation of relevant international conventions and instruments;

- b. Establishing appropriate legal and economic instruments and programmes to extend national capacities in developing and/or managing:
 - human activities resulting in transboundary pollution;
 - subregional growth areas;
 - toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes and their transboundary movements;
 - transboundary effects of habitat degradation/destruction;
 - nearshore and offshore construction, reclamation, and exploitation projects having transboundary implications; and
 - technologies and processes to minimize transboundary threats;
- c. Engaging local governments to plan, develop, and manage coastal and marine resources within their respective administrative boundaries utilizing the ICM framework and process; and
- d. Forging partnerships among governments, international agencies, donors, the private sector, and other concerned stakeholders.

Objective 2: Coastal and marine degradation from land-based human activities arrested

Action Programmes

1. Strengthen capabilities to protect the marine environment from the harmful effects of land-based human activities by:
 - a. Enhancing the awareness of policymakers on the social, economic, and environmental costs incurred as a consequence of degraded marine and coastal ecosystems and related watershed areas;
 - b. Incorporating the aims, objectives, and guidance provided by international conventions and agreements, such as UNCLOS, Agenda 21, and GPA, into new and existing strategies, policies, and programmes of action at the local, national, and regional levels;
 - c. Mainstreaming integrated coastal area and watershed management strategies and policies across levels of government, government agencies and institutions, and social and economic sectors;
 - d. Forging institutional cooperation among national and local governments, river basin authorities, port authorities and coastal area managers; and
 - e. Integrating coastal area management issues into relevant legislation and regulations pertaining to watershed management.
2. Implement management programmes, particularly focused at the local level, to combat the negative impacts of sewage, physical alteration and destruction of habitats, nutrients, sediment mobility, litter, microplastics, persistent organic pollutants, inorganic pollutants, heavy metals, harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens, and radioactive substances on the coastal and marine environment by:
 - a. Strengthening the capacity of local governments to engage in integrated decisionmaking with stakeholder participation, to apply effective institutional and legal frameworks for sustainable coastal management, and to obtain and utilize sound scientific information in the implementation of ICM programmes;
 - b. Identifying priority risks arising from land-based activities, taking into account the social, economic, and environmental consequences of such activities and the tractability of the problems;
 - c. Preparing a sustainable vision for the coastal and marine area, based on the community's view of the identified problems and assessment of priorities for the future;

- d. Developing an appropriate action programme to achieve the community's sustainable vision;
 - e. Introducing innovative policy, management, and institutional arrangements at the local government level, including economic instruments and incentive programmes, to encourage participation and partnerships among local government, the private sector, and civil society; and
 - f. Enhancing access by local governments to technical assistance, technology transfer, and financing programmes, to identify and assess needs and alternative solutions to local land-based sources of marine pollution, and to formulate and negotiate self-sustaining partnership arrangements with the private sector, investors, and financial institutions.
3. Adopt a holistic approach to managing the impacts of land-based activities by:
- a. Supporting an integrated management approach for coastal and ocean governance at the local, national, and regional levels, thereby accelerating the implementation of management programmes;
 - b. Incorporating actions to address impacts of land-based activities within the framework of integrated coastal and watershed management, including the protection of rivers, lakes, and tributaries, and promotion of "good practices" in land and water uses;
 - c. Improving scientific assessment of anthropogenic impacts on the marine environment, such as impacts of coastal reclamation, construction of coastal structures, drainage, erosion and siltation, including socioeconomic effects;
 - d. Building an integrated environmental monitoring and information management and reporting system to better measure the status, progress, and impacts of management programmes, for use in decisionmaking, public awareness and participation, and performance evaluation;
 - e. Promoting south-south and north-south technical cooperation, technology transfer, and information-sharing networks;
 - f. Putting in place national reforms which reinforce legislation and policies regarding land-based activities that degrade the coastal and marine environment, ensure transparency and accountability of government, provide multi-year investment programmes and establish an enabling environment for investment by the private sector; and
 - g. Working with international financial institutions, regional development banks and other international financial mechanisms to facilitate and expeditiously finance environmental infrastructure and services.

Objective 3: Prevention of adverse impacts from sea-based human activities

Action Programmes

1. Prevent operational and accidental pollution of marine waters from shipping activities by:
 - a. Implementing the requirements of MARPOL 73/78;
 - b. Instituting navigational safety and traffic management measures, especially in areas of congested traffic and/or of marine protected areas and for PSSAs in accordance with relevant IMO guidelines, standards and criteria⁵;

⁵ Such as the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 and the IMO Revised Guidelines for the Identification and Designation of PSSAs.

- c. Developing and strengthening capacity for at-sea multisectoral law enforcement and maritime surveillance while ensuring maritime safety and facilitating marine environmental protection;
 - d. Requiring the use of environmentally friendly, anti-fouling compounds on ships' hulls and marine equipment⁶;
 - e. Applying appropriate technologies, processes, and procedures to avoid the introduction of alien organisms through ballast water discharges;
 - f. Providing suitable shore reception facilities and services in ports to receive operational wastes from ships; and
 - g. Strengthening safety and environmental management systems in ports and integrating such systems with environmental programmes of local communities.
2. Control ocean-dumping and incineration of wastes at sea in accordance with relevant international agreements⁷.
 3. Counter accidental spills and discharges from sea-based human activities by:
 - a. Adopting contingency plans in accordance with the OPRC 1990 at the regional, subregional, national, and local levels for responding promptly to pollution incidents involving oily, hazardous, and noxious substances;
 - b. Ensuring appropriate response procedures, equipment, materials, and personnel are in place on vessels and in terminals, ports and offshore units;
 - c. Applying appropriate technologies, processes and procedures for the prompt and effective removal of wrecks, when such removal is necessary, and the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships;
 - d. Establishing agreements among governments, government agencies, industry, the private sector and community groups for tiered preparedness and response including support personnel, equipment, and materials in the event of accidental spills, including joint oil spill response, mutual aid mechanisms and facilities;
 - e. Undertaking regular training exercises involving the response groups; and
 - f. Developing an oil pollution source tracing capability.
 4. Attend to land-and sea-based economic development activities by:
 - a. Incorporating both land and sea-based activities into ICM programmes of local governments;
 - b. Adopting land and sea-use zonation plans at the national and local government levels; and
 - c. Assessing and managing the environmental risks of shipping, dredging, land reclamation, aquaculture, seabed exploration and mining, offshore oil and gas exploitation, and other resource extractive industries within the context of ecosystem management and public benefit.

Objective 4: Recovery of cleanup costs and compensation for damages

Action Programmes

1. Expedite the recovery of oil spill cleanup costs and compensation for economic damage by:
 - a. Ratifying and implementing CLC and FUND conventions;

⁶ In accordance with the terms of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships.

⁷ Such as the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972 (London Convention) and the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (London Protocol).

- b. Ensuring that national laws, administrative and eligibility procedures, and damage assessment processes are consistent with CLC and FUND conventions;
 - c. Setting up contingency plans among countries bordering subregional sea areas regarding accidental spills and discharges which result in, or have the potential to result in, transboundary marine pollution incidents; and
 - d. Negotiating preparatory agreements on eligible fees and charges for response personnel, equipment, materials, and services under the international liability and compensation regimes.
2. Expand cost recovery and damage compensation schemes by:
- a. Ratifying and implementing international conventions covering a wider scope of damage-causing incidents⁸ and geographic areas beyond national jurisdiction⁹;
 - b. Agreeing on a scheme for natural resource damage assessment, including a knowledge base on coastal and marine resources and a system for determining their values;
 - c. Setting up rules, administrative procedures, assessment processes, and financial mechanisms, which broaden eligibility criteria and available funds for damage compensation under national law; and
 - d. Providing local governments with the proper information on assessment processes and administrative procedures in order to increase their capacity to comply with compensation criteria.
3. Apply innovative approaches to restoration of damages by:
- a. Adopting incentive programmes to encourage restoration of degraded areas by third parties, such as the granting of exclusive development rights to those areas;
 - b. Setting up environmental restoration funds founded on user pay and polluter pay schemes; and
 - c. Adopting compensatory restoration schemes, where resources, services, and equal valued services can be used to offset losses due to damage.

⁸ HNS and Basel Protocol

⁹ In accordance with the Intervention Convention

ADAPT

The East Asian countries shall undertake steps to improve their capability to ADAPT to the adverse impacts of climate change and other man-made and natural hazards, particularly on ocean and coastal systems and coastal communities.

Managing risks in climate change and disasters in the seas of East Asia

Adapting to climate change and forecasted disasters cannot be decoupled from development and management of coastal and marine areas. This is because climate change and disaster risks are more than just an external shock. They are symptomatic of continuing accumulation of risks resulting from economic and development activities and policies.

Beyond awareness of the biophysical impacts and greater emphasis in socioeconomic conditions of vulnerable locales, vulnerability studies have shown the need to integrate climate change and disaster information into policy- and decision-making. There is need to link policies and institutional arrangements with other national and local planning efforts and structures. It is also a fact that the capacities of the regulatory, oversight and implementing agencies tasked to address climate change and disaster risks remain low. Although the region has instituted and tapped financing instruments, they remain grossly inadequate vis-à-vis the estimated preparedness, response, adaptation and recovery costs.

Moving beyond vulnerability assessments and action plans

Since 2003, the SDS-SEA has provided Country Partners with a framework for sustainable development in coasts and the seas. Measures for adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction are seen as a continuum to approaches in natural resource management, pollution reduction, habitat protection, biodiversity conservation, water use and supply management and ocean and coastal governance—approaches which have guided sustainable development through the years.

Integrated coastal management (ICM) has been developed and applied across the region as a systematic approach to achieving the objectives of the SDS-SEA.

The Manila Ministerial Declaration in 2009, followed by the Changwon Declaration in 2012, promotes ICM as a vehicle for managing risks in East Asia. This high-level commitment builds upon previous agreements, and the growth in maturity in coastal/ocean policies and legislations in recent decades. With the adapt strategy incorporated into the SDS-SEA, there is impetus to scale up ICM programs in the region while twinning them with climate change adaptation and managing disaster risks.

Principles

Climate change adaptation is a key area of concern in the Seas of East Asia region due to its peculiar vulnerability to climate change, the impacts of which cut across various areas and issues.

States shall prioritize climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management to ensure the achievement of sustainable development.

The integrated coastal management approach is an essential mechanism in the sustainable development of coastal and marine areas, as well as in preparing for, adapting, and responding to the impacts of climate change.

Local governments should carry out inclusive coastal adaptation measures that take into account the general well-being of communities and, at the same time, allow adequate space for changes to their activities and lifestyle.

States should institutionalize and strengthen disaster preparedness and response, as well as use post-disaster reconstruction and recovery to reduce future disaster risks.

Objective 1: Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management incorporated into development policies, plans, and programs at national and local levels

Action Programmes

1. Strengthen national and local mechanisms to oversee and guide the implementation of programs focused on sustainable development, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk reduction and management by:
 - a. Conducting collaborative planning among national and local governments, government agencies, legislators, and stakeholders to address climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management, especially in highly vulnerable coastal areas;
 - b. Aligning sectoral policies, legislation, plans, and programmes in priority coastal, marine and watershed areas, including specific actions to mitigate the impacts of climate change and other natural and man-made hazards;
 - c. Formulating and fully implementing disaster risk management policies, plans and programs that are linked and synergistic and that address preparing for, responding to, and recovering from natural and man-made hazards, including:
 - i. Establishing a national inter-sectoral coordinating mechanism to oversee implementation;
 - ii. Establishing a system to record and account for all disaster losses and impacts, periodically estimating the probability of disaster risks to the population and to economic and fiscal assets;
 - iii. Addressing post-disaster recovery, reconstruction and displacement, particularly in disaster-prone coastal and watershed areas.
 - iv. Guiding the public sector in addressing disaster risk in publically owned, managed or regulated services and infrastructure, and in the environment;

- v. Regulating and, as appropriate, providing incentives for actions by households, communities, businesses and individuals, particularly at the local level, that contribute to reducing natural and man-made hazards; and
 - vi. Encouraging the integration of voluntary commitments from all stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, into national and local plans for disaster risk management.
- d. Mainstreaming climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management into sustainable development programmes and investment plans at the national and local levels.
2. Prevent the creation of new risks, reduce existing risks, and strengthen resilience by:
- a. Delineating highly vulnerable coastal areas, communities, and resources and habitats, as well as vulnerable sectors of society, including the poor, women and the youth;
 - b. Developing and applying integrated land- and sea-use zoning plans and schemes to facilitate equitable access to coastal and marine resources and reduce competing and destructive uses;
 - c. Improving the natural defenses of coastal and marine ecosystems to the impacts of climate change and enhance carbon sequestration capacities of relevant habitats through:
 - i. Ecosystem-based adaptation through conservation of marine biological diversity and restoration of their habitats and ecosystems;
 - ii. Equitable and sustainable management of fisheries; and
 - iii. Establishment of marine protected areas and marine protected area networks, as appropriate, based on scientifically sound information.
 - d. Decreasing vulnerability, particularly of marginalized and impoverished coastal communities, through:
 - i. Protection and improvement of water quality in coastal areas and associated river basins to enhance ecosystem services and ecosystem health;
 - ii. Addressing hazards associated with unsustainable development on both water quality (e.g., pollution, eutrophication, saltwater intrusion, erosion and sedimentation) and water quantity (e.g., flooding, water shortages, over-extraction, land subsidence);
 - iii. Providing and improving livelihood options through sustainable coastal fisheries and alternative and supplemental livelihood programmes in ecotourism, sustainable aquaculture and mariculture, etc.; and
 - iv. Identifying safe areas and setting up support systems for communities displaced by natural or man-made hazards or those located in high-risk areas.

Objective 2: Strengthened capacity of national and local governments, communities, and other stakeholders to adapt to the impacts of climate change and respond to natural and man-made hazards

- 1. Promote regional cooperation among countries in education and training activities related to ICM and climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management by:
 - a. Organizing and maintaining a comprehensive regional knowledge management platform with linkages to national and local knowledge systems;

- b. Providing ready access to knowledge products and services for planning and developing investments in climate-proofing and disaster-mitigating projects and programmes at the national and local levels;
 - c. Sharing information and knowledge on the development and application of innovative policies, legislation, technologies and practices in support of ICM programmes, as well as social, economic and environmental benefits being derived;
 - d. Aligning national action plans and programs with Strategic Action Programmes and other endeavors for achieving target-focused action plans in LMEs and sub-regional sea areas; and
 - e. Strengthening collaboration in scientific research on developments, trends and emerging issues, best practices, and other information on climate change adaptation and disaster risk response and management in the region.
2. Strengthen national and local capacity building programs on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management by:
 - a. Providing public awareness, education at all levels, and professional education and training on the inter-dependence of disasters with development, climate change and variability, disaster risk vulnerability, and exposure; and
 - b. Assisting local government and coastal communities in conducting environmental monitoring and effectively utilizing the PEMSEA's State of Coast (SOC) reporting or similar system in their planning and investment processes.
 3. Foster networks and partnerships to plan, coordinate and implement climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management initiatives at different levels and across different sectors by:
 - a. Pursuing opportunities for innovative partnerships among national and local governments, regional and sub-regional organizations, UN agencies, international financial institutions, donors, the business community, scientific and technical institutions, academe, civil society, and the media; and
 - b. Exploring innovative partnerships with the private sector and professional associations to factor climate considerations into project quality standards and mechanisms for compliance, including certification in certain sectors.
 - c. Building partnerships with indigenous peoples' groups and local communities to ensure that relevant traditional knowledge, innovation, and practices are considered and utilized in adapting to climate change and responding to hazards.

Objective 3: Risk-sensitive public and private investments are supported by innovative sustainable financing mechanisms

1. Develop and strengthen financial and fiscal instruments, including for development projects, in order to:
 - a. Stimulate and promote investments in green industry, technology and practices (e.g., eco-agriculture, eco-aquaculture, eco-friendly coastal and community-based tourism) for improving the resiliency of coastal communities;
 - b. Employ and optimize a range of new and innovative financial mechanisms available in the UNFCCC and other international agreements to develop, implement and sustain ICM programmes (e.g., payment schemes involving blue carbon);
 - c. Support targeted research on the valuation of natural resources and ecosystem services, and the losses to society and economy as a consequence of degradation and destruction; and

- d. Evaluate, develop and adopt applicable insurance schemes for damages resulting from climate-related phenomena.
2. Develop non-monetary incentives and mechanisms that motivate environment-friendly and sustainable investments affecting oceans, coastal resources and communities by:
 - a. improving adaptive capacity and decreasing vulnerability to risks of coastal communities through technology transfer, including on concessional and mutually agreed terms, to local or community-led ICM programmes; and
 - b. recognizing/certifying the application of green technology and other actions aligned with an ocean-based blue economy at the level of communities and businesses.

DEVELOP

The East Asian countries shall develop areas and opportunities in the coastal and marine environment that contribute to economic prosperity and social well-being while safeguarding ecological values

Principles

Economic development is of vital importance to people and the environment at local, national, and regional levels.

Environmental protection and economic development are compatible with one another.

In order to achieve sustainable development, environmental protection shall constitute an integral part of the development process and should not be considered in isolation from it.

Market mechanisms which internalize environmental costs and benefits promote long-term economic growth.

To protect and preserve the marine environment, the use of the full range of available management tools and financing options in implementing national or regional programmes of action, including innovative managerial and financial techniques, should be promoted.

Objective 1: Promotion of sustainable economic development towards a blue economy¹⁰ in coastal and marine areas

Action Programmes

1. Promote appropriate national coastal and marine strategies and policies by:
 - a. Institutionalizing multisectoral stakeholder consultation and participation in decisionmaking; and
 - b. Taking into account diversified regional and local traditions, customs, values, comparative advantages, constraints, and other conditions in the formulation and implementation of national sustainable economic development programmes concerning coastal and marine areas.
2. Adopt mechanisms that promote public participation in planning and development processes by:
 - a. Developing land and sea-use plans, in consultation with stakeholders from the public and private sectors;
 - b. Having a clear process and criteria for achieving major developments in coastal and marine areas;
 - c. Conducting stakeholder consultations and consensus-building to identify, package, and develop environmental investment opportunities;

¹⁰ The Changwon Declaration defines “blue economy” as a “practical ocean-based economic model using green infrastructure and technologies, innovative financing mechanisms and proactive institutional arrangements for meeting the twin goals of protecting our oceans and coasts and enhancing its potential contribution to sustainable development, including improved human well-being, and reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.”

- d. Identifying and prioritizing opportunities for development, which complement the shared vision of stakeholders for their coastal and marine areas;
 - e. Employing information and education programmes about the coastal and marine environment and related development opportunities; and
 - f. Strengthening and expanding environmental assessment systems and practices and phasing in use of strategic environmental assessment/IEIA as a tool for integrating environmental and social concerns, as appropriate, at earlier stages of decision making.
3. Integrate economic development and environmental management by:
- a. Formulating local coastal strategies;
 - b. Preparing strategic environmental and resource use management plans which fulfill the shared vision of local stakeholders;
 - c. Ensuring that national and local development plans complement land- and sea-use zonation plans;
 - d. Aligning developments in coastal and marine areas with social, cultural, and economic characteristics of, and benefits to, local communities;
 - e. Supporting targeted research, development and adoption of innovative green technologies;
 - f. Promoting partnerships in sustainable development and corporate responsibility among marine industries, such as shipping, capture fisheries and aquaculture and the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas and hard minerals, to ensure environmentally sound operations;
 - g. Utilizing the EIA process to address the long-term, communitywide and cross-sectoral implications of proposed developments;
 - h. Improving public access to and benefit from sustainable use of coastal and marine resources through:
 - ecotourism as a medium for promoting appreciation for the natural and cultural environment by local residents, visitors, and tourists;
 - appropriate restrictions on waterfront access by industry and commercial operations;
 - marine industries which return long-term economic and conservation benefits;
 - port development/expansion on coastal lands with deep water access; and
 - public ownership of coastal and marine properties of cultural and natural significance at local, national, and regional levels;
 - i. Enhancing the capacities of the less-developed regions and localities, as well as local and indigenous communities, in addressing the challenges to sustainable development.

Objective 2: ICM as an effective management framework to achieve the sustainable development of coastal and marine areas

Action Programmes

- 1. Reduce conflicting and nonsustainable usage of coastal and marine resources by:
 - a. Implementing ICM programmes at the local level to address multiple-use conflicts;
 - b. Empowering and building the capacity of local governments to realize benefits derived from ICM programmes through demonstration projects, and promote networking among project sites through the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) to facilitate sharing of information, providing mutual

- assistance and promoting good practices, and applying nationally and/or internationally recognized standards and certification systems for ICM;
- c. Formulating and implementing ICM programmes at the local level, providing operational linkages among economic activities, natural resource management and social development including poverty alleviation, reduction of vulnerability to natural hazards, and sustainable livelihood; and
 - d. Creating partnerships among national agencies, local governments, and civil society that vest responsibility in concerned stakeholders for use planning, development, and management of coastal and marine resources.
2. Turn knowledge and concern about the coastal and marine environment into actions by:
 - a. Mobilizing local communities, environmental organizations, religious groups, and the private sector to craft a shared vision for their coastal area;
 - b. Enjoining indigenous peoples and marginalized groups in coastal areas as partners in the planning, development, and management of coastal resources;
 - c. Linking local scientific/technical institutions with other stakeholders in the community to provide scientific input into the planning and decisionmaking processes of local government; and
 - d. Implementing action plans that respond to the environmental values and threats that local stakeholders share regarding their coastal and marine environment, e.g., multiple-use zonation scheme, integrated waste management, and habitat conservation.
 3. Build sustainable development and environmental conservation programmes at the local level by:
 - a. Institutionalizing legal, administrative, and economic instruments at the local government level in support of the ICM framework and process;
 - b. Creating investment opportunities for sustainable development projects, including environmental improvement projects, by local, national, and international agencies, programmes, investors, and companies;
 - c. Applying innovative financial mechanisms to ensure that users and beneficiaries of coastal and marine resources recognize the value for such resources, and compensate accordingly; and
 - d. Enhancing corporate responsibility for sustainable development of natural resources through application of appropriate policy, regulatory and economic incentive packages.
 4. Manage the ecological and social impacts of expanding coastal urbanization, particularly large and megacities in the coastal zone, by:
 - a. Strengthening multisectoral stakeholder involvement in managing the urban affairs to address adverse impacts that may accompany rapid urbanization and population growth and ensure the implementation of sustainable urban development policies;
 - b. Undertaking risk assessment/risk management programmes with special attention to public health, population density, and the vulnerabilities of urban populations and environment; and
 - c. Increasing awareness and capacity-building programmes related to management of coastal urban areas.

Objective 3: Subregional growth areas incorporating transboundary environmental management programmes

Action Programmes

1. Adopt a systematic process for evaluating policy, socioeconomic and environmental implications of growth areas on the coastal and marine resources by:
 - a. Incorporating transboundary environmental concerns into bilateral and multilateral agreements on the development and management of growth areas;
 - b. Adopting mechanisms to ensure the participation of local and national stakeholders in the planning, development, and management of subregional growth areas;
 - c. Establishing complementary action programmes to avoid transboundary environmental threats; and
 - d. Implementing an environmental management system within the growth area, including complementary economic instruments and regulatory mechanisms to promote cleaner production technologies and processes and investments in environmental facilities and services.
2. Implement appropriate policies and guidelines on approval of development opportunities by:
 - a. Establishing an environmental assessment procedure for all major developments;
 - b. Assuring that local stakeholders are able to participate in the approval process;
 - c. Requiring proposed infrastructure and administrative services, such as transportation and institutional arrangements, to be compatible with the social and economic goals of the subregion;
 - d. Ensuring that complementary environmental facilities and services are provided in the development, for public benefit and sustainable use of the resource; and
 - e. Stipulating strategies and socioeconomic evaluations for developing, financing, constructing, operating, and maintaining the required infrastructure and ancillary environmental services.

Objective 4: Partnerships in sustainable financing and environmental investments

Action Programmes

1. Adopt national policies, programmes, and practices to establish a stable investment climate and encourage partnerships by:
 - a. Undertaking necessary structural reforms to facilitate coordination and eliminate interjurisdictional bottlenecks and constraints;
 - b. Promoting local government responsibility, transparency, and accountability in the use of public funds and access to other forms of financing;
 - c. Raising public sector understanding of environmental issues and the partnership process for effective environmental management;
 - d. Implementing clear guidelines, criteria, and processes for developing partnerships with local, national, and international stakeholders, agencies, donors, investors, and operating companies;
 - e. Streamlining environmental assessment and clearance processes to facilitate investment projects and access to domestic and international finance opportunities;
 - f. Having a national accounting of ocean and coastal resources that realistically reflect their intrinsic value as well as the value of the goods and services they provide;

- g. Creating incentive programmes for investments in environmental infrastructure, cleaner production technologies and processes, eco-efficiency, and supporting technical and scientific services;
 - h. Implementing policies, laws, regulations, and programmes to maintain a well-defined and level playing field among existing and potential partners; and
 - i. Undertaking dynamic information dissemination programmes to attract investment capital in the international and domestic marketplaces.
2. Boost capital flows into environmental investments at the local level by:
- a. Empowering local governments to provide affordable environmental facilities and services to the public, in concert with national regulations, criteria, and policies;
 - b. Authorizing local governments to enter into partnerships with local, national, and international parties to plan, finance, construct, and operate environmental facilities and support services;
 - c. Building the capacity of local governments as dynamic partners in packaging, promoting, and implementing opportunities for environmental investments;
 - d. Providing local governments with the authority to enter into partnerships with sectoral bodies, river basin authorities, regional development banks, and commercial financing sources; and
 - e. Instituting environmental management systems into local government operations which signal commitment and sustainability, including:
 - strategic environmental management plans;
 - review and approval processes for new developments;
 - enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and standards;
 - environmental monitoring and evaluation programmes;
 - fair and affordable systems of cost recovery for environmental services;
 - ISO certification of local government units, industry, and commercial enterprises;
 - incentive/reward systems for representative environmental citizens, such as certifications and public awards; and
 - voluntary programmes with industry and commercial enterprises, including community services, environmental audits, and waste minimization initiatives.
3. Strengthen the role of the private sector by:
- a. Providing legal, administrative, and economic instruments in support of private sector investments, employing financing mechanisms such as public-private sector partnerships, joint ventures corporations and operating contracts;
 - b. Promoting the integration of corporate social responsibility in company policies;
 - c. Encouraging private sector engagement in regional business networks;
 - d. Allocating project risks realistically (e.g., political, technical, commercial, financial) in order to reach a fair balance of risks and benefits among parties;
 - e. Establishing clear investment procedures;
 - f. Adapting private sector investments to population needs and resources, in order to obtain a cost-recovery scheme, which is affordable and acceptable by the local community; and
 - g. Strengthening and facilitating the participation of small business, informal business enterprises, and women in investments and the development of self-sustaining environmental enterprises.

IMPLEMENT

The East Asian countries shall implement international instruments relevant to the management of the coastal and marine environment

Principles

States should fulfill their obligations under these instruments in good faith, in full cooperation, and with a spirit of partnership with one another.

Effective environmental legislation is necessary for the implementation of these instruments.

The environmental standards, management objectives, and priorities of States should reflect the environmental and developmental context to which they apply.

States shall endeavor to harmonize their marine environmental policies with policies, plans, and programs at the appropriate regional level.

In the implementation of international instruments, regional rules, standards, and recommended practices and procedures to manage the marine environment, characteristic regional features, the economic capacity of developing States, and their need for economic development shall be taken into account.

Objective 1: National government accession to and compliance with relevant international conventions and agreements

Action Programmes

1. Translate the principles and objectives of international conventions and agreements into desired management outcomes by:
 - a. Evaluating the means and degree to which international instruments serve as a foundation and framework for, or are complementary to, national environmental policies and programmes;
 - b. Prioritizing the country's accession to relevant international conventions and agreements;
 - c. Identifying the gaps and constraints that exist regarding a country's ability to achieve full compliance with its international obligations under current national programmes;
 - d. Consolidating the administrative, operational, and reporting requirements of international conventions and agreements with the planning and management processes of functional agencies; and
 - e. Participating in formulation and revision of international instruments to contribute local considerations and needs and ensure their relevance to national, local, and regional situations.
2. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness with which international conventions are implemented by:
 - a. Identifying common actions among national agencies, industry, and the private sector that can be integrated;
 - b. Adopting strategies and policies leading to improved coordination of operations at the local and regional levels to meet international commitments;

- c. Establishing national intersectoral, interagency, and interdisciplinary mechanisms to organize, coordinate, and manage the implementation of the identified common actions and adopted strategies and policies;
- d. Forging partnerships with stakeholders who are directly affected by or benefit from international rules, standards, and certifications to ensure their full participation and contribution;
- e. Calling on parties to international conventions and agreements for technical cooperation and assistance to build capacity at the regional, national, and local levels; and
- f. Strengthening legislation and clarifying mandates among government agencies related to economic development of marine and coastal areas and environmental and resource management.

Objective 2: Regional cooperation in integrated implementation of international instruments

Action Programmes

1. Enhance synergies and linkages between international conventions and agreements at the regional level by:
 - a. Providing a factual basis for countries of the region to consider the benefits derived from multilateral environmental agreements, and establishing complementarities among international conventions, including transboundary issues;
 - b. Developing a guide on integrated implementation of conventions which covers complementarities at the substantive obligation level and at the working programme level;
 - c. Examining institutional, scientific, and management mechanisms that support integrated implementation of international conventions, holistic approaches to related issues, information-sharing and joint capacity-building initiatives; and
 - d. Reviewing the implications for enhanced funding, technical assistance, and technical cooperation from GEF, World Bank, international agencies, and donors.
2. Review and continually improve the SDS-SEA as a functional framework for regional cooperation in integrated implementation of international conventions and agreements by:
 - a. Updating the regional strategy in line with new and amended international agreements, recognizing individual and common responsibilities to implement the strategy;
 - b. Developing and maintaining a regional fund to serve as an incentive and reward system for local governments to transition to a blue economy.
 - c. Developing holistic management approaches to achieving the objectives of environment-related international conventions, such as ICM, ecosystem-based management, vulnerability assessment, and risk reduction and management;
 - d. Identifying common actions that contribute to the implementation of international conventions, such as conserving and restoring habitats, emergency response, protecting threatened species, pollution prevention and management, public awareness and environmental monitoring;
 - e. Establishing concerted action plans to coordinate the common efforts of countries to address transborder environmental issues, and to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of environmental programmes;

- f. Strengthening the use of the State of Coasts (SOC) reporting system or similar reporting systems at the local, national and regional levels for monitoring and evaluation;
- g. Formulating multilateral project proposals on subregional initiatives to attract extra-budgetary funds and environmental investments;
- h. Building capacity through sharing of information, experience, and expertise among countries; and
- i. Based on existing mechanisms, making more effective regional arrangements, taking into account advantages and constraints of various options, including regional conventions and agreements, to facilitate the implementation of the common strategy and action programmes.

Objective 3: Execution of obligations under international conventions and agreements at the local government level

Action Programmes

1. Scale up ICM programmes to enable local stakeholders to effectively contribute to Agenda 21, the **Johannesburg** Plan of Implementation, the Sustainable Development Goals, GPA, and other international instruments¹¹ for sustainable development as updated by:
 - a. Establishing ICM policies and programs at the national and local levels that transform obligations under international conventions into on-the-ground actions;
 - b. Empowering local governments to plan, develop, and manage the coastal and marine resources within their jurisdiction, including actions designated under international conventions and agreements;
 - c. Building local capacities for integrated management, including ICM, community-based management of coastal resources, integrated waste management and sustainable tourism; and
 - d. Providing seed funding and creating incentive programmes to help local stakeholders with the development and startup of appropriate facilities, services, and programmes.

¹¹ Such as The Future We Want, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the Pyeongchang Roadmap, among many others.

COMMUNICATE

The East Asian countries shall communicate with stakeholders to raise public awareness, strengthen multisectoral participation and obtain scientific support for the sustainable development of the coastal and marine environment

Principles

States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available on the state of the coastal and marine environment, as well as programs related to its sustainable development.

The creativity, ideal, and courage of the youth of the world should be mobilized to forge a global partnership in order to achieve sustainable development.

Women have a vital role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development.

Understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the protection and preservation of the marine environment shall be propagated through various media, and developed and included in educational and public awareness programmes.

Objective 1: Raising public awareness and understanding of coastal and marine environmental and resource management issues and processes

Action Programmes

1. Establish good information exchange between stakeholders by:
 - a. Determining the values that different sectors of society place on coastal and marine resources and the existing and potential threats to those values as perceived by the different stakeholders, including:
 - fishing, aquaculture, seaweed farming, tourism, etc.;
 - navigation;
 - tourism and recreation;
 - social, cultural, and aesthetic characteristics; and
 - protection from typhoons, coastal erosion, flooding, and other ocean-related disturbances.
 - b. Turning disparate views regarding the coastal and marine environment into a shared vision among stakeholders through information and education campaigns that:
 - alert stakeholders to the environmental issues and needed changes;
 - identify direction, purpose, a focus for action, and roles and responsibilities;
 - promote interest and commitment through public forums/events;
 - encourage openness to unique and creative solutions; and
 - develop loyalty through involvement and ownership (e.g., voluntary agreements).
2. Strengthen the use of available information on environmental issues, technologies, processes and lessons learned at the local, national and regional levels by:
 - a. Setting up/enhancing knowledge sharing platforms and communication networks among stakeholder groups;

- b. Adopting capacity-building and information dissemination initiatives aimed at assisting civil servants, government officials, NGOs, POs, religious groups, teachers, trainers, and the media to promote environmental management among civil society;
- c. Improving methods of communicating with indigenous people and marginalized groups in coastal areas to encourage participation in and ownership of local environmental management programmes;
- d. Strengthening scientific and technical education and training in sustainable environmental management of coastal and marine ecosystems; and
- e. Translating and disseminating information on the dynamics of coastal and marine ecosystems and their sustainable development into local languages.

Objective 2: Utilization of science and traditional knowledge in decision-making processes

Action Programmes

1. Establish information technology (IT) as a vital tool in sustainable development programmes at the local, national, and regional levels systems by:
 - a. Aligning national information management systems with the framework and standard of the Integrated Information Management System (IIMS) developed by PEMSEA for environmental information management at the local, national, and regional levels;
 - b. Building local government capacities to help decision makers and to sensitize the local public on environmental matters;
 - c. Linking people via computer networks to exchange information, encourage collaboration, and develop new opportunities;
 - d. Cooperating with the private sector to spur investment in and use of IT;
 - e. Encouraging sharing of environmental information and lessons among countries and institutions as one way to build capacity and learn from one another's experiences; and
 - f. Applying innovative IT technologies to minimize costs, advance understanding of available information and serve as decision-support instruments for policymakers and other stakeholders.
2. Utilize science and traditional knowledge in environmental policy development and decisionmaking by:
 - a. Forging partnerships with scientists and scientific institutions to encourage information and knowledge sharing at the local and national levels;
 - b. Supporting scientific research and applying established scientific information and tools which advances knowledge of ecosystem management and provides input to decisions on sustainable economic development, including:
 - new technology and practices that support the sustainable use of resources;
 - economic valuation of coastal and marine resources;
 - preservation of biodiversity and the natural and cultural heritage of the peoples and countries of the Seas of East Asia, including in situ and ex-situ research;
 - effective management of transboundary issues at the local, national, subregional, and regional level; and
 - the carrying capacity of the ecosystem to establish levels for sustainable resource use and economic development activities;

- c. Applying the knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous local communities in planning, development, and management processes;
- d. Involving indigenous peoples and other stakeholders in gathering, analysis and use of information on habitats and biological diversity;
- e. Coordinating local interest groups to undertake surveys/monitoring and other management efforts; and
- f. Contributing to the regular process of the Global Marine Environment Monitoring and Assessment called for by the **Johannesburg** Plan of Implementation.

Objective 3: Mobilization of governments, civil society and the private sector utilizing innovative communication methods

Action Programmes

1. Enhance dissemination of reliable and relevant data by:
 - a. Setting up local, national, and regional networks of organizations to collate, organize, and disseminate information on coastal and marine environmental and resource management (e.g., a marine electronic highway);
 - b. Creating virtual (online) media resource information centers to serve as clearinghouses/depositories of information on coastal and marine environmental and resource management;
 - d. Establishing a news monitoring and quick response system vis-à-vis issues relating to coastal and marine environmental and resource management; and
 - e. Linking with international agencies, programmes, and activities to enhance IT skills in the creation of websites and management of networks and Internet services.
2. Encourage information sharing by:
 - a. Rewarding those who share information through access to innovative applications and/or information networks;
 - b. Creating opportunities for profit-sharing/cost-recovery through e-commerce;
 - c. Identifying market needs and potential users of shared information and developing responsive packaging/analytical techniques;
 - d. Promoting wider application of traditional knowledge and practices with the approval and involvement of communities concerned; and
 - e. Ensuring integrity and ownership of knowledge and information and equitable sharing of benefits derived from their utilization.
3. Build a sense of ownership among stakeholders in the sustainable development of the coastal and marine areas by:
 - a. Providing for effective procedures for stakeholder participation and public consultation in policymaking and implementation; and
 - b. Developing mechanisms for resolving disputes concerning the use of coastal and marine resources.

ANNEX 5

POST-2015 TARGETS AND INDICATORS FOR SDS-SEA IMPLEMENTATION

POST-2015 TARGETS AND INDICATORS FOR SDS-SEA IMPLEMENTATION

TARGET 1: By **2017**, a **self-sustaining PEMSEA Resource Facility** managing and coordinating a suite of products, services and financing mechanisms for advancing SDS-SEA implementation at the regional, national and local levels.

Indicators:

- Host Country Agreement ratified by the Government of the Philippines providing PEMSEA and its officers and staff with immunities and privileges to facilitate effective and efficient operation as an international organization
- Country and Non-Country Partners provide voluntary financing and in-kind commitments to sustain PEMSEA's management, coordination and secretariat services including through signed agreements and other forms of written communication.
- Signed Partnership Agreements between PEMSEA and other regional governance mechanisms resulting in collaborative planning, coordination and implementation among the respective programmes.
- PEMSEA Services are fully operationalized and financially self-sustaining, while responding to the needs of Partners, Sponsoring Organizations and collaborators (e.g., project development, implementation and management; knowledge management/capacity building; secretariat/facilitation; certification) in support of SDS-SEA implementation.
- PEMSEA's outreach services operationalized to facilitate improved coastal and ocean governance in non-Partner countries in the EAS region and outside of the region and providing a source of revenue to the organization

TARGET 2: By **2018**, a **regional State of Oceans and Coasts reporting system** to monitor progress, impacts and benefits, and to continually improve planning and management of SDS-SEA implementation.

Indicators:

- Scientific and technical expert group organized to oversee and coordinate the development of national and regional SOC reports
- Methodology for SOC reporting developed and agreed upon by PEMSEA Partners and collaborating organizations and programmes, including harmonization of progress, impact and benefit indicators
- National State of Oceans and Coasts Report published and disseminated
- First Regional State of Oceans and Coasts Report for the Seas of East Asia published and submitted to the Sixth Ministerial Forum in 2018.

TARGET 3: By **2021**, **national coastal and ocean policies, and supporting legislation and institutional arrangements set up and functional in 100% of PEMSEA Partner Countries**, consistent with relevant international instruments on the environment and sustainable development and based on best available scientific information.

Indicators:

- A national interagency and multisectoral coordinating mechanism for integrated management of coasts, oceans and watershed areas with a streamlined financing mechanism, human resource development plan, knowledge management, platform for education and research, information dissemination mechanism and stakeholder participation
- Incorporation of integrated management approaches, frameworks or tools into national coastal and ocean policies and legislations, covering for example: ICM, spatial planning (MSP, land-and-sea use zoning, integrated watershed and coastal area management), ecosystem valuation, environmental impact assessment, CCA/DRRM, EAFM, MPAs, LMEs/SAPs
- National medium and long term social-economic development plans, programs and investments incorporate integrated management approaches
- Existence of national ocean and coastal policies using a national ICM Strategy/national SDS-SEA Implementation Plan

TARGET 4: By 2021, ICM programs for sustainable development of coastal and marine areas covering at least 25% of the region's coastline and contiguous watershed areas, supporting national priorities and commitments under the UN SDGs, UNFCCC, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, UNISDR Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and other relevant environmental and sustainable development targets subscribed to by PEMSEA Partner Countries.

Indicators: Local Level

- An interagency, multisectoral coordinating mechanism
- An ICM coordinating office with trained staff
- Annual work plan and supporting financial plan and budget for the ICM program
- Stakeholder identification, awareness building and participation in sustainable ocean and coastal management activities
- Adoption of a coastal strategy or similar strategic plan for the coastal and marine area, and development and execution of a short-term implementation plan targeting priority issues, objectives and targets
- Completion of SOC baseline or coastal profile, and use of the SOC or equivalent reporting system in monitoring progress and continually improving ICM program implementation

Indicators: National Level

- A national interagency, multisectoral coordinating mechanism, interacting with local governments implementing ICM programmes
- National ICM/SDS-SEA strategy and implementation plan and supporting legislation for scaling up ICM coverage
- National ICM/SDS-SEA programme adoption and implementation, inclusive of capacity development and a technical support network to assist local

- governments develop and implement ICM
- Incorporation of ICM/SDS-SEA implementation plan into budgets and work programmes of concerned agencies

ANNEX 6
DRAFT MINISTERIAL DOCUMENT

DRAFT MINISTERIAL DOCUMENT

DANANG COMPACT ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA 2015

We, the eleven representatives of the PEMSEA Country Partners, have gathered this 20TH day of November 2015 in Danang, Vietnam to revisit our regional coastal and marine strategy, the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (“SDS-SEA”), and to lay down the post-2015 Strategic Targets of PEMSEA. Today, we aim to reiterate the core mission of our Partnership, and to keep this mission relevant to our present and future concerns, attuned to the changes that have occurred both in our physical and international policy environments.

Healthy Oceans, People and Economies: Our Vision

With the adoption of the SDS-SEA (*Putrajaya Declaration, 2003*), PEMSEA Country Partners committed themselves to the sustainable development of the region’s oceans and coasts. This commitment stems from our connection with the valuable ecosystems and resources produced by our oceans and coasts—the well-being of our communities, security of our food supply, and the sustainable development of our economies. This is what PEMSEA has aimed to accomplish in the past, and what it aims to achieve today and in the years to come.

The Current Situation

Since 2003, we have:

- a) transformed PEMSEA into a country-owned regional organization focused on the implementation of the SDS-SEA (*Target 1, Haikou Partnership Agreement, 2006*);
- b) developed and adopted national ocean and coastal policies and strategies in 75 percent of PEMSEA Partner Countries (*Target 2, Haikou Partnership Agreement, 2006*);
- c) scaled-up the implementation of ICM programs from less than 1 percent to more than 14 percent of the region’s coastline (*Target 3, Haikou Partnership Agreement, 2006*); and
- d) developed and implemented a reporting system (State of Coasts or SOC) for measuring progress and trends in coastal and ocean governance and management among our local governments implementing ICM programs (*Target 4, Haikou Partnership Agreement*).

By doing so, we have advanced the objectives and action programmes of the SDS-SEA at the regional, national and local levels. We have also strengthened our confidence in the application of ICM to address new and emerging challenges to sustainable development, including addressing climate change and its effects on our oceans and coasts (*Manila Declaration, 2009*), and building an ocean-based blue economy in support of the Rio+20 The Future We Want and other international agreements (*Changwon Declaration, 2012*).

We gratefully acknowledge that this was only possible with the valuable support and commitments of the GEF, the UNDP, the World Bank, our Non-Country Partners and

other collaborating donors and organizations over the past 12 years, including the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments through its adoption and implementation of the *Dongying Declaration on Building a Blue Economy through ICM* in 2011.

Our post-2015 Solutions

We reconfirm our commitment to the vision of the SDS-SEA for healthy oceans, people and economies, which parallels the aims of recently adopted international instruments, including the, the *Aichi Biodiversity Targets* under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the *Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* under UNISDR Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the *United Nations Sustainable Development Goals*.

We look forward to the outcomes of the 21st Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC to be held in Paris in December 2015.

We agree to adopt the SDS-SEA 2015, an updated version of the SDS-SEA 2003, which incorporates strategies, objectives and action programmes for climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity. The SDS-SEA 2015 is adopted as a common platform for regional cooperation, and as a framework for policy and programme development and implementation, at the national and local level, on a voluntary basis, where deemed appropriate by each concerned individual state with the East Asian region, without imposing legal obligations or prohibitions.

We also agree to adopt the following post-2015 Strategic Targets:

TARGET 1: By **2017**, a **self-sustaining PEMSEA Resource Facility** managing and coordinating a suite of products, services and financing mechanisms for advancing SDS-SEA implementation at the regional, national and local levels.

TARGET 2: By **2018**, a **regional State of Oceans and Coasts reporting system** to monitor progress, impacts and benefits, and to continually improve planning and management of SDS-SEA implementation.

TARGET 3: By **2021**, **national coastal and ocean policies, and supporting legislation and institutional arrangements set up and functional in 100% of PEMSEA Partner Countries**, consistent with international environmental and sustainable development commitments and based on best available scientific information.

TARGET 4: By **2021**, **ICM programs for sustainable development of coastal and marine areas covering at least 25% of the region's coastline and contiguous watershed areas**, supporting national priorities and commitments under the UN SDGs, UNFCCC, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, UNISDR Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and other relevant environmental and sustainable development targets subscribed to by PEMSEA Partner Countries.

To achieve these targets, **we agree to formulate, adopt and implement mutually supportive SDS-SEA implementation plans at both regional and national levels.**

The national implementation plans should indicate the priorities, actions, roles and responsibilities to achieve the updated Strategic Targets for 2016 to 2021. The regional implementation plan should indicate the actions, supporting products and services, sustainable financing mechanism and SOC reporting system for SDS-SEA implementation at the national and regional levels, while contributing to regional and global targets for sustainable development of oceans and coasts. The sustainable financing mechanism should include ways and means to assist country and non-country partners to accelerate and secure long-term funding for updated SDS-SEA action programmes at national and regional levels, and for the PEMSEA Resource Facility to provide products and services to country and non-country Partners, collaborators and the business community in support of the implementation of the updated SDS-SEA.

We agree to develop and utilize a scientifically sound State of Oceans and Coasts (“SOC”) Reporting System which should serve as a mechanism to monitor regional progress in the implementation of the SDS-SEA 2015, including agreed indicators and data requirements, to facilitate improved and effective planning, and policy- and decision-making. The regional SOC Report should be presented to the 6th EAS Congress 2018 and to every EAS Congress thereafter.

Our Call for Expanded Partnership

We believe that PEMSEA has a greater role in facilitating transboundary initiatives for sustainable development through joint planning. We, the PEMSEA Country Partners, stand by the time-tested principle that proactive cooperation among Partners is key to addressing the numerous challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of our oceans and coasts.

It is to our greatest advantage to stand together with our PEMSEA Non-Country Partners to fully commit to the implementation of the SDS-SEA. We call on them once more to affirm their continued commitment for the implementation of the updated SDS-SEA 2015 and the Strategic Targets for 2016 to 2021.

At the same time, we invite governments of the region at the national and local levels, international organizations, development agencies, financial institutions, businesses, coastal and ocean industries, and academic and independent scientific institutions, to join our PEMSEA Partnership in order to better face the challenges of our times.

Adopted in the Province of Danang, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, this ___ day of November 2015.

ANNEX 7

WORK PLAN AND SCHEDULE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINISTERIAL DOCUMENTS

**WORK PLAN AND SCHEDULE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF
MINISTERIAL DOCUMENTS**

TARGET ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULE
7 th EAS Partnership Council meeting reviews and comments on the 4 th draft of the updated SDS-SEA, the draft ministerial document (including post-2015 targets), and draft document for signature by PEMSEA Non-Country Partners, and agrees in principle on the documents, along with the process and schedule for seeking approval by the respective governments and Non-Country Partners	June 23, 2015
Finalize the complete package of the updated SDS-SEA and conduct reviews of all Ministerial documents taking into consideration possible inputs coming from the 7 th EAS Partnership Council	July 1 to 31, 2015
Disseminate completed documents to Country and Non-Country Partners for review, and consolidate and finalize documents based on comments/inputs from Country and Non-Country Partners for final approval	August 1 to 31, 2015
Approval of final draft documents by Country and Non-Country Partners	October 17, 2015
Lay out and printing of final documents for adoption/signature at the Fifth Ministerial Forum	October 17-31, 2015

ANNEX 8

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS FROM COUNTRY AND NON-COUNTRY PARTNERS ON COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

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COUNTRY PARTNERS

Cambodia

- One private sector specialising in waste management will be introduced to PEMSEA for possible consideration as a member of the PEMSEA Sustainable Business Network

China

- China prepared the Framework Plan for Implementation of SDS-SEA in China (2012-2016), which is now under implementation by SOA in collaboration with FAO, WWF, and Conservation International;
- China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center is coordinating with the domestic NGOs for their participation in the SDS-SEA implementation. The NGO identified by SOA is the Blue Ribbon Ocean Conservation Society based in Sanya, Hainan Province. This NGO specialises in advocacy and awareness raising, and mobilization of volunteers in beach clean-up, mangrove restoration and rehabilitation. Engagement of private sector as members of the NGO enables the Blue Ribbon to sustainably operate programs towards achievement of its missions and objectives.

Japan

- In Japan, “The basic plan on Ocean Policy” was adopted in 2008 and was revised in 2013. It states the 12 policy measures that the country needs to undertake; for example:
 - Promotion of development and use of marine resources
 - Conservation of marine environment
 - Promotion of marine industries, promotion of marine surveys and
 - Comprehensive management of coastal zone
- Japan stressed the importance of coordination between and among agencies and support from national government for ICM program.
- To promote local implementation of ICM, case studies are collected nationwide and published in 2011 and revised in 2014. The revised case studies are composed of 24 selected ICM measures with its outline, background, points for integration and success criteria.
- The local governments and national government established and are promoting the Bay Renaissance Action Plan in some bay areas in Japan. In Tokyo Bay, in order to achieve the target of “being able to play in the water comfortably”, concrete indicators such as enhancing water transparency (to be able to see until 1.5m until 2023) have been set. For 50 years, water contamination in Tokyo Bay has made swimming impossible but with the implementation of the project, the water quality has significantly improved, Improvement in the coastal environment near Tokyo has created new demands related to the sea and may contribute to blue economy.
- The Japanese Government has ratified IMO’s Ballast Water Management Convention in October 2014.

- The Japanese Government will continue to promote international cooperation within the framework of PEMSEA for the benefit of the East Asian Sea and its stakeholders.

Lao PDR

- Lao PDR's focus is on Integrated River Basin Management.
- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, coordinates the international collaboration activities and serves as the center of collaboration among the different ministries, private entities and communities.
- For international partnership, Lao PDR is one of the members of the ASEAN Water Resource Management for Mekong River. Lao PDR also has bilateral agreements with ASEAN, ADB, World Bank, China, Finland and other countries. Since the country is land lock the country is committed to Mekong River management.

Philippines

- Philippines highlighted some of the initiatives undertaken particularly related to biodiversity as well as various collaborative programs (i.e., the Sulu Sulawesi Seascape program)
- Philippines is also focused on the integrated water quality aspects of urban area e.g. the Manila Bay, where a study on nutrient loading and knowledge development is being conducted
- Resource assessment and valuation of terrestrial portion, and coastal and marine ecosystem is also being conducted.

RO Korea

- RO Korea is undertaking revision of its 2nd Integrated Coastal Management Plan which is the basic backbone of the coastal management platform. Since the 1st ICM Plan established in 2000. The 2nd Plan was based on the management framework of ecosystem-based management and climate change. The government felt that it is necessary to revise the 2nd plan by incorporating the socio-economic, ecosystem and human components through the third coastal survey.
- RO Korea will continue efforts in coastal management in support of the SDS-SEA implementation.

Singapore

- The implementation of Integrated Urban Coastal Management (IUCM) in Singapore is spearheaded by the National Parks Board (NParks) of Singapore. Some of Singapore's key IUCM initiatives focus on: anthropogenic impacts on coastal and marine habitats; rehabilitation and enhancement of habitats; monitoring and surveys; etc.
- NParks will also be serving as a convener to the upcoming EAS Congress 2015 focusing on Future Coastal Cities.

Timor Leste

- In line with its ICM implementation initiatives, Timor Leste is collaborating with a number of government agencies including the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Environment, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Social and Solidarity.

- Some of the existing activities or planned projects in the country include the ADB-CTP, CTI-CFF (CI), FAO-LME (Marine Culture), ATSEA, NORAD, WorldFish Center, NEWA, KOICA, among others.

Vietnam

- Vietnam will strengthen the implementation of its National ICM program and SDS-SEA Implementation Plan in line with the priorities of the National ICM Strategy to 2020 and Vision to 2030 (PM Decision No. 2295/QD-TTg).
- As part of ICM scaling up efforts, Vietnam has identified several new sites from the northern, central and southern cluster of Vietnam.
- As host to the EAS Congress 2015, Vietnam with support also from Danang will provide the necessary logistical arrangements for the EAS Congress and the Ministerial Forum.

NON-COUNTRY PARTNERS

ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)

- ACB's flagship program is the ASEAN Heritage Parks. While the program is mostly terrestrial there are also plans to add more marine areas within the program (3 in Thailand, 1 in the Philippines), focusing on wise use of marine areas. The program complements well with the SDS-SEA particularly in ensuring sustainable management of marine habitats in the ASEAN region, promoting wise use of marine areas, and contributing to best practices in ICM.
- Knowledge management is one of the mandates of ACB which can contribute to PEMSEA's KM initiative. ACB's KM includes infrastructure and content; knowledge products; and data sources and users. Examples of products include databases, web services, maps, e-library, videos, biodiversity information management and an ASEAN biodiversity outlook annual report.
- ACB and PEMSEA have developed a joint initiative or project focusing on Achieving the Aichi Targets through ICM. The proposed project aims to scale up the coverage and effectiveness of marine conservations areas and threatened species protection in Southeast and East Asia.
- Other potential initiatives with PEMSEA are the following: (a) Improving biodiversity conservation and climate change resilience through better informed coastal and wetland site management with EA, EAAFP, AMS; and (b) Institutional strengthening for biodiversity with GIZ and AMS.
- ACB was accepted as an associate data unit (ADU) and a Node for Southeast Asian regional OBIS (SEA OBIS) of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) in February 2014. ACB offered to share these standard formats with PEMSEA.
- In July 2014, the ACB also joined the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP). Through this, ACB will also be able to support compliance to Aichi Targets 11 and 12, and will enable ACB to strengthen its support to ASEAN member states in addressing the threats that beset the region's coastal and wetland ecosystems, particularly in intertidal habitats.
- At the 2015 Congress, ACB will be involved in various ways, including delivering a presentation on "Improving biodiversity conservation and climate change through better coastal and marine protected area management in the ASEAN region". ACB will also co-chair Session 2 of the Workshop on ICM together with the WorldFish

Centre. ACB will also facilitate invitations to possible speakers for discussions related to opportunities for achieving biodiversity targets through ICM.

International EMECS Center of Japan (EMECS)

- On behalf of EMECS, the representative of OPRI delivered some of the key initiatives of EMECS which may be linked with PEMSEA activities/initiatives
- Every two years, EMECS host an international conference. In August 22-27, 2016, the EMECS 11 will be held in St. Petersburg, Russia focusing on the theme of risk management.
- The EMECS 12 Conference has also been set to take place in Thailand on August or September 2018. The proposed theme for the said event is ICM Implementation with Local Community Management. EMECS would like to explore possibility of collaborating with PEMSEA ICM initiatives for the event.

Ocean Policy Research Institute, Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI,SPF)

- Effective April 2015, the former OPRF has transformed into the Ocean Policy Research Institute (OPRI) and merged with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF). Mr. Hiroshi Terashima is serving as the President of OPRI,SPF.
- OPRI is committed to continue its research support for the establishment of a legal framework for ICM in Japan, building on the Basic Act on Ocean Policy and the Basic Plan on Ocean Policy.
- OPRI will continue to provide assistance in ICM model sites projects including in Shima City, Obama City, Bizen City, Sukumo Bay, and Miyako City, in collaboration with universities and local governments
- One of its new initiatives is the Islands and Oceans Net (IO-Net), focusing on conservation and management of islands; management of surrounding ocean areas; response to climate change variability; and capacity building and institutional strengthening.

Oil Spill Response (OSR)

- OSR highlighted the organizations' three focus areas: better prevention; subsea intervention; and better preparedness and response.
- Over the years, the tiered preparedness and response (TPR) model has evolved in line with the evolution of equipment and services. In particular, the new model facilitates a tiered response by depicting which response capabilities are needed and in what timeframe. The tiered preparedness and response has a wide scope covering 15 major capabilities (i.e., source control; surveillance; modeling and visualization; offshore surface dispersants; offshore subsea dispersants; economic assessment and compensation; etc.)
- OSR has developed the TPR Good Practice Guide (GPG) and the TPR 'Glance Scan' Material. The TPR GPG is freely available and is being targeted for translation into all the UN languages.
- OSR also offers subsea well intervention services. This includes building of a subsea capping device, with the capability to safely flow oil to the surface. This initiative is now in phase 2 and operational; Phase 3 will develop offset installation equipment, when it cannot be safely operated directly above a well.

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

- IUCN highlighted its relevant coastal work, particularly the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) program, set up in 2006 in response to the tsunami. MFF's philosophy is to build back better and focus on natural infrastructure and resilience to protect against future natural disasters.
- MFF is inclusive of all coastal ecosystems, with coverage over most of SE Asia and South Asia.
- MFF's primary objective is to strengthen the resilience of ecosystem dependent coastal communities, with focus areas in: 1) knowledge generated and applied; 2) stakeholders empowered; and 3) coastal governance enhanced
- MFF is governed by a regional steering committee, co-chaired by IUCN and UNDP, and national coordinating bodies including national government, civil society, NGOs, private sector and its secretariat. IUCN highlighted the importance of the national coordinating bodies for the program's success.
- MFF's National Strategy and Action Plan (NSAP), which is prepared under the national coordinating bodies. These documents and other information resources could contribute to PEMSEA's KM and SOC work.
- With over USD6 million in grants disbursed across the region, the MFF Grant Facilities are its "core business", including small grants, small grants for private sector, medium grants and a regional grant facility. IUCN emphasized that small grants can be effective mechanisms for scale up and policy changes.
- MFF offers project cycle management training courses for all shortlisted grant applicants along with training in ICM in collaboration with Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok.

Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)

- In 2015, commissioned by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, KMI is conducting the 3rd coastal survey with a view of revising the 2nd Integrated Coastal Management Plan of RO Korea. The comprehensive coastal survey includes socio-economic, marine environment, landscape and ecosystem, coastal use and development to provide useful information on the state of the coasts of RO Korea.
- As a part of collaborative activities between PEMSEA and KMI, the 1st and 2nd International Workshops on Marine Spatial Planning were organized in 2014.
- KMI and PEMSEA are in the process of preparing for the 2nd training workshop on MSP during the 5th EAS Congress in Danang, Vietnam and are seeking support from PEMSEA partners to participate in the workshop.
- KMI will also serve as convener to the EAS Congress 2015 Workshop on Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Marine Spatial Planning.

Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)

- Some of KOEM's initiatives/programs include oil spill response, ecosystem survey and management, MPA management, marine litter management etc. Since joining PEMSEA in 2012, KOEM have conducted joint implementation of projects and trainings with PEMSEA in various topics including climate change, oil spill response etc.
- KOEM signified interest to collaborate with PEMSEA on various activities such as the SEA Knowledge Bank in support of the implementation of the SDS-SEA.

ANNEX 9

WORK PLAN AND SCHEDULE FOR DEVELOPING THE 5-YEAR SDS-SEA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (2016-2021)

**Work Plan and Schedule for Developing the
5-Year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan (2016-2021)**

ACTIVITY	SCHEDULE
<p>Inception Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional assessment of SDS-SEA implementation since 2003, delineating coverage, shortcomings and gaps ○ Comprehensive review and assessment of existing and planned programmes and projects of PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners, regional organizations, and other major players ○ Identify opportunities for collaborative or joint projects and knowledge management/capacity development on sustainable coastal and marine management issues ○ Expected output: Annotated outline of the regional SDS-SEA Implementation Plan for 2016-2021 	July to November 2015
<p>Preparation Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First draft of the Implementation Plan prepared for discussion, with support from consultancy team ○ Organize a regional workshop to prepare and build consensus on the different components, actions, roles and responsibilities proposed for the new SDS-SEA Implementation Plan ○ Finalization and dissemination of the first draft to Country and Non-country Partners for review and comment ○ Preparation of second draft 	January to March 2016
<p>Finalization and Approval Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The second draft of the Implementation Plan circulated to National Focal Points and Non-country Partners for review and comment ○ Consolidation of comments from NFPs and Non-Country Partners ○ Third draft submitted to the Technical Session of the 8th EAS Partnership Council in 2016, for review and endorsement to Council. ○ Changes from the Technical Session will be incorporated into the document prior to submission to the Intergovernmental Session of Council ○ Submission of final draft to the Intergovernmental Session of Council for final review/approval 	April to June 2016