

Annex 1

Provisional Structure of the EAS Congress 2024

Pre-Congress Activities

Date	Activity	Venue/Modality	Collaborator/Lead Organizer
15-19 April	EAS Youth Forum <i>The EAS Youth Forum shall invite 20 youth delegates (two from each PEMSEA Country Partner) to discuss and share good practices and identify youth actions towards marine conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and promoting innovative ocean technologies</i>	Ulsan, RO Korea	PRF and Korea National Ocean Science Museum
23-25 July	16 th EAS Partnership Council (PC) Meeting <i>The 16th EAS PC Meeting shall discuss the progress of EAS countries in achieving the targets outlined by the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 based on the indicators outlined by the M&E Plan. The PC shall also review and provide recommendations to the draft 8th Ministerial Declaration.</i>	Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines	PRF and Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines
22 October (TBC)	Senior Government Officials' Meeting (SGOM) <i>The SGOM is conducted to review and confirm the final draft of the Ministerial Declaration</i>	Online	PRF and MNR, China

EAS Congress Proper

Date and Time	Activity
(Day 0) 5 November	Arrival of participants, including Ministers and Country delegations
(Day 1) 6 November 9:00 -10:00	Opening Ceremony of the EAS Congress 2024 and Xiamen World Ocean Week
9:00-9:10	1.0 Introduction of VIPs In keeping with the EAS Congress tradition, the Opening Ceremony will commence with the introduction of the VVIPs, particularly the Ministers from the PEMSEA member countries, speakers for the Opening Ceremony and members of the PEMSEA Executive Committee.
9:10-9:15	2.0 Opening Video

	An opening video will be shown, highlighting the 30 years of progress in the EAS region, the collaboration between Xiamen or XWOW and PEMSEA, and the shared direction and vision of XWOW and EAS Congress 2024 ¹
9:15-9:35 (5 mins each max)	<p>3.0 Opening Address</p> <p>To officially open the EAS Congress and XWOW 2024, speeches from high-level officials from the host country, the PEMSEA Executive Committee, and an international speaker will deliver welcome and opening messages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● High-level official of PR China (MNR/Vice Premier/Other Minister- TBD) ● High-level International Speaker (UN Deputy Secretary General/UN SDG Ambassador-TBD) - See potential options below ● Representative Country Partner Minister (TBD)² ● Dr. Vann Monyneath Chair of the EAS Partnership Council ● Hon. Zhao Long Governor of Fujian Province
9:35-9:45	<p>4.0 Keynote Address “30 Years of Integrated Coastal Management in Xiamen”</p> <p>As PEMSEA’s inaugural model site for ICM, Xiamen will share its journey, key lessons, and opportunities on ICM implementation from the past 30 Years.</p> <p>Leader of Xiamen Municipality</p>
9:45-9:50	<p>5.0 Presentation of Xiamen Ministerial Declaration</p> <p>To introduce the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, the Chair of the EAS Ministerial Forum (TBC³) will present the key elements and commitments to be made by the Ministers of the PEMSEA member countries.</p>
9:50-10:00	<p>6.0 Signing of the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration and Group Photo</p> <p>The 11 Ministers from the PEMSEA member countries will sign the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, which will outline commitments for achieving key targets under the PEMSEA Roadmap to 2030 and SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2023-2027. These commitments will align with country, regional and international initiatives and commitments on Blue Economy, ocean science, and other relevant international sustainable development instruments.</p>
10:00 -10:30	<p>Opening of EAS Congress 2024 Exhibition</p> <p>Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Guided Tour of Ministers/Heads of Delegation</p>

¹ May still be revised based on available data and information

² Feasibility of Including a representative Minister to deliver a welcome message on behalf of other Ministers is still being discussed

³ May be the Minister of MNR or the Intergovernmental Session Chair

10:45 – 12:00	Ministerial Forum Proper (by invitation only) ⁴⁵
10:45-10:50	1.0 Opening by Moderator and Introduction of Ministers
	<p>2.0 Ministerial Dialogue</p> <p>Aligned with the EAS Congress theme, subthemes, and the MF's dedication to fulfilling the commitments outlined in the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration, the moderated Q&A session will concentrate on various aspects of synergies to bolster a sustainable and resilient EAS. The MC will offer a brief overview of previous commitments made in the Ministerial Forum 2021 and highlight key pertinent and emerging issues in the EAS region. Expanding on this, the MC will pose questions related to different aspects of synergies. These questions will be evenly distributed among the 11 Ministers to ensure equal participation and exposure.</p>
10:50-11:05 (3 mins each max)	<p>(1) Synergy on Ensuring Inclusive Multi Stakeholder Engagement and Science-Policy Interface</p> <p><i>How can we ensure inclusive decision-making and multisectoral collaboration for sustainable blue development? How can we improve the science-policy interface to ensure that information is effectively communicated and considered? Cite particular new or proven initiatives/mechanisms in your country to ensure equitable participation in the coastal and ocean governance (and water resource management) process, as well as initiatives on science-driven policies.</i></p> <p>Potential Speakers: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Timor-Leste, DPR Korea</p>
11:05-11:15 (3 mins each max)	<p>(2) Synergy on Innovations in Technologies and Approaches</p> <p><i>With the emergence of AI and other innovative technologies, what do you think are the key capacity-building needs in the region to adopt and implement these innovations in coastal and ocean management effectively? How can we ensure that innovations are culturally appropriate and address actual needs in the countries? Cite examples of key programs or initiatives that leverage innovations related to sustainable coastal and ocean management in your countries.</i></p> <p>Potential Speakers: China, Japan, Singapore</p>
11:15-11:25 (3 mins each max)	<p>Question 3: Synergy on Blue Financing and Investments</p> <p><i>What opportunities do you see and how can we mobilize diverse blue financing to support blue economy initiatives in the region? What do you think are the particular areas of coastal and ocean management/governance that require immediate or more investments? Cite examples of ongoing and/or planned investments, funds or programs in support of blue economy in your countries?</i></p> <p>Potential Speakers: Indonesia, Philippines , RO Korea, Vietnam</p>
11:25-11:55 (3 mins each max)	<p>3.0 Statements on commitments and aspirations linked with the EAS Congress theme and the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration</p> <p>All the 11 Ministers will be requested to give their respective closing statements, which will focus on their country commitments and aspirations for the EAS region in line with the Xiamen Ministerial Declaration and the overall theme of the EAS Congress.</p> <p>Speakers: All 11 Ministers</p>

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⁵ Regular participants will be given free time to explore the Congress Exhibit

11:55-12:00	4.0 Conclusion by the Moderator
12:00 – 13:30 11:30 – 13:00	Ministerial Luncheon Lunch break for participants
14:00 – 17:00 11:00 – 12:00	Ministerial Field Trip International Conference (Opening Plenary) The International Conference shall open with a plenary session led by PRF, which will set the tone for the parallel sessions that will follow.
13:00 – 17:00	International Conference Parallel Sessions Parallel sessions shall either be organized by PEMSEA projects or PEMSEA Non-Country Partners and other collaborators
18:30 – 20:30	Welcome Banquet for Ministers and all participants
7 November 8:30 -17:30	International Conference (Plenary Session 2*, and Parallel Sessions) <i>*To be discussed</i>
18:30 – 20:30	Partnership Night The partnership night shall be an avenue for EAS Congress participants to converge and network outside of the International Conference proper. The Partnership night shall also include an awarding ceremony for EAS countries who have shown notable efforts in integrating ICM in their plans and policies throughout the years and also honor the top 3 winners of the Humans of EAS.
8 November 9:00 – 10:30	International Conference Closing Plenary The closing plenary shall discuss the key results and outcomes over the 2-day conference and identify the immediate key actions in line with the 8 th Ministerial Declaration commitments.
10:30 – 12:30	PNLG and PNLC General Assemblies
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
14:00 – 18:00	Field Visit of EAS Congress Participants