



PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-EIGHT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Conducted via Zoom

24 March 2022



28th Meeting of PEMSEA's Executive Committee (EC)
24 March 2022, 9 am – 12 pm (UTC+8) via Zoom

PROCEEDINGS

Introduction

- i. The 28th PEMSEA EC Meeting was held virtually on 24 March 2022 via Zoom. It was participated by the EC, particularly the Chair and Co-Chair, Intergovernmental Session Chair, and Technical Session Chair of the EAS Partnership Council (PC) and the Executive Director of the PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF); as well as observers from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) of China, China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center (CPC), and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines. PRF served as the secretariat of the meeting.
- ii. The supporting documents can be found in the Annexes:
 - a. Annex 1: agenda of the meeting;
 - b. Annex 2: links to the meeting documents, presentation material, and group photo; and
 - c. Annex 3: list of participants.

1.0 Opening of the meeting and approval of the meeting agenda (EC/28/DOC/01b)

- 1.0 The meeting commenced at 9:03 am (UTC+8). As the EAS PC Chair, Mr. Arief Yuwono welcomed the participants and thanked the PRF for organizing the event.
- 1.1 He shared how the year 2021 was a landmark year for PEMSEA by highlighting the following milestones resulting from the decisions of the Executive Committee:
 - a. Signing of the Preah Sihanouk Ministerial Declaration and successful organization of the first ever online EAS Congress;
 - b. Terminal evaluation of the six-year long UNDP/GEF Project on Scaling up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) in eight countries;
 - c. Completion of the midterm review of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022, which helped the Secretariat in jumpstarting the formulation of the SDS-SEA Implementation 2023-2027;
 - d. Renewal of partnership agreements with the Marine Biodiversity Institute of Korea (MABIK) and Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) as PEMSEA non-country partners (NCPs); and
 - e. Receipt of the committed voluntary contribution from Indonesia; and

- f. Smooth transition to online delivery of PRF operations and services during the COVID-19 pandemic .
- 1.2 The Chair acknowledged the active engagement of EC members, PRF, and PEMSEA partners and networks.
- 1.3 He then called the attention of the meeting to the end of term of the current EAS PC Officers and Co-Chairs and the upcoming nomination and election of the new Officers and Co-Chairs— all of whom are expected to assume office in July 2022. He also highlighted the development of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan (IP) 2023-2027 as a crucial deliverable of the EAS Partnership in 2022. PRF began the groundwork for the Plan in 2021 and hope to have this Plan approved by the EAS PC at their 29th (Expanded) EC Meeting in late October 2022. He reminded the EC of the need to discuss how to secure strategic partnerships and resource mobilization as the PRF experiences a buffer period before getting its major projects approved. The PRF shall guide the EC through these processes and will explain these matters, along with the developments in the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) and PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) in 2022, to fulfill the commitments made at the EAS Congress 2021.
- 1.4 He looked forward to hearing the EC’s thoughts and suggestions and wished everyone a pleasant morning.
- 1.5 Ms. Karen See, Secretariat Coordinator of the PRF, thanked the Chair for his message and convened everyone for a group photograph before presenting the agenda of the meeting. Afterwards, the Chair requested the EC to review/approve the agenda.
- 1.6 **Decision:** The agenda was approved as presented.
- 2.0 Results, follow-on actions, and financial expenditures of the EAS Congress 2021 (EC/28/DOC/02a, EC/28/DOC/02b)**
- 2.1 Ms. Karen See, Secretariat Coordinator of the PRF, presented a summary of the results, follow-on actions, and financial expenditures of the recently concluded EAS Congress 2021.
- 2.2 With the theme “Charting a New Decade of HOPE (Healthy Ocean, People, and Economies,” the EAS Congress 2021 shared the lessons learned and tracked the progress made in implementing the SDS-SEA; built on and recalibrated existing management interventions and fostered new opportunities for regional partnerships using innovative approaches, technologies, investments, and financing towards the sustainable development of the coastal and marine environment; and set up a clear roadmap on transformative blue solutions for the next decade in accordance with relevant international and regional commitments.

- 2.3 It was hosted by the Royal Government of Cambodia and organized by its Ministry of Environment (MoE), the Provincial Administration of Preah Sihanouk in Cambodia, and PRF.
- 2.4 It was the first ever virtual EAS Congress. It focused on 5 subthemes, was supported by 11 sponsors and 36 conveners and co-conveners—consisting of PEMSEA partners, networks, projects, and other organizations—and involved at least 120 resources speakers in its 23 knowledge-sharing collabs consisting of 110 hours of solution-oriented discourse. The Main Conference alone was participated by a total of 1,417 participants from 27 countries worldwide. The Congress garnered 257 pick-ups in the form of media hits and bylined articles from various countries.
- 2.5 PRF targeted a total of USD 50,000-100,000 for Congress-related expenses and managed to secure USD 230,000 from Cambodia and the 11 sponsors.
- 2.6 The structure of the Congress is summarized as follows:
- a. **Pre-Congress (April-November 2021):**
 - i. Virtual Training Workshop on Claims and Compensation for Oil Pollution from Ships
 - ii. Collabs
 - iii. 13th EAS PC Meeting
 - iv. 27th PEMSEA EC Meeting
 - v. 7th EAS Senior Government Officials’ Meeting
 - b. **Congress Proper (1-2 December 2021):**
 - i. Inauguration of the PNLC
 - ii. 2021 PNLG Forum
 - iii. Main Conference
 - iv. Partnership Night
 - v. 7th EAS Ministerial Forum and Press Conference

Table 1. Breakdown of the collabs per subtheme and topic.

Subtheme and topic	Number of collabs
Securing food, livelihood, and income in line with a blue economy	
Blue economy	4
Fostering social inclusion	
Gender equality	1
Managing and restoring natural capital	
Marine protected areas (MPAs) and MPA networks (MPANs)	3
Nature-based solutions	1
Reducing marine pollution	
Oil spills	1
Toxins and emerging chemical pollutants	2

Subtheme and topic	Number of collabs
Marine plastic pollution	3
Biofouling	2
Averting climate change and promoting social resilience	
Climate change mitigation	1
Climate change adaptation	2
Crosscutting	
ICM or marine spatial planning (MSP)	3
TOTAL	23

2.7 Key results of the EAS Congress 2021 include:

- a. **Signing of the Preah Sihanouk Ministerial Declaration**, which adopted the following regional commitments:
 - i. Reaffirm and build on previous Ministerial commitments of the EAS Partnership in support of SDS-SEA implementation and key international agreements;
 - ii. Endorse the development of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 and PEMSEA Roadmap to 2030; and
 - iii. Build back better from the impacts of the global pandemic through strengthened partnership towards a responsible and strengthened ocean governance anchored on sustainable development and blue economy principles.

- b. **Expanded and strengthened partnerships and investments within the EAS region.**

The metropolitan city government of Busan, RO Korea was inducted as the 55th member of the PNLG. As the second largest city in the country, Busan has a strong ocean-based economy. Domestically, it is considered as the seafood capital and top marine leisure and tourism city and has the largest hub port for overseas fisheries. Naturally endowed with scenic beaches, mountains, and cliffs along the coast, it ranks second in terms of transshipment freight and houses the sixth largest container handling port worldwide. Busan envisions to become a smart, green city and has set its sights to become the Maritime Capital of Northeast Asia.

Additionally, under the EAS Congress 2021, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam expressed their commitment to engage in the IKI/IMO Blue Solutions project as manifested in the development of working groups and identification of initial pilot projects to be funded under Blue Solutions.¹ Set with a five-year implementation timeline, the project aims to support East and Southeast

¹ The full project title is “IKI/IMO Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Maritime Transport Sector in the EAS Region.” There is significant engagement from Malaysia and Thailand in this project despite not being formal PEMSEA partners.

Asian countries in identifying and funding investment opportunities to prevent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from maritime transport.

- c. **Adoption of the PNLG Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2022-2030.** The SAP outlines the objectives, actions, and targets of the Network under three major programs for the upcoming years. These programs include:
 - i. Strengthening governance and partnerships;
 - ii. Implementation of management programs relevant to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 13 (climate action), and 14 (life below water); and
 - iii. Enhancing monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

The SAP was adopted through the signing of the Preah Sihanouk PNLG Declaration under which PNLG members, through their respective ICM programs and related initiatives, commit to pursue a blue economy in upholding the PNLG SAP 2022-2030 and regularly report their progress thereof.

- d. **Adoption of the PNLG Charter**, which formalized the network and specified the ground rules on its membership and identified joint activities and outputs amongst members as well as options for its sustainability and funding support. To date, this has already been signed by 12 out of 18 founding members of the PNLG.
- e. **Commencement of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 development process.**
- f. **Launch of the Regional State of the Ocean and Coasts (RSOC) 2021 and its supplemental report.** The 2021 RSOC provides the latest state of play and prospects on blue economy in the EAS region whereas its supplemental report features the impacts of COVID-19 on the ocean economy and the health of the people and the ocean. It also provides key recommendations to advance the blue economy based on best practices and lessons learned in the region.
- g. **Launch of “The PEMSEA Story.”** Available in online and printed versions, this coffee table book chronicles the origin and stories of success, developments, and challenges of PEMSEA from its days as a regional marine pollution project to its current role as the regional coordinating mechanism for the SDS-SEA.

2.8 Post-Congress, PEMSEA gained additional positive outcomes in the form of increased recognition by global, regional, and national initiatives, which provided PEMSEA with the opportunity to:

- a. Develop the Coastal and Marine section of the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN) 6 report;
- b. Speak at the Trade and Sustainable Development Forum on coastal and marine governance of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);

- c. Contribute to the capacity-building and outreach campaign for the UN World Ocean Assessment Report III; and
- d. Speak at the Philippine National GEF programming and grant preparation.

2.9 Ms. See then presented the following conclusions and recommendations of the EAS Congress 2021, as culled from the collabs and the Main Conference plenary:

a. **Main findings:**

- i. SDS-SEA remains a powerful framework to achieve sustainable ocean and coastal development, facilitate a blue recovery from the impacts of the global pandemic, and implement the SDGs and other international and regional goals.
- ii. ICM is still acknowledged as a fundamental tool to build blue economies but there are also other essential management approaches such as integrated river basin management (IRBM) and intermodal transport.
- iii. Gender and climate response and actions need to be mainstreamed in coastal and ocean strategies and programs.
- iv. More local adaptation of innovative tools and solutions, financing, and public-private sector partnership is needed for the management of the coastal and marine sector.
- v. Successful coastal and ocean programs/initiatives are often co-designed and co-managed by local stakeholders and their co-benefits are explicitly identified.
- vi. Empirical evidence, policy options, tools, and information on good practices need to be accessible and adapted for local governments and coastal stakeholders.
- vii. Conduct regular state of the ocean and coasts monitoring to assess management interventions, address gaps thereof, and seize opportunities to transform towards a blue economy.
- viii. Provide enabling policies and incentives to develop emerging sustainable industries such as offshore renewable energy, green ports, and marine biotechnology.

b. **On ensuring food, livelihood, and income in line with a blue economy:**

- i. Emphasize the interconnection between ocean-based economic activities, ecosystem services, and the values and benefits of well-managed marine and coastal habitats and fisheries resources.
- ii. Institutionalize ocean monitoring and accounting.
- iii. Harmonize policies, incentives, and financing modalities for the sustainable use of coastal and marine resources.
- iv. Work with the private sector as investors and partners in emerging, blue economy investments.
- v. Use both ocean health data and traditional knowledge and practices to inform policy-making and project design and implementation.

c. On fostering social inclusion:

- i. Participation of women, minorities, and other disadvantaged groups is vital in any decision-making process to ensure an inclusive process.
- ii. Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) involves looking at: differentiated capacity of men and women; segregated roles in household and community levels; access and control over resources (financial, fisheries equipment, and markets); cultural perception on gender roles and positions; gender participation; and equal benefits for men and women.
- iii. The presence of the following enabling factors will help turn gender commitments into concrete actions: gender-sensitive baseline, indicators, and outputs integrated in development plans; gender budget and expenditure tracker; GESI experts; GESI-sensitive organizational/institutional architecture; and capacity-building activities for women.
- iv. Integrate gender concerns into the entire program/project cycle.
- v. There should be focused/targeted intervention for specific groups (there is no solution where one size fits all).

d. On managing and restoring natural capital, specifically on the topic of ICM and MSP:

- i. Share the practical experiences of applying ICM and MSP in the region.
- ii. Conduct joint training with PNLG and PNLC under the purview of the SDS-SEA and PEMSEA Roadmap to 2030.
- iii. Utilize the Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank (SEAKB) for knowledge sharing and dissemination.
- iv. Improve methodology assessments to help address the paucity of data in MSP.
- v. Use satellite data and/or ground survey to enhance the reliability and accuracy of marine spatial assessment for identifying ideal marine energy sites (e.g., tidal or wave energy).
- vi. Establish a comprehensive, systematic, planned, participatory, documented, and codified ICM system in more local governments, which are considered as the main actors of sustainable coastal development.
- vii. Build local management capacity on ICM through “learning by doing” approach. Policy briefs, guidelines, codes, and case studies can serve as key reference materials for this purpose.
- viii. Promote the adoption of relevant legislation and regulations, multi-stakeholder partnership, and public awareness campaigns to help facilitate and strengthen ecosystem restoration (e.g., mangrove rehabilitation).
- ix. Encourage the use of remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems, and other data- and web-based ICM tools such as the Asia-Pacific

Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) to help with ICM decision-making.

- x. Strengthen capacity development and knowledge exchange on marine environmental research and monitoring (e.g., pollution monitoring, coral reef restoration, eco-engineering).
- xi. Adopt the Marine Protected Area Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool in more MPAs as a means to gauge management effectiveness.

e. On managing and restoring natural capital, specifically on the topic of effective management of transboundary MPAs:

- i. Accelerate collaborative efforts on protecting and restoring critical habitats as well as addressing transboundary issues related to the coastal and marine sector.
- ii. Find win-win solutions to improve the management effectiveness of MPAs.
- iii. Pursue capacity-building activities for stakeholders managing transboundary resources.
- iv. Communicate the multiple benefits of MPAs to the public.
- v. Improve joint scientific monitoring and research among regional large marine ecosystems.
- vi. Engage coastal communities in the co-design and co-management of MPAs.
- vii. Validate the eligibility of areas of interest to become MPAs.
- viii. Zone all MPAs in the region using scientific criteria and traditional knowledge and compile these zoning plans in a regional database.
- ix. Convert abandoned, undeveloped, and underutilized fishponds into mangrove forests in the form of protected areas or integrated eco parks to capitalize on the carbon sink potential of these types of forests.

f. On reducing marine pollution, specifically plastic debris:

- i. National governments should implement national plans of actions to combat marine litter in a whole-of-government approach.
- ii. Engage communities and the private sector in adopting sustainable consumption and production practices.
- iii. Foster open dialogue and coordinated research action, including citizen science and capacity development programs.
- iv. Share good practices/models of implementing extended producers' responsibility.
- v. Engage in the development of the global treaty to combat plastic pollution.
- vi. Facilitate local government sharing of methods to gather data, apply monitoring tools, and conduct research on socioeconomic impacts of

marine plastic pollution and good practices on implementing measures to reduce plastic debris.

g. On reducing marine pollution, specifically biofouling and invasive alien species:

- i. Produce country/region-specific biofouling assessment.
- ii. National governments should develop policies to address biofouling and invasive alien species.
- iii. Private sector should demonstrate innovative technology and promote research and development.
- iv. PEMSEA should coordinate the development of regional guidelines on ship biofouling in the EAS in line with the guidelines set by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

h. On averting climate change and fostering coastal resilience:

- i. PEMSEA will work with IMO to address emissions from the maritime sector in the ASEAN region through an intermodal approach involving ports, ships, and hinterland transport by establishing an emissions baseline, developing national roadmaps, and demonstrating innovative solutions for energy efficiency improvement and optimized processes.
- ii. Link scientific information for concrete local application in terms of climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness and response at the local level through the PNLG and PNLC.
- iii. Promote a co-learning and co-developing approach that addresses the needs of local stakeholders, responds to the local context, and supports community-based restoration.
- iv. Tailormade data sets, knowledge, and tools should be accessible.
- v. Communities should have access to climate financing.
- vi. Continue research efforts on the contribution of mangroves and macroalgae to carbon sequestration and strengthen the restoration programs for these habitats and resources such as by promoting awareness on their conservation and restoration.
- vii. Ensure that fisheries management takes into account the projections on the impacts of climate change and is accompanied by science-backed mitigation efforts.
- viii. Promote knowledge and capacity-building such as through youth empowerment, citizen science, and community engagement.
- ix. Incorporate climate lens in development plans, policies, and actions.
- x. Several tools such as the ICM approach, the guide for decision-makers by the UNDP/GEF/PEMSEA Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Phase II (ATSEA-2), and the novel participatory coastal land-use management (PCLM) of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies have been tested in pilot sites and should be replicated to scale up the best practices and lessons learned. To do so, collaboration and

partnership between local governments, research institutions, donor agencies, and local communities are key.

2.10 The Chair then requested EC members to provide feedback on results and online process of the EAS Congress 2021.

2.11 **Discussion highlights:**

- a. Dr. Ca Vu Thanh, Chair of the EAS PC Intergovernmental Session, agreed with the presented information.
- b. Dr. Keita Furukawa, Co-Chair of the EAS PC Technical Session, thanked the PRF for reporting the fruitful results of the EAS Congress 2021. He found the thematic knowledge-sharing collabs useful as they were held online, pre-Congress. This made it easier for PEMSEA partners and other stakeholders to participate in these events compared to aggregating them in a few days along with the main events as the case was in previous Congresses. Dr. Furukawa looked forward to having the same online, pre-Congress nature for the collabs in future EAS Congresses, including those that will be held face-to-face. Ms. Aimee Gonzales, Executive Director of the PRF, agreed to Dr. Furukawa's comments and suggestions and added that these types of collabs also encouraged more PEMSEA partners and stakeholders to take part in the EAS Congress 2021 as conveners or co-conveners.
- c. She informed the meeting that there will be the annual EAS Ocean Roundtable Dialogue during the World Ocean Day (8 June 2022).² The 2022 dialogue will focus on the nexus between the ocean and climate change as exemplified in the Glasgow Climate Pact, which recognized this inextricable link and commits countries to consider ocean-related issues and ocean-based solutions in climate action. In response, Mr. Yuwono suggested to consider including carbon trading, renewable energy, and climate change adaptation in the context of the coastal and marine sector as part of the discussion topics for the 2022 Ocean Roundtable Dialogue.
- d. **Conclusion:** The EC members agreed with the presented information and found the recently concluded Congress successful and productive. The thematic knowledge-sharing collabs, which were held online pre-Congress, were deemed useful as these were able to easily engage PEMSEA partners and other stakeholders.
- e. **Recommendations:**
 - i. In collaboration with PEMSEA partners and networks and other organizations, PRF to continue conducting online pre-Congress collabs in future EAS Congresses.
 - ii. PRF to consider incorporating carbon trading, renewable energy, and adaptation to climate change in the context of the coastal and marine sector as part of the discussion topics for the 2022 Ocean Roundtable Dialogue.

² The "2021 Ocean Roundtable Dialogue: Towards a Blue Economic Pathway for the East Asian Seas" was organized as the first collab under the EAS Congress 2021.

3.0 Guidelines and timeline of the 2022 elections of EAS PC Officers and Co-Chairs (EC/28/DOC/03)

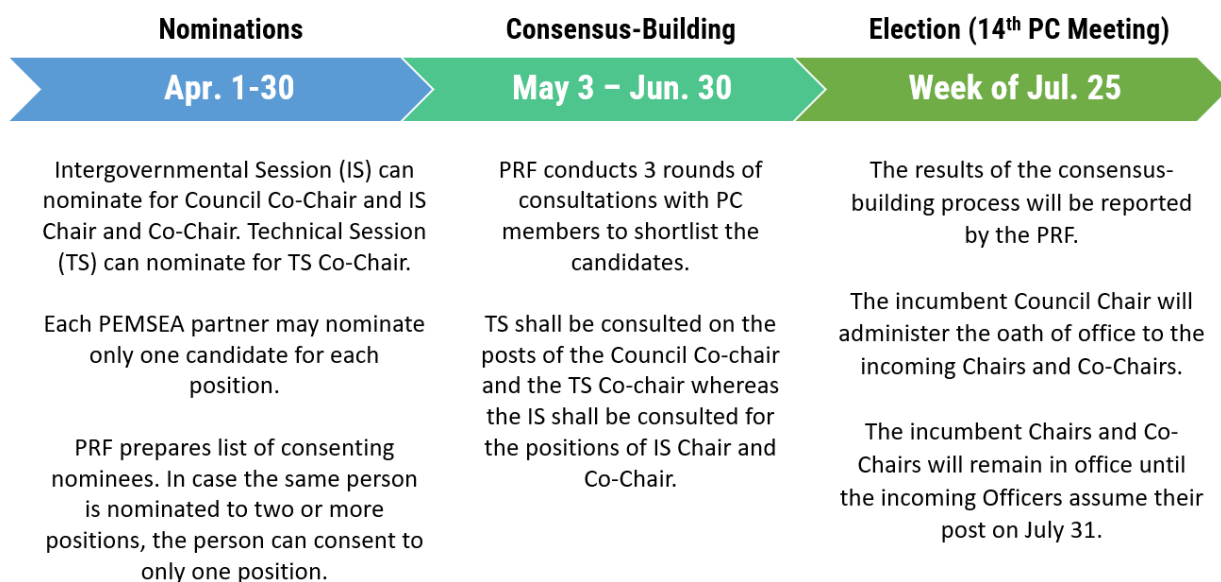
- 3.1 Ms. See presented the guidelines and timeline of the 2022 elections of EAS PC Officers and Co-Chairs.
- 3.2 She reminded EC members that the PEMSEA Rules of Governance state that four officers, namely the Chair, Intergovernmental Session Chair, Technical Session Chair, and Secretary (post held ex-officio by the Executive Director of the PRF), shall constitute the Executive Committee that will head the EAS PC. With the exception of the Executive Director of the PRF, these Officers are nominated and elected along with their respective Co-Chairs.
- 3.3 Four posts to be vacated on 31 July 2022 are up for nomination and election, namely: EAS PC Co-Chair, Intergovernmental Session Chair and Co-Chair, and Technical Session Co-Chair.³
- 3.4 All successful candidates shall be formally elected during the 14th EAS PC Meeting in late July 2022 and shall serve in personal capacity for a term of three years from 31 July 2022 to 30 July 2025.
- 3.5 Each candidate should have the following minimum qualification:
- a. Has proven leadership;
 - b. Has international standing;
 - c. Has knowledge of and work experience in the EAS region;
 - d. Has the ability to represent the perspectives of the region as well as either a PEMSEA country partner or NCP;
 - e. Has proof that they belong to or is affiliated with the government of the country partner or organization of the NCP; and
 - f. Has working knowledge and understanding of the English language.
- 3.6 There should at least be one NCP representative serving as PC Officer within the entire Council.
- 3.7 All Officers and Co-Chairs will perform their functions in their individual capacity and as such will be nominated and elected for their personal qualifications and not of their organizations’.
- 3.8 PC Officers cannot be re-elected to any position.
- 3.9 In case of any vacancy by reason of resignation, withdrawal, or inability to serve as Officer, the concerned Co-Chair shall assume the vacated Officer position in an acting capacity until the next regular election. In this scenario, it is not deemed that they have vacated their post

³ Current Co-Chairs are automatically elected into the posts of their respective Chairs, according to the Rules of Governance. In the case of the Technical Session, Dr. Furukawa has already consented to being elected as the Session Chair.

as Co-chair. In the event that a Co-Chair vacates their post for any reason, the Council will elect a new Co-Chair for the post in its next regular meeting.

3.10 The nomination and election process was presented through the diagram below:

Figure 1. 2022 nomination and election process of EAS PC Officers and Co-Chairs.



3.11 The Chair then asked the EC members to provide comments or questions on the process of the nomination and election and offer any views on the role of EC.

3.12 **Discussion highlights:**

- a. **Conclusion:** The meeting noted the guidelines and timeline as presented.
- b. **Recommendation:** EC members to help identify potential nominees for the new EAS PC Co-Chair, Intergovernmental Session Chair and Co-Chair, and Technical Session Co-Chair.

4.0 Status of NCPs’ engagement in PEMSEA (EC/28/DOC/04)

4.1 Ms. Gonzales informed the meeting that the PRF has been reviewing the status of engagement of NCPs in PEMSEA and discussing the next steps with NCPs through bilateral consultations to increase or sustain their engagement in implementing the SDS-SEA and/or renew the cooperation agreements to help ensure coordination and coherence among various initiatives to address the needs of the EAS region.

4.2 Currently, there are 22 NCPs, classified as active or inactive. Active NCPs meet at least one of the following criteria:

- a. Has a valid/working letter of cooperation/agreement (LOA/LOC) or memorandum of agreement/understanding (MOA/MOU) with PRF to specify areas of collaboration;

- b. Is an implementing partner of a PEMSEA-led project;
- c. Organized PEMSEA-related workshop/s, training, or other event/s from 2020 to 2021;
- d. Participated in several meetings of the EAS PC and the expanded meetings of the EC from 2020 to 2021.

4.3 The status of each NCP is summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Status of NCP engagement in PEMSEA.

Those marked with asterisk () have signed the Haikou Partnership Operating Arrangements (HPOA) in 2006. Some of the NCPs that have signed the HPOA have further agreements with PRF to specify the areas of collaboration.*

NCP	Category	Areas of collaboration	Remarks
1. ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)	Active		LOC lapsed already. Draft LOC to renew the agreement is being reviewed by ACB.
2. Coastal Management Center (CMC)*	Inactive		Center is in the form of a non-governmental organization registered with the Philippines' Securities Exchange Commission. This was created by PEMSEA's founding members but most of the members have already retired. Need to discuss characterization of partnership with CMC.
3. Conservation International (CI) Philippines*	Inactive		Formerly an active partner. LOC lapsed already. PRF to consult CI Philippines on potential collaboration on blue carbon (given the number of activities they have on this field) as well as activities linked to the Ocean Health Index (OHI). CI International is active on matters concerning OHI.
4. Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Sub-Commission	Active		LOC lapsed already but PRF is extending support in terms of technical inputs and

NCP	Category	Areas of collaboration	Remarks
for the Western Pacific (IOC-WESTPAC)*			provision of resource speakers for the implementation of the UN Decade of Ocean Science, which the IOC supervises. Consultation process on other possible areas of collaboration initiated.
5. International Environmental Management of Enclosed Coastal Seas (EMECS) Center	Active	Conduct capacity building on reducing water pollution from land-based sources; co-convene workshops/seminars to share knowledge, experiences, and information through PEMSEA's and EMECS' conferences on topics such as coastal and marine resource protection and preservation, pollution reduction, integrated coastal management (ICM), and environmental education; share data and information on the environment and research of coastal areas and enclosed seas in the Seas of East Asia (SEA) Knowledge Bank	
6. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) - Asia Regional Office (ARO)	Inactive	From prior partnership: Implementation of blue economy in local governments and coastal communities	LOC lapsed already. Consultation process on next steps initiated.
7. International Ocean Institute (IOI)	Active	Cooperate on the designation and provision of expert faculty required for capacity building events on topics of mutual interest (e.g., integrated coastal/ocean governance and blue	

NCP	Category	Areas of collaboration	Remarks
		<p>economy); undertake cooperative projects, co-sponsor meetings, and co-organize/develop training programs on promoting/enhancing government and private sector awareness, knowledge enrichment, and extension in integrated management and sustainable use of coastal resources; promote linkages among their networks in terms of research, information sharing, and capacity building; and attend meetings/events organized by either party on mutually relevant topics</p> <p>IOI may provide opportunities to eligible, young coastal leaders and professionals to attend their capacity building activities on ocean governance and international relations</p>	
8. IPIECA	Active	Training and capacity building on marine pollution reduction activities	
9. Korea Environment Institute (KEI)*	Inactive		LOA lapsed already. Consultation process on next steps initiated.
10. Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)*	Active		LOC lapsed already. A new LOC is already being developed on providing technical and financial assistance to develop a regional biofouling strategy.
11. Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)	Active		MOU already lapsed. Funding proposal sent to RoK government for partnership between PRF, KOEM, and ROK

NCP	Category	Areas of collaboration	Remarks
			Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries (MOF)
12. Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)*	Active		LOA lapsed already. Consultation process on next steps initiated.
13. Marine Biodiversity Institute of Korea (MABIK)	Active	Conduct capacity-building; undertake marine organism and resource monitoring in key areas of marine biodiversity; share information on marine biodiversity conservation and management as well as scientific monitoring and sustainable use of marine resources (e.g., through the conduct of and/or participation in EAS Congress 2021 workshop/s; joint development of research proposals; conduct of and/or co-financing of publication of research on marine biodiversity management and conservation, scientific monitoring of or research on marine resources, and sustainable use of said resources)	
14. Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA)	Active	Conduct knowledge sharing and capacity building on marine plastic pollution through the ASEAN-Norwegian Capacity Building Project for Reducing Plastic Pollution in the ASEAN Region (ASEANO)	ASEANO Phase 2 under discussion.
15. Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP)	Active	Share information and data, such as available human resource and expertise required by PEMSEA/NOWPAP; share experiences on	

NCP	Category	Areas of collaboration	Remarks
		and opportunities for capacity building on marine pollution monitoring and assessment, marine environmental emergency preparedness and response, ICM, IRBM, and state of environment reporting; link together the websites of NOWPAP and PEMSEA	
16. Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML)*	Active	Training and capacity development on pollution reduction and waste management Advice on PEMSEA's transformation into a self-sustaining regional organization	MOU lapsed already. Consultation process on next steps initiated.
17. Ocean Policy Research Institute – Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF)*	Active	Promotion of co-design and co-management of Blue Economy programs	LOA lapsed already. Consultation process on next steps initiated.
18. Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL)*	Active	To collaborate on matters regarding oil spill preparedness and response (e.g., strengthen regional/national capacity under the Gulf of Thailand (GOT) Framework Programme, identify priority areas of concern, promote good practices, and mobilize resources)	
19. PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) for Sustainable Coastal Development	Active	Implementation of PNLG SAP 2022-2030, Activation of Annual Joint PNLG-PNLC Learning Event	
20. UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)*	Active		

NCP	Category	Areas of collaboration	Remarks
21. UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (YSLME) Project*	Inactive		Project concluded in 2020 without achieving its goal of establishing a YSLME Commission, a mechanism which will serve as a permanent non-legally binding framework that helps concerned countries secure long-term regional efforts to reverse the decline of biological resources and restore depleted fish stocks in the Yellow Sea. PRF was advised to contact UNDP China and MOF RoK and Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) China on the next steps building on the project's gains.
22. UNEP Global Programme of Action (UNEP/GPA)*	Inactive	From prior agreement: Marine pollution and waste management	MOU already lapsed. PRF is however working with UNEP on the UNEP/GEF South China Sea project (albeit no formal arrangement). There is interest to work together on RSOC and "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)."

- 4.4 There are currently six inactive NCPs, majority of which are those that signed the HPOA, whose programs and/or officers may have changed. Letters and/or meetings have been set to discuss potential engagement with them.
- 4.5 In regard to ROK-based NCPs that have been PRF's partners in training and capacity-building, it is hoped that as the pandemic turns endemic, PRF can resume discussions on joint conduct of face-to-face training.
- 4.6 Ms. Gonzales then requested the EC to provide suggestions in terms of engaging inactive NCPs and cultivating prospective NCPs, especially in areas that are barely covered by existing/previous partnerships (e.g., blue economy). EC members were also requested to provide advice on how to characterize inactive NCPs in a way that accurately reflects their level of engagement in PEMSEA work.

4.7 Discussion highlights:

- a. The Chair thanked the PRF for the comprehensive assessment and noted the findings.
- b. Ms. Gonzales added that the COVID-19 situation has affected the progress of the NCP consultations. However, opportunities now arise to reengage NCPs in these consultations as the pandemic transforms into an endemic. She also informed the meeting that the NCPs were invited to share their 2021 milestones for presentation in the 2021 PEMSEA Annual Report.
- c. **Decisions:**
 - i. Upon the suggestion of Dr. Ca and as substantiated by Mr. Yuwono and Dr. Furukawa, PRF to conduct bilateral consultations with NCPs to get to know the strengths and values of each organization; provide a briefing on PEMSEA's upcoming activities, accomplishments, and opportunities for cooperation in relation to global and regional developments; solicit information on their latest programs and initiatives; and highlight benefits of re-engaging with PEMSEA.
 - ii. Upon the recommendation of Dr. Vann Monyneath, EAS PC Co-Chair, PRF to request NCPs to provide permanent and alternate representatives who can regularly attend to PEMSEA-related affairs, including the annual EAS PC meetings. Also, PRF to request the support of country partners, through the National Focal Points, in re-engaging NCPs from their respective countries.
 - iii. Upon the suggestion of Dr. Furukawa, PRF to invite NCPs to present their programs (e.g., cutting-edge tools and technologies) in the meetings of the EAS Partnership Council.
 - iv. PRF to seek NCPs' active engagement in the consultation process for developing the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 through their engagement as experts in the thematic working groups, participation in country consultations, identification of common programs, co-organization of events/training, and encouragement of creative ways to strengthen their further involvement in the EAS Partnership.

5.0 Formulation of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 (EC/28/DOC/05)

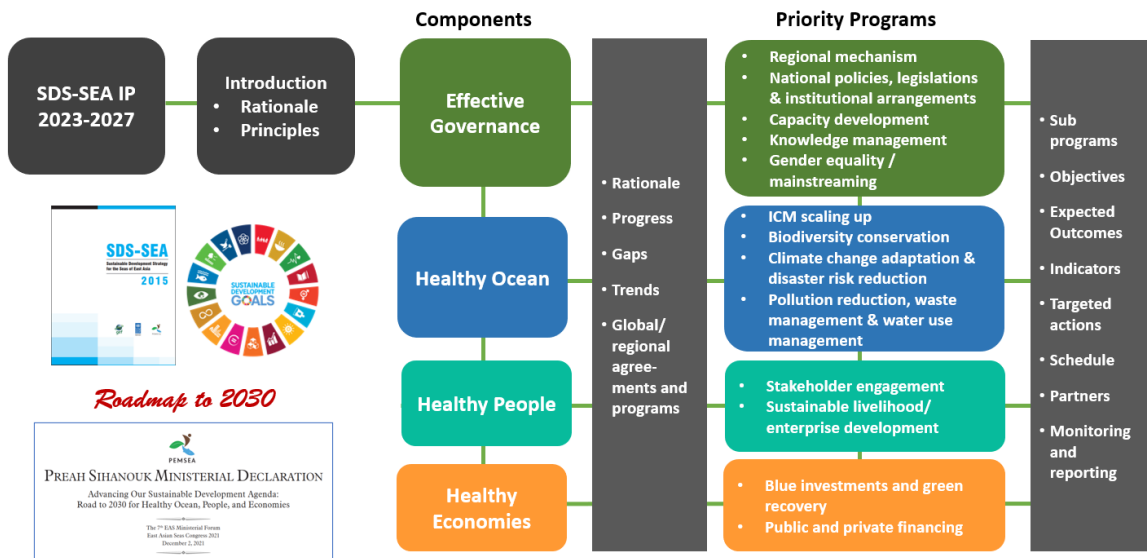
- 5.1 Ms. Nancy Bermas, Senior Programme Manager at PRF, apprised the EC members on the status and process of formulating the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027.
- 5.2 The EAS PC, during its 12th Meeting in July 2020, has approved the conduct of the midterm review of the SDS-SEA IP 2018-2022 and provided initial suggestions in terms of priority areas/actions to consider in the development of the new IP during its 13th Meeting in July 2021. Months after, during the 27th (Expanded) EC Meeting of PEMSEA in October 2021, the PC approved the Terms of Reference (TOR) for establishing the Technical Working Group (TWG), consisting of the Advisory Group (namely the EAS PC Technical Session Chair and Co-

Chair), PRF, and representatives from the Council, that will lead the formulation of the new IP.

- 5.3 The Advisory Group is tasked to provide the necessary policy and technical guidance whereas PRF shall provide technical and secretariat support in the formulation process. Along with the members of the PNLG and PNLC and other PEMSEA partners and concerned stakeholders,⁴ the rest of the TWG shall be closely engaged in the process where possible. They will be requested to provide comments and suggestions on the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 based on their respective mandates, jurisdiction, and expertise. This is to ensure ownership of the Plan and that all relevant viewpoints are reflected in the IP.
- 5.4 The process involves three key stages happening in 2022:
- a. **January-March:** Gathering and review of initial reference materials and relevant information with the aim to produce an annotated outline of the new IP.
 - b. **February-October:** Conduct of consultations with the Advisory Group, TWG, and other PEMSEA partners and stakeholders, where appropriate, to arrive at key decisions and consensus on targeted outcomes and actions in drafting the new IP.
 - c. **March-December:** Preparation and refinement of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027. The first draft shall be presented for the PC's comments and suggestions during the 14th PC Meeting in July and is targeted for approval in the 29th (Expanded) EC Meeting in October. An operational plan will also be drafted during this stage to specify the implementing, monitoring, and reporting arrangements for the IP.
- 5.5 PEMSEA is currently on track insofar as the formulation process is concerned.
- a. **In 2021**, the TWG was formed with representatives from 5 country partners and 4 non-country partners joining the Advisory Group and PRF. The Advisory Group was convened on 4 February 2022 to brief the Technical Session Chair and Co-Chair on the TOR and composition of the TWG and to present and discuss the initial IP outline and work plan for developing the IP.
 - b. **On 22 February 2022**, the 1st TWG Meeting was conducted to brief the members on the TOR, composition, and coordination arrangements of the TWG and solicit their inputs on the proposed framework, components, and priority programs of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 as well as the work plan for developing the IP. Country partners representatives also presented their ongoing initiatives and plans for the next five years in relation to sustainable coastal and ocean development.
 - c. **During the 28th EC Meeting**, the draft annotated outline shall be presented for the EC's consideration and shall, in parallel, be disseminated to the TWG and PC for their review.

⁴ Such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) and Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF)

- 5.6 The main guiding documents and points for consideration for developing the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 include:
- a. **SDS-SEA**, adopted in 2003 and revised in 2015 to account for regional climate actions and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), served as the main guiding document for the IP.
 - b. **Results of the midterm review of the SDS-SEA IP 2018-2022**, which identified the accomplishments of the region and remaining gaps and challenges that need to be addressed. The review also provided a prioritization framework to help guide the formulation of the new iteration of the Plan.
 - c. **Preah Sihanouk Ministerial Declaration** adopted during the 7th EAS Ministerial Forum in December 2021. The Declaration also provided strategic direction for the IP.
 - d. **Conclusions and recommendations of the EAS Congress 2021**.
 - e. **Other global and regional considerations** such as the COVID-19 response, recovery, and resilience measures of EAS countries, the Glasgow Climate Pact, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, UN Decade of Action for Sustainable Development, Decade of Ocean Science, Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, and the upcoming Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.
- 5.7 The formulation of the Plan will be guided by the following principles:
- a. Strategic, programmatic, and solution-oriented;
 - b. Emphasize the importance of intersectoral, inter-agency, intergovernmental, and interproject partnerships in providing crosscutting, integrated interventions that are synergistic and streamlined in nature;
 - c. Show the linkages between healthy ocean, people, and economies, which translate and operationalize the three pillars of sustainable development (i.e., sustaining the natural resources and ecosystem services on which the economy and society depend);
 - d. Build on past accomplishments and current programs; and
 - e. Help inform future commitments by incorporating a long-term view in program implementation based on national commitments, capacities, and resources.
- 5.8 Ms. Bermas then presented the framework below that shows the proposed outline and strategic direction of the new IP:



1.1 **“Effective Governance”** serves as the cornerstone of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 due to its crosscutting nature and requires sustained and long-term commitment. The governance programs are designed to further strengthen PEMSEA’s role as the regional coordinating mechanism for implementing the SDS-SEA and will provide the necessary platform for partnership building with other regional programs and mechanisms as well as an enabling environment for achieving a healthy ocean, people, and economies in alignment with global, regional, and national priorities and commitments. This will support SDGs 1 (no poverty), 5 (gender equality), and 17 (partnerships for the SDGs).

5.9 The five priority programs and their corresponding subprograms under effective governance are:

a. Regional mechanism:

- i. Continued establishment and strengthening of PEMSEA as a self-sustaining organization
- ii. Preparation/updating of the State of the Ocean and Coasts at the regional and national levels as part of the monitoring and reporting mechanism for SDS-SEA implementation
- iii. Connecting people towards achieving a healthy ocean through various knowledge sharing platforms such as the EAS Congresses and other ocean-related fora

b. National policies, legislations, and institutional arrangements

- i. Formulation, adoption and implementation of national ocean policies, legislations, and institutional arrangements
- ii. Continued mainstreaming of integrated coastal management (ICM) in national and local medium-term development plans and legislative agenda

c. Capacity development

- i. Implementation of PEMSEA Capacity Development and Training Plan 2021-2025

- ii. Facilitating the participation of PEMSEA country partners in global and regional initiatives for capacity development

d. **Knowledge management**

- i. Operationalization of the Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank and linking this platform with other global, regional, and local knowledge hubs such as the International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN), Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT), and Clearing-House Mechanisms in support of the UN Convention of Biological Diversity
- ii. Development and implementation of a communications and marketing plan and information, education, and communications campaign as well as preparation and dissemination of knowledge products in support of this new IP

e. **Gender equality/mainstreaming**

- i. Conduct gender analysis to understand gender dynamics in ocean and coastal management in the EAS region
- ii. Development of a gender mainstreaming plan to improve social inclusivity in development practices based on the results of the gender analysis

5.10 As of 2020, ICM programs across the region have covered an estimated 40 percent of the region’s coastline. However, while significant progress has been made in scaling up ICM, majority of the management programs in the existing SDS-SEA IP are still in progress and some may not be fully achieved in 2022. As such, the **“Healthy Ocean”** component of the new IP aims to reevaluate the management programs and consider the various global and regional commitments mentioned previously. This component supports SDGs 1 (no poverty), 5 (gender equality), 6 (clean water and sanitation), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (climate action), and 14 (life below water). Its programs and subprograms will focus on the implementation and/or updating of existing national action plans in support of **ICM scaling up; biodiversity conservation; pollution reduction, waste management, and water use management; and climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction**. They also involve monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of the status of execution of these plans.

5.11 The **“Healthy People”** component is supportive of SDGs 1 (no poverty) and 8 (decent work and economic growth) and takes into consideration the changes that occur in the coastal and marine areas that have negative ramifications on adjacent, resource-dependent communities. These changes include habitat degradation, coastal erosion, increase in pollution levels, and impacts of COVID-19, among others. Under this component, it is important to engage all relevant communities and other stakeholders in coastal planning and decision-making, find viable options for sustainable livelihood, and identify complementarities between efforts of various stakeholder groups to ensure effective and efficient solutions. Its priority programs include **inclusivity and engagement of various stakeholders**, particularly the indigenous peoples, civil society, youth, and other marginalized sectors; and **sustainable livelihood and enterprise development**.

- 5.12 The “**Healthy Economies**” component will support SDGs 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure) and 11 (sustainable cities and communities) as well as countries’ commitment to uphold a blue economy as adopted during the Changwon Declaration of 2012 and will be guided by the opportunities and lessons that PEMSEA gathered from implementing a blue economy, developing pilot investment cases, and implementing COVID-19 response, recovery, and resilience efforts. It has two priority programs, namely: **economic recovery policies that facilitate blue investments and green recovery**; and **public and private financing**.
- 5.13 Key partners, who are directly responsible and can provide the necessary support in the development, implementation, and monitoring and reporting of progress concerning the new IP, are identified in all of the priority programs. The development of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 can serve as an avenue to revisit, reactivate, sustain, or strengthen collaborations with NCPs.
- 5.14 Ms. Bermas also presented the immediate next steps in the formulation process of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 as follows:
- a. **April 2022:** revision and approval of the annotated outline of the Plan by TWG and PC
 - b. **May – June 2022:** drafting of the SDS-SEA IP and conduct of TWG meetings and stakeholder consultations to inform its development
 - c. **July 2022:** presentation of the first draft of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027
- 5.15 More details on the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 such as the rationale behind the programs and the proposed implementation partners for the identified programs can be found in the annotated outline sent to EC members on 21 March 2022 (Annex 2).
- 5.16 Ms. Bermas then requested EC members to provide comments and suggestions on the framework and process of formulating the IP as well as additional guidance, if any, on the next steps.
- 5.17 **Discussion highlights:**
- a. The EC members thanked PRF for the comprehensive presentation on the updates and process behind the formulation of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027.
 - b. Dr. Furukawa informed the meeting that the 1st TWG Meeting was successfully conducted with TWG members gaining clear understanding of the rationale behind the formulation of the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 and their inputs integrated in the draft annotated outline. He looked forward to a fruitful discussion on the new SDS-SEA IP.
 - c. Dr. Handoko Adi Susanto, Regional Project Manager of ATSEA-2, raised the importance of including fisheries management, such as the application of ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM), in the identified programs of the SDS-SEA IP, considering the proliferation of unsustainable fishing practices worldwide. In ATSEA-2 for instance, fisheries management is considered a priority program. He also inquired how the SDS-SEA IP aims to link ICM and marine spatial planning; their

linkages are not specified in the draft annotated outline. In response, Ms. Bermas informed Dr. Susanto that the PRF shall integrate fisheries management, including EAFM, in the draft IP in consideration of the priority programs of ATSEA-2 and other stakeholders.

- d. Ms. Gonzales then emphasized an earlier point made by Ms. Bermas, stating that the IP formulation process can be a means to reengage non-country partners and know their respective programs and projects in support of the sustainable development of the Seas of East Asia to ensure that PEMSEA's initiatives are coherent and coordinated.
- e. **Decision:** PRF to integrate fisheries management, including EAFM, in the appropriate management programs of the SDS-SEA IP in consideration of the priority programs of ATSEA-2 and other regional projects with fisheries management components that are being implemented in the EAS region.

6.0 Proposed 2022-2023 work plan and budget of the PRF (EC/28/DOC/06)

6.1 Ms. Gonzales presented the proposed 2022-2023 work plan and budget of the PRF.

6.2 She apprised the meeting about the PRF's objectives for 2022-2023 as follows:

- a. **Secure PEMSEA's financial and operational sustainability for 2022-2023 between USD 2-2.5 million annually through**
 - i. Annual country contributions
 - ii. Approval of the "UNDP/GEF/ASEAN/PEMSEA Project on Reducing Pollution and Preserving Environmental Flows in the EAS through the Implementation of Integrated River Basin Management in ASEAN Countries (IRBM Project)" starting in 2022
 - iii. Submission of the full project proposal for Blue Solutions (project expected to start in 2023)
 - iv. Submission of new project proposals for 8th cycle of GEF funding and pursuit of other collaborative funding opportunities
 - v. Operationalization of capacity development and monitoring services of the PRF
 - vi. Review PEMSEA membership/sponsorship agreements
- b. **Ensure complete delivery of the adjusted SDS-SEA IP 2018-2022**
 - i. Implement the remaining targeted actions under the SDS-SEA IP 2018-2022 (wrap-up)
 - ii. Prepare and seek EAS PC approval of the SDS- SEA IP 2023-2027
 - iii. Implement targeted actions on pollution reduction and solid waste management through the projects concerning ASEANO, Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines, and GIZ-EU
 - iv. Develop the regional governance mechanism and the updated strategic action plan for the Arafura and Timor Seas
 - v. Develop draft regional guidelines on biofouling

- vi. Promote the benefits, best practices, tools, and lessons in implementing ICM in relation to blue economy
 - vii. Promote PEMSEA through broader dissemination of knowledge products in global and regional fora and events
 - viii. Implement the PEMSEA Capacity Development and Training Plan 2021-2025
- c. **Secure strategic partnerships and other high profile collaborative activities**
- i. Forge strategic partnerships such as with the IMO and ASEAN
 - ii. Disseminate the Post-EAS Congress 2021 report
 - iii. Organize the 2022 Ocean Roundtable Dialogue
 - iv. Organize the 2022 PNLG Forum in Tangerang, Indonesia in collaboration with Tangerang Regency and the PNLG Secretariat

6.3 She then presented the sources of revenue and projected expenditures for 2022-2023 (see Tables 3 and 4, respectively).

Table 3. Sources of revenue for 2022-2023.

Source of Revenue	2022	2023
PRF		
Japan	125,000	125,000
ROK	45,000	45,000
Singapore	20,000	20,000
China	75,000	75,000
Cambodia	7,000	
Timor-Leste	100,000	
Indonesia	40,000	
ATSEA2 Execution Fee	36,418	40,060
GIZ Management Fee	8,659	
IKI Management Fee	17,755	
Coke Foundation Management Fee	6,934	
Interest Income from bank Deposit	200	200
Subtotal	481,966	305,260
PROJECT FUNDS		
ATSEA-2	1,102,502	855,814
ASEANO	104,374	
IKI	273,158	
GIZ	86,588	
IPA	16,000	
DENR	10,000	
Coke Foundation	69,337	
Subtotal	1,661,959	855,814
TOTAL	2,143,925	1,161,074

Table 4. Projected expenditures for 2022-2023.

Budget Description	2022	2023
PRF		
Personnel	261,786	261,786
Travel and Meetings	11,000	11,000
Consultant	2,900	
Audit	20,000	20,000
Subcontract	17,100	14,400
Printing	500	500
Subtotal	313,286	307,686
PROJECT FUNDS		
ATSEA-2	1,102,502	855,814
ASEANO	104,374	
IKI	273,158	
GIZ	86,588	
IPA	16,000	
DENR	10,000	
Coke Foundation	69,337	
Subtotal	1,661,959	855,814
TOTAL	1,975,245	1,163,500

- 6.4 She also informed the meeting about the PRF projects in the pipeline, to wit:
- ROK-PEMSEA Reducing Marine Litter in the EAS;
 - ASEANO Phase 2;
 - UNDP/GEF/PEMSEA ATSEA Phase 3; and
 - GEF 8 regional blue economy project.
- 6.5 PRF will also resume its discussion on its application to be designated as regional accredited entity under the Global Climate Fund.
- 6.6 Ms. Gonzales requested EC members to review/approve the proposed 2022-2023 work plan and budget of the PRF and requested Dr. Ca's assistance to resume discussions with Viet Nam on their voluntary contributions.
- 6.7 **Decision:** The proposed 2022-2023 work plan and budget of the PRF was approved as presented.
- 7.0 2022 calendar of major PEMSEA activities (EC/28/DOC/07)**
- 7.1 For reference of the EC, Ms. See presented the schedule of major PEMSEA activities in 2022 (Table 5).

Table 5. 2022 calendar of major PEMSEA activities.

Date	Activity
April 28	GEF/UNDP/IMO Meeting on the Regional Biofouling Strategy in the EAS region
April	GIZ-EU Ship Waste Management Project: iPorts Training
	2 nd TWG Meeting on the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027
2 nd quarter	13 th PNLC EC Meeting
Week of May 23	ASEANO: Project Advisory Board Meeting
May	2022 EC Meeting of China-PEMSEA Center
	11 th Meeting of the PRF's Audit Committee
June 8	2022 Ocean Roundtable Dialogue
Week of June 13	ASEANO: End-of-Project Forum
June	2 nd PNLC General Assembly
Week of July 25	14 th EAS PC Meeting (election of new EC)
October	2022 Joint PNLG-PNLC Learning Forum (back-to-back with the General Assemblies of the PNLG and PNLC)
Late October	29 th PEMSEA (Expanded) EC Meeting
Week of November 1	ATSEA-2: 4 th Project Regional Steering Committee (RSC) Meeting and 1 st Stakeholder Partnership Forum (SPF) Annual Meeting
Mid-November	2 nd Regional Biofouling Task Force Meeting

8.0 Other business

- 8.1 For reference of the EC, Ms. See presented the schedule for developing and circulating the proceedings of the 28th PEMSEA EC Meeting (Table 6).

Table 6. Schedule for developing and circulating the proceedings of the 28th PEMSEA EC Meeting.

Date	Activity
March 25, 2022	PRF to develop and circulate the draft conclusions and recommendations for EC's review
March 29, 2022	EC to submit feedback on the draft conclusions and recommendations
March 31, 2022	PRF to develop and circulate the draft proceedings for EC's review
April 4, 2022	EC to submit feedback on the draft proceedings
April 5, 2022	PRF to circulate the approved proceedings

9.0 She also shared to the meeting that the 2021 PEMSEA Annual Report is currently being developed and will be released in May 2022.

10.0 Closing of the meeting

10.1 The Chair provided a recap of the 28th PEMSEA EC Meeting before giving the floor to the Co-Chair for the closing remarks.

10.2 Dr. Vann congratulated everyone for another productive meeting and thanked PRF for the excellent preparation. As the Chair has mentioned, the year 2021 saw numerous milestones in the EAS Partnership despite the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Likewise, thanks to the active participation of the EC, PEMSEA was able to achieve a number of outputs in the 28th PEMSEA EC Meeting.

10.3 He reiterated that 2022 is another critical year as PEMSEA implements the remaining targeted actions under the current SDS-SEA IP, secure strategic partnerships and other high profile collaborative activities, and build the operational and financial sustainability of the PRF. He hoped to hear positive progress on the expected projects before the year ends. He also hoped that the global pandemic will become fully endemic so that people can travel and see each other—hopefully soon.

10.4 He thanks everyone and wished them a pleasant day.

10.5 The meeting adjourned at 11:26 am (UTC+8).

ANNEX 1. AGENDA OF THE MEETING.

Schedule: 24 March 2022, 9 AM – 12 PM (UTC+8) via Zoom

Agenda	Speaker/Presenter	Document No.
<p>1.0 Opening of the meeting and approval of the meeting agenda</p> <p>EAS PC Chair to open the meeting and request the PRF to present the agenda of the meeting for the EC's review/approval.</p> <p>Group photo</p>	<p>Mr. Arief Yuwono Chair, EAS PC</p>	<p>EC/28/DOC/01b</p>
<p>2.0 EAS Congress 2021</p> <p>PRF to present the results, follow-on actions, and financial expenditures of the EAS Congress 2021. EC to provide feedback on the results and online process of the EAS Congress 2021.</p>	<p>Ms. Karen See Secretariat Coordinator, PRF</p>	<p>EC/28/DOC/02a EC/28/DOC/02b</p>
<p>3.0 Election of new EAS PC Officers and Co-Chairs</p> <p>PRF to present the guidelines on and timeline of the 2022 election of EAS PC Officers and Co-Chairs. EC to provide comments/questions on the process of the nomination and election and offer any views on the role of EC.</p>	<p>Ms. Karen See Secretariat Coordinator, PRF</p>	<p>EC/28/DOC/03</p>
<p>4.0 PEMSEA NCPs</p> <p>PRF to present the status of NCPs' engagement in PEMSEA. EC to provide suggestions in terms of engaging inactive NCPs and cultivating prospective NCPs, especially in areas that are barely covered by existing/previous partnerships (e.g., blue economy). EC members to also provide advice on how to characterize inactive NCPs in a way that accurately reflects their level of engagement in PEMSEA work.</p>	<p>Ms. Aimee Gonzales Executive Director, PRF</p>	<p>EC/28/DOC/04</p>

Agenda	Speaker/Presenter	Document No.
<p>5.0 SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027</p> <p>PRF to present the updates on and process of developing the SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027. EC to provide comments and suggestions on the framework and process of formulating the IP as well as additional guidance, if any, on the next steps.</p>	<p>Ms. Nancy Bermas Senior Programme Manager, PRF</p>	<p>EC/28/DOC/05</p>
<p>6.0 Proposed 2022-2023 work plan and budget of the PRF</p> <p>PRF to present the proposed 2022-2023 work plan and budget of the PRF for review/approval of the EC.</p>	<p>Ms. Aimee Gonzales Executive Director, PRF</p>	<p>EC/28/DOC/06</p>
<p>7.0 2022 calendar of major PEMSEA activities</p> <p>PRF to present the foregoing calendar for the EC's reference.</p>	<p>Ms. Karen See Secretariat Coordinator, PRF</p>	<p>EC/28/DOC/07</p>
<p>8.0 Other business</p>		
<p>9.0 Closing remarks</p>	<p>Dr. Vann Monyneath Co-Chair, EAS PC</p>	

ANNEX 2. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS.

Meeting documents: <https://tinyurl.com/EC28-MeetingDocuments>

Presentation file: <https://tinyurl.com/EC28-Presentation>

Group photograph: <https://tinyurl.com/EC28-GroupPhoto>

ANNEX 3. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.

Category/Organization	Representative/s
EAS PC Officers and Co-Chairs	<p>Mr. Arief Yuwono Council Chair</p> <p>Dr. Vann Monyneath Council Co-Chair</p> <p>Dr. Ca Vu Thanh Intergovernmental Session Chair</p> <p>Dr. Keita Furukawa Technical Session Co-Chair</p>
PRF	<p>Ms. Aimee Gonzales Executive Director</p> <p>Mr. Won-Bae Kim Head of Planning and Partnership Development</p> <p>Ms. Nadine Bresemann Head of Maritime Transport</p> <p>Ms. Nancy Bermas Senior Programme Manager</p> <p>Ms. Daisy Padayao Programme Manager</p> <p>Ms. Karen See Secretariat Coordinator</p> <p>Dr. Handoko Adi Susanto Regional Project Manager, ATSEA-2</p> <p>Ms. Cristine Ingrid Narcise Policy and Results-Based Management Specialist, ATSEA-2</p> <p>Ms. Mary Ann Dela Peña Finance Specialist</p> <p>Mr. Arsenio Dacaymat, Jr. IT Assistant</p>
Observers	<p>Ms. Yu Xinwei</p>

Category/Organization	Representative/s
	<p data-bbox="528 237 1390 309">Deputy Division Director, International Cooperation Department, MNR, China</p> <p data-bbox="528 360 884 432">Dr. Wang Shouqiang Program Director, CPC, China</p> <p data-bbox="528 483 874 555">Ms. Zhu Xiaotong Project Assistant, CPC, China</p> <p data-bbox="528 607 1337 721">Ms. Jeslina Gorospe Division Chief, Project Monitoring and Evaluation Division, Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service, DENR, Philippines</p>