



PEMSEA EC Meeting Report 16

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXPANDED SIXTEENTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Manila, Philippines

23 – 24 March 2015



Partnerships in Environmental Management
for the Seas of East Asia

**Expanded 16th Executive Committee Meeting
 Manila, Philippines
 23-24 March 2015**

MEETING SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Agenda Item	Discussion	Recommendation/ Action
<p>Agenda Item 1.0: Opening of the Meeting and Organizational Matters (EC/15/DOC/01)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amb. Mary Seet-Cheng, Council Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the members of the Executive Committee and by highlighting the importance of the meeting in view of a number of key deliverables in line with the upcoming East Asian Seas Congress 2015. • Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross, PRF Executive Director, welcomed the EC members, as well as the representatives from the PEMSEA Country Partners, and the representative from the UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub. • The PRF ED introduced the provisional agenda and the meeting documents. 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting adopted the proposed agenda as presented.</p> <p>The List of Participants for the meeting are included in Attachment A.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 2.0: Updating the SDS-SEA and Setting of Post-2015 Targets (EC/15/DOC/02)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Tony La Viña, Council Co-Chair and Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Intergovernmental Session Chair, presided over the discussions under Agenda item 2.0. • The PRF ED introduced the rationale, mandate and documents developed as a result of the 1st and 2nd TWG Meetings on the Updating of the SDS-SEA and setting of post-2015 targets. <p><i>Recommended New Language for the SDS-SEA Update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Meeting reviewed the 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that the PRF proceed with the development of</p>

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	<p>amendments to the SDS-SEA strategies as submitted by the TWG. The Meeting suggested several additions/modifications to the updated SDS-SEA..</p> <p><i>Proposed Adapt Strategy and Action Programmes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atty. Pauline Caspellan, PRF Legal Consultant, introduced the proposed Adapt Strategy and its action programmes. • The Meeting reviewed the Adapt strategy as submitted by the TWG. The Meeting provided several suggestions/modifications to the draft Adapt strategy. <p><i>Draft Outline of the Ministerial Document for the 5th Ministerial Forum, including post-2015 Targets</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atty. Caspellan presented the proposed annotated outline of the Ministerial Document, which includes the regional post-2015 strategic targets. • The Meeting reviewed the annotated outline of the Ministerial Documents, as submitted by the TWG. The Meeting provided several suggestions/modifications to the draft outline. 	<p>the updated SDS-SEA, inclusive of amendments provided by the meeting (see Attachment B).</p> <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Adapt strategy highlight the uniqueness of PEMSEA, and how PEMSEA through the SDS-SEA and ICM contributes to the various instruments and efforts that are related to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. 2. Such information be emphasized in the background and principles sections of the Adapt strategy. 3. The PRF proceed with the development of the Adapt strategy, inclusive of amendments provided by the meeting (see Attachment C). <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposed targets be re-organized in accordance with the proposed milestone years; 2. Under the section of the Document entitled “Solutions”, clarifications be provided for terms such as scaling up of national ICM programs, regional and global targets and H2O; 3. Engagement of the business sector through the East Asian Seas Sustainable Business Network (EAS-SBN) be included in the section on “Solutions”;

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	<p><i>Outline of Regional Review of SDS-SEA Implementation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yinfeng Guo, PRF Sustainable Development Specialist, informed the Meeting of the status of the country reports with regard to SDS-SEA Implementation. • The Meeting was reminded that timely completion of national reviews by the Country Partners is critical for the regional SDS-SEA implementation review, which will be mainly based on the information in the country reports. • The Meeting was informed of key guide questions and sub-indicators that will be used in the preparation of the regional report on SDS-SEA implementation. • Mr. Guo confirmed that verification of ICM coverage of coastlines would be requested from all Country Partners in the course of finalizing the regional report. <p><i>Updates on Achieving a Self-Sustained PEMSEA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the post-2015 proposed Target No.1 on a self-sustaining PEMSEA, Mr. Ryan Whisnant, PRF Head of Professional Services, presented updates on the status of implementation of the Plan for Achieving a Self-Sustained PEMSEA. 	<p>4. The PRF proceed with the preparation of the Ministerial document, based on the proposed outline, as amended by the Meeting (Attachment D).</p> <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting requested that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Country Partners validate the national SDS-SEA Implementation report for submission to the PRF Secretariat by April 30, 2015; and 2. The PRF Secretariat consolidate the national report into a regional report for submission and review by the 7th EAS Partnership Council. <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The PRF Secretariat continue to develop the PEMSEA Services and the East Asian Seas Sustainable Business Network; 2. Country Partners identify by April 30, 2015, a minimum of three companies as candidates to:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the PRF's efforts to engage the business sector in an EAS Sustainable Business Network, the following actions are being undertaken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conducting a survey to secure insights of companies on the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development in a blue economy (March 30 to April 30, 2015); b. Promoting the EAS-SBN through various media/channels including: distribution of printed and electronic information materials; linking with various PEMSEA partners, collaborators, and sponsoring agencies and their respective business networks; release of information through PEMSEA websites and social media; and personal interaction through company visits; c. Conducting the EAS-SBN's inaugural meeting at the EAS Congress 2015 and using the results of the survey as a basis for developing the agenda of the network; d. Organizing a "Ministers Meet CEOs" at the EAS Congress 2015. • The Meeting emphasized: (a) the need to come up with a priority/targeted list of companies from each PEMSEA country; and (b) the crucial support required from Country Partners in identifying possible companies. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Participate in a research report on sustainable development of coasts and oceans by the private sector and the role of "blue economy" for business in East Asia through a brief online survey; b. Join the East Asian Seas Sustainable Business Network, including participation in a session launching the EAS-SBN at the East Asian Seas Congress; and c. Participate in a session for CEOs to meet the Ministers at the East Asian Seas Congress.

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Agenda Item 3a: Review of Ministerial Documents: Proposed Work Plan and Schedule (EC/15/DOC/03a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Guo presented the proposed work plan and schedule for the review and approval of the Ministerial Documents. • The Meeting suggested an early release of the documents in order to provide the Country and Non-Country Partners ample time to review and provide inputs/comments prior to the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting. 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting adopted the work plan and schedule for the review and approval of the Ministerial Documents with the suggested amendments as agreed to by the meeting (Attachment E).</p> <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting urged the Country Partners to ensure timely conduct of in-country consultations on the approval of the Ministerial Document.</p>
Agenda Item 3b: Engaging PEMSEA Non-Country Partners in the Implementation of the Updated SDS-SEA and Post-2015 Targets (EC/15/DOC/03b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PRF Secretariat introduced a proposal to encourage ownership and participation of Non-Country Partners in the adoption and implementation of the updated SDS-SEA and post-2015 targets, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Non-Country Partners be invited to sign a supplementary document to the Ministerial Document to highlight their commitment and support for the updated SDS-SEA and post-2015 targets; b. Non-Country partners be invited to participate actively in the development of the 5-year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan (2016-2021); and c. the Technical Session of EAS Partnership Council be developed as a platform to discuss and plan how to effectively scale up delivery of agreed targets and outputs among the Country and Non-Country Partners. 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting adopted the proposal as presented by the PRF Secretariat.</p> <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A draft supplementary document to the Ministerial document be prepared by the PRF for dissemination to and consideration by the Non-Country Partners; 2. The PRF conduct consultations with Non-Country Partners as early as possible to ensure full commitment by the Non-Country Partners to sign the supplementary document during the 5th Ministerial Forum in November 2015; 3. The PRF develop specific proposals for review and approval at the next EAS Partnership Council on ways and means to better engage Non-Country Partners in the preparation process of the 5-year SDS-SEA Implementation Plan (2016-2021) and in the Technical Session of the EAS Partnership Council.

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<p>Agenda Item 4.0: Fifth Ministerial Forum (EC/15/DOC/04)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Won-Tae Shin, PRF Consultant, presented the proposed program for the 5th Ministerial Forum. • The Meeting raised the following concerns and suggestions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Taking into consideration the busy schedule of Ministers, it would be best to merge and modify some of the proposed activities to fit within a one-day schedule, excluding the field trip, which is optional. b. The Meeting recognized the value of incorporating the Ministers Meet CEOs and Local Chief Executives in the Ministerial Forum program. As part of the preparations, it is essential to secure commitments from CEOs and Local Chief Executives to participate in the Meeting as soon as possible. c. In order to secure the interest and confirmation from the Ministers, apart from the invitation from PEMSEA, invitations from the Vietnam Government as well as UNDP should also be issued. d. More detailed information on the arrangements for the Ministerial Forum should be released as early as possible to facilitate smooth arrangements. • The delegation from RO Korea informed the Meeting that the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries has a new Minister and requested that a new invitation letter be issued. 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The PRF Secretariat revisit the proposed Ministerial Forum program, facilitating meaningful engagement of CEOs and Local Chief Executives with Ministers within a one-day timeframe (excluding optional field trip), and submit the revised program for review and approval by the 7th EAS Partnership Council; 2. The PRF Secretariat secure the CEO's and business sector's participation in the Ministers Meet CEOs and EAS Sustainable Business Network and report the details to the 7th EAS Partnership Council; and 3. Country Partners secure the confirmation of their respective Ministers and Senior Government Officials to the EAS Congress and Fifth Ministerial Forum and report the details to the 7th EAS Partnership Council.
<p>Agenda Item 5.0: East Asian Seas Congress 2015 (EC/15/DOC/05)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Vu Sy Tuan, Deputy Administrator, Vietnam Administration of Seas and 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting requested that the Government of Vietnam, through MONRE/VASI:</p>

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	<p>Islands (VASI), informed the meeting of a recent decision from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) regarding the EAS Congress venue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Tuan emphasized that formal communications regarding this matter will be issued by MONRE in the coming days. • VASI/MONRE shall be undertaking an ocular inspection of Phu Quoc Island in the coming days to assess the available facilities in the area. • Dr. Tuan underscored the commitment of the Government of Vietnam to host the EAS Congress in November 2015, and confirmed their full support in ensuring the smooth arrangements for the EAS Congress events. • In view of the limited time left for the preparations, VASI/MONRE is committed to fast track the arrangements including the finalization and signing of the MOU by end of April. • Ms. Kathrine Rose Gallardo, PRF Secretariat Coordinator, presented the status of preparations for the EAS Congress 2015. • Since the 6th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in June 2014, the PRF in collaboration with VASI/MONRE, Danang People's Committee, as well as with various Country and Non-Country Partners and collaborators, have proceeded with the issuance of invitations, development of the Congress events/workshop 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formally confirm the venue for the EAS Congress 2015 as soon as possible; 2. Facilitate the finalization of the MOU on the hosting of the EAS Congress by end of April 2015; and 3. Provide basic logistical information for the EAS Congress 2015 by the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in order to facilitate smooth preparations for the EAS Congress. <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that: the PRF Secretariat continue the coordination with the Government of Vietnam as well as with the different PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners and collaborators and finalize the EAS Congress program and events for submission to the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting</p> <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting urged Country Partners to provide support in the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promotion and publicity of the EAS Congress events; 2. Securing a list of delegation and confirmation of participation from respective governments by June 2015; 3. Identification of possible presenters, panelists, chairs or keynote speakers for the International Conference by June 2015; 4. Allocation or identification of sources of funds for EAS

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	<p>programs; securing of co-conveners; and promotions and publicity for the EAS Congress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Meeting highlighted the crucial role of the Country Partners in ensuring the successful organization and conduct of the EAS Congress, particularly in their participation to the International Conference, Ministerial Forum, Youth Forum and exhibition. 	<p>Congress participation, including for the youth delegates from respective countries; and</p> <p>5. Planning and preparation of a “country pavilion” as part of the Congress Exhibition</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6.0: Proposed Agenda for the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting (EC/15/DOC/06)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ross presented the proposed agenda for the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting scheduled on June 23-25, 2015. The proposed agenda will focus mainly on the key Ministerial documents, preparations for the EAS Congress 2015 and the 5th Ministerial Forum, and efforts towards a self-sustained PEMSEA. Mr. Ross invited the Country Partners to consider hosting future PEMSEA meetings, including the EAS Partnership Council and the Executive Committee, in order to strengthen collaboration and partnerships between PEMSEA and government and non-government stakeholders in each country. As part of the promotional efforts for the EAS Congress, it was also suggested for Vietnam to look into the possibility of hosting the upcoming 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in the EAS Congress venue to build interest for the EAS Congress 2015. 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting adopted the proposed agenda of the 7th EAS Partnership Council Meeting as presented, with the addition of the following agenda items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Under the Technical Session, the inclusion of an agenda item on the identification of criteria/ indicators for assessing the development and implementation of national ocean policy and ICM programs in the context of the proposed Strategic Targets; and Under the Intergovernmental Session, the program will include the election of the Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair. The Expanded 16th EC Meeting encouraged more active participation of Country and Non-Country Partners in the EAS Partnership Council meeting discussions. In particular, the Meeting requested Partners to present the status of their respective efforts in preparing for and, participating in upcoming EAS Congress 2015 at the Council Meeting in June 2015.

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		<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting encouraged Country Partners to consider hosting future EAS Partnership Council Meetings as a way to promote more interaction between PEMSEA Country Partners and stakeholders in their respective countries.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7.0: Other Business (EC/15/DOC/07)</p>	<p><i>PEMSEA Brand and Logo</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Whisnant presented the new PEMSEA Brand and logo which was a result of a series of consultations with PEMSEA Partners, the members of the Executive Committee and other PEMSEA collaborators. • The PEMSEA brand included the new Vision, Mission, comparative advantage/uniqueness of PEMSEA, as well as the core services being provided by PEMSEA in support of SDS-SEA implementation. • In line with the re-branding of PEMSEA and recognizing PEMSEA's growth, a new logo was also presented. • While it is expected that a period of adjustment and promotions may be needed for the new look and brand of PEMSEA, the Meeting recognized the need for change given the growing coverage of PEMSEA, not just geographically but also functionally. <p><i>Vacancy of the Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Meeting was informed of the decision of Dr. Zhang Zhanhai to step down as Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair in view of the demands of his new position in the State Oceanic Administration. 	<p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting recommended that the PRF Secretariat proceed with the launch of the new PEMSEA brand and logo in August 2015.</p> <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting endorsed the schedule for nomination and election of the Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair, and directed the PRF Secretariat to proceed with nomination and election process, in accordance with the PEMSEA Rules of Election of Partnership</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Meeting expressed their appreciation to Dr. Zhang for his support to PEMSEA during his term in the Executive Committee. Recognizing the importance of ensuring continuity in the Executive Committee leadership, the PEMSEA Country Partners were urged to provide full support in the nomination and election process for the Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair. 	<p>Council Officers and Co-Chairs (Attachment F).</p> <p>The Expanded 16th EC Meeting urged the PEMSEA Country Partners to participate in the nomination and election process.</p>
<p>Closing of the Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council Chair thanked the members of the Executive Committee and representatives from the Country Partners for their active involvement in the meeting discussions, as well as to the PRF Secretariat for the efficient arrangements for the meeting. 	<p>The meeting closed at 3:30PM, 24 March 2015.</p>

Attachment A

List of Participants

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Attachment B

THIRD DRAFT OF THE UPDATED SDS-SEA STRATEGIES With Amendments (highlighted) as recommended by the Expanded 16th Executive Committee Meeting 24 March 2015

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

Objective 1: Conservation and redress of biological diversity

Action Programmes

1. Implement policy and a strategic framework for the conservation and management of biological diversity by:
 - a. Developing national policy to integrate management of natural/biological resources and economic development, business ventures and investments in accordance with international agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and its protocols and decisions, such as the Jakarta Mandate, the Nagoya Protocol, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the Aichi Biodiversity and the Pyeongchang Roadmap, as well as the Manado Ocean Declaration and the Ramsar Convention;
 - b. Crafting an agreed approach to determining coastal and marine areas of significant biological diversity and natural value and identifying the allowable limits of their use;
 - c. Expanding regional cooperation to conserve and manage environmental resources, including overexploited and endangered migratory species and coastal areas of transboundary importance; and
 - d. Formulating cooperative agreements on biotechnology research, intellectual property rights (e.g., traditional medicines), and bioprospecting activities by third parties.
2. Restore **and enhance** coastal habitats and related resources in support of maintaining the integrity of their ecosystem services and value:
 - a. Identifying major threatening activities and processes to coastal and marine areas of significant environmental value;
 - b. Incorporating new planning schemes into national and municipal development plans which will restrict development of, misuse or conflicting use of significant sites, habitats, and resources;
 - c. Developing capacities at the local government level to plan, develop, and implement sustainable environmental management programmes, including rehabilitation of altered critical habitats;
 - d. Setting in place appropriate legal and economic instruments covering restoration and compensation for damage to habitats and biological diversity; and
 - e. Exploring innovative investment opportunities, such as “blue carbon,” payment for ecosystem services, **trust funds**, and private-public partnerships.

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

Action Programmes

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

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

Action Programmes

1. Enhance transboundary cooperation in subregional sea areas for fisheries management by:
 - a. Engaging coastal States to adopt and implement the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;
 - b. Increasing recognition of coastal and marine habitats that are vital to the fisheries resource of the subregional sea area;
 - c. Strengthening capacity to manage living resources in the EEZ; and
 - d. Putting in place subregional institutional measures to monitor the effectiveness of resource management measures.
2. Utilize living resources in a responsible manner by:
 - a. Reducing excessive fishing capacity through such measures as buy-back schemes and territorial use rights;
 - b. Maintaining or restoring fish stocks to levels that can sustainably support present and future generations;
 - c. Applying an ecosystem management approach, inclusive of fisheries management, to planning and development of coastal and marine areas;
 - d. Producing shared ownership of fisheries management through cooperative and partnership arrangements, including joint assessment of shared stocks;
 - e. Enforcing fisheries regulations at national and local levels; and
 - f. Developing and implementing national, and where appropriate, regional, arrangements to put into effect the FAO international plans of action, in particular, those measures to prevent, deter, and eliminate illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

3. Integrate fisheries management into coastal management programmes at the local level by:
 - a. Taking appropriate measures to protect the rights and livelihoods of small-scale fishers and fish workers, including community-based management;
 - b. Implementing measures against destructive fishing methods and practices that result in excessive by-catch, waste of fish catch, and loss of habitat;
 - c. Building capacities in appropriate aquaculture technologies to bring about fish stock conservation and diversification of income and diet;
 - d. Increasing community benefits through diverse and innovative approaches to fisheries management, involving commercial, municipal, and recreational fishing, as well as cultural, conservation, trade, and tourism purposes;
 - e. Preserving appropriate indigenous/traditional knowledge and practices in fisheries management, including territorial use rights in fisheries; and
 - f. Developing sustainable alternative livelihoods for displaced fishers.

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

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

Action Programmes

1. Select and prioritize coastal and marine protected areas of transboundary importance by:
 - a. Agreeing on selection criteria² for identifying coastal and marine areas which:
 - contain rare, vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities within the region;
 - maintain populations of plant and/or animal species important to the biological diversity of the region;
 - support regionally important fish stocks; and
 - provide refuge, a source of food, nursery, and/or migration path for migratory species of regional and/or international importance;
 - b. Classifying protected areas on the basis of types and uses, taking into account guidelines, criteria and standards for protected areas and particularly sensitive sea areas under international instruments³; and
 - c. Prioritizing marine protected areas that are of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services serving critical transboundary ecological and/or economic functions.
2. Establish appropriate management regimes for marine protected areas and particularly sensitive sea areas of transboundary significance by:
 - a. Adopting a management framework that encompasses the various classifications of protected areas, and provides an integrated approach to the planning, management, and assessment of impacts and benefits derived from the use of the areas, **and regularly reviewing the effectiveness of this framework;**
 - b. Building capacity and engaging local stakeholder groups/government units, and the private sector to manage marine protected areas;
 - c. Applying complementary land and sea-use planning and development schemes at the national and local levels;
 - d. Institutionalizing innovative administrative, legal, economic, and financial instruments that encourage partnership among local and national stakeholders; and
 - e. Conducting surveys, developing inventories of marine flora and fauna, and storing/sharing acquired information through national, regional, and international databases.

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

Action Programmes

1. Establish a regional accord for the protection of species at risk by:

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

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

³ Such international instruments are the Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Migratory Species, World Heritage Convention, Ramsar Convention, MARPOL, UNCLOS and the IMO Guidelines on Sensitive Sea Areas

- a. Outlining commitments for designating species at risk across the region, based on internationally accepted criteria such as the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, protecting their habitats and developing recovery plans;
 - b. Developing partnerships among national governments, industry (e.g., fishing/aquaculture, tourism, trade, transportation), the private sector, local governments, conservation groups, and the scientific community to effectively protect species at risk; and
 - c. Adopting complementary legislation, regulations, policies and programmes to identify and protect threatened and endangered species and their critical habitats.
2. Implement national recovery and management processes for species at risk across the region by:
 - a. Engaging stakeholders at the local level in the preparation of recovery strategies, bringing together the best available scientific, traditional, and community knowledge of the species;
 - b. Formulating and implementing local action plans under the umbrella of the recovery strategy; and
 - c. Levying economic incentives and disincentives and innovative programmes at the local level to help protect the species.
 3. Create regionwide safety nets for species at risk and genetic resources by:
 - a. Preventing the introduction of controlling or eradicating alien species that threaten indigenous species, their ecosystems or specific habitats;
 - b. Prohibiting trade in endangered species in accordance with the provisions of CITES and networking with existing trade monitoring programmes;
 - c. Adopting measures regarding commercial exploitation of valuable species and addressing by-catch of endangered species;
 - d. Establishing protected areas, which function as in situ gene banks; and
 - e. Developing benefit-sharing arrangements for bioprospecting activities, based on mutually agreed terms and subject to prior informed consent from both the government and local communities.

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

Action Programmes

1. Protect cultural and natural properties deemed to be of outstanding regional value by:
 - a. Agreeing on criteria for cultural and natural properties which represent the most outstanding values from a regional perspective;
 - b. Setting in place a nomination and review process for listing transborder areas as cultural heritage or natural heritage sites, including the participation of local communities, indigenous people, and other pertinent stakeholders in the identification and nomination process;
 - c. Ensuring that legal and/or traditional protection and management arrangements adequately preserve the valued properties; and
 - d. Implementing a monitoring and evaluation procedure to ascertain that listed transborder areas maintain characteristics of outstanding value, including a procedure for disqualification from the regional list for cause.
2. Manage transborder cultural heritage and natural heritage sites by:
 - a. Adopting the requirements for protected areas under international instruments⁴;

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

- b. Implementing appropriate legislation and regulations at the national and local levels, including provisions to maintain/reinforce traditional protection and management mechanisms;
- c. Setting in place suitable administrative arrangements to cover the management of the property, its conservation and its accessibility to the public; and
- d. Integrating sites into land and sea use zonation planning and development schemes at the national and local levels, including the delineation of appropriate buffer zones around the properties.

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

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

Action Programmes

1. Strengthen and extend intergovernmental cooperation in environmental management of regional seas by:
 - a. Assessing and applying the lessons learned from ongoing “international waters” projects in the region;
 - b. Adopting a systematic and transparent process for identifying and prioritizing transboundary environmental risks;
 - c. Institutionalizing a complementary environmental management framework and strategy to enhance the effectiveness of national efforts to reduce transboundary environmental risks;
 - d. Organizing regional contingency plans, emergency response and cleanup cost recovery and compensation systems to combat catastrophic environmental events of natural or human origin, and to this end, undertaking measures to enhance the capabilities of the countries concerned;
 - e. Incorporating intergovernmental initiatives in environmental management of river basins, subregional sea areas and LMEs into a management framework for regional seas; and
 - f. Implementing integrated environmental monitoring programmes, utilizing appropriate environmental indicators to determine the effectiveness of management interventions.
2. Reinforce national and local governments’ roles, responsibilities and capabilities in environmental management of regional seas by:
 - a. Adopting national policies on environmental management of regional seas, including the implementation of relevant international conventions and instruments;
 - b. Establishing appropriate legal and economic instruments and programmes to extend national capacities in developing and/or managing:
 - human activities resulting in transboundary pollution;
 - subregional growth areas;
 - toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes and their transboundary movements;
 - transboundary effects of habitat degradation/destruction;
 - nearshore and offshore construction, reclamation, and exploitation projects having transboundary implications; and
 - technologies and processes to minimize transboundary threats;
 - c. Engaging local governments to plan, develop, and manage coastal and marine resources within their respective administrative boundaries utilizing the ICM framework and process; and
 - d. Forging partnerships among governments, international agencies, donors, the private sector, and other concerned stakeholders.

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

Action Programmes

1. Strengthen capabilities to protect the marine environment from the harmful effects of land-based human activities by:
 - a. Enhancing the awareness of policymakers on the social, economic, and environmental costs incurred as a consequence of degraded marine and coastal ecosystems and related watershed areas;
 - b. Incorporating the aims, objectives, and guidance provided by international conventions and agreements, such as UNCLOS, Agenda 21, and GPA, into new and existing strategies, policies, and programmes of action at the local, national, and regional levels;
 - c. Mainstreaming integrated coastal area and watershed management strategies and policies across levels of government, government agencies and institutions, and social and economic sectors;
 - d. Forging institutional cooperation among national and local governments, river basin authorities, port authorities and coastal area managers; and
 - e. Integrating coastal area management issues into relevant legislation and regulations pertaining to watershed management.
2. Implement management programmes, particularly focused at the local level, to combat the negative impacts of sewage, physical alteration and destruction of habitats, nutrients, sediment mobility, litter, **microplastics**, persistent organic pollutants, **inorganic pollutants**, heavy metals, harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens, and radioactive substances on the coastal and marine environment by:
 - a. Strengthening the capacity of local governments to engage in integrated decisionmaking with stakeholder participation, to apply effective institutional and legal frameworks for sustainable coastal management, and to obtain and utilize sound scientific information in the implementation of ICM programmes;
 - b. Identifying priority risks arising from land-based activities, taking into account the social, economic, and environmental consequences of such activities and the tractability of the problems;
 - c. Preparing a sustainable vision for the coastal and marine area, based on the community's view of the identified problems and assessment of priorities for the future;
 - d. Developing an appropriate action programme to achieve the community's sustainable vision;
 - e. Introducing innovative policy, management, and institutional arrangements at the local government level, including economic instruments and incentive programmes, to encourage participation and partnerships among local government, the private sector, and civil society; and
 - f. Enhancing access by local governments to technical assistance, technology transfer, and financing programmes, to identify and assess needs and alternative solutions to local land-based sources of marine pollution, and to formulate and negotiate self-sustaining partnership arrangements with the private sector, investors, and financial institutions.
3. Adopt a holistic approach to managing the impacts of land-based activities by:
 - a. Supporting an integrated management approach for coastal and ocean governance at the local, national, and regional levels, thereby accelerating the implementation of management programmes;
 - b. Incorporating actions to address impacts of land-based activities within the framework of integrated coastal and watershed management, including the protection of rivers, lakes, and tributaries, and promotion of "good practices" in land and water uses;

- c. Improving scientific assessment of anthropogenic impacts on the marine environment, such as impacts of coastal reclamation, construction of coastal structures, drainage, erosion and siltation, including socioeconomic effects;
- d. Building an integrated environmental monitoring and information management and reporting system to better measure the status, progress, and impacts of management programmes, for use in decisionmaking, public awareness and participation, and performance evaluation;
- e. Promoting south-south and north-south technical cooperation, technology transfer, and information-sharing networks;
- f. Putting in place national reforms which reinforce legislation and policies regarding land-based activities that degrade the coastal and marine environment, ensure transparency and accountability of government, provide multi-year investment programmes and establish an enabling environment for investment by the private sector; and
- g. Working with international financial institutions, regional development banks and other international financial mechanisms to facilitate and expeditiously finance environmental infrastructure and services.

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

Action Programmes

1. Prevent operational and accidental pollution of marine waters from shipping activities by:
 - a. Implementing the requirements of MARPOL 73/78;
 - b. Instituting navigational safety and traffic management systems, especially in areas of congested traffic and/or in the vicinity of marine protected areas and particularly sensitive sea areas;
 - c. Developing and strengthening capacity for at-sea multisectoral law enforcement and maritime surveillance while ensuring maritime safety and facilitating marine environmental protection;
 - d. Requiring the use of environmentally friendly, anti-fouling compounds on ships' hulls and marine equipment⁵;
 - e. Applying appropriate technologies, processes, and procedures to avoid the introduction of alien organisms through ballast water discharges;
 - f. Providing suitable shore reception facilities and services in ports to receive operational wastes from ships; and
 - g. Strengthening safety and environmental management systems in ports and integrating such systems with environmental programmes of local communities.
2. Control ocean-dumping in accordance with the 1972 London Convention and incineration of wastes at sea in accordance with relevant international agreements.
3. Counter accidental spills and discharges from sea-based human activities by:
 - a. Adopting contingency plans at the regional, subregional, national, and local levels for responding promptly to pollution incidents involving oily, hazardous, and noxious substances;
 - b. Ensuring appropriate response procedures, equipment, materials, and personnel are in place on vessels and in terminals, ports and offshore units;
 - c. Applying appropriate technologies, processes and procedures for the prompt and effective removal of wrecks, when such removal is necessary, and the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships;
 - d. Establishing agreements among governments, government agencies, industry, the private sector and community groups for support personnel, equipment, and materials

⁵ In accordance with the terms of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships.

- in the event of accidental spills, including joint oil spill response, mutual aid mechanisms and facilities;
 - e. Undertaking regular training exercises involving the response groups; and
 - f. Developing an oil pollution source tracing capability.
4. Attend to land-and sea-based economic development activities by:
- a. Incorporating both land and sea-based activities into ICM programmes of local governments;
 - b. Adopting land and sea-use zonation plans at the national and local government levels; and
 - c. Assessing and managing the environmental risks of shipping, dredging, land reclamation, aquaculture, seabed exploration and mining, offshore oil and gas exploitation, and other resource extractive industries within the context of ecosystem management and public benefit.

Objective 4: Recovery of cleanup costs and compensation for damages

Action Programmes

1. Expedite the recovery of oil spill cleanup costs and compensation for economic damage by:
 - a. Ratifying and implementing CLC and FUND conventions;
 - b. Ensuring that national laws, administrative and eligibility procedures, and damage assessment processes are consistent with CLC and FUND conventions;
 - c. Setting up contingency plans among countries bordering subregional sea areas regarding accidental spills and discharges which result in, or have the potential to result in, transboundary marine pollution incidents; and
 - d. Negotiating preparatory agreements on eligible fees and charges for response personnel, equipment, materials, and services under the international liability and compensation regimes.
2. Expand cost recovery and damage compensation schemes by:
 - a. Ratifying and implementing international conventions covering a wider scope of damage-causing incidents⁶ and geographic areas beyond national jurisdiction⁷;
 - b. Agreeing on a scheme for natural resource damage assessment, including a knowledge base on coastal and marine resources and a system for determining their values;
 - c. Setting up rules, administrative procedures, assessment processes, and financial mechanisms, which broaden eligibility criteria and available funds for damage compensation under national law; and
 - d. Providing local governments with the proper information on assessment processes and administrative procedures in order to increase their capacity to comply with compensation criteria.
3. Apply innovative approaches to restoration of damages by:
 - a. Adopting incentive programmes to encourage restoration of degraded areas by third parties, such as the granting of exclusive development rights to those areas;
 - b. Setting up environmental restoration funds founded on user pay and polluter pay schemes; and
 - c. Adopting compensatory restoration schemes, where resources, services, and equal valued services can be used to offset losses due to damage.

⁶ HNS and Basel Protocol

⁷ In accordance with the Intervention Convention

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

Objective 1: Promotion of sustainable economic development towards a blue economy⁸ in coastal and marine areas

Action Programmes

1. Promote appropriate national coastal and marine strategies and policies by:
 - a. Institutionalizing multisectoral stakeholder consultation and participation in decisionmaking; and
 - b. Taking into account diversified regional and local traditions, customs, values, comparative advantages, constraints, and other conditions in the formulation and implementation of national sustainable economic development programmes concerning coastal and marine areas.
2. Adopt mechanisms that promote public participation in planning and development processes by:
 - a. Developing land and sea-use plans, in consultation with stakeholders from the public and private sectors;
 - b. Having a clear process and criteria for achieving major developments in coastal and marine areas;
 - c. Conducting stakeholder consultations and consensus-building to identify, package, and develop environmental investment opportunities;
 - d. Identifying and prioritizing opportunities for development, which complement the shared vision of stakeholders for their coastal and marine areas;
 - e. Employing information and education programmes about the coastal and marine environment and related development opportunities; and
 - f. Strengthening and expanding environmental assessment systems and practices and phasing in use of strategic environmental assessment/IEIA as a tool for integrating environmental and social concerns, as appropriate, at earlier stages of decision making.
3. Integrate economic development and environmental management by:
 - a. Formulating local coastal strategies;
 - b. Preparing strategic environmental and resource use management plans which fulfill the shared vision of local stakeholders;
 - c. Ensuring that national and local development plans complement land- and sea-use zonation plans;
 - d. Aligning developments in coastal and marine areas with social, cultural, and economic characteristics of, and benefits to, local communities;
 - e. Supporting targeted research, development and adoption of innovative green technologies;
 - f. Promoting partnerships in sustainable development and corporate responsibility among marine industries, such as shipping, capture fisheries **and** aquaculture and the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas and hard minerals, to ensure environmentally sound operations;
 - g. Utilizing the EIA process to address the long-term, communitywide and cross-sectoral implications of proposed developments;

⁸ The Changwon Declaration defines “blue economy” as a “practical ocean-based economic model using green infrastructure and technologies, innovative financing mechanisms and proactive institutional arrangements for meeting the twin goals of protecting our oceans and coasts and enhancing its potential contribution to sustainable development, including improved human well-being, and reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.”

- h. Improving public access to and benefit from sustainable use of coastal and marine resources through:
 - ecotourism as a medium for promoting appreciation for the natural and cultural environment by local residents, visitors, and tourists;
 - appropriate restrictions on waterfront access by industry and commercial operations;
 - marine industries which return long-term economic and conservation benefits;
 - port development/expansion on coastal lands with deep water access; and
 - public ownership of coastal and marine properties of cultural and natural significance at local, national, and regional levels;
- i. Enhancing the capacities of the less-developed regions and localities, as well as local and indigenous communities, in addressing the challenges to sustainable development.

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

Action Programmes

1. Reduce conflicting and nonsustainable usage of coastal and marine resources by:
 - a. Implementing ICM programmes at the local level to address multiple-use conflicts;
 - b. Empowering and building the capacity of local governments to realize benefits derived from ICM programmes through demonstration projects, and promote networking among project sites through the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) to facilitate sharing of information, providing mutual assistance and promoting good practices, and applying nationally and/or internationally recognized standards and certification systems for ICM;
 - c. Formulating and implementing ICM programmes at the local level, providing operational linkages among economic activities, natural resource management and social development including poverty alleviation, reduction of vulnerability to natural hazards, and sustainable livelihood; and
 - d. Creating partnerships among national agencies, local governments, and civil society that vest responsibility in concerned stakeholders for use planning, development, and management of coastal and marine resources.
2. Turn knowledge and concern about the coastal and marine environment into actions by:
 - a. Mobilizing local communities, environmental organizations, religious groups, and the private sector to craft a shared vision for their coastal area;
 - b. Enjoining indigenous peoples and marginalized groups in coastal areas as partners in the planning, development, and management of coastal resources;
 - c. Linking local scientific/technical institutions with other stakeholders in the community to provide scientific input into the planning and decisionmaking processes of local government; and
 - d. Implementing action plans that respond to the environmental values and threats that local stakeholders share regarding their coastal and marine environment, e.g., multiple-use zonation scheme, integrated waste management, and habitat conservation.
3. Build sustainable development and environmental conservation programmes at the local level by:
 - a. Institutionalizing legal, administrative, and economic instruments at the local government level in support of the ICM framework and process;
 - b. Creating investment opportunities for sustainable development projects, including environmental improvement projects, by local, national, and international agencies, programmes, investors, and companies;

- c. Applying innovative financial mechanisms to ensure that users and beneficiaries of coastal and marine resources recognize the value for such resources, and compensate accordingly; and
 - d. Enhancing corporate responsibility for sustainable development of natural resources through application of appropriate policy, regulatory and economic incentive packages.
4. Manage the ecological and social impacts of expanding coastal urbanization, particularly large and megacities in the coastal zone, by:
- a. Strengthening multisectoral stakeholder involvement in managing the urban affairs to address adverse impacts that may accompany rapid urbanization and population growth and ensure the implementation of sustainable urban development policies;
 - b. Undertaking risk assessment/risk management programmes with special attention to public health, population density, and the vulnerabilities of urban populations and environment; and
 - c. Increasing awareness and capacity-building programmes related to management of coastal urban areas.

Objective 3: Subregional growth areas incorporating transboundary environmental management programmes

Action Programmes

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

Objective 4: Partnerships in sustainable financing and environmental investments

Action Programmes

1. Adopt national policies, programmes, and practices to establish a stable investment climate and encourage partnerships by:

- a. Undertaking necessary structural reforms to facilitate coordination and eliminate interjurisdictional bottlenecks and constraints;
 - b. Promoting local government responsibility, transparency, and accountability in the use of public funds and access to other forms of financing;
 - c. Raising public sector understanding of environmental issues and the partnership process for effective environmental management;
 - d. Implementing clear guidelines, criteria, and processes for developing partnerships with local, national, and international stakeholders, agencies, donors, investors, and operating companies;
 - e. Streamlining environmental **assessment and clearance** processes to promote investment projects and to facilitate access to domestic and international finance opportunities;
 - f. Having a national accounting of ocean and coastal resources that realistically reflect their intrinsic value as well as the value of the goods and services they provide;
 - g. Creating incentive programmes for investments in environmental infrastructure, cleaner production technologies and processes, eco-efficiency, and supporting technical and scientific services;
 - h. Implementing policies, laws, regulations, and programmes to maintain a well-defined and level playing field among existing and potential partners; and
 - i. Undertaking dynamic information dissemination programmes to attract investment capital in the international and domestic marketplaces.
2. Boost capital flows into environmental investments at the local level by:
 - a. Empowering local governments to provide affordable environmental facilities and services to the public, in concert with national regulations, criteria, and policies;
 - b. Authorizing local governments to enter into partnerships with local, national, and international parties to plan, finance, construct, and operate environmental facilities and support services;
 - c. Building the capacity of local governments as dynamic partners in packaging, promoting, and implementing opportunities for environmental investments;
 - d. Providing local governments with the authority to enter into partnerships with sectoral bodies, river basin authorities, regional development banks, and commercial financing sources; and
 - e. Instituting environmental management systems into local government operations which signal commitment and sustainability, including:
 - strategic environmental management plans;
 - review and approval processes for new developments;
 - enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and standards;
 - environmental monitoring and evaluation programmes;
 - fair and affordable systems of cost recovery for environmental services;
 - ISO certification of local government units, industry, and commercial enterprises;
 - incentive/reward systems for representative environmental citizens, such as certifications and public awards; and
 - voluntary programmes with industry and commercial enterprises, including community services, environmental audits, and waste minimization initiatives.
3. Strengthen the role of the private sector by:
 - a. Providing legal, administrative, and economic instruments in support of private sector investments, employing financing mechanisms such as public-private sector partnerships, joint ventures corporations and operating contracts;
 - b. Promoting the integration of corporate social responsibility in company policies;
 - c. Encouraging private sector engagement in regional business networks;

- d. Allocating project risks realistically (e.g., political, technical, commercial, financial) in order to reach a fair balance of risks and benefits among parties;
- e. Establishing clear investment procedures;
- f. Adapting private sector investments to population needs and resources, in order to obtain a cost-recovery scheme, which is affordable and acceptable by the local community; and
- g. Strengthening and facilitating the participation of small business, informal business enterprises, and women in investments and the development of self-sustaining environmental enterprises.

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

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

Action Programmes

1. Translate the principles and objectives of international conventions and agreements into desired management outcomes by:
 - a. Evaluating the means and degree to which international instruments serve as a foundation and framework for, or are complementary to, national environmental policies and programmes;
 - b. Prioritizing the country's accession to relevant international conventions and agreements;
 - c. Identifying the gaps and constraints that exist regarding a country's ability to achieve full compliance with its international obligations under current national programmes;
 - d. Consolidating the administrative, operational, and reporting requirements of international conventions and agreements with the planning and management processes of functional agencies; and
 - e. Participating in formulation and revision of international instruments to contribute local considerations and needs and ensure their relevance to national, local, and regional situations.
2. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness with which international conventions are implemented by:
 - a. Identifying common actions among national agencies, industry, and the private sector that can be integrated;
 - b. Adopting strategies and policies leading to improved coordination of operations at the local and regional levels to meet international commitments;
 - c. Establishing national intersectoral, interagency, and interdisciplinary mechanisms to organize, coordinate, and manage the implementation of the identified common actions and adopted strategies and policies;
 - d. Forging partnerships with stakeholders who are directly affected by or benefit from international rules, standards, and certifications to ensure their full participation and contribution;
 - e. Calling on parties to international conventions and agreements for technical cooperation and assistance to build capacity at the regional, national, and local levels; and
 - f. Strengthening legislation and clarifying mandates among government agencies related to economic development of marine and coastal areas and environmental and resource management.

Objective 2: Regional cooperation in integrated implementation of international instruments

Action Programmes

1. Enhance synergies and linkages between international conventions and agreements at the regional level by:
 - a. Providing a factual basis for countries of the region to consider the benefits derived from multilateral environmental agreements, and establishing complementarities among international conventions, including transboundary issues;

- b. Developing a guide on integrated implementation of conventions which covers complementarities at the substantive obligation level and at the working programme level;
 - c. Examining institutional, scientific, and management mechanisms that support integrated implementation of international conventions, holistic approaches to related issues, information-sharing and joint capacity-building initiatives; and
 - d. Reviewing the implications for enhanced funding, technical assistance, and technical cooperation from GEF, World Bank, international agencies, and donors.
2. Review and continually improve the SDS-SEA as a functional framework for regional cooperation in integrated implementation of international conventions and agreements by:
- a. Updating the regional strategy in line with new and amended international agreements, recognizing individual and common responsibilities to implement the strategy;
 - b. Developing and maintaining a regional fund to serve as an incentive and reward system for local governments to transition to a blue economy.
 - c. Developing holistic management approaches to achieving the objectives of environment-related international conventions, such as ICM, ecosystem-based management, vulnerability assessment, and risk reduction and management;
 - d. Identifying common actions that contribute to the implementation of international conventions, such as conserving and restoring habitats, emergency response, protecting threatened species, pollution prevention and management, public awareness and environmental monitoring;
 - e. Establishing concerted action plans to coordinate the common efforts of countries to address transborder environmental issues, and to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of environmental programmes;
 - f. Strengthening the use of the State of Coasts (SOC) reporting system **or similar reporting systems** at the local, national and regional levels for monitoring and evaluation;
 - g. Formulating multilateral project proposals on subregional initiatives to attract extra-budgetary funds and environmental investments;
 - h. Building capacity through sharing of information, experience, and expertise among countries; and
 - i. Based on existing mechanisms, making more effective regional arrangements, taking into account advantages and constraints of various options, including regional conventions and agreements, to facilitate the implementation of the common strategy and action programmes.

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

Action Programmes

1. Scale up ICM programmes to enable local stakeholders to effectively contribute to Agenda 21, the WSSD Plan of Implementation, the Sustainable Development Goals, GPA, and other international instruments⁹ for sustainable development as updated by:
 - a. Establishing ICM policies and programs at the national and local levels that transform obligations under international conventions into on-the-ground actions;
 - b. Empowering local governments to plan, develop, and manage the coastal and marine resources within their jurisdiction, including actions designated under international conventions and agreements;

⁹ Such as The Future We Want, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the Pyeongchang Roadmap, among many others.

- c. Building local capacities for integrated management, including ICM, community-based management of coastal resources, integrated waste management and sustainable tourism; and
- d. Providing seed funding and creating incentive programmes to help local stakeholders with the development and startup of appropriate facilities, services, and programmes.

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

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

Action Programmes

1. Establish good information exchange between stakeholders by:
 - a. Determining the values that different sectors of society place on coastal and marine resources and the existing and potential threats to those values as perceived by the different stakeholders, including:
 - fishing, aquaculture, seaweed farming, tourism, etc.;
 - navigation;
 - tourism and recreation;
 - social, cultural, and aesthetic characteristics; and
 - protection from typhoons, coastal erosion, flooding, and other ocean-related disturbances.
 - b. Turning disparate views regarding the coastal and marine environment into a shared vision among stakeholders through information and education campaigns that:
 - alert stakeholders to the environmental issues and needed changes;
 - identify direction, purpose, a focus for action, and roles and responsibilities;
 - promote interest and commitment through public forums/events;
 - encourage openness to unique and creative solutions; and
 - develop loyalty through involvement and ownership (e.g., voluntary agreements).
2. Strengthen the use of available information on environmental issues, technologies, processes and lessons learned at the local, national and regional levels by:
 - a. Setting up/enhancing knowledge sharing platforms and communication networks among stakeholder groups;
 - b. Adopting capacity-building and information dissemination initiatives aimed at assisting civil servants, government officials, NGOs, POs, religious groups, teachers, trainers, and the media to promote environmental management among civil society;
 - c. Improving methods of communicating with indigenous people and marginalized groups in coastal areas to encourage participation in and ownership of local environmental management programmes;
 - d. Strengthening scientific and technical education and training in sustainable environmental management of coastal and marine ecosystems; and
 - e. Translating and disseminating information on the dynamics of coastal and marine ecosystems and their sustainable development into local languages.

Objective 2: Utilization of science and traditional knowledge in decisionmaking processes

Action Programmes

1. Establish information technology (IT) as a vital tool in sustainable development programmes at the local, national, and regional levels systems by:
 - a. Aligning national information management systems with the framework and standard of the Integrated Information Management System (IIMS) developed by PEMSEA for environmental information management at the local, national, and regional levels;

- b. Building local government capacities to help decision makers and to sensitize the local public on environmental matters;
 - c. Linking people via computer networks to exchange information, encourage collaboration, and develop new opportunities;
 - d. Cooperating with the private sector to spur investment in and use of IT;
 - e. Encouraging sharing of environmental information and lessons among countries and institutions as one way to build capacity and learn from one another's experiences; and
 - f. Applying innovative IT technologies to minimize costs, advance understanding of available information and serve as decision-support instruments for policymakers and other stakeholders.
2. Utilize science and traditional knowledge in environmental policy development and decisionmaking by:
- a. Forging partnerships with scientists and scientific institutions to encourage information and knowledge sharing at the local and national levels;
 - b. Supporting scientific research and applying established scientific information and tools which advances knowledge of ecosystem management and provides input to decisions on sustainable economic development, including:
 - new technology and practices that support the sustainable use of resources;
 - economic valuation of coastal and marine resources;
 - preservation of biodiversity and the natural and cultural heritage of the peoples and countries of the Seas of East Asia, including in situ and ex-situ research;
 - effective management of transboundary issues at the local, national, subregional, and regional level; and
 - the carrying capacity of the ecosystem to establish levels for sustainable resource use and economic development activities;
 - c. Applying the knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous local communities in planning, development, and management processes;
 - d. Involving indigenous peoples and other stakeholders in gathering, analysis and use of information on habitats and biological diversity;
 - e. Coordinating local interest groups to undertake surveys/monitoring and other management efforts; and
 - f. Contributing to the regular process of the Global Marine Environment Monitoring and Assessment called for by the WSSD Plan of Implementation.

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

Action Programmes

1. Enhance dissemination of reliable and relevant data by:
 - a. Setting up local, national, and regional networks of organizations to collate, organize, and disseminate information on coastal and marine environmental and resource management (e.g., a marine electronic highway);
 - b. Creating virtual (online) media resource information centers to serve as clearinghouses/depositories of information on coastal and marine environmental and resource management;
 - d. Establishing a news monitoring and quick response system vis-à-vis issues relating to coastal and marine environmental and resource management; and
 - e. Linking with international agencies, programmes, and activities to enhance IT skills in the creation of websites and management of networks and Internet services.
2. Encourage information sharing by:

- a. Rewarding those who share information through access to innovative applications and/or information networks;
 - b. Creating opportunities for profit-sharing/cost-recovery through e-commerce;
 - c. Identifying market needs and potential users of shared information and developing responsive packaging/analytical techniques;
 - d. Promoting wider application of traditional knowledge and practices with the approval and involvement of communities concerned; and
 - e. Ensuring integrity and ownership of knowledge and information and equitable sharing of benefits derived from their utilization.
3. Build a sense of ownership among stakeholders in the sustainable development of the coastal and marine areas by:
- a. Providing for effective procedures for stakeholder participation and public consultation in policymaking and implementation; and
 - b. Developing mechanisms for resolving disputes concerning the use of coastal and marine resources.

Attachment C

THE PROPOSED ADAPT STRATEGY As of 24 March 2015

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

(Develop Background and Principles emphasizing PEMSEA's niche in contributing to the targets and objectives of these global instruments)

OBJECTIVES

1. Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management incorporated into development policies, plans, and programs at national and local levels
2. Strengthened capacity of national and local governments, communities, and other stakeholders to adapt to the impacts of climate change and respond to natural and man-made hazards
3. Risk-sensitive public and private investments are supported by innovative sustainable financing mechanisms

Action Programmes

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

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

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

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

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

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

OBJECTIVE 3. Risk-sensitive public and private investments are supported by innovative sustainable financing mechanisms

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

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

Attachment D

ANNOTATED OUTLINE: MINISTERIAL DOCUMENT FOR THE FIFTH MINISTERIAL FORUM ON THE ADOPTION OF UPDATED SDS-SEA AND POST-2015 STRATEGIC TARGETS (Based on the 2nd TWG Meeting)

1. POSSIBLE TITLES:

DANANG COMPACT ON PEOPLE AND SUSTAINABLE OCEANS 2015
DANANG BLUEPRINT ON PEOPLE AND SUSTAINABLE OCEANS 2015

2. CONTENTS

Healthy Oceans, People and Economies: Our Vision

- Reiteration of core principles and purpose of PEMSEA:
 - Commitment of country partners to the sustainable development of our regional marine and coastal environment since the adoption of the Putrajaya Declaration in 2003
 - Rationale for PEMSEA's commitment, which is the recognition of the vast resources in oceans and coasts as a priceless and unique feature of the EAS region, and the challenge of combating its continuous degradation and destruction throughout the years

The Current Situation

- Progress with regard to SDS-SEA implementation and targets that were adopted during the 2nd Ministerial Forum in 2006 (Haikou Partnership Agreement) (i.e., regional mechanism; length of coastline; national ocean policy)
- Reference to the actions in previous ministerial declarations in relation to climate change adaptation and financing, and emphasize the need for strategic responses by Partner Countries

Changes and Trends

- Brief summary of issues and enumeration of the changing regional context and key scientific findings in the past 12 years that have an effect on sustainable development in general, and on the conditions of oceans and coasts in particular, such as:
 - Increasing EAS population relying on ocean and coastal resources
 - High percentage of people below poverty line
 - Food security (quality and quantity); nutrition issue
 - Increasing vulnerability of settlements and sectors to impact of climate change and natural disasters;
 - Unabated environmental degradation, particularly coastal and marine ecosystem degradation due to economic coastal development that will undermine the sustainability of coastal development
 - Economic growth of region with significant reliance on coastal and ocean resource development and use
- Highlight the significance of Sustainable Development Goals adopted in September 2015 and the need for regional responses to the SDGs' call to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and to adopt

and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters for all human settlements

- Enumeration of new international and regional agreements on sustainable development, economic growth and environmental protection in the past 12 years, and their impact on PEMSEA's role as a regional partnership for the sustainable development of the oceans and coastal environment, particularly focusing on the following instruments:
 - Recent outcome of UNFCCC negotiations, specifically the Durban Platform on Enhanced Action (to be confirmed)
 - Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction to be approved in March 2015, and the agreement on concrete global targets for disaster risk reduction, focusing on preventing and minimizing the loss of lives and property, protection of human health and educational facilities, and adopting and implementing national and local DRR strategies (to be confirmed)

Building on a Solid and Proven Platform of Cooperation and Partnership

- Reconfirmation of the SDS-SEA's vision of sustainably developing ocean and coasts of the seas of East Asia, which goes hand in hand with SDGs aim to contribute "to the full implementation of the outcomes of all major summits in the economic, social and environmental fields";
- Enumeration of confidence of partners in PEMSEA and its crucial role as a regional partnership mechanism to coordinate regional responses to these changes, how it can empower its Partners to scale up their efforts, and how the SDS-SEA and the PEMSEA Strategic Targets need to evolve corollary to these changes

Solutions

Solutions that are agreed to by Ministers to ensure the continuing impact and benefits of PEMSEA and SDS-SEA as a platform for regional cooperation and a framework for on-the-ground actions:

1. **Adopt the updated SDS-SEA strategy**, including new and changing priorities within countries, as well as national commitments under international, focusing on the following priorities:
 - Strategy, objectives and action programs on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (a new Adapt strategy)
 - Strategy, objectives and action programs on Conservation of Marine and Coastal Biodiversity (strengthening existing Sustain, Preserve and Develop strategies)
2. **Set Interim Targets**
 - State the rationale for setting targets:

TARGET 1: By **(2017)**, a self-sustaining PEMSEA managing and coordinating a suite of products, services, and financing mechanisms for advancing SDS-SEA implementation.

TARGET 2: By **(2017)**, a regional State of Oceans and Coasts reporting system in place to monitor progress, impacts and benefits, and to continually improve planning and management of SDS-SEA implementation.

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

TARGET 4: By **(2021)**, scaling up ICM programs for sustainable development of coastal and marine areas covering at least 25% of the region's coastline and contiguous watershed areas and 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.

3. **Formulate and adopt mutually supportive SDS-SEA implementation plans at the national and regional levels**, to set the actions, roles and responsibilities to achieve the targets covering:

- PEMSEA as a self-sustaining international organization focused on coordination among countries and other players at the global, regional and local levels for SDS-SEA implementation
- Implementation of sustainable financing mechanisms for the successful implementation of the SDS-SEA and the post-2015 Strategic including:
 - For PEMSEA countries to accelerate and secure long-term funding mechanisms at the national and regional levels through creative financing and other tools for achieving the SDS-SEA Objectives and Targets.
 - For PEMSEA Resource Facility to provide products and services to Partners, collaborators and business community in support of implementation of SDS-SEA at national and local levels
- Strengthening the institutional support to implementation of SDS-SEA at the national and subregional levels
 - For countries to establish or designate PEMSEA Country Centers to strengthen the institutional capacity of SDS-SEA implementation

4. **Scale up national ICM programs** as an on-the-ground practical means of achieving national objectives, while contributing to regional and global targets, covering, as appropriate: **(expound on the following)**

- Aichi Biodiversity Target/habitat restoration/sustainable fisheries/MPA
- Climate Change **Adaptation**
- Disaster risk reduction
- Pollution reduction/**Highlands to Oceans (H2O)/hazardous wastes/etc.**

5. **Use State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting System** as a systematic approach to reporting national progress in implementation of SDS-SEA, including establishing baseline conditions:

- Stress the importance of maintaining a regular scientifically sound monitoring and reporting system for effective planning and decision making
- Specify the timeframe of reporting, and how the reporting will be synthesized for regional strategizing and planning

6. **(Include the engagement of business sector and development of the EAS-Sustainable Business Network as part of the Solutions)**

Partnerships Wanted

- Enumeration of joint planning as a working mechanism of partnership strategy (including PEMSEA's role in facilitating transboundary projects)
- State the roles of Non-Country Partners of PEMSEA and their commitments to SDS-SEA implementation
- Specify the need for Non-Country Partners to affirm their commitment to implementation of SDS-SEA objectives and post-2015 targets
- Specify the need to collaborate in planning for implementation of SDS-SEA at regional and national level in the wake of adoption of updated SDS-SEA
- State the willingness of PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners to accept new Country and Non-Country partners to the PEMSEA family, including
 - National Governments/economies
 - Local Governments
 - International organizations
 - Donors/Development agencies
 - Financial Institutions
 - Business sector
 - Coastal and Ocean Industries
 - Academe/scientific institutions

Attachment E

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

TARGET ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULE
2 nd TWG Workshop to review the 2 nd draft of the updated SDS-SEA (including Adapt Strategy, background and annexes) and draft ministerial document (including post-2015 targets)	March 5-6, 2015
Expanded 16 th EC Meeting conducted to review the 3 rd draft of the updated SDS-SEA (including Adapt Strategy, background and annexes) and draft ministerial document (including post-2015 targets), and agrees on the schedule for conduct of reviews and approval by Country and Non-Country Partners.	March 23-24, 2015
4 th draft of the updated SDS-SEA and draft ministerial document (including post-2015 targets), and draft "Commitment of Support" document for Non-Country Partners developed and disseminated to Country and Non-Country Partners as part of the 7 th EAS Partnership Council documents; Country and Non-Country Partners to initiate reviews of documents and provide initial comments/inputs for discussion at the 7 th EAS Partnership Council	May 1, 2015
Submission of initial comments/inputs from Country (for the updated SDS-SEA, draft Ministerial document) and Non-Country Partners (proposed Commitment of Support document)	May 22, 2015
7 th EAS Partnership Council meeting reviews and comments on the 4 th draft of the updated SDS-SEA, the draft ministerial document (including post-2015 targets), and draft document for signature by PEMSEA Non-Country Partners, and agrees in principle on the documents, along with the process and schedule for seeking approval by the respective governments and Non-Country Partners	June 23, 2015
Continue conduct of reviews of documents, taking into consideration possible inputs coming from the 7 th EAS Partnership Council	July 1 to August 14, 2015
Consolidation of comments/inputs from countries and revision of documents, and final draft of documents circulated to Country and Non-Country Partners for final approval	August 17, 2015
Approval of final draft documents by Country and Non-Country Partners	October 17, 2015
Lay out and printing of final documents for adoption/signature at the Fifth Ministerial Forum	October 17-31, 2015

Attachment F

**SCHEDULE FOR NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF
 INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION CO-CHAIR**

Activity	Date
Issue Call for Nominations of candidates for Intergovernmental Session Co-Chair	April 1-30, 2015
Compile all nominations	May 1, 2015
Notify and secure the consent and CVs of individual nominees	May 6, 2015
Prepare roster of candidates for submission to Election Board (Executive Committee)	May 8, 2015
Conduct first round of consultation with Country Partners to shortlist top two candidates	May 11-22, 2015
Conduct of second round of consultation with Country Partners to identify lone nominee	May 22-29, 2015
Secure consensus on the lone nominee	June 1- 12, 2015
Formal election by consensus	June 23, 2015 (7 th EAS PC Meeting)