# PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2009 PNLG FORUM GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Bataan, Philippines

21 November 2009

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# A. INTRODUCTION

- 1. The 2009 PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) Forum was held in conjunction with the convening of the 2009 East Asian Seas Congress. The EAS Congress was held on 23-27 November 2009 in Manila, Philippines and hosted by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, through the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.
- The PNLG General Assembly (GA) Meeting was held at Lou-is Resort and Restaurant, Balanga City, Bataan, Philippines on 21 November 2010. The GA meeting was hosted by the Provincial Government of Bataan and coorganized by PEMSEA, the PNLG Secretariat and the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation (BCCF), which comprises of private sector partners of the Bataan ICM program.
- 3. The GA Meeting tackled key issues related to the operationalization of the PNLG including the future role and thrusts of the network, fund management and election of officers. Highlights of the meeting included the induction of Thua Thien-Hue (Vietnam) as the newest member of the PNLG and the signing of the Letter of Cooperation between PEMSEA and the PNLG for the Sustainable Development and Management of Marine and Coastal Environment of the Seas of East Asia.
- 4. Twenty local governments from 10 countries across the region participated in the forum in addition to the representatives from the East Asian Seas Partnership Council, PEMSEA Resource Facility, the PNLG Secretariat, the private sector and local participants.
- 5. The participants to the PNLG participated in the EAS Congress and attended the Technical Workshop on Land and Sea-Use Zoning: Opportunities and Challenges on 23 November.
- 6. The meeting agenda and full list of participants is attached as Annex 1 and 2.

# **OPENING CEREMONY**

- 7. The opening ceremony witnessed the active participation of the cadets from the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific (MAAP) and the Bataan National High School (BHNS) Choir. The cadets from MAAP facilitated the entry of the flags of the various counties along with their representatives while the BHNS Choir sang the doxology and the Philippine National anthem.
- 8. The General Assembly meeting was opened by Mr. Jose Enrique S. Garcia, Mayor of Balanga City, Bataan Province. Mayor Garcia warmly welcomed the participants, on behalf of the city government, and mentioned that the city

government is doing its best to ensure that the brief stay of the participants in Bataan is a memorable one.

- 9. The opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Albert Garcia, Representative, 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Bataan and Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, Chair, East Asian Seas Partnership Council, on behalf of the Provincial Government of Bataan and the East Asian Seas Partnership Council (EASPC), respectively. Being a peninsula, Mr. Garcia put emphasis on the importance of protecting and conserving the coastal and marine environment of Bataan to maintain its natural beauty and prospects for economic growth and development. Dr. Chua on the other hand expounded on the crucial role of the PNLG in leading by example, the implementation of ICM and transferring the good practices to other local government members. As the PNLG becomes a member of the EASPC, this gives the network an opportunity to further disseminate its advocacy and become known at the regional and international level.
- 10. In his keynote address, Mr. Enrique Garcia Jr., Governor of the Province of Bataan and PNLG Vice President shared the key achievements of the Bataan ICM program for the past 10 years of implementation and the important role of the province in ICM scaling up in Manila Bay. Mr. Garcia acknowledged the private sector partner of the province, the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation, who had been instrumental in the success of the ICM program. Mr. Garcia reaffirmed his commitment to support the PNLG and contribute to building and sustaining better coastal governance through ICM implementation.
- 11. The full text of the Opening Ceremony speeches is attached as Annex 3.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**

12. The General Assembly meeting was chaired by Mr. Pan Shi Jian, Vice Mayor of Xiamen and PNLG President and Mr. Enrique Garcia, Jr.

### Report of the PNLG Secretariat

13. Dr. Zhou Lumin, Head of PNLG Secretariat, reported on the main activities of the PNLG in 2008 and focus areas for 2009. Dr. Zhou informed the meeting that the application of PNLG for non-country partner status of PEMSEA has been reviewed and endorsed by the Executive Committee to the EASPC for formal adoption during its meeting during the EAS Congress 2009. Dr. Zhou mentioned that the Letter of Cooperation between PEMSEA and PNLG, which precedes the formal acceptance of the PNLG to the EASPC, will be discussed separately. Dr. Zhou cited some of the PNLG member activities that contributed to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA). He ended his presentation by providing information on the status of membership fee collection and the management of fund by the PNLG Secretariat.

# Review and adoption of the 2010 PNLG Annual Work Program

- 14. For 2010, key activities identified for the PNLG included a) strengthening and operationalization of the PNLG Secretariat, b) organization of the 2010 PNLG Forum, c) implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly, and d) contributing to the implementation of the SDS-SEA through application and scaling up of ICM. To help strengthen the PNLG Secretariat's capacity to organize the annual forum and facilitate coordination and communication with the PNLG members, the Secretariat will again consider sending a staff to PEMSEA to serve as intern. The commitment from the Municipal Government of Xiamen to provide USD 10,000 every year will be utilized for capacity strengthening of the Secretariat, the conduct of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PNLG Executive Committee and representation of the PNLG in regional and international forums.
- 15. It was suggested that an expanded Executive Committee meeting will be organized in Xiamen in June 2010 to develop a Strategic Action Plan that will provide direction to the PNLG for the next 5 years in support of national and regional targets for sustainable coastal development.
- 16. The General Assembly adopted the 2009 work plan and budget for the PNLG.

Induction of New PNLG Member

17. One of the highlights of the General Assembly was the formal induction of Thua Thien Hue Province (Philippines) as the 25<sup>th</sup> member of the Network. The Honorable Nguyen Van Cao, Permanent Vice Chairman of Thua Thien Hue Provincial People's Committee, signed the PNLG Charter on behalf of the Province. Mr. Cao introduced the ICM program of Thua Thien Hue and expressed commitment as a new member to uphold the vision and mission of the PNLG and contribute to achieving the objectives of the Network and abide by its Code of Conduct.

# Signing of the Letter of Cooperation between PEMSEA and PNLG

- 18. The General Assembly was informed that to become a non-country partner of PEMSEA, a Letter of Cooperation is required to be signed between PEMSEA and the PNLG as stipulated in the Partnership Operating Arrangements for the implementation of the SDS-SEA.
- 19. Mr. Pan Shijian and Prof. Raphael Lotilla signed the Letter of Cooperation Regarding Cooperation for the Sustainable Development and Management of Marine and Coastal Environment and Resources of the Seas of East Asia (Annex 4). In particular, both parties agreed to cooperate in the implementation of ICM programs and in mainstreaming ICM programs into local development plans, where applicable and within the limits of their existing work programs and available budgets. The LOC will be in effect until 31 March 2011.

### Special Messages

- 20. The General Assembly meeting recognized the presence of the Mayor of Shima City, Japan who attended the meeting in view of the recent efforts of the city in implementing ICM. Shima City, a merger of five neighboring towns, is situated in Ago Bay where the pearl culture technology was developed about 100 years ago by the famous Kokichi Mikimoto and collaborators. Mr. Hidekazu Oguchi stated why ICM is important in Shima City, particularly in the crafting of a common vision among the various stakeholders for the integrated management of Ago Bay.
- 21. Ms. Marilou Erni, President of the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation, spoke on behalf of the private sector partners of the Bataan ICM Program. Ms. Erni delved on how the partnership between the local government and BCCF has generated key results and outcomes that are being recognized as model for public-private partnerships. As a recipient of the PEMSEA Award for Outstanding Partner in ICM, Ms. Erni reaffirmed BCCF's commitment to continue serving as an active partner of the local government in ICM implementation.
- 22. The full text of the Special Messages is attached as Annex 5.

# Future Role and Thrusts of the PNLG

- 23. Dr. Chua Thia Eng chaired the discussion on the future role and thrusts of the PNLG. Dr. Chua recalled that in the PNLG Charter, it is stipulated that the network should be represented in the EASPC. Dr. Chua mentioned that that the PNLG's application for non-country partner has been deliberated during the EASPC Executive Committee meeting in July 2009. He cited that the PNLG will reach another milestone when it becomes a non-country partner of PEMSEA after its formal acceptance in the Council meeting during the 2009 EAS Congress. As such, the PNLG will be joining 11 country partners and 18 other partners who have agreed to implement the SDS-SEA.
- 24. Dr. Chua expounded that by becoming a non-country partner of the Council, the voice of the local government will be heard and in the process will provide them the opportunity to demonstrate their relevant contributions in the local implementation of the SDS-SEA. In particular, the PNLG's role in helping achieve the regional target of ICM coverage of 20 percent of the coastline by 2015 is crucial.
- 25. Dr. Chua reviewed the PNLG's vision, mission, goals and objectives and pointed out that the Network is a major actor in the sustainable development of the East Asian Seas. As such, the PNLG is considered to be at a turning point and thus charting the future course of the network is important. Dr. Chua enumerated the proposed actions that the PNLG may wish to consider and requested the General Assembly to review and discuss the development of a PNLG Strategic Action Plan (PNLG SAP) to operationalize the objectives of the network and identify priority issues to be addressed in the plan (Annex 6).

26. It was agreed that the development of the PNLG SAP will be further discussed in the second Executive Committee meeting of the PNLG in June 2010.

### Election of PNLG Officers

- 27. Prof. Lotilla chaired the discussion on the election of PNLG officers. Prof. Lotilla cited the provision in the PNLG Charter stipulating that incumbent officers of the PNLG shall hold office for 3 years until their successors are elected (Annex 7). The terms of office of the incumbent officers will end in 2009.
- 28. Prof. Lotilla reviewed the development of the PNLG over the past 3 years and concluded that despite the achievements, the PNLG is still considered to be in a transitional stage.
- 29. A decision is required from the PNLG members regarding the re-election of the incumbent officers. Prof. Lotilla requested the PNLG members to review and discuss the proposed amendment to the Charter.
- 30. In relation to the previous discussion where agreement on the development of a PNLG SAP was made, there was a general consensus that that the incumbent officers of the PNLG are in the best position to lead the transition process to a successful conclusion within a reasonable timeframe.
- 31. Mr. Chev Kimheng, Deputy Governor of Sihanoukville (Cambodia) and Mr. Felipe Nava, Governor of Guimaras (Philippines) made a motion for the PNLG to accept the amendment of Article 27 of the PNLG Charter, allowing the incumbent officers to serve for another term. The PNLG members accepted and seconded the motion.
- 32. Mr. Pan Shijian and Mr. Enrique Garcia thanked the PNLG members for their support and expressed their continuing commitment to lead the network until their terms of office will end in 2012.

### Host Local Government for 2010 PNLG Forum

33. The Provincial Government of Bataan handed over the PNLG flag to the Municipality of Chonburi (Thailand) who confirmed its commitment to host the 2010 Forum and carry on the tradition of rotating the hosting of the PNLG Forum among the member local governments.

# Annex 1. 2009 PNLG Forum Program

2009 PNLG Forum 20–23 November 2009			
Bataan and Manila, Philippines			
Provisional Program			
Thursday, 19 November			
Arrival			
	Arrival of Participants in Manila		
	Overnight in Manila		
Friday, 20 November Trip to Bataan			
	Arrival of Participants in Manila		
	Trip to Bataan		
	Early Registration		
	Lunch		
1300 - 1730	Provisional site visits		
	Anvaya Cove Ecotourism Area		
	Pawikan (Sea Turtle) Conservation Center		
1930	Welcome Dinner at Crown Royale Hotel		
	Hosted by: City Government of Balanga		
Saturday, 21 Novem	ber		
General Assembly			
Lou-Is Restaurant, E	Balanga City		
Opening Ceremony			
0800 - 0830	Registration		
0830 - 0845	Parade/ Entry of Delegates		
0845 - 0900	Doxology		
	Bataan National High School Choir		
	Philippine National Anthem		
	Bataan National High School Choir		
0900 - 0910	Acknowledgement of guests and participants		
0910 - 0920	Welcome Remarks		
	Hon. Jose Enrique S. Garcia		

	City Mayor, Balanga City, Bataan Province
0920 - 0930	Remarks
	Dr. Chua Thia-Eng
	Chair, East Asian Seas Partnership Council
0930 - 0940	Remarks
	Hon. Albert Raymond S. Garcia
	Representative, 2 <sup>nd</sup> District of Bataan Province
0940 - 0950	Bataan ICM Program
	Audio-visual Presentation
0950 - 1005	Keynote Address
	Hon. Enrique T. Garcia, Jr.
	Governor, Bataan Province and
	Vice-President, PNLG
1005 - 1015	Group Photo
1015 - 1030	Coffee Break
General Assembly of	of the PNLG
Chair: Mr. Pan S	Shi-Jian, PNLG President and Vice-Mayor,
Xiamen	Municipality (China)
Co-Chair: Mr. Enric	que T. Garcia, Jr., PNLG Vice President and Governor,
Bataan F	Province (Philippines)
1030 - 1045	Reporting of the PNLG Secretariat
	Dr. Zhou Lumin
	PNLG Head of Secretariat
1045 - 1115	Review and Adoption of 2010 PNLG Annual Work Program
	and Budget
	Mr. Pan Shi-Jian
	PNLG President
1115 - 1145	Induction of New PNLG Member
	Thua Thien Hue Province, Vietnam
	Signing of PNLG Charter
	Statement of New Member
1145 - 1200	Signing of Letter of Cooperation between PEMSEA and PNLG
	for the Sustainable Development and Management of Marine
1200 1215	and Coastal Environment of the Seas of East Asia
1200 - 1315	Lunch
1315 - 1325	Special Message
	Mr. Hidekazu Oguchi

	Mayor, Shima City, Japan	
1325 - 1335	Special Message	
	Ms. Marilou G. Erni	
	President, Bataan Coastal Care Foundation, Inc.	
1335 - 1430	Future Role and Thrusts of the PNLG	
	Chair: <i>Dr. Chua Thia-Eng</i>	
	Chair, EAS Partnership Council	
1430 - 1500	Election of officers of the PNLG	
	Chair: Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla	
	Executive Director, PEMSEA Resource Facility	
1500 - 1515	Coffee Break	
1530 - 1730	Site visits	
	Agri-Aqua Trade Fair, People's Center	
	Street Dancing Performance	
1800 - 2200	Governor's Night at Crown Royale Hotel	
	(Fiesta theme: dinner and cultural presentation)	
	Hosted by: Bataan Provincial Government	
Sunday, 22 Novemb	er	
Field Trip		
0600 - 0700	Breakfast	
0700 - 0830	Site visit to Bird Sanctuary and Mangrove Area in	
	Barangay Tortugas, Balanga City	
0830 - 0930	Back to hotel for check-out	
0930 - 1230		
0950 - 1250	Site visits to showcase Private Sector participation in the Bataan ICM Program	
	Fish sanctuary project of PANGMAMALI and Petron	
	Refinery, Limay	
	<ul> <li>Fishery Reserve at the Philippine National Oil Company–</li> </ul>	
	Petrochem Industrial Complex	
	<ul> <li>Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific</li> </ul>	
1230 - 1330	Lunch	
1200 1000	Mt. Samat Shrine of Valor, Pilar	
1330	Trip to Manila	
Monday, 23 November		
EAS Congress 2009 Opening		
Technical Workshop "Land and sea-use zoning: Challenges and opportunities"		
EAS Congress 2009 Opening		

0800 - 0830	Registration of the EAS Congress 2009
0830 - 0930	Opening Ceremony of the Congress
0930 - 1000	Opening Ceremony Keynote
	Pres. Fidel V. Ramos
1000 - 1030	Plenary Keynote
	Prof. Tommy Koh
1030 - 1040	Message of the Conference Chair
1040 - 1100	Photo Session
1100 - 1130	Tea/Coffee Break
1130 - 1230	Exhibit Opening
1230 - 1400	Lunch Break
Technical Workshop	"Land and sea-use zoning: Challenges and opportunities"
1400 - 1600	Part 1: Session introduction and review of land and sea-use
	zoning plans and implementation
	Part 2: Case studies on the development, implementation and
	enforcement of land and sea use zoning schemes
1600 - 1630	Coffee Break
1630 - 1830	Part 3: Zoning considerations for climate change
	Part 4: Moving forward: Effective implementation and
	enforcement of land and sea-use zoning
1900 - 2100	Welcome Reception of the EAS Congress 2009

# Annex 2: List of Participants – 2009 PNLG Forum

# CAMBODIA

### **SIHANOUKVILLE**

Hon. Chev Kimheng Deputy Governor Preah Sihanouk Province Cambodia

**Hon. Prak Sihara** PMO Director and Provincial Council Member Preah Sihanouk Province Cambodia

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Deputy Director, Department of Land Management, Preah Sihanouk Province Village1, Sangkat4, Municipality of Sihanoukville, Preah Sihanouk Province, Cambodia

### Mr. Hem Sareoun

Director of the Department of Environment Village1, Sangkat4, Municipality of Sihanoukville, Preah Sihanouk Province, Cambodia

### **INDONESIA**

### BALI

**Mr. A. A. Gede Alit Sastrawan** Head Environmental Board Bali Province Indonesia

### DENPASAR

**Mr. A.A. Bagus Sudharsana** Head Environmental Board Denpasar City Bali Province Indonesia

### KLUNGKUNG

Hon. I Wayan Candra Regent Klungkung Regency Bali Province Indonesia

### BULELENG

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# Mr. Wayan Pasek Swastika

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### TABANAN

**Hon. I Gusti Gede Putra Wirasana** Vice Regent Tabanan Regency Bali Province Indonesia

Mr. A.A. Raka Icwara Wardhana Head

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PR China

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**Ms. Remia A. Aparri** OIC, Provincial Fisheries Officer BFAR Provincial Office Province of Guimaras Philippines

**Ms. Charry L. Galia** Provincial Economic Development Office Province of Guimaras Philippines **Mr. Ronnie D. Morante** Provincial Agriculturist Province of Guimaras Philippines

### Mr. Jonathan G. Elidia

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Ms. Elba T. Galve

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# THAILAND

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# EAST ASIAN SEAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

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# **PNLG SECRETARIAT**

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### Ms. Karen June Balbuena

Technical Assistant Bataan ICM Program Provincial Capitol Compound Balanga City, Bataan

# Mr. Roland James Enriquez

Administrative Assistant Bataan ICM Program Provincial Capitol Compound Balanga City, Bataan

# Annex 3

Welcome Remarks of Governor Enrique T. Garcia Jr PEMSEA Network of Local Governments November 21. 2009

Distinguished heads of delegations of the PEMSEA member nations Members of the PNLG Executive Committee Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, Chair, East Asian Seas Partnership Council Prof. Raphael Lotilla, Executive Director of the PEMSEA Resource Facility Fellow champions of integrated coastal management Members of the Bataan business community Colleagues in government Friends in Media Ladies and gentlemen

Isang magandang umaga sa inyong lahat at maligayang pagdating sa lalawigan ng Bataan.

It is with great pride that I welcome you all to the historic province of Bataan as we host this year's PEMSEA Network of Local Governments Forum, the first for the province.

This assembly gathers the leaders and leading lights of countries that form the East Asian Seas region. But more than being just an annual get-together, this forum impresses upon us to take a renewed, if not urgent look at our respective countries. The renewed look is to take stock of the wealth and value that the East Asian Seas bestows upon us, which are considerable. The urgency is the host of challenges that these resources face and which we need not just to address but to firmly resolve: pollution, habitat degradation, multiple use conflicts, overexploitation, all of which are punctuated by the impact of climate change.

Individually, I am certain that we have been earnest in our efforts and have had significant achievements. In our province, we have worked incessantly for the last ten years to make our Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program the pillar by which we make our journey towards sustainable development. And we are now guided in this journey by the Bataan Sustainable Development Strategy and the Bataan Coastal Land- and Sea-Use Zoning Plan. These are two milestone documents that are allowing us to strategically manage our resources line with our drive towards development. More importantly, these documents were the product of collaborative efforts by all our stakeholders, an activity that you will here often when we speak about the Bataan ICM program.

From these management blueprints, we have been able to effectively implement programs that address the issues at hand: regular coastal cleanups are reducing the garbage that litter our shores; planting and rehabilitation activities are arresting the decline of our precious mangroves and bringing back their numbers; fishery reserves and sanctuaries are being put up in many areas throughout Bataan to allow our fishes and other marine life to regenerate and be more bountiful.

Beyond these efforts, we are waging a campaign to stop illegal fishing and illegal logging. We have scaled up our anti-illegal fishing task force conducting patrols in our waters; we now even have a helicopter which is being used extensively in to help in the apprehension of illegal fishers and loggers, as well as to conduct aerial seeding, which supports our reforestation efforts.

On a bigger scale, we are leading legal efforts to close Manila Bay to any form of commercial fishing. As governor of the Province of Bataan, I see this move as resulting only in a more strategic and sustainable management of our precious coastal and marine environment, especially for those of us bounded by the waters of Manila Bay. And I call on my colleagues in government to support me in this campaign.

Speaking of support, I take this opportunity to recognize the private sector, who has also been greatly instrumental in our march towards economic development. But it is the area of caring for the environment where it has also been our most dynamic partner. Eighteen companies doing business in Bataan have made it their business to be a part of the province's sustainable development through the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation. Together, we have made this public-private partnership a venue for cooperation, for the sharing of best practices and resources, and in advancing a common vision and mission for the Province.

On a personal note, allow me to thank you giving me the opportunity to serve the PNLG when you elected me as its Vice President during the 2006 East Asian Seas Congress in Hainan Province of China. Let me express and reaffirm my commitment to support the PNLG and the attainment of its objectives for the East Asian Seas. As Governor of Bataan, you have the commitment of our province: to build and sustain better coastal governance, together with every stakeholder inside and outside of the province, to develop new ways of managing our coastal and marine environment so that critical areas are preserved, and those sufficiently abundant are given their proper use. And in the end, we are able to strike a harmonious balance between promoting economic and social development while sustaining our environment – here in Bataan, the waters of Manila Bay, and the Seas of East Asia.

Let us all have a fruitful Forum and may you all enjoy the beauty and hospitality of Bataan. *Maraming salamat po at mabuhay kayong lahat!* 

Remarks of Representative Albert S. Garcia PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) Forum November 21, 2009

To all our distinguished guests,

Magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat at malugod namin kayong tinatanggap sa lalawigan ng Bataan.

We are indeed honored that the Province of Bataan has been chosen as the venue for this very important gathering. Bataan is a confluence of natural beauty, proud history and bright prospects for economic growth and development. One description about the province that I would like to highlight in line with today's assembly is this: Cradle of Heroes.

Bataan has been defined by the heroism of our people throughout history. It is among the eight provinces which first sought independence from Spain. It is where thousands of soldiers made a gallant final stand against overwhelming forces during the Second World War. In the years after the war, the people of Bataan have exercised personal heroism in redefining the province as the gateway for business, commerce and tourism in Luzon.

Today, we are engaged in a new struggle: the preservation of our environment. In particular, we are in a fight to save our precious coastal and marine resources, which is being ravaged on different fronts. And for a province that is surrounded almost entirely by water – only one from our 12 local government units is landlocked – the seas are a most valued source of our life and livelihood. For a province that shares the bounty of the ocean with other provinces, cities and municipalities that make up the famed Manila Bay, and beyond, it the Seas of East Asia, our challenges go beyond the present; it is a fight for the future: ours and the generations who will succeed us.

Thus the call for a new kind of heroism: a call for each and every one of us to take the problems of the environment seriously because they are growing in magnitude each day that we don't; a call for us to look at ways by which we can balance our desire to grow our economy and our society with the need to leave behind the resources to sustain our children and those who will come after them; a call to rise up to work on finding real, doable and lasting solutions within our own backyards, while at the same time looking towards working in solidarity with our neighbors.

A 20<sup>th</sup> century French writer defines "hero" simply as "a man who does what he can". Ladies and gentlemen, we are a unique position today to each do what can – for our environment and ultimately, for our future. Let us simply do our share, and give our best in that effort. Let us lead the way and join hands for a better coast. Let us be heroes for a better tomorrow.

Maraming salamat po at magandang umaga sa ating lahat!

# Annex 4

### LETTER OF COOPERATION BETWEEN PEMSEA AND PNLG REGARDING COOPERATION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES OF THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA

### Introduction

The following Parties agree to cooperate in order to promote and facilitate sustainable development and management of the marine and coastal environment and resources of the Seas of East Asia:

The **Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)**, which is an intergovernmental regional coordinating mechanism established in 2006 for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia ("SDS-SEA"); and

The **PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development** (**PNLG**), a network of local governments in the region, which, along with its stakeholders, promotes the application of integrated coastal management (ICM) as an effective management system for reducing the adverse impacts of multiple use conflicts and natural and man-made hazards, foster intersectoral partnerships and promote sustainable coastal development.

### Mission

This Letter of Cooperation (LOC) is aimed at facilitating collaboration between PEMSEA and PNLG, in line with the objective and targets of the SDS-SEA, and with due consideration to the corresponding benefits to be derived by stakeholders at the regional, sub-regional, national and sub-national levels.

# Actions

PEMSEA and the PNLG agree to cooperate in promoting the implementation of ICM programmes and in mainstreaming ICM programmes into local development plans, where applicable and within the limits of their existing work programmes and available budgets, by:

- Promoting PNLG membership to eligible local governments and relevant organizations across the region and strengthening the linkages between the PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) and the PNLG Secretariat;
- Collaborating on the preparation and convening of the PNLG Annual Forum, including the organization of technical workshops, in order to promote experience-sharing and knowledge transfer among PNLG members, as well as to nurture partnerships between the PNLG and other organizations and institutions, including the corporate sector, as appropriate;
- 3. Conducting a needs assessment for capacity development among the PNLG members

and collaborating on the formulation and implementation of capacity development programs at the national and regional levels that respond to the identified needs, including formal and informal training programmes, study tours, internships and scholarships;

- Promoting the development and implementation of new and innovative tools for improving local governance of marine and coastal areas, including a State of the Coasts reporting; and
- 5. Promoting information exchange and knowledge transfer among PNLG members, PEMSEA Partners and other collaborating organizations through, for example, organization and participation in the EAS Congress, Xiamen World Ocean Week, study tours, and executive-level seminars.

PNLG and PEMSEA shall enter into separate contractual agreements, sub-contracts, or letters of mutual consent between them, as necessary to implement the cooperative activities indicated above.

This LOC will enter into force on the date of signing and will remain in effect until 31 March 2011.

This LOC can only be amended or extended with the mutual consent of the Parties in writing with the approval of their competent organs and only before the expiration of the LOC.

This LOC can only be terminated by communication in writing sent by the interested Party to the other Party at least thirty (30) days before the proposed date of termination.

On the behalf of the **PNLG** 

On the behalf of **PEMSEA** 

Hon. Pan Shi-Jian President PNLG **PROF. RAPHAEL P. M. LOTILLA** Executive Director PEMSEA Resource Facility

Date:

Date:

# ANNEX 5

Special Message of Mr. Hidekazu Oguchi PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) Forum November 21, 2009

Honorable Mayor Pan, President of the PNLG, Honorable Governor Garcia, Vice-president of the PNLG Ladies and Gentlemen, Good afternoon.

My name is Hidekazu Oguchi, Mayor of Shima City, Japan. I want to thank Mr. Zhou Lumin, PNLG's Secretary General for inviting me here. I am truly happy to meet with you all.

Shima City is located in the center of Japan and has a small population of 60,000. It became a city in 2004 with the merger of five neighboring towns. Shima is located in the national park and therefore its development is rather restricted in order to protect the nature and its beautiful natural landscape. From ancient times the area has depended on the marine industry for its economic base and has long been known for Ise lobsters and abalone. Ago Bay in Shima was where the pearl culture technology was developed about 100 years ago by Kokichi Mikimoto and his collaborators. It has since come to be known as the world's pearl center, bringing in enormous blessings to the local economy.

Even as the pearl culture flourished, waste began to accumulate on the seabed, creating a low oxygen water mass and causing red currents, thus damaging the rich fishing environment. In the 1970s, household wastewater increased as a result of rising living standards, and with buoyant tourism bringing many visitors more waste water caused further pollution.

Maintaining Ago Bay and its environment is essential to sustaining the cultured pearl and marine and tourism industries that are basic to Shima's economy. Until the five towns surrounding the bay merged each approached the problem in its own way. There was no shared future vision regarding the use of the Bay or responsibility for the environment.

Today, with the faltering world economy, prices of marine products have fallen and fewer tourists are visiting our area. As a result, Shima City is suffering from a stagnant economy resulting in young people leaving for jobs elsewhere. We are left with a diminishing and progressively aging population.

With the merger of the five towns, we are now eager to promote initiatives for integrated coastal management (ICM), with the whole region being made responsible by establishing a council consisting of many stakeholders who make the bay their livelihood. In this way, we hope to be able to enjoy the fruits of our marine industry and the beauty of the area in a sustainable way, and achieve a stable local economy.

I am here to learn from your experience on integrated coastal management and to share with you our concerns and initiatives. I hope to take home new approaches that will help me in designing optimum management method for our own Ago Bay

Last but not least, I pray that all of us will contribute to making this general meeting most meaningful and successful.

Thank you.

Special Message of Ms. Marilou G. Erni PEMSEA Network of Local Governments November 21. 2009

Good afternoon to everyone.

On behalf of the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation, let me first thank PEMSEA for this unique honor given to us in the private sector to address this distinguished gathering of leaders from the countries of East Asia and the participating heads of the local governments of the Philippines.

In speaking before you today, I tried to look beyond the Province of Bataan to learn more about the East Asian Seas region, which will benefit from what transpires in this meeting. We have an abundance of coral reefs, mangroves and sea grass beds that support probably the most diverse marine flora and fauna in the world. One fourth of the world's chartered reefs are located in this region; East Asia has the most highly diverse seagrass flora in the world, with 100 species of seaweeds of prime economic value. The East Asian Seas is likewise a center of diversity for marine species, including the marine turtles, those we commonly refer to as the pawikan and which is the symbol of our Bataan Coastal Care Foundation. It is likewise a major source of commerce for fish and aquaculture products, and an economic gateway, where oil and other forms of commerce pass through.

Sadly, this treasure trove of nature lying at our very doorsteps is also severely threatened by a host of problems, all of which when added up contributes to climate change.

Given our common desire to attain development and progress for our countries and our peoples, our resolve now must be to do so in a manner that will not deprive the future generations with the resources needed to sustain them. In the face of the daunting challenges posed by global environmental concerns, I believe that public-private partnerships provide the best means for a strategic and sustainable solution.

For the last ten years, the Bataan business community has been doing more than our share of fueling economic growth in and around the province. We have in fact endeavored to come together under one organization – the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation – to take collective action towards sustainable development. Understanding that integrated coastal management is a means to that end, we asked PEMSEA in 2000 to make Bataan an ICM Parallel Site. We vowed that the private sector would be a committed partner of the provincial government in implementing the ICM program. And with your kind indulgence, please allow me to recognize my colleagues in the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation. Individually, they have pursued programs that nurture nature. Together, we have shared our resources in time, talent and treasure to be the partner of government, as well as every stakeholder of the province, to achieve its vision of a sustainably developed community.

A decade later, and under the inspired leadership of Governor Enrique Garcia, our Bataan ICM Program continues to flourish. As the good governor stated earlier, this partnership has already produced Bataan's environmental roadmap through the Bataan Sustainable Development Strategy, and the blueprint for action through the Bataan Coastal land and Sea Use Zoning Plan, which is a first in the country. With these milestones, we have been able to share our story and help other areas in the Philippines undertake ICM as an environmental management strategy.

But perhaps most rewarding is the recognition that we have gotten in terms of serving as a model for public-private partnerships. In 2002, the UNDP declared that "for the first time in the Philippines, and perhaps globally, an ICM project is being financed and implemented solely by a local government in partnership with the private sector. It is also the first time for Manila Bay that an ICM program is being established to mitigate and prevent further deterioration of its coastal and marine resources." During the 2006 East Asian Seas Congress, this collaboration was also given a reaffirmation when we received the first PEMSEA Award for Outstanding Partner in ICM.

And this is the message that I wish to convey in this gathering today. As we discuss the issues of the environment, I would like underscore the value of taking collective action as a means to attain sustainable solutions. As we have experienced in Bataan, there is much benefit in having a symbiotic relationship with the partners and gaining new knowledge through the sharing of corporate experiences and best practices. Perhaps most important, partnerships allow us to enjoy the trust of both the local governments and the people of Bataan. This has allowed the private sector to have better access to first-hand information on the actual concerns of the communities, resulting in more focused and relevant support that we give to them. In doing so, the people of Bataan regard both local government and the private sector in a positive light, accepting the BATAAN ICM Program as a venue to raise issues on environmental concerns and as a force to provide solutions to such concerns. Coastal communities are also more aware of their roles and responsibilities on the value of conserving coastal and marine resources for their own benefit.

There remains much work to do as we address the challenges of the environment in Bataan, in Manila Bay and in the Seas of East Asia. The small victories that we have achieved for the province have also enabled Bataan to be recognized as a champion in advocating public-private partnerships, especially in pursuing the rehabilitation of Manila Bay. Beyond Bataan, we are a member of the Manila Bay Project Coordinating Council for Region 3.

And we are scaling up this advocacy by joining PEMSEA and the DENR this Wednesday, November 23, to gather the private sector in a corporate social responsibility forum for reviving Manila Bay. Here, we are seeing the growing role and value of the private sector as a partner in the task of sustainable development.

This is a responsibility we all must share in, and a job we will do well hand in hand. They say the challenge is not so much in trying to clean up and enhance our environment, but more so, in our ability to cast our differences aside, share in our resources, and work together as a team.

For our part, the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation reaffirms its commitment to be a partner of government in implementing the Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program. We pledge to work hand in hand with every stakeholder to answer the challenge of balancing economic development with utmost caring for the environment.

With this, we hope that we can all be partners and champions for a greater cause: a better Bataan, a better Manila Bay, a better future ahead for all of us.

Maraming salamat po at magandang hapon sa inyong lahat.

# **ANNEX 6**

# FUTURE ROLE AND THRUSTS OF THE PNLG

- 1. The Charter of the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG Charter) was adopted in Haikou, PR China, on 13 December 2006. The Charter spelled out the vision, mission, goal and objectives of the PNLG, as well as its operating modalities.
- 2. The **PNLG's vision** is, "Coastal areas throughout the East Asian Seas region are managed sustainably."
- 3. The **PNLG's mission** is to serve as a sustainable network of local governments in the region, which, along with their stakeholders, shall be committed to promote the application of ICM as an effective management framework to achieve sustainable coastal development.
- 4. The **PNLG's Goal** is to facilitate the sustainable development and environmental conservation of marine and coastal resources of the region through advocacy, knowledge sharing, forging multi-stakeholder participation and partnerships among local government, national agencies, civil society groups, including non-governmental organizations and people's organizations, and the private sector.

# 5. The PNLG Objectives are:

- a) To enhance the capacity of local governments to plan, develop, and manage their coastal and marine resources for sustainable use;
- b) To promote the application of ICM approaches, processes and tools in coastal planning, development and management;
- c) To facilitate the linkage between scientific/technical institutions and local governments, in order to provide capacity building and scientific input to local government decisionmaking, policies and programs;
- d) To implement innovative financing mechanisms and partnership arrangements for environmental investments with international and national financial institutions, private investors and operating companies, where appropriate;
- e) To strengthen multi-stakeholder involvement in managing coastal and marine resources, in order to enhance societal and corporate responsibility for sustainable development of natural resource; and
- f) To enhance local coastal governance, as well as inter-agency and multi-lateral coordination mechanisms, in dealing with coastal and ocean management issues.
- 6. The PNLG will reach a milestone in November 2009, when it becomes a Non-Country Partner of the EAS Partnership Council. As a member of the EAS Partnership Council, the PNLG joins 11 Country Partners and 18 Other Partners who have agreed to work as complements of each other, act dynamically and in a coordinated manner, and bring into full play the role of each stakeholder in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA).
- 7. What does this specifically mean for the PNLG? First, it will provide a venue for the PNLG to directly convey its voice on behalf of the local governments that it represents at the regional level. The members of the PNLG are at the frontline of the battle to develop and manage

marine and coastal areas in a sustainable manner, while improving the social and economic conditions of their constituents. This practical knowledge, experience and concern of local governments can be invaluable when shared with other members of Council in the formulation and assessment of PEMSEA's policies and action plans to achieve the objectives and targets of SDS-SEA.

8. Second, one of the adopted targets of PEMSEA is to scale up ICM across the region, achieving ICM coverage of 20 percent of the coastline by 2015. A series of actions are currently underway at the regional, sub-regional, national and local levels to achieve this target. ICM sites in the region, the majority of which are PNLG members, can serve as a "critical mass" having the confidence and capacity in ICM implementation to "tip the balance" in favor of the scaling up process. But the PNLG, as a network, needs to define and articulate its role in the planning and implementation of measures to achieve the 20 percent target. In fact, a primary driving force for scaling up ICM is the buy-in of local governments, without which the PEMSEA target cannot be achieved. This represents a major opportunity for the PNLG to fulfill its mission, goal and objectives.

# Enhancing the PNLG's Voice

- 9. The PNLG is at a turning point: An opportunity to build upon its foundation as a network of ICM sites sharing knowledge and experiences in local implementation programmes through annual forums, and expand its initiatives as a major actor in the sustainable development of the East Asian Seas.
- 10. The Ministers of PEMSEA Country Partners will be gathering during the EAS Congress 2009, on 26 November, to discuss the progress being made across the region with regard to the implementation of the SDS-SEA, including the critical issue of climate change and its impact on nations of the region, and coastal and marine areas in particular. The Manila Declaration on Strengthening the Implementation of Integrated Coastal Management for Sustainable Development and Climate Change Adaptation in the Seas of East Asia Region is scheduled to be signed by the Ministers during that forum.
- 11. The PNLG may wish to consider voicing its support and commitment to the application and scaling up of ICM across the region, on the occasion of the Ministerial Forum. One manner of doing so would be to commit to work with PEMSEA Partners in the quest for sustainable development and climate change adaptation through ICM, by developing, adopting and implementing a strategic action plan and schedule that operationalizes the PNLG objectives, and complements and strengthens the efforts of other PEMSEA Partners. The action plan could cover, among other issues:
  - a. Proactively promoting membership in the PNLG among local governments across the region;
  - b. Participating in the preparation, organization and conduct of capacity building and education programs, in collaboration with PEMSEA, national governments, donors, the corporate sector and other concerned stakeholders, to foster improved management and technical skills in ICM implementation, as well as special concerns of local governments, including climate change vulnerabilities, and adaptation of planning, social and economic programs in preparation for climate change;
  - c. Facilitating the implementation of demonstration projects and other on-the-ground initiatives aimed at identifying good practices and solutions to sustainability issues at the local government level, including; water supply and use management; pollution

reduction and waste management; coastal fisheries management and alternative livelihood programmes; habitat restoration and rehabilitation; and natural and manmade hazard prevention and management;

- d. Facilitating the implementation of PEMSEA's State of the Coasts reporting system by local governments, as a means of identifying social, economic and environmental baselines in coastal and marine areas, and for measuring progress and impacts of ICM implementation; and
- e. Promoting and facilitating partnerships with universities, scientific and technical institutions, donors, financial institutions and the private sector, for the purpose of sustaining the PNLG and the achievement of its objectives and action plan initiatives.

# Action required from the PNLG General Assembly:

12. The PNLG General Assembly is invited to:

- a. review and discuss the development of a PNLG strategic action plan to operationalize the objectives of the Network, and the priority issues to be addressed in such a plan;
- b. request the PNLG Secretariat, in collaboration with the PEMSEA Resource Facility, to develop the PNLG strategic action plan;
- c. request the PNLG Secretariat to circulate the draft action plan for review and comment by the members, with a view to adopting the action plan at the next PNLG General Assembly;
- d. request the PNLG Secretariat, in collaboration with PEMSEA, to identify opportunities and potential partners for sustaining the PNLG and the achievement of its objectives and action plan.

# **ANNEX 7**

# **ELECTION OF PNLG OFFICERS**

### Background

The PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) was officially founded with the signing of the PNLG Charter by local governments from 18 ICM demonstration and parallel sites during the Inaugural Meeting of the PNLG in Haikou City, China on 13 December 2006. Additional five local governments signed the PNLG Charter during the 2007 Forum in Danang on 5 September 2007 bringing the membership to 23 local governments. The signing of Guimaras Province of the PNLG Charter on 19 November 2008 in Sihanoukville and Thua Thien Hue on 21 November 2009 in Bataan will bring the membership to 25 local governments, spanning 8 countries across the East Asian region (see Box).

The 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee Meeting of the PNLG, which was held on 4 November 2007 in Xiamen. formulated a set of procedural rules for possible adoption by the General Assembly. The procedural rules, governing PNLG election, however, were not discussed and adopted by the General Assembly during the 2008 Forum in Sihanoukville. The election of officers may therefore proceed, in the mean time, by consensus building through consultation among the PNLG members.

Over the past 3 years under the terms of office of the current President and Vice President, the PNLG has successfully convened two annual forums, in Danang and Sihanoukville. The annual forums have served as effective vehicles for exchanging information and practical experiences, skills and management know-how on ICM practices among PNLG members, as well as for strengthening ties among the local governments and other relevant participants and organizations that attended the forum.

# **Rationale for the Proposed Charter Amendment**

During the Inaugural Meeting of the PNLG in Haikou City in December 2006, the officers of the PNLG were elected consisting of the President (Vice Mayor of Xiamen) and Vice President (Governor of Bataan). Article 27 of the PNLG Charter stipulates that all officers shall hold office for a term of three years and shall only serve for one term. The terms of office of the incumbent officers shall expire in December 2009.

### Member Local Governments

- Sihanoukville, Cambodia 1)
- Dongying, PR China 2)
- Fangchenggang, PR China 3)
- Haikou, PR China 4)
- Quanzhou, PR China 5)
- Xiamen, PR China 6)
- Bali, Indonesia 7)
- Badung, Indonesia 8)
- 9) Buleleng, Indonesia
- 10) Denpasar, Indonesia
- 11) Gianyar, Indonesia
- 12) Karangasem, Indonesia
- 13) Klungkung, Indonesia
- 14) Sukabumi, Indonesia
- 15) Tabanan, Indonesia
- 16) Shihwa, RO Korea
- 17) Port Klang, Malaysia
- 18) Bataan, Philippines
- 19) Batangas, Philippines
- 20) Cavite. Philippines
- 21) Guimaras, Philippines
- 22) Chonburi, Thailand
- 23) Danang, Vietnam
- 24) Quang Nam, Vietnam
- 25) Thua Thien Hue, Vietnam
- **Observer Local Governments**
- - 1) Nampho, DPR Korea Leting, PR China
  - 2)
  - Lianyungang, PR China 3) 4) Panjin, PR China

  - 5) Qingdao, PR China
  - Wenchang, PR China 6)
  - Yangjiang, PR China 7)

In spite of the success of the annual PNLG forum, the PNLG is still considered to be in a transitional stage. The vision of the PNLG is to be an influential regional local government network, advancing the sustainable development of marine and coastal areas through the

implementation and scaling up of ICM across the region. After 3 years of operation, it is now time for members to revisit the provisions of the PNLG Charter, with the objective of clarifying the purpose of the network, and defining the strategies and actions required to complete the transformation process and become fully and effectively functional.

This is a critical time for the PNLG. As a new member of the EAS Partnership Council, the PNLG will have a voice in an intergovernmental, multi-sectoral body that has committed itself to scaling up ICM across the region. No doubt the PNLG can contribute significantly by sharing knowledge and on-the-ground experience in the development and delivery of ICM. Furthermore, with national governments taking a keen interest in scaling up ICM programs, PNLG has a unique opportunity to contribute to the planning and development of such programs.

The Secretariat has discussed these matters informally with the PNLG members. The general considerations among members is that: a) there is a need to agree upon the future role and thrusts of the PNLG in light of the national and regional targets and programs being developed for ICM scaling up; and b) the PNLG is still in transition and the incumbent President and Vice President are in the best position to effectively lead that transition process to a successful conclusion within a reasonable timeframe.

The Secretariat sees the need to bring these two issues forward for discussion during the General Assembly. Item a), the future role and thrusts of the PNLG, will be tackled under a separate agenda item.

For item b), a decision is required from the PNLG members regarding the re-election of the incumbent officers. This will entail a Charter Amendment. The proposed amendment to the Charter, as identified below, would allow the re-election of PNLG officers to a second term of office.

# Draft Amendment of Article 27 (Terms of Office)

The current provision in the Charter concerning the term of office reads as follows:

### Current provision:

All officers shall hold office for a term of three years and until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified. No regular member shall be nominated and elected to hold any officer position for more than one term.

The proposed amendment to the provision reads as follows:

### Proposed amendment:

All officers shall hold office for a term of three years and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. No regular members shall be nominated and elected to hold any officer positions for more than *two consecutive* terms.

### Action required from the PNLG General Assembly:

The PNLG General Assembly is invited to review and discuss the proposed Amendment to the Charter, and arrive at a consensus concerning its adoption.