



PEMSEA/WP/2016/39

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
EIGHTH EAST ASIAN SEAS
PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

**Be Grand Resort, Bohol
Philippines**

13–14 July 2016



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Eighth East Asian Seas (EAS) Partnership Council Meeting was held at the Be Grand Resort, Panglao Island, Bohol, Philippines from 13 to 14 July 2016. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines co-hosted the Meeting with assistance from the Bohol Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office. The Meeting was attended by representatives from ten PEMSEA Partner Countries, namely: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Timor-Leste and Vietnam. A representative from Thailand participated as an observer. Nine representatives from Non-Country Partners were in attendance, namely: ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB); Conservation International (CI) Philippines; IPIECA The Global Oil and Gas Industry Association for Environmental and Social Issues; Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM); Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP); Ocean Policy Research Institute Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI,SPF); Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL); United Nations Environment Programme Global Programme of Action for the Protection of Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (UNEP-GPA); and Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML). Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) participated as observers.

The Partnership Council focused on the following key issues: (a) Achieving the SDS-SEA post-2015 targets; (b) Development of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan for 2017-2021; (c) Approval of PEMSEA Informative Documents on ICM Code, ICM System Certification and ICM Professional Certification; (d) Election of new Partnership Council Chairs and Co-Chairs; (e) Establishment of an EAS Partnership Council Subcommittee on a Self-Sustaining PEMSEA and (e) Collaborative Planning, among others.

The major Council decisions covered:

- Adoption of the proposed work plan for the achievement of the SDS-SEA post-2015 targets;
- Adoption of work plan and schedule for the development of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2017-2021;
- Collaborative activities with Country and Non-Country Partners over the next two years;
- Adoption of the ICM Code and ICM System Certification and corresponding advocacy plan, as well as governance arrangements for reviewing and evaluating the ICM Code and ICM Certification System governance;
- Adoption of the Concept Paper for ICM Professionals Certification;
- Election of new Partnership Council Officers and Co-Chairs;
- Inclusion of IPIECA as new PEMSEA Non-Country Partner;
- Adoption of the PEMSEA Audit Committee Report;
- Development of working documents in support of PEMSEA's self-sustainability with financial guidance and assistance from an expert; and
- Approval of the 2016-2017 PEMSEA Work Plans and Budgets.

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INTRODUCTION

- i. The 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting was held at the Be Grand Resort, Panglao Island, Bohol, Philippines from 13 to 14 July 2016. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines co-hosted the Meeting with assistance from the Bohol Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office.
- ii. The Meeting was attended by representatives from ten PEMSEA Partner Countries, namely: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Timor-Leste and Vietnam. A representative from Thailand participated as an observer. Nine representatives from Non-Country Partners were in attendance, namely: ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB); Conservation International (CI) Philippines; IPIECA The Global Oil and Gas Industry Association for Environmental and Social Issues; Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM); Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP); Ocean Policy Research Institute Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI,SPF); Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL); United Nations Environment Programme Global Programme of Action for the Protection of Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (UNEP-GPA); and Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML).
- iii. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Manila and the UNDP Regional Hub Bangkok, were present as sponsoring 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, Prof. Chul Hwan Koh, Technical Session Chair, opened the Meeting by welcoming all the participants to the 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting. As the first meeting of the Partnership Council since the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress in November 2015 in Danang, Vietnam, Prof. Koh underscored the importance of the 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in identifying ways forward to ensure that commitments made in the Da Nang Compact will be achieved on schedule. Prof. Koh emphasized the regional post-2015 targets and the need to develop the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan as crucial items to be discussed by the meeting. Prof. Koh further encouraged the Country and Non-Country Partners to fully utilize the collaborative planning session on SDS-SEA implementation to share information

on ongoing or planned initiatives as well as areas requiring further support. Prof. Koh also expressed his appreciation and recognition to his co-Executive Committee members and outgoing Chairs of the EAS Partnership Council, Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng (Council Chair) and Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh (Intergovernmental Session Chair) for their dedication and support to PEMSEA in the past six years. He expressed confidence that the incoming or new set of Partnership Council Chairs and Co-Chairs will provide new perspectives and guidance to further move PEMSEA forward. In closing, Prof. Koh expressed his appreciation to the DENR Philippines for their warm welcome and generous support in hosting the meeting.

- ii. On behalf of the PEMSEA Resource Facility, Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross, Executive Director of PEMSEA, welcomed all the delegates to the meeting. Mr. Ross expressed his appreciation to the Government of Vietnam for the successful conduct of the EAS Congress in 2015, wherein more than 800 delegates from within and outside the EAS region participated. In particular, Mr. Ross emphasized the milestone achieved by the region in coming up with a common agenda and targets. The 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting therefore is crucial as it provides an opportunity for the group to identify actions to move the commitments forward as well as to ensure alignment with and deliver regional inputs to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under the Technical Session, Mr. Ross emphasized the focus that will be given to the four post-2015 targets and the need to identify milestones in the next five years. Mr. Ross expressed gratitude to the Government of the Philippines through the DENR for their support in hosting the meeting in the beautiful island of Bohol.
- iii. On behalf of the Government of the Philippines and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Mr. Edwin Domingo, Director, Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service of DENR, expressed warm welcome to all the participants. Mr. Domingo informed the meeting of the new leadership in the DENR headed by Secretary Regina Paz Lopez. In particular, he assured the meeting of the strong and continuing support of the new DENR leadership, and highlighted the strong advocacy of the new Secretary on stakeholder collaboration, institutional reform, community empowerment, environmental governance, and efficient interagency collaboration towards clean air, clean water and transformative climate change policies. Mr. Domingo affirmed the support of the Philippines towards the achievement of the post-2015 targets, the continuous implementation and promotion of ICM plans and activities, the scaling up of SDS-SEA implementation, as well as the development of the national and regional State of the Oceans and Coasts reports. Mr. Domingo also expressed optimism in PEMSEA's investment initiatives that will help generate positive social and environmental impact without compromising the integrity of the environment and natural resources.
- iv. The full text of Opening Ceremony speeches is attached as Annex 2.

1.2 Organizational Matters

- i. The Secretariat introduced the principal reference documents for the Meeting.

A. TECHNICAL SESSION

The Technical Session was chaired by Prof. Chul Hwan Koh, Technical Session Chair, together with Mr. Makoto Harunari, Technical Session Co-Chair.

2.0 ADOPTION OF TECHNICAL SESSION AGENDA (PC/16/DOC/01d)

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 Technical Session agenda of the 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting as presented (Annex 3).

3.0 SDS-SEA IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 ACHIEVING THE SDS-SEA POST-2015 TARGETS OF THE DANANG COMPACT: ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND PROPOSED ACTIONS (PC/16/DOC/02a)

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.

Discussion Highlights:

3.1.1 The Meeting noted that since the adoption of the Strategy and Implementation Plan for Achieving a Self-Sustaining PEMSEA by the 6th EAS Partnership Council in 2014, there has been positive progress, particularly in the following areas:

- Voluntary Contributions for PEMSEA Operations
- Branding & Communications
- Establishment of a Business Network
- Establishment of PEMSEA Services
- Establishment of an Endowment Fund
- Development of pipeline of new projects

3.1.2 Other related initiatives undertaken by the PRF also include the SEA Knowledge Bank which provides a platform for knowledge sharing and investments; initiated discussions on linkages with the World Ocean Council to strengthen the East Asian Seas Sustainable Business Network, as well as with international partners on establishment of a blue economy fund and an “Ocean Investment Facility”; and development of innovative financing mechanisms including marine bond standards.

3.1.3 Work remains to be done in order to achieve full standing as a self-sustaining international organization by 2017, including: further strengthening of ownership by Country Partners; identifying new forms of sustainable revenue; improving

promotion of the organization; and better engaging the private sector, among others.

- 3.1.4 For the 2015 financial report, it was noted that receipts exceeded expenses by 300,000USD. It was emphasized however that in order to continue implementing the SDS-SEA and generate new projects, PEMSEA must continue generating sufficient and regular funding (or revenue) to sustain PRF operations. It was also clarified that a portion of operations cannot be covered by restricted receipts designated for project activities, e.g., management of PRF, services to EAS Partnership Council, etc.
- 3.1.5 A financial model was developed by the PRF to provide financial scenarios and forecasting to support planning for financial self-sustainability.
- 3.1.6 The Secretariat emphasized the value of establishing a Subcommittee to support the achievement of Target 1. The discussion on Subcommittee however will be further examined at the Intergovernmental Session of the 8th EAS Partnership Council.

Conclusions:

The Technical Session concluded:

- 3.1.7 The importance of mainstreaming the SDS-SEA into national and local development plans as part of country ownership.
- 3.1.8 There are synergies between PEMSEA's East Asian Seas Sustainable Business Network and the World Ocean Council and it would be beneficial to share efforts, knowledge and networks.
- 3.1.9 There is a strong need for valuation of ecosystem services to demonstrate the economic impact of ICM implementation (e.g., increased income for communities, better disaster preparedness).
- 3.1.10 Apart from capturing and sharing information and knowledge in the form of manuals, case studies, policy documents and exemplar templates, the PRF may also in the future look into the potential of using the SEAKB as platform for sharing data (e.g., GIS raw data, etc.)
- 3.1.11 There is a lack of viable projects for financing in the region. More effort is needed to identify and package viable investment opportunities for available funds (e.g., Green Climate Fund).
- 3.1.12 More integrated sharing of information is needed at a regional level.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended the:

- 3.1.13 Adoption of the actions identified by the PRF for achievement of Target 1, taking into account the following:

- fixed cost management and appropriate legal structure as part of development of PEMSEA's model for self-sustainability.
- mainstreaming ICM into national development plans to help strengthen country ownership of PEMSEA.
- enhanced use of valuation of ecosystem services in demonstrating the economic impact of ICM implementation.
- improved integrated regional knowledge sharing, and future development of the Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank, including possible use of the platform for data sharing with consideration for ownership of data, and IP agreements.
- developing further linkage with the private sector, including engaging international companies and the development of marine bond standards.

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.

Discussion Highlights:

- 3.1.14 It was clarified that the National SOC reports will apply the boundaries of the country's coastal waters and within the country's exclusive economic zones (EEZ).
- 3.1.15 Apart from the outline, the complete and detailed information on indicators should be provided to countries to better facilitate preparation of national SOC reports.
- 3.1.16 Key topics to be included in the SOC Report were pointed out, such as marine protected areas (MPAs), large marine ecosystems (LMEs), ecosystem-based management, international cooperation, and investment opportunities for multinational corporations, as well as using existing reporting mechanisms and programs to collect and share information.

Conclusions:

The Technical Session concluded that:

- 3.1.17 There is information on MPA as percentage of territorial waters from the World Bank Green Data Book, e.g., 53% for Philippines, 30% for Japan, etc.
- 3.1.18 The information on ocean economy can come from each country's agencies and official data on national income accounts.
- 3.1.19 LMEs are already included in the SOC outline. Indonesia, for example, will include information on Sulu-Sulawesi Sea and Arafura-Timor Sea in their national SOC report. CI and CTI-CFF will also share information on fisheries management in Sulu-Sulawesi Sea for the regional SOC report.
- 3.1.20 The status of implementation of international agreements, and opportunities for partnerships, international cooperation, and investments for blue economy development are key topics in Part 3 of the SOC report.

- 3.1.21 New bilateral and multilateral agreements (e.g., RPOA on IUU fishing, ASEAN), and their impacts on the blue economy development should be included in the development of the SOC report.
- 3.1.22 UNEP's State of Environment Report and APEC reports on blue economy are potential sources of information for the SOC report and vice versa.
- 3.1.23 Non-Country Partners can share information, provide technical support for the development of the Regional SOC report, and work on specific topic/area of the SOC report as appropriate.
- 3.1.24 The SOC report serves as a reporting system of governments to monitor: (a) the state of coastal and marine environment, ecosystems, and ocean economy; (b) progress in achieving targets of the SDS-SEA, SDGs, and other international commitments.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

- 3.1.25 The PRF share a more detailed outline of the SOC report, and basic list of indicators, with additional indicators and topics to be provided by each country, depending on what is more relevant and useful for the country.
- 3.1.26 The PRF work collaboratively with other regional and international organizations that are involved in existing and planned reporting systems, including UNEP and APEC, especially in areas/topics that are of common interest.
- 3.1.27 The Technical Session recommended the adoption of the SOC development work plan as presented by the PRF in support of Target 2, with due consideration to the input provided by the meeting.

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.

Discussion Highlights:

- 3.1.28 The representative from OPRI-SPF supported the proposed outputs and actions calling for collaboration with Country and Non-Country Partners in 2016-2017.
- 3.1.29 To ensure full engagement of Country and Non-Country Partners, notifications of collaboration in achieving Strategic Targets should be sent to all Partners.

Conclusions:

The Technical Session concluded that:

- 3.1.30 The Country and Non-Country Partners are supportive of the proposed actions, including participation in the regional workshop, and in connecting with communities of practice in coastal and ocean policy to help achieve Target 3.

3.1.31 The OPRI-SPF expressed support to the engagement of OPINEAR and interested parties in the process. The Technical Session appreciated the willingness of OPRI-SPF to engage OPINEAR and interested parties in the assisting countries to achieve the Strategic Target 3 in collaboration with PRF.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

3.1.32 The PRF to ensure that Country and Non-Country Partners are fully informed and engaged in the proposed collaborative activities in support of the achievement of Target 3.

3.1.33 The adoption of the work plan in support of Target 3, with due consideration to the input provided by the meeting.

3.1.34 The PRF to work closely with OPRI-SPF in implementing agreed actions to achieve Target 3 as presented.

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.

Discussion Highlights:

3.1.35 The Meeting noted that as of 2016, the total percentage of the regional coastline covered by ICM programs is estimated at 17%. The estimate does not include the ICM scaling up sites being established by Malaysia and Japan in 2016.

3.1.36 Policies, legislations and strategies that are being put in place by the countries to facilitate ICM development and implementation provide significant opportunities to achieving the 25% target by 2021.

3.1.37 Proposed strategies and actions to address the challenges, gaps and limitations include the:

- conduct of collaborative planning and consultation meetings at the national and local level involving various agencies, programs and projects and stakeholders;
- establishing partnerships and collaboration with relevant entities at the national and local level;
- start up of ICM programs in priority sites at the various countries, and
- focus on countries with long coastlines, such as Japan, Indonesia, China, Philippines and Vietnam, where there is high potential for ICM scaling up.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

3.1.38 The Country and Non-Country Partners to report on their progress/contributions towards the 25% target on ICM coverage at the Technical Session of the Council, as well as in identifying any gaps and needs with regard to ICM scaling up.

3.1.39 The adoption of the action plan in support of Target 4, with due consideration to the input provided by the meeting.

3.2 THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONAL SDS-SEA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2017-2021 (PC/16/DOC/02b)

Discussion Highlights:

3.2.1 The Technical Session concurred with the proposed phases and activities as presented in developing the regional SDS-SEA implementation plan, bearing in mind the need for assistance from the proposed Subcommittee for A Self-Sustaining PEMSEA in developing sustainable financing mechanisms for implementation of the regional implementation plan.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

3.2.2 The endorsement of the actions, work schedule and timeframe for the development of the SDS-SEA regional Implementation Plan.

3.2.3 The PRF to coordinate the development of the regional Implementation Plan and to work closely with Country and Non-Country Partners and collaborating organizations, projects and programs.

3.2.4 Partners requested to collaborate with the PRF in the development, review and approval process of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan.

4.0 PEMSEA INFORMATIVE DOCUMENTS

4.1 PEMSEA CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATIVE DOCUMENTS: ICM CODE AND ICM SYSTEM CERTIFICATION (PC/16/DOC/03a)

Discussion Highlights:

4.1.1 The Meeting commented positively on the ICM Code and the ICM System Certification. In particular, it is important to mainstream the ICM Code to the national initiatives of the countries, as well as for national governments to incentivize the implementation of the ICM system based on the ICM Code and the ICM Certification System.

- 4.1.2 On the conduct of certification audits. It was clarified that PEMSEA trained and certified auditors will conduct the certification audit process. An increase in the demand for certification will warrant the training and accreditation of national auditors for the conduct of the audit.

Conclusions:

The Technical Session concluded that:

- 4.1.3 There is a need for mainstreaming the ICM Code to the national initiatives of the countries.
- 4.1.4 PEMSEA trained and certified auditors conduct the certification audit process. An increase in the demand for certification will warrant the training and accreditation of national auditors for the conduct of the audit.
- 4.1.5 There is a need for the national government to incentivize the implementation of the ICM system based on the ICM Code and the ICM Certification System.
- 4.1.6 The ICM Code is a voluntary standard, and serves as a means to validate the ICM implementation in the sites.
- 4.1.7 The process for initiating/requesting for certification should be reviewed based on the country context, including policy, legislation and institutional arrangements at national and local levels.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

- 4.1.8 The adoption of the ICM Code and the ICM System Certification as a PEMSEA certified document and process.
- 4.1.9 The adoption of the advocacy plan.
- 4.1.10 The adoption of the proposed governance arrangements for reviewing and evaluating the ICM Code and ICM Certification System governance on a regular basis.
- 4.1.11 The PRF work with Partner countries to promote and facilitate the implementation of the ICM Code and ICM System Certification across the region.

4.2 CONCEPT PAPER ON ICM PROFESSIONALS CERTIFICATION (PC/16/DOC/03b)

Discussion Highlights:

- 4.2.1 The certification system is not an academic exercise or enterprising initiative. Its main purpose is to incentivize ICM managers, provide recognition and professionalize the whole process. The current situation is: a) there is limited recognition and incentive for existing ICM managers to remain in the field;, and b)

there is a recognized need to bring new people into the ICM field and establish ICM as a career path as part of ICM scaling up initiatives across the region.

Conclusions:

The Technical Session concluded:

- 4.2.2 The primary intent of the ICM Professional Certification is to professionalize the ICM process, promote dedicated resources for moving ICM in the sites and provide a model for developing new ICM professionals.
- 4.2.3 The PRF should ensure credibility of the certification system by engaging recognized ICM experts in the certification process.
- 4.2.4 As part of the ICM Professional Certification program, the certification criteria for ICM Manager should be aligned with the ICM System Certification, and the program should serve as both recognition as well as practical tool for implementation of the ICM system.
- 4.2.5 The PRF needs to develop a business model as part of the development and roll-out of the ICM Professional Certification system.
- 4.2.6 Countries need to be engaged in the ICM Professionals Certification system, given its relevance to the implementation and scaling up of national ICM programs and the achievement of the SDS-SEA objectives.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

- 4.2.7 The adoption of the concept paper and strategic initiatives with suggested considerations from the meeting.
- 4.2.8 The PRF proceed with the development and testing of the ICM Professional Certification Program and advocacy plan.

5.0 COLLABORATIVE PLANNING

Discussion Highlights:

- 5.1 Presentations made by the Country and Non-Country Partners highlighted the various programs and projects being implemented, the objectives, location, timeframe and special needs for collaboration.

Scaling Investment in ICM (PC/16/DOC/04)

- 5.2 The Secretariat presented its initiative for Scaling Investment in ICM. Certain activities require input of investment capital to sustain and/or scale, and a range of funding sources is available. There is no shortage of investment capital, but investors have difficulty finding quality, investable projects. A primary objective of

the Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank is to facilitate investments in sustaining ecosystem services and enhance capacity of governments for developing and implementing investment projects related to ICM. The platform provides tools including investment-readiness assessments and value chain analysis services.

- 5.3 Country Partners identified more than 300 potential ICM investment needs under GEF/UNDP project. The PRF is seeking specific investment ideas from Partners and is available to discuss and support evaluating, developing and sharing these with investors. Potential investments must satisfy three main criteria: 1) fall under coastal and marine sector(s); 2) offer potential for a sustainable business model, considering factors such as product(s)/service(s) offered, costs and sources of revenue, organization and financial structure; 3) generate positive social and/or environmental impact. Investment ideas may be developed further and shared with investors through the Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank. The PRF is currently developing 2 to 3 investable projects to showcase at the XWOW 2016.

ASEAN CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY (ACB)

- 5.4 ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), represented by Ms. Claudia Binondo, recalled areas of collaboration with PEMSEA in information exchange, capacity development, policy and advocacy, program and project development and implementation and co-convening of workshops during the EAS Congress as entailed in the MOU. Specifically ACB highlighted the following as future areas of collaboration: promotion of ASEAN Heritage Parks and implementation of AH Regional Action Plan 2016-2020; cooperation on MPAs and ICM to improve biodiversity conservation and climate resilience in East Asian-Australasian Flyway through better informed wetland site management, and improving resilience of Seas of East, Southeast Asia and shared waters of the Coral Triangle.

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL (CI) PHILIPPINES

- 5.5 Conservation International Philippines, represented by Mr. Enrique Nuñez, Country Executive Director, Conservation International Foundation, requested collaboration with PEMSEA in the following areas: (1) Verde island Passage MPA and MPA Network establishment until 2019; (2) Sulu Sulawesi Seascape Project; (3) Green-Grey Infrastructure – Building Coastal Ecosystems and Community Resilience to Climate Change in northern Iloilo; (4) updating Ocean Health Index scores for Philippines as in put to the national SOC; (5) natural capital accounting scoping 2016; and (6) new MPA/seascape geographies up to 2020.

IPIECA

- 5.6 IPIECA, represented by Mr. Joselito Guevarra, reiterated its vision as an oil and gas industry that successfully improves its operations and products to meet society's expectations for environmental and social performance, which can be achieved through its current scope of activity that emphasizes the oil industry's role in addressing issues ranging from climate change to biodiversity and ecosystem services, water, etc.
- 5.7 Possible areas for collaboration were presented, which included the Global Initiative Programme, biodiversity and ecosystem services and climate change.

- 5.8 Details on the Global Initiative, a joint programme of IPIECA and IMO, were provided where governments and the oil industry work together to assist in building capacities for oil spill preparedness and response in key regions, including the ASEAN region. Emphasis was given on the Global Initiative for Southeast Asia, which complements the Gulf of Thailand Sub-regional Programme of PEMSEA.
- 5.9 IPIECA clarified that the level of support provided to countries in the event of chemical and oil spills is limited to providing capacity building and strengthening to enable countries to respond to spills and that it focuses only on major choke points such as the Malacca Straits. IPIECA also facilitates the conduct of industry forums to share good practices on oil spill preparedness and response.

KOREAN INSTITUTE OF OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (KIOST)

- 5.10 On behalf of KIOST, Dr. Jae Ryoung Oh, Principal Researcher, South Sea Research Institute of KIOST, shared an online survey being conducted by KIOST. The survey aims to collect comments from potential participants in the developing countries for “International Marine Science and Technology Educational Program” of the Republic of Korea. The responses received on the survey will serve as guide in developing future education program. The ultimate objective is to develop a comprehensive and sustainable international educational program under Korea’s Official Development Assistance (ODA), and to launch a pilot program beginning in 2018.

NORTHWEST PACIFIC ACTION PLAN (NOWPAP)

- 5.11 The representative from NOWPAP, Dr. Alexander Tkalin, Coordinator of NOWPAP, proposed a Joint PEMSEA-NOWPAP training course on integrated coastal and river basin management. The training is a “training of trainers” in four NOWPAP member states (China, Japan, RO Korea and Russia) on ICM applications. The training is targeted for 2017 with a budget of USD27,000. This joint activity will contribute and are relevant to Targets 3 and 4 of the SDS-SEA 2015.

OCEAN POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION (OPRI,SPF)

- 5.12 The representative from OPRI, SPF, Dr. Keita Furukawa, Director, Ocean Research and Development Division of OPRI, SPF provided a short backgrounder on OPRI,SPF as a private Japanese foundation. In particular, he highlighted the work of the organization on promotion and development of research and studies that aim for comprehensive ocean management and sustainable development. OPRI,SPF also supports the advocacy of the Japanese government to pursue a model of new ocean state that maintains a balance between development and utilization of marine resources and environmental protection. Cooperative efforts are also being undertaken by OPRI,SPF with other countries in Asia and Pacific to establish a sustainable ocean governance, as well as governance in new areas of maritime and space security through research studies and project proposals.
- 5.13 The OPRI,SPF is focusing on a number of research themes including, education on ICM, ocean education and capacity building, ocean policy studies, marine environment conservation and ocean security studies.

- 5.14 In line with ICM efforts, OPRI, SPF provides assistance to the Japanese government, including providing inputs to the Basic Act on Ocean Policy (2007), Basic Plan on Ocean Policy (2008), Headquarters for Ocean Policy and revised Basic Plan on Ocean Policy (2013). OPRI,SPF is also actively supporting the promotion of local ICM program in model sites including Bizen City, Obama City, Miyako City, Shima City, Sukumo Bay, Omura Bay and Taketomi Town.
- 5.15 A key initiative by OPRI,SPF contributing to ICM implementation are the following: development of a model curriculum structure for undergraduate and graduate schools; development of elementary book for ICM for synthesis of human and sea; promotion of ocean education; and pioneering of school program simple aids fund for primary junior high and high schools.

PLYMOUTH MARINE LABORATORY (PML)

- 5.16 On behalf of PML, Prof. Icarus Allen, Director of Science of PML, informed the Meeting of the Global Challenge Fund that was created to support cutting-edge research that addresses challenges faced by developing countries. The UK government proofed the science research budget for the period 2016-2020 by transferring funds from the international development. In particular, a total of £1.5 billion was allocated to support developing countries through:
- challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research;
 - strengthening capacity for research and innovation within both the UK and developing countries; and
 - providing an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need.
- 5.17 In line with this, PML has to redirect £2M of its national capability research activity towards support cutting-edge research that addresses the challenges faced by developing countries from autumn 2016 to winter 2021. This therefore provides investment opportunities with PEMSEA Partners under the Global Challenge Fund and the Newton Fund. By the end of the project, PML must be able to demonstrate tangible benefits in partner countries while delivering internationally competitive research.
- 5.18 The PEMSEA countries involved in the Newton Fund are: China: UK-China Research and Innovation Partnership Fund; Malaysia: Newton-Ungku Omar Fund; Thailand, Vietnam; Indonesia; Philippines: Newton Angham Programme.
- 5.19 The key target is to develop a tool kit for coastal resilience which underpins an integrated coastal zone approach in the areas of: food security, ecotourism and sustainable tourism, pollution reduction and waste management, habitat protection, restoration and management, marine energy, bioremediation, and education. The tool kit will include: expert knowledge and technical expertise in relocatable models (hydrodynamics, ecosystem, fisheries, aquaculture), satellite earth observation and experiments in marine biodiversity, ecology and biogeochemistry, socioeconomic valuation, web-based GIS and decision support tools.

UNEP GPA

- 5.20 Dr. Habib El-Habr, Coordinator of the GPA, gave a brief history of the GPA as a soft agreement adopted in 1995 by 108 governments who commitment to protect and preserve the marine environment from the impacts of land-based activities, through the Washington Declaration.
- 5.21 UNEP, as the host of the Coordinating Unit of the GPA, and its partners are facilitating and assisting Governments in the development of regional and national plans of actions and strategies to implement the GPA.
- 5.22 He indicated that Intergovernmental Reviews are organized every 5 years to review the progress made by countries in the implementation of the GPA through their respective National Action Plans. It was highlighted that the Manila Declaration, which was adopted by the 3rd Intergovernmental Review (IGR3) recommended that the GPA programme focuses its efforts on three priority source categories, i.e., nutrient management, marine litter and wastewater.
- 5.23 Furthermore, the Manila Declaration reaffirmed the countries support to the regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, which can be linked to the regional SOC development.
- 5.24 The meeting was informed that Indonesia will host the 4th Inter-governmental Review on the Implementation of the GPA.

CAMBODIA

- 5.25 Cambodia, represented by Mr. Long Rithirak, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Environment, expressed appreciation to PRF, IUCN, IOC/WESTPAC and other agencies for their assessment through field visit during the redtide outbreak in Kep Province. In terms for further collaboration, Cambodia indicated the ongoing program with IUCN on marine animal feeding ground particularly for dugongs. KMI in particular will provide assistance through research in the dugong area. Other programs/projects include the ADB program on sewage treatment plant in Sihanoukville, Siem Reap and other cities in Cambodia. The project in particular will help strengthen laboratories. Cambodia requested for further support to complete the environmental sensitivity atlas for the Gulf of Thailand for the Cambodia side as the current Atlas only covered the Sihanoukville area.

CHINA

- 5.26 As agreed with PRF through signing of an agreement, China, represented by Mr. Liang Fengkui, Deputy Director General Department of International Cooperation of SOA, introduced the process, criteria and universities that offer the Master and Doctor degrees to interested candidates nominated by PEMSEA from 2017-2021. The process and criteria for access to China-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation Fund was also presented. At last China introduced a specific opportunity for collaboration with Country and Non-Country Partners through PEMSEA and China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center (CPC). The project seeks to protect Irrawaddy Dolphin and Humpback Dolphin from killings in entanglements and collision with vessels, and improve the conservation status of the species by strengthening connectivity between marine protected areas for the species in East Asian region.

INDONESIA

5.27 Mr. Heru Waluyo, Director, Marine and Coastal Pollution and Degradation Control, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, emphasized that in support of ICM implementation, it is necessary to have a funding scheme which will enable allocation of funding from the national government to the local government. In most cases, funding is utilized in the area of water quality monitoring, domestic waste, and sanctuary establishment among others.

JAPAN

5.28 Japan, represented by Mr. Kiyoto Inoue, Director for International Ocean Affairs, Policy Division, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, presented the ICM-related initiatives in the country, putting emphasis on the support mechanism that the government has established to facilitate ICM implementation and scaling up.

5.29 The enactment of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy and the development of the 5-year Basic Plan on Ocean Policy are considered as major breakthrough in ICM implementation in the country. The Basic Plan underscores the implementation of a grant system that will support ICM implementation by local governments.

5.30 Efforts in scaling up the experiences from the ICM model sites (i.e., Bizen City, Miyako City, Obama City, Shima City and Sukumo City and Otsuki Town) to cover additional sites (Taketomi Town and Omura Bay) were highlighted. The renaissance projects focusing on four major bays (i.e., Ise, Tokyo, Hiroshima and Osaka Bays) were also presented.

5.31 The meeting noted that Shima City, considered the most advanced among the ICM sites in Japan hosted the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in May 2016.

LAO PDR

5.32 The representative of Lao PDR, Mr. Rattykone Sayasane, Center for Water Resources Data and Information, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, highlighted four key focus areas for Lao PDR. Priorities are given and assistance are needed on the following:

- Updating of Water Resources Law;
- Development of guidelines for water fee;
- Development of Learning/training Center on Integrated Water Resource Management;
- Scaling up of projects to support provincial level implementation; and
- Capacity building

PHILIPPINES

5.33 The Philippines, represented by Ms. Marlynn Mendoza, OIC-Division Chief, Coastal and Marine Division, Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, provided detailed information on the major coastal and marine programs and projects that are being implemented by DENR in collaboration with various partners. These include the:

- National ICM Program;
- Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security;

- Coastal and Marine Environment Rehabilitation Program;
- Strengthening Marine Protected Areas to Conserve Marine Key Biodiversity Areas in the Philippines Project;
- Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program;
- The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) on the valuation of coastal ecosystems in Manila Bay;
- Benham Rise Initiatives;
- Green Fins Initiative, and
- Autonomous Reef Monitoring Structure Project.

5.34 Areas identified where collaboration and support from partners is required included the following:

- Need for an advocacy group to lobby for the refiling and approval of the ICM Bill to support ICM scaling up;
- Technical support to coastal provinces in the development of ICM plans and coastal use zoning plans;
- Valuation of resources and ecosystem services to support policy formulation and reform, and
- Reviving the Manila Bay Coordinating Committee and monitoring the implementation of the Operational Plan for the Manila Bay Coastal Strategy.

RO KOREA

5.35 The representative of RO Korea, Ms. Park Hyewon, Deputy Director, Marine Environment Policy Division of Marine Policy Office, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, shared the efforts undertaken by the Republic of Korea in line with the implementation of the Coastal Management Act in 1999. Under this Act, RO Korea put in place an Integrated Coastal Management Plan at the national and local levels with the aim to maintain supply-demand balance between coastal development and environmental protection.

5.36 In accordance with RO Korea's coastal management policies, basic coastal survey, coastal enhance projects, designation and management of erosion-prone coastal areas are carried out in collaboration between central and local government.

5.37 Currently, researches are also being undertaken in support of the planned development of an ecosystem-based marine spatial planning and adoption of valuation of ecosystem service concepts into the marine spatial management framework.

5.38 RO Korea reaffirmed its continuing cooperation with PEMSEA through its ICM implementation and ecosystem-based approach.

SINGAPORE

5.39 The representative from Singapore, Dr. Nguyen Thi Hong Nhung, Manager, National Biodiversity Centre Division, National Parks Board, highlighted three major focus areas in the implementation of Integrated Urban Coastal Management (IUCM): (a) rehabilitation and restoration of coastal habitats; (b) anthropogenic impacts on coastal and marine environments; and (c) monitoring and surveying.

- 5.40 Under the rehabilitation and restoration of coastal habitats,
- Coastal habitat enhancement project (for seawalls, for intertidal beach, for shallow water reefs)
 - Seawall enhancement project
 - Reef rehabilitation through sustainable conservation of the giant clam (family Tridacnidae)
 - Establishment and operation of Marine Park (includes Dive Trails, introductory guided walks at Sister's Islands Marine Park, and public gallery at Marine Park Outreach and Education Center)
- 5.41 Under anthropogenic impacts on coastal and marine environments, the following initiatives were highlighted:
- Singapore coastal and marine sensitivity map/GIS platform
 - Oil Spill Risk Mapping of Sensitive Habitats
 - Marine Debris in Singapore: Establishing a National Baseline, Citizen Science Monitoring and Data Sharing.
 - Impacts of Ship Wake on Mangroves, Coral Reefs and Sea Grass in Singapore
- 5.42 Under the monitoring and surveying, the following initiatives were highlighted:
- Intertidal monitoring programme involving volunteers and interest groups
 - Marine water quality workgroup to implement and measure the proposed standards for marine water quality.
 - Feasibility of using eDNA (environmental DNA) for baseline biodiversity monitoring for Singapore's coastal waters.

TIMOR LESTE

- 5.43 The representative from Timor Leste, Mr. Horacio Amaral dos Santos Guterres, National Director of Aquaculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, highlighted the need for integrated regional programmes. In particular, in Timor Leste only one department handles the CTI-CFF, ATSEA, and PEMSEA projects. Given the limited manpower and capacity, it is important to establish linkages and streamline related activities from among the three projects. In terms of funding, Timor Leste informed the meeting of their annual contribution to the three regional projects amounting to: CTI-CFF 150,000USD; ATSEA 100,000USD, and PEMSEA 100,000USD.

THAILAND

- 5.44 The representative from Thailand, Mr. Somchai Monanunsap, Director of Marine and Coastal Resources Protected Areas Management Division, Office of the Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, highlighted some activities in Chonburi as ICM demonstration site in Thailand. In particular, he emphasized the efforts to help in scaling up ICM as well as the continuing initiative on oil spill preparedness and response in Chonburi. Mr. Somchai confirmed the cooperation with Cambodia in the border pertaining to dolphin feeding ground and spawning ground for mangrove. Mr. Somchai also informed the Meeting of the ongoing China-ASEAN Cooperation Fund which aims to promote Blue Economy in the area where the dolphin feeding grounds are being undertaken.

VIETNAM

- 5.45 Vietnam represented by Dr. Vu Thanh Ca, Director, Department of International Cooperation and Science-Technology, Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands, highlighted that the past decade was characterized by major milestones such as the passing of the Law of the Sea of Vietn Nam; Law on Natural Resources and Environment of Sea and Islands; the approval of the long term ICM strategy and development of a medium-term NAP and the establishment of VASI and its counterpart agencies at the provincial level.
- 5.46 While awareness and knowledge on ICM has increased, more effort is needed to widely disseminate the concept and processes as well as benefits to stakeholders. Support from partners in the conduct of training to facilitate common understanding of ICM was reiterated.
- 5.47 Vietnam further indicated that a review of gaps and options for strengthening policies and legislations on integrated marine and coastal management is needed as well as the preparation of guidelines on how to implement the provisions of existing policies and legislations on integrated marine and coastal management.
- 5.48 Harmonization of sectoral policies to reduce overlap and duplication were also seen as necessary.

Recommendations:

The Technical Session recommended:

- 5.49 The PRF to share the powerpoint presentations from the Country and Non-Country Partners; and
- 5.50 The PRF to follow up individually with the Country and Non-Country Partners.

6.0 OTHER BUSINESS

PEMSEA Marketing

Discussion Highlights:

- 6.1 Past Executive Committee and Partnership Council Meetings emphasized the need to raise PEMEA's profile through strengthened communications as an essential part of implementing the SDS-SEA. Ms. Patricia Malay introduced herself as the newly recruited Marketing Communications Specialist for the PRF, and highlighted the importance of solidifying a strategic, actionable and measurable communications plan to guide marketing efforts for the organization.
- 6.2 Significant steps have been taken to bolster PEMSEA's communications, including launch of a new PEMSEA brand and logo, new marketing materials, relaunch of PEMSEA.org and improved social media presence and promotion of PEMSEA through speaking engagements. A marketing communications strategy is being developed to 1) organize and streamline communications processes; 2) target messages to different stakeholder audiences; 3) effectively utilize various

communications channels; and 4) monitor progress and impact of communications. Desired outcomes of improved communications are: 1) for PEMSEA to be seen and recognized by a wider audience within the countries and outside the region; 2) for PEMSEA to be viewed as a regional / global hub for coastal and ocean governance and blue economy development; 3) the development of new projects supporting the SDS-SEA; and 4) generating funds for self-sustainability and attracting and engaging new partners, including the private sector, for scaling investment in ICM.

B. COUNCIL SESSION

The Council Session was chaired by Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng, Council Chair, together with Dr. Antonio La Viña, Council Co-Chair

7.0 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL SESSION AGENDA (PC/16/DOC/01d)

Discussion Highlight:

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

Recommendation:

7.2 The Council Session recommended the adoption of the Council Session agenda of the 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting as presented (Annex 3).

8.0 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE 7TH EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL, AND THE 17TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AND STATUS OF ACTIONS TAKEN (PC/16/DOC/05)

8.1 The Council Session noted the recommendations and decisions of the 7th EAS PC Meeting and the 17th Executive Committee Meeting 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.

9.0 REPORT OF THE COUNCIL CHAIR (PC/16/DOC/06)

Discussion Highlights:

9.1 Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng presented the Council Chair's report.

9.2 Taking into consideration the completion of Mr. Adrian Ross's term as PEMSEA Executive Director by end of December 2017, the PEMSEA Country Partners were urged to provide necessary support by helping identify qualified individuals for the post. To ensure smooth transition, the Meeting was informed that the selected applicant will be issued a contract in early 2017 to enable better turnover between the outgoing and incoming Executive Director. As a PEMSEA employee, the ED's salary will also come from the PEMSEA fund.

9.3 The Meeting noted the Small Grants Programme initiated by PEMSEA for the youth which will help better engage the youth in ICM related initiatives for a longer term. The Meeting was further informed that the new initiative was a result of the project proposals submitted by youth delegates during the fourth EAS Youth Forum in Da Nang in November 2015. Among the proposals received, a proposal from Indonesia was accepted and is now being piloted with technical support from the Bogor Agricultural University.

Decisions:

The Council Session decided that:

- 9.2 The Council Chair Report be adopted as presented.
- 9.3 The PRF coordinate with MOEF, Indonesia, regarding the project under the Small Grants Programme for Youth that has been initiated in Bogor, Indonesia.
- 9.4 The PRF upload the information on the Small Grants Programme for Youth in the PEMSEA website and circulate the information to all Country Partners and explore possible youth projects per country.
- 9.5 Country Partners assist in identifying and nominating qualified applicants for the Executive Director position.

10.0 REPORT OF THE PRF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PC/16/DOC/07)**Discussion Highlights:**

- 10.1 The PRF Executive Director presented the major accomplishments of PEMSEA in line with the implementation of the SDS-SEA Regional Implementation Plan 2012-2016.
- 10.2 The Council Chair pointed out that PEMSEA's work is overarching, bringing together different sectors and stakeholders.
- 10.3 Cambodia expressed appreciation to PEMSEA for the immediate mobilization of expertise from the Non-Country Partners to conduct a rapid assessment of the algal bloom in Kep Province. The results were disseminated by the Ministry of Environment to the public.
- 10.4 UNEP GPA suggested for PEMSEA to look into the possibility and value of including the Non-Country Partners in the Intergovernmental Session of the Partnership Council, citing the UNEP Intergovernmental Review (IGR) meetings as an example.

Decisions:

The Council Session decided that:

- 10.5 The Country and Non-Country Partners be invited to provide inputs to the PEMSEA's 2015-2016 accomplishment report highlighting major initiatives/activities contributing to the SDS-SEA implementation.
- 10.6 The PRF look into the inclusion of Non-Country Partners in Intergovernmental meetings as part of three-year review of PEMSEA's Rules of Governance, exploring other models in the region and elsewhere.

11.0 ELECTION OF PEMSEA OFFICERS AND OATH TAKING (PC/16/DOC/08)

Discussion Highlights:

- 11.1 The procedures employed in nominating and building a consensus on the respective Co-Chairs of the EAS Partnership Council were in accordance with the PEMSEA Rules of Governance on Election by Consensus of EAS Partnership Council Officers, with all Partners invited to take part in the process.
- 11.2 The incumbent Co-Chairs were automatically made the lone nominees to the respective Chair positions for which they are Co-Chairs:
- Dr. Antonio La Vina as Council Chair
 - Dr. Zhang Haiwen as Intergovernmental Session Chair
 - Mr. Makoto Harunari as Technical Session Chair
- 11.3 Based on a 'no objection' or consensus basis, the following have been elected by consensus:
- Mr. Arief Yuwono as Council Co-Chair
 - Dr. Vu Thanh Ca as Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair
 - Dr. Jae Ryoung Oh as Technical Session Co-Chair
- 11.4 The Council Session expressed its utmost appreciation and recognized the outgoing Chairs (Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng, Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, and Prof. Chul Hwan Koh) for their guidance and significant contributions to PEMSEA during their term.

Election:

- 11.5 The Council Session formally elected the current Co-Chairs, Dr. Antonio La Viña, Dr. Zhang Haiwen, and Mr. Makoto Harunari, as new Chairs.
- 11.6 The Council Session formally elected Mr. Arief Yuwono as Council Co-Chair, Mr. Vu Thanh Ca as Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair, and Dr. Jae Ryoung Oh as Technical Session Co-Chair.
- 11.7 The new Chairs and Co-Chairs were sworn to office by Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng, Council Chair and Prof. Chul Hwan Koh, Technical Session Chair. The three-year term of office of the incoming Chairs and Co-Chairs will commence on 1 August 2016.

12.0 INCLUSION OF NEW PEMSEA NON-COUNTRY PARTNER AND SIGNING OF LETTER OF COOPERATION (PC/16/DOC/09)

Discussion Highlights:

- 12.1 The Secretariat presented the recommendation from the 17th Executive Committee regarding the inclusion of IPIECA as new PEMSEA Non-Country Partner. In particular, it was highlighted that IPIECA has fulfilled all the

requirements of the Partnership Operating Arrangements regarding application as a new Non-Country Partner. The partnership is seen as mutually beneficial to PEMSEA and IPIECA given the various collaborative activities undertaken by both parties in the past. As the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues, IPIECA can provide significant expertise and value particularly to PEMSEA Country Partners.

Decision:

- 12.2 The Council Session formally accepted the inclusion of IPIECA as PEMSEA's new Non-Country Partner.

Signing of Letter of Cooperation:

- 12.3 The representative of IPIECA, Mr. Joselito Guevarra, Project Manager of IPIECA-IMO GISEA, and the PEMSEA Executive Director, Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross, signed the Letter of Cooperation between the two parties to formalize the partnership.
- 12.4 On behalf of Mr. Brian Sullivan, Executive Director of IPIECA, Mr. Guevarra expressed IPIECA's appreciation to the members of PEMSEA's Executive Committee and the Partnership Council for welcoming IPIECA as a new PEMSEA Non-Country Partner. Mr. Guevarra underscored the value given by IPIECA on the power of partnerships and the constant drive towards creating synergies with various organizations sharing the same values and commitments on sustainable development. He emphasized that while the industry is facing a challenging time, IPIECA has never wavered in its commitment. Mr. Guevarra affirmed their commitment to contribute to PEMSEA's success.

13.0 OTHER BUSINESS

Agreement with SOA, China

- 13.1 In line with China's commitment to the implementation of the SDS-SEA, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) of China jointly initiated a program of Marine Scholarship with the Ministry of Education of China for the purpose of providing financial support to outstanding students from the coastal countries or regions to study in China for a master's or doctoral degree in oceanography or other related specializations.
- 13.2 Through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), SOA and the PEMSEA agreed to collaborate and facilitate access to education opportunities by relevant PEMSEA Country Partners. In particular, under the MOA, three candidates will be mobilized each year from the PEMSEA Countries from 2017 to 2021, with in-kind contribution amounting to a total of 240,000USD.
- 13.3 The Council Session noted with appreciation the Agreement between the State Oceanic Administration (SOA), China and PEMSEA on facilitating access to education opportunities under China's Marine Scholarship.

Agreement with MOF, RO Korea

- 13.4 As part of RO Korea's contribution to PEMSEA, the Government of the Republic of Korea through the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) will second an officer to the PEMSEA Resource Facility to serve as Deputy Head of the Planning and Partnership Development Office.
- 13.5 The secondment was formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between MOF and PEMSEA. Under the MOU, MOF will cover all costs pertaining to the appointment and assignment of the secondee.
- 13.6 The Council Session noted with appreciation the secondment of an officer from RO Korea to the PRF.

Hosting of the East Asian Seas Congress 2018

- 13.7 The representative from Cambodia, Mr. Long Rithirak, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Environment (MOE), delivered a message on behalf of the MOE Minister regarding the hosting of the EAS Congress 2018. In particular, the Government of Cambodia expressed its sincere apologies to the Council as they will have to withdraw from their initial commitment to host the EAS Congress 2018 in view of the national elections that will be held in Cambodia on the same year. Cambodia, however, committed to hosting the EAS Congress in another term. Cambodia requested for the Council's understanding and expressed optimism that a new host can be identified in the soonest time possible.
- 13.8 The Council Session expressed its regret that the Government of Cambodia will not be able to host the EAS Congress 2018. The Meeting thanked the representative from Cambodia for advising the Council of the situation.
- 13.9 The Council requested the Secretariat to consult with those countries that have not yet hosted the EAS Congress in order to identify a new host for the EAS Congress 2018 as soon as possible and report back to Council.

C. INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION

On behalf of Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh and Dr. Zhang Haiwen, Intergovernmental Session Chairs and Co-Co-Chairs, who were unable to attend due to pressing matters in their respective agencies, the Intergovernmental Session was chaired by Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng, together with Dr. Antonio La Viña.

14.0 ADOPTION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION AGENDA (PC/16/DOC/01d)

Discussion Highlight:

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

Decision:

14.2 The Intergovernmental Session adopted the Intergovernmental Session agenda of the 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting as presented (Annex 3).

15.0 AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT (PC/16/DOC/10)

Discussion Highlights:

15.1 The Meeting was informed of the review undertaken by the PEMSEA Audit Committee on the external audit reports and internal audit reports for year ended December 2014 and 2015. The report stated that both audits presented a clean opinion of the PEMSEA Financial statements and that no issues were identified that will materially affect the financial statements.

15.2 The Meeting noted that the three-year term of office of the incumbent set of Audit Committee members ends this year. In particular, the Chair position which is currently held by Usec. Analiza Rebuelta Teh, in accordance with the requirement to have one member of the PEMSEA Executive Committee as member of the Audit Committee, will be vacant starting August 1, 2016 coinciding with the end of Usec. Teh's term as Intergovernmental Session Chair. As for the other two members, it was noted that further extension may be provided given their advantage of having a good grasp of PEMSEA's financial rules and regulations as well as good understanding/knowledge of Philippine audit procedures or requirements.

15.3 The Meeting was also informed of the findings pertaining to the PEMSEA Staff Pension Fund which was initially invested to AXA under the name of PEMSEA. In view of the disadvantages of having the pension fund under PEMSEA's name, the Meeting noted the recommendation of the Audit Committee for the PRF to explore other options to manage the pension fund separate from the PEMSEA accounts, in order for PEMSEA to avoid liabilities over the fund.

Decisions:

The Intergovernmental Session decided that:

- 15.4 The Audit Committee report be adopted as presented and posted in the PEMSEA website;
- 15.5 Dr. Antonio La Viña be designated as new Chair of the PEMSEA Audit Committee; and
- 15.6 The two other members of the Audit Committee be invited to extend their terms for another three years.

16.0 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TECHNICAL SESSION OF THE 8TH EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL**Decision:**

- 16.1 The Intergovernmental Session decided to adopt the Technical Session's conclusions and recommendations taking into consideration further amendments from the Intergovernmental Session.

17.0 NEW BUSINESS: ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON A SELF-SUSTAINING PEMSEA (PC/16/DOC/12)**Discussion Highlights:**

- 17.1 Mr. Liang Fengkui, Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation of SOA, China, who chaired the Meeting on the Establishment of a Subcommittee for a Self-Sustaining PEMSEA held on July 11, 2016, delivered the key issues, conclusions and recommendations from the meeting. In particular, the following points were highlighted in the report:
 - Affirmation of the value of PRF in providing value-added secretariat and implementation services to the region and the need for PRF to continue to evolve as an implementing mechanism for the SDS-SEA implementation in the Seas of East Asia region.
 - Strengthening of the financial model, including comparison of budget vs. actual spend, development of worst and best case scenarios, assurance of consistency with MOA reporting of expenditure and supporting details for financial projections.
 - Concern about the capacity of National Focal Points to effectively contribute to a Subcommittee and the added value of Non-Country Partners to a Subcommittee, and request to explore alternatives to a Subcommittee.
 - The need for Country Partners to agree on voluntary vs. mandatory contributions by countries.

- 17.2 Further discussions highlighted two key issues:
- Reliability of the financial model in evaluating when or if PEMSEA is financially self-sustaining; and
 - Concerns on the formation of a Subcommittee and the expertise of its members
- 17.3 In relation to the concern on the financial model and projections, the Secretariat clarified that audited financial statements are only available starting in 2015, but the PRF can provide budget comparison on an annual basis moving forward.
- 17.4 Other points raised were addressed through the amendments to the draft Terms of Reference for the Subcommittee (Annex 4), including:
- On membership and expertise on financing- the members could be someone other than the focal point, e.g., someone from finance department. The TOR also noted that members from Non-Country Partners may be invited as some may be able to provide added value, particularly the Non-Country Partners who have gone through the process of becoming self-sustaining and can provide insights (OSRL, PML). It was further emphasized that the membership will be by invitation and it is up to the country to identify the most appropriate representative. It was highlighted that the value of the Subcommittee is to fully engage countries in the process and enable countries to share new insights or information that may contribute to PEMSEA's self-sustainability.
 - On operational cost of the Subcommittee- the operational cost will be covered by the PEMSEA Trust Fund.
- 17.5 The Meeting concurred on the need to have stronger ownership from the countries, and in order to have a self-sustaining PEMSEA there should be clear agreement among countries of the expectations and elements needed for a self-sustaining PEMSEA.

Decisions:

The Intergovernmental Session decided:

- 17.6 The Secretariat follow up with a letter to Country Partners providing a reminder of the adopted Strategy and Implementation Plan for Achieving a Self-Sustaining PEMSEA and the potential implications of alternatives to formation of a subcommittee and scenarios for PEMSEA's continued evolution, seeking feedback.
- 17.7 The PRF engage expert financial advice and assistance, as required, to prepare working document(s) covering: a) voluntary and mandatory contributions; b) development of projects and investments, c) provision of PEMSEA Services, d) setting up regional mechanisms to finance SDS-SEA implementation. Working documents will be distributed to Country Partners and other stakeholders for the feedback and input. As necessary, follow up meetings will be organized by the

PRF to resolve any outstanding issues with countries before presenting the final documents to Council in 2017.

18.0 WORK PLAN AND BUDGET 2016-2017 (PC/16/DOC/13)

Discussion Highlights:

- 18.1 The Secretariat introduced the PEMSEA Work Plan and Budget for 2016-2017.
- 18.2 The RO Korea representative commented on the figures specified as ROK's contribution to the 2016-2017 restricted fund by RO Korea and requested the PRF to double check the figures on ROK contribution.
- 18.3 The Chair expressed concerns about PEMSEA's self-sustainability. Based on the 2017 figure: the CSA is at 344,000USD, while PEMSEA's operational costs are estimated to be over 700,000USD. In order to bridge the gap, the PRF will need to develop new projects and provide revenue-generating services. Country Partners should realize and appreciate this important aspect of the PRF operation. Also, Country Partners need to consider the balance between the self-sustainability of PEMSEA and the deliverables of the PRF to the countries in line with the implementation of the SDS-SEA.

Decision:

- 18.2 The Intergovernmental Session decided to adopt the Work Plan and Budget for 2016-2017 as presented, taking into consideration the request from RO Korea to double check the figures on ROK contribution.

19.0 OTHER BUSINESS

- 19.1 There were no other business/issues raised during the Intergovernmental Session.

20.0 CLOSING OF THE MEETING

- 20.1 Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng expressed her appreciation to the members of the Executive Committee, the EAS Partnership Council and the PRF for their support during her term as Council Chair. Amb. Seet-Cheng expressed confidence with the new set of Partnership Council Officers and to PEMSEA's further growth and success. In closing, Amb. Seet-Cheng expressed appreciation to all the delegates, as well as to DENR Philippines and the PRF for the successful organization and conduct of the meeting.
- 20.2 The Chair declared the Meeting closed at 4:10 pm, 14 July 2016.

ANNEX 1
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 2
OPENING CEREMONY SPEECHES

OPENING REMARKS
Prof. Chul Hwan Koh
Technical Session Chair

Fellow Council Chairs and Co-Chairs
PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners,
Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross and members of the PRF and local Secretariat

Good morning!

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I am pleased to open the 8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in the beautiful province of Bohol where biodiversity conservation is an utmost priority. I am excited already to see the world's smallest primate, Tarsier, and the famous chocolate hills on Friday. But before we get to see the beauty of the Bohol, it is crucial that we complete our task as members of the Council.

The 8th Council is the first meeting since the successful conclusion of the East Asian Seas Congress 2015, where the SDS-SEA 2015 and the regional post-2015 targets were adopted by PEMSEA Country Partners thru the Danang Compact. This meeting will focus on these post-2015 targets and agree on actions to be taken to ensure that we achieve our common targets on schedule. We will also delve into the preparation of the implementation plan for the SDS-SEA in the next five years. The Technical Session, as you know, also serves as the collaborative planning venue for our Country and Non-Country Partners. I hope that all Partners will take advantage of the collaborative planning session to share information on ongoing and planned initiatives and identify areas for possible collaboration in support of the implementation of the SDS-SEA.

This Council meeting is also crucial as we will witness the entry of new set of leaders or Chairs and Co-Chairs of the PEMSEA Executive Committee. We welcome this change and we welcome our incoming officers who will surely bring in new perspectives and guidance to PEMSEA. I personally would like to express my appreciation to all PEMSEA Partners and to PRF for their support during our term of office. As part of the PEMSEA family, rest assure that we will continue to be supportive of PEMSEA's initiatives in the region. I would also like to express my appreciation to Amb. Seet Cheng who will be joining us tomorrow and to Usec. Analiza Teh for their great contribution and devotion to PEMSEA for 6 years as members of the EC.

Our agenda is quite full. As Partners, I urge all of you to actively participate in the discussions. When all is done, we shall enjoy the wonderful nature of Bohol.

Before I end, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Government of the Philippines through the DENR for their warm welcome and for graciously hosting the meeting.

Thank you and good morning.

WELCOME REMARKS ON BEHALF OF THE HOST COUNTRY, THE PHILIPPINES
Director Edwin G. Domingo
Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Office
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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

Members of the Executive Committee of PEMSEA

Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross
PRF Executive Director

Representatives of Country and Non-Country Partners

Fellow workers in government, observers and guests;

Good morning and welcome to the eighth (8th) East Asian Seas Partnership Council Meeting!

It is a great privilege for the Philippines to once again host the EAS Partnership Council Meeting. The last Partnership Council Meeting in June 2015 was in Luzon Island, particularly in Puerto Princesa, Province of Palawan, where you visited the Underground River, one of the new 7 World Wonders of Nature. You see the Philippines is composed of three (3) major islands, Luzon (the largest of the three major islands located in the North), Visayas (in the middle) and Mindanao (the second largest island located in the Southernmost of the country). We are now here in Panglao, Province of Bohol, which is in the Visayas. Maybe we can host another Partnership Council Meeting and hold it in Mindanao, so more or less, you have “toured” the entire country.

Anyway, I would also wish to inform the Body that as you all know, the Philippines has a new elected President, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (or DENR) has a new appointed Department Secretary by the name of Ms. Regina Paz Lopez. A staunch environmentalist, Secretary Lopez recognizes and appreciates the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to achieve the change we need, espousing institutional reform and environmental governance; community empowerment; rational minerals management; stronger biodiversity protection; proper ecological solid waste management; and efficient interagency collaboration towards clean air, clean water and transformative climate change policies. Hence, support for the implementation of initiatives under the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) for the Philippines’ marine and coastal programs would not be a hard sell to the new DENR management, but is expected to earn more support instead.

And as PEMSEA have its own set of new officers, may I extend my congratulations and full commitment that the advocacies, particularly the post-2015 target programs of PEMSEA shall be continually promoted and implemented in our country’s ICM plans and activities.

In prayer:

We look forward to the success of the Scaling up of the SDS-SEA Implementation Project in additional new sites across the country;

We look forward to the ongoing effortss, led by PEMSEA, on the development of the Philippine State of the Coast Reporting focusing on the Blue Economy, and of the Report on the State the Coasts and Oceans for the Seas of East Asia;

We also look forward to investment opportunities that would generate positive social and environmental impact, for the “common good” without compromising the integrity of our environment and natural resources, as enunciated by our new government;

We look forward that our coastal, marine and ocean initiatives will be given stronger impetus in the new administration’s Development Plan;

We look forward to a meaningful achievement of our Sustainable Development Goal targets; and

Lastly but definitely not the least for now, I look forward to a productive three-day Partnership Council Meeting.

So, may your stay here be pleasurable in the beautiful coastline of Panglao, Bohol.

Thank you and good day!

ANNEX 3
MEETING AGENDA

8th EAS Partnership Council Meeting

AGENDA

July 13, 2016

A. TECHNICAL SESSION

The Technical Session Chair and Co-Chair will preside over the Technical Session.

0900 – 0910

Opening of the Meeting

The Technical Session Chair and PRF Executive Director will provide opening remarks.

0910 – 0915

1.0 Adoption of the Technical Session Agenda

The Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the agenda and schedule for the Technical Session

0915 – 1000

2.0 SDS-SEA Implementation

Moving forward on the commitments and regional post-2015 targets set in the Danang Compact, the Meeting will focus on each of the four strategic targets, the corresponding potential issues and challenges, and proposed strategies/actions in order to achieve the targets over the next 5 years.

Discussions will focus on:

- 2.1 Achieving the SDS-SEA Post-2015 Targets of the Da Nang Compact: Issues, Challenges and Proposed Actions
- 2.2 The Development of the Regional SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2017-2021

1000 – 1030

Coffee Break

1030 – 1200

Continuation of Agenda Item 2.0

1200 – 1300

Group Photo and Lunch Break

1300 – 1400

3.0 PEMSEA Informative Documents

The Technical Session will be invited to review two documents, namely:

- 3.1 PEMSEA Certification of Informative Documents: ICM Code and ICM System Certification
- 3.2 Concept Paper on ICM Professionals Certification.

The Technical Session will consider recommending: a) the adoption of the PEMSEA ICM Code and ICM System Certification as a PEMSEA certified document and process; and b) the adoption of the concept paper and proposed actions identified in the concept paper.

1400 -1700

4.0 Collaborative Planning and Implementation of the SDS-SEA

The Technical Session will explore opportunities for strengthening and expanding collaborative planning and implementation of SDS-SEA related projects and programs among Partners and collaborating organizations in 2016-2017.

The PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners will be allotted five (5) minutes each to share information on possible areas of collaboration over the next two years.

1530 – 1600

Coffee Break

1600 – 1700

Continuation of Agenda Item 4.0

1700 – 1715

5.0 Other Business

The Technical Session participants will be invited to raise other related business to the meeting.

1715 – 1750

6.0 Conclusions and Recommendations of the Technical Session

The Technical Session will review and adopt the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting.

1750 – 1800

Closing of the Technical Session

July 14, 2016

B. COUNCIL SESSION

The Council Chair and Co-Chair will preside over the Council Session

0900 – 0910 Opening of the Council Session

0910 - 0915 7.0 Adoption of the Council Session Agenda

0915 – 0925 8.0 Summary of Recommendations and Decisions of the 7th EAS Partnership Council (June 2015) and the 17th Executive Committee Meeting (April 2016) and Status of Actions Taken

The Council Session will be informed of the major recommendations and decisions of the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting, and the 17th Executive Committee Meeting and actions taken.

The Council Partners will be invited to comment on the report.

0925 – 0940 9.0 Report of the Council Chair

The Council Chair will report on the activities and key issues tackled by the Executive Committee in 2015 and 2016.

0940 – 1000 10.0 Report of the Executive Director

The Executive Director will present key accomplishments of PEMSEA in 2015 and 2016.

1000 – 1030 Coffee Break

1030 – 1120 11.0 Election of PEMSEA Officers and Oath-taking

The Council Session will elect the Co-Chairs of the EAS Partnership Council, the Intergovernmental Session and the Technical Session. Oath-taking will be conducted for in-coming Officers.

1120 – 1145 12.0 Inclusion of New PEMSEA Non-Country Partner and Signing of Letter of Cooperation

The Council Session will be informed of the 17th Executive Committee's decision to approve the inclusion of IPIECA as PEMSEA's new Non-Country Partner.

To formalize the admission of IPIECA as a Non-Country Partner, the representative from IPIECA and the Executive Director will sign a letter of cooperation in support of the implementation and scaling up of the SDS-SEA. The representative from IPIECA will be invited to deliver a short message.

1145 – 1200 13.0 Other Business

The Council Session participants will be invited to raise other related business to the meeting.

1200 Closing of the Council Session

1200 – 1300 Lunch Break

C. INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION

The Intergovernmental Session Chair and Co-Chair will preside over the Intergovernmental Session.

1300 – 1305 Opening of the Intergovernmental Session

1305 – 1310 14.0 Adoption of the Intergovernmental Session Agenda

1310 - 1330 15.0 Audit Committee Report

The PEMSEA Audit Committee Chair will deliver the Audit Committee report focusing on PEMSEA's 2015 financial report as audited by KPMG Philippines.

The Intergovernmental Session will be invited to raise questions and comments on the 2015 audited Financial Statement.

1330 - 1400 16.0 Recommendations of the Technical Session

The Technical Session Chair will inform the Intergovernmental Session of the recommendations of the Technical Session. The Intergovernmental Session will be requested to consider adopting the recommendations.

1400 – 1500 17.0 New Business Establishment of a Partnership Council Subcommittee on a Self-sustaining PEMSEA

The Intergovernmental Session will be informed of the results of the organizational meeting of the Subcommittee on a Self-Sustaining PEMSEA. The Intergovernmental Session will be requested to approve the establishment of the Subcommittee and its TOR, work plan and schedule.

1500 – 1530	Coffee Break
1530 – 1630	<p>18.0 PEMSEA Work Plan and Budget</p> <p>The PEMSEA work plan and budget for 2016-2017 will be presented to the Intergovernmental session for review and adoption.</p>
1630 – 1700	<p>19.0 Other Business</p> <p>The Intergovernmental Session participants will be invited to raise other related business to the meeting.</p>
1700 – 1730	<p>20.0 Decisions of the Intergovernmental Session</p> <p>The Intergovernmental Session will review and adopt the conclusions and decisions of the meeting.</p>
1730	Closing of the Intergovernmental Session
<i>July 15, 2016</i>	Field Visit

ANNEX 4

**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR A SUSTAINABLE PEMSEA**

**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE:
EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE FOR A SUSTAINABLE PEMSEA**

(Note: proposed changes from the Meeting are highlighted)

1.0 Background

1.1 In June 2014, the 6th EAS Partnership Council adopted the Strategy and Implementation Plan for Achieving a Self-Sustaining PEMSEA (Annex A) and requested the PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) to proceed with its execution. Table 1 summarizes the progress thus far with regard to various initiatives under the adopted Strategy and Implementation Plan.

1.2 In November 2015, Ministers and Senior Government Officials from 11 PEMSEA Partner Countries signed the Da Nang Compact, adopting the SDS-SEA 2015 and four post-2015 Strategic Targets. The four Targets are designed to serve as indicators of country progress in implementing the SDS-SEA 2015 over the next 5 years. Target 1 of the four strategic time-bound targets refers to PEMSEA's sustainability, specifically identifying the following milestone:

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.

1.3 Over the past couple of years, questions have arisen during Council and Executive Committee meetings, as well as in communications with individual Country Partners, which indicate that there is some apprehension among Partners about the self-sustainability of PEMSEA. The uncertainties include a number of issues, including:

- a. country ownership of PEMSEA;
- b. management of the organization's finances;
- c. development of new partnerships with non-government sectors, specifically the business and corporate sectors;
- d. the scope of PEMSEA Services and PEMSEA's outreach initiatives; and
- e. development of the PRF as a regional/global hub in coastal and ocean governance and blue economy development.

1.4 These issues and others are important to PEMSEA's organizational sustainability and to the achievement of Target 1. If unsettled, at the very least, they remain a source of misunderstanding among the Partners. Of even greater significance, however, is their relevance to PEMSEA as a sustainable and effective intergovernmental organization and the expectations of Partners in terms of leadership, management, innovation, anticipation of and adaptation to change, revenue generation, and project and partnership development.

- 1.5 Upon discussing this matter, the 17th Executive Committee (April 2016) recommended that the PRF proceed with the development of Terms of Reference (TOR) and preparatory work to establish an EAS Partnership Council Subcommittee for a Sustainable PEMSEA in time for the 8th EAS Partnership Council in July 2016.

2.0 Objectives of the Subcommittee

- 2.1 The Subcommittee for a Sustainable PEMSEA will report directly to the Intergovernmental Session of the EAS Partnership Council. It is tasked to undertake the following:
- a. To review and assess the direction and progress of the organization with respect to Target 1;
 - b. To develop consensus on the essential characteristics of PEMSEA as a sustainable and effective intergovernmental organization, including country ownership; and
 - c. To deliver a report to the EAS Partnership Council in July 2017 on the achievements, progress, short-comings and further actions required with respect to achieving Target 1.

3.0 Composition

- 3.1 The members of the Council Subcommittee will be the representatives of Country **Partners** of PEMSEA. Representatives of Sponsoring Organizations and Non-Country Partners may be invited to participate in the activities of the Subcommittee in order to provide input on relevant discussion items.
- 3.2 The Subcommittee will elect a Chair from its members. The PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) will serve as the Secretariat and will be responsible for facilitating preparation of working documents and the final report with input from Country Partners and expert advice as required.

4.0 Operational Cost

- 4.1 Cost associated with the operations of the Subcommittee will be covered by the PRF operating budget.

5.0 Functions of the Council Subcommittee for a Sustainable PEMSEA

- 5.1 The Council Subcommittee for a Sustainable PEMSEA will:
- a. Review and evaluate the progress and future direction of the Strategy and Implementation Plan for a Achieving a Self-Sustaining PEMSEA with a view to:
 - i. reaching consensus on the roles and responsibilities of Country and Non-Country Partners, the EAS Partnership Council, the

- Executive Committee and the PRF in ensuring that PEMSEA becomes a self-sustaining international organization;
- ii. agreeing on a financial model for PEMSEA that will guide the development of new partnerships, projects, products and services for scaling-up the implementation of SDS-SEA and generating revenue;
 - iii. concurring on the scope and extent of new partnerships with government and non-government sectors, including partnerships with the business and corporate sector; and
 - iv. coming to a common understanding on the objectives and coverage of PEMSEA's outreach program, including type and level of services to be offered.
- b. Explore options and reach consensus on the conceptualization, development and establishment of financing mechanisms for advancing SDS-SEA implementation at the regional, national and local levels.
 - c. Deliberate on creating and marketing the PRF as a regional/global hub of knowledge and services for coastal and ocean governance and blue economy development.

6.0 Expected Output

- 6.1 The Council Subcommittee will submit its report to the 9th meeting of the EAS Partnership Council in June/July 2017.

7.0 Subcommittee's Work Plan and Schedule

- 7.1 The proposed work plan and schedule for the organization and conduct of the Council Subcommittee for a Sustainable PEMSEA is as follows:

Activity No.	Description	Date
1	Meeting of Country Focal Points to review and finalize the TOR, work plan and schedule of the Subcommittee for a Sustainable PEMSEA, including the working arrangements of the subcommittee (e.g., virtual and face-to-face meetings; preparation of working documents; reviewing working documents; engaging Non-Country Partners and other stakeholders; consensus building among members; final report)	July 2016 (half-day face-to-face meeting preceding the 8 th EAS Partnership Council)
2	Endorsement of the TOR, work plan and schedule of the Subcommittee to the Intergovernmental Session of the 8 th EAS Partnership Council	July 2016
3	Preparation and review of working documents by the Subcommittee members PRF will explain PEMSEA's current financial situation and prospects, specifically and sufficiently under the	August to December 2016

Activity No.	Description	Date
	responsibility of the Secretariat	
4	Virtual meeting of the Subcommittee to finalize the working documents	December 2016
5	Meeting of the Subcommittee to review and approve the final report for submission to the 9 th meeting of the EAS Partnership Council (back-to-back with the Executive Committee meeting)	March-April 2017
6	Dissemination of the final report to the members of the EAS Partnership Council	May 2017
7	Presentation/submission of the final report of the Subcommittee to the Intergovernmental Session of the 9 th EAS Partnership Council	June-July 2017
