



PEMSEA/WP/2012/28

PROCEEDINGS OF
THE 2012 PNLG FORUM

General Assembly

Changwon Hotel
Changwon City, RO Korea
08 July 2012



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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2012 PNLG FORUM
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Changwon City, RO Korea, 8 July 2012

A. INTRODUCTION

- i. The 2012 PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) Forum General Assembly was held at the Changwon Hotel, Changwon City, Republic of Korea on 8 July 2012. The Changwon City Government hosted the forum.
- ii. The General Assembly Forum was attended by representatives from Cambodia (Kampot, Kep, Koh Kong, Sihanouk); Indonesia (Bali, Denpasar, Gianyar, Karangasem, Tabanan, Sukabumi); Lao PDR (Champasak, Sekong, Saravan); Malaysia (Selangor); PR China (Changyi, Dongying, Fangchenggang, Haiyang, Laoting, Lianyungang, Quanzhou, Xiamen, Yangjiang); Philippines (Bataan, Batangas, Cavite, Guimaras); RO Korea (Changwon, Shihwa); Thailand (Chonburi); Timor-Leste (Manatuto, Liquica); Vietnam (Danang, Quang Nam, Thua Thien Hue); the Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) of Xiamen University; and the First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration (SOA) of PR China.
- iii. The members of the Executive Committee of the East Asian Seas Partnership Council of PEMSEA and officials from the Changwon City Government participated in the General Assembly. Representatives from various local governments and various institutions served as observers.
- iv. The PNLG Secretariat in Xiamen and PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as the secretariat for the meeting, while the Changwon City Government served as the local secretariat.
- v. The meeting agenda and full list of participants are attached as Annexes 1 and 2.

B. OPENING CEREMONY

- i. On behalf of Changwon City, Honorable Park Wan-Su, Mayor of Changwon City, welcomed all the participants and guests to the PNLG General Assembly and to the Green City of Changwon. Mayor Park underscored the need for stronger cooperation by the stakeholders of the region as well as with the international community in order to address the various environmental crises, including global climate change, energy depreciation, habitat destruction, pollution, etc. Mayor Park highlighted the achievements and efforts made by the PNLG that can serve as an example for the region and other local governments in working toward sustainable development. On the part of Changwon City, a number of activities/projects are being undertaken to preserve and manage its coastal environment, including an eco-stream recovery project, coastal management information system project and total pollution load management system. Mayor Park urged the PNLG members to build stronger friendship and expand PNLG's

programs even to non-PNLG members for the mutual prosperity of the East Asian community.

- ii. On behalf of the PNLG, Honorable Vice Mayor Pan Shi Jian of Xiamen, President of the PNLG, recalled the history and milestone achievements of the PNLG since its inception. He highlighted that despite some of the changes in the PNLG, the mission of the network remained the same: “to promote sustainability through ICM implementation.” In particular, President Pan underscored the following accomplishments:
- The annual conduct of PNLG Forum and annual meeting of the PNLG Executive Committee Meetings;
 - The growing number of PNLG members which currently has 29 regular members and 2 associate members, and with the 2 additional members to be inducted during the General Assembly;
 - The formal acceptance and inclusion of the PNLG as one of PEMSEA’s Non-Country Partners;
 - The adoption of the PNLG Strategic Action Plan; and
 - The adoption of the Dongying Declaration on Building a Blue Economy through ICM.

Since the 2012 PNLG Forum will be the last term of Vice Mayor Pan as president of the PNLG, he reiterated his sincere gratitude to all the members of the PNLG, the PNLG Secretariat and PEMSEA. In closing, he expressed his sincere thanks to the Mayor of Changwon, the Chair of the Changwon City Council and the Changwon City Government for their warm hospitality and for hosting the 2012 PNLG General Assembly.

- iii. Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla, PRF Executive Director, welcomed all the participants to the meeting on behalf of PEMSEA. Prof. Lotilla expressed his sincere gratitude to the City of Changwon for their excellent arrangements for the PNLG General Assembly as well as to the East Asian Seas Congress 2012. Prof. Lotilla joined President Pan in congratulating the members of the PNLG for their achievements over the years and reiterated that the PNLG’s leadership in the region is indispensable in attaining the target of placing at least 20 percent of the region’s coastline under integrated coastal management (ICM) by the year 2015. He underscored that the 20 percent regional target serves as a “tipping point” that could move the rest of the region toward a more sustainable stewardship of East Asia’s oceans and coasts particularly at the local level. The growth of RO Korea into a developed country, as well as its thrust on green development, can inspire other countries and serve as a model for the region. Prof. Lotilla emphasized that through the conduct of the EAS Congress in RO Korea, the country will have an opportunity to showcase its leadership in promoting cooperation in the management of the East Asian Seas. Prof. Lotilla highlighted the value of the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress for the region to demonstrate its commitment to implement the consensus at Rio, Rio+10 and the recently concluded Rio+20. Prof. Lotilla pointed out that the PNLG and the EAS Congress have enabled various stakeholders, despite their differences in languages, culture and political history, to come and put together a common vision and action plan to address emerging and new challenges.

- iv. Honorable Jong-Cheon Bae, Chair of the Changwon City Council, highlighted the need to expand green space, establish a green transportation system, policies and plans in support of environmental protection and conservation. Mr. Bae emphasized that it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that future generations have a stable environment to live in. He wished that the PNLG Forum and the EAS Congress could stimulate advanced discussions on ocean management as well as set out action plans that will help in building a blue economy.
- v. The full text of Opening Ceremony speeches is found in **Annex 3**.

C. PNLG GENERAL ASSEMBLY: BUSINESS SESSION

- i. The General Assembly was co-chaired by Vice Mayor Pan Shi Jian, President of the PNLG, and Mr. Manuel Beltran, Board Member, Province of Bataan, representing Governor Enrique Garcia, Jr., Vice President of the PNLG.
- ii. President Pan underscored the value of the General Assembly in providing a forum to discuss and to identify ways on how to further the development of the PNLG as a network.

1.0 REPORT OF THE PNLG SECRETARIAT

Discussion Highlights:

- 1.1 The PNLG Secretariat, represented by Dr. Zhou Lumin, reported on the achievements made by the PNLG from 2011 to 2012 and highlighted the key decisions made by the Third Executive Committee Meeting in March 2012.
- 1.2 Dr. Zhou outlined the highlights of the previous PNLG Forum held in Dongying City, China. In particular, he highlighted the expansion of the PNLG membership with the participation of Changwon City, Lianyungang and Laoting of China, as well as the first associate members of the PNLG, the Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) of Xiamen University and the First Institute of Oceanography of SOA, China. Dr. Zhou also emphasized the confirmation of Changwon as the host local government for the 2012 PNLG Forum and the signing of the Dongying Declaration by the PNLG members, defining key actions that the PNLG should initiate in the next years.
- 1.3 Dr. Zhou presented the key decisions made by the Third PNLG Executive Committee meeting pertaining to the following: amendment of the PNLG Charter; election of new PNLG officers; application from local governments to become new PNLG members; reporting mechanism for PNLG Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and Dongying Declaration; and strengthening of the PNLG Secretariat.
- 1.4 The Third Executive Committee Meeting of PNLG reviewed and accepted the applications from Haiyang City (China) and Jembrana Regency (Indonesia) to become PNLG members. The EC found both local governments eligible for PNLG membership as proven by their efforts in putting in place programs to address the challenges in the coastal and marine environment and expressed

intention to abide to the PNLG's vision and objectives. Both will be inducted during the General Assembly.

- 1.5 The PNLG Charter did not have a clear provision on the responsibility of the PNLG Associate members, particularly on Articles 20 and 21 of the Charter pertaining to Payment of Membership Fee. In line with this, the third EC meeting of the PNLG recommended the adoption of an amendment to the charter stating the responsibility of associate members to pay the annual fee to PNLG.
- 1.6 After two successful consecutive terms, the incumbent PNLG President and Vice President will be turning over the responsibility to the new PNLG President and Vice President who will be formally elected during the General Assembly. In line with this, the Executive Committee is submitting for formal approval by the General Assembly, the Guidelines for Nomination and Election of PNLG Officers.
- 1.7 The Third EC meeting also reviewed and discussed the reporting mechanism for the 5-Year PNLG SAP and Dongying Declaration and suggested that the format and process be tabled for discussion in the General Assembly and secure consensus from the members on the appropriateness of the proposed reporting mechanism.
- 1.8 As part of the efforts to ensure continuous building of capacity and strengthening of the PNLG Secretariat, the Xiamen Municipal Government expressed commitment to continue hosting the PNLG Secretariat by providing staff and budget. During the Third EC Meeting of the PNLG, the Secretariat was suggested to take on the full responsibility in coordinating the implementation of the PNLG EC and General Assembly. The Executive Committee further suggested that assistance from universities, the business sector and other relevant agencies be tapped to further improve the capacity of the PNLG Secretariat.
- 1.9 The total expenditure in 2011 is US\$ 15,340, mainly in support of the PNLG Secretariat staff in the conduct of the PNLG Forum in 2011, organization and conduct of the PNLG EC meeting and representation of PNLG in international events. The current fund is at US\$ 21,660, which includes the annual fees collected from the members and the financial support from Xiamen City to PNLG Secretariat operations.

Decision of the General Assembly:

- 1.10 The General Assembly approved the report of the PNLG Secretariat and adopted the charter amendment on the roles, responsibilities and obligations of associate members.

2.0 ADOPTION OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION GUIDE AND ELECTION OF NEW PNLG OFFICERS

Discussion Highlights:

- 2.1 Articles 26 and 27 of the PNLG Charter state:

Election of Officers. 26. *The officers shall administer the affairs of the PNLG in accordance with its goal and objectives. The regular members of the General Assembly shall elect the President and the Vice President from among the regular members.*

Terms of Office. 27. *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 two consecutive terms.*

- 2.2 In support of the PNLG Charter, the Nomination and Election Guidelines for PNLG, which provides a more detailed process on nominations and election, was initially adopted by the Third EC Meeting of the PNLG. The guidelines were developed based on the Procedure of Election of the EAS Partnership Council, with minor amendments. The nomination process was initiated in March 2012 and was facilitated by the PNLG Secretariat and the PEMSEA Resource Facility. The guidelines and process include three steps:
- Nomination of President and Vice President
 - Consultation and consensus building
 - Formal election at the General Assembly

The detailed Guidelines on Nomination and Election of PNLG Officers is attached as **Annex 4**.

- 2.3 The General Assembly has no objections on the nomination and election procedure. Among the nominees for President, Governor Felipe Hilan Nava of Guimaras Province, Philippines, garnered the most number of support during the consultation process. Among the nominees for Vice President, Vice Governor Prak Sihara of Sihanoukville, Cambodia, garnered the most support.
- 2.4 President Pan welcomed the newly elected PNLG officials and expressed confidence that the new President and Vice President will further bring the PNLG forward.

Summary of Acceptance Speeches

- 2.5 Governor Felipe Hilan Nava of Guimaras, Philippines, recalled the 2006 oil spill in Guimaras as a key turning point which drove the island province to search for ways to effectively recover from the devastation and pursue sustainable development. When Guimaras officially joined PEMSEA in 2008 as an ICM parallel site, the province gained significant knowledge, information, as well as network that helped them in responding to their various environmental challenges. Governor Nava expressed his sincere thanks to all the PNLG members for their vote of confidence and trust and reiterated the need for cooperation as key to reaching the objectives and targets of the PNLG. He expressed optimism on the strong partnership built by the PNLG and the guidance provided by PEMSEA in the implementation of the SDS-SEA.
- 2.6 Vice Governor Prak Sihara of Sihanoukville, Cambodia, expressed his sincere thanks to all the PNLG members for giving him the chance to serve the PNLG.

Vice Governor Prak informed the assembly of the difficulties they have encountered in implementing the ICM program; however, with perseverance, they were able to reach significant developments. Recognizing that much needs to be done, he encouraged all the members of the PNLG to help one another in order to move toward the PNLG goals. He underscored that the PNLG “is not only a network of ICM implementers but also a network of local governments helping one another.”

- 2.7 Copies of acceptance speeches from the new President and Vice President are found in **Annex 5**.

Decisions of the General Assembly:

- 2.8 The General Assembly adopted the Guidelines on Nomination and Election of PNLG Officers.
- 2.9 The General Assembly elected by consensus, Governor Felipe Hilan Nava of Guimaras Province, Philippines, as the new PNLG President and Vice Governor Prak Sihara of Sihanoukville, Cambodia, as the new PNLG Vice President.
- 2.10 The two newly elected officials were sworn to office.

3.0 INDUCTION OF NEW PNLG MEMBERS

- 3.1 The City of Haiyang, PR China, was formally accepted as a new regular member of the PNLG. The representative of Haiyang signed the PNLG Charter.
- 3.2 On behalf of Haiyang City, Dr. Zhang Zhaohui of the First Institute of Oceanography of the State Oceanic Administration of China delivered the city's statement. Dr. Zhang described the geographical and key economic source of Haiyang City. He expressed Haiyang's full commitment to the PNLG Charter and willingness to work with other PNLG members in knowledge and experience sharing on ICM implementation and building of a blue economy.
- 3.3 The Regency of Jembrana, Indonesia, was formally accepted as a new regular member of the PNLG. Mr. Putu Artha signed the PNLG Charter on behalf of Jembrana Regency.
- 3.4 Mr. Anak Agung Bagus Sudharsana delivered the statement on behalf of Jembrana Regency. Jembrana, one of the nine regencies in Bali, is an agricultural area that has great potential for agri-tourism or ecotourism. With the recognition of the *Subak* of Bali (rice growing cultural landscape) as a World Cultural Heritage site, they believe that more support and work are needed to ensure the protection of Jembrana's environment.
- 3.5 Statements of the new PNLG members are found in **Annex 6**.

4.0 CLOSING OF THE BUSINESS SESSION

- 4.1 President Pan, speaking also on behalf of PNLG Vice President Enrique Garcia, Jr., expressed sincere thanks to PEMSEA and all the members of the PNLG for their support during their six-year term. He offered his best wishes to the PNLG and expressed confidence that the new PNLG leadership will have a bright future. President Pan reiterated their commitment to continue working with PNLG and PEMSEA. He called on Prof. Raphael Lotilla to chair the Interactive Session of the PNLG General Assembly.
- 4.2 Governor Enrique Garcia, Jr., outgoing Vice President of PNLG, sent a message addressing the PNLG members. The message from Governor Garcia is attached as **Annex 7**.
- 4.3 Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla, Executive Director of the PEMSEA Resource Facility, expressed his deepest thanks to Vice Mayor Pan and Governor Garcia for their able leadership and support to PNLG.

D. PNLG GENERAL ASSEMBLY: INTERACTIVE SESSION

- i. Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla, Executive Director of the PEMSEA Resource Facility, served as the Chair of the Interactive Session.

5.0 PROGRESS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES IN ICM IMPLEMENTATION AND THE DONGYING DECLARATION: REPORTING MECHANISM

Discussion Highlights:

- 5.1 Ms. Nancy Bermas, Senior Country Programme Manager of the PEMSEA Resource Facility, presented the proposed Reporting Mechanism to Monitor and Document Progress, Achievements and Challenges in ICM Implementation and the Dongying Declaration.
- 5.2 Ms. Bermas highlighted the key points raised from the Rio+20 Conference and its outcome document titled, "The Future We Want," which renewed the commitment of the 190-member states of the United Nations to achieve sustainable development. Moreover, Mr. Ban Ki Moon, UN Secretary General, cited and acknowledged the critical role of local governments in achieving sustainable development and encouraged the local governments to further intensify their efforts at the local level. Mr. Ban also noted that "Local is global and global is local," meaning, in order to achieve sustainability, there is a need to start at the local level. Thus, the PNLG serves as a very important platform to achieve national, regional and global targets.
- 5.3 The proposed reporting mechanism is very relevant as it will help the local governments monitor and report on their achievements and contribution to meeting the global targets.

- 5.4 The PNLG Strategic Action Plan (SAP), which was adopted at the 2010 PNLG Forum, covers the period 2011–2015, which is aligned with the target dates of the 5-Year Regional Implementation Plan of the SDS-SEA.
- 5.5 The Dongying Declaration on Building a “blue economy” through ICM embodies the commitment of the PNLG to implement the SAP as well the commitment of the PNLG as a PEMSEA Non-Country Partner to implement the SDS-SEA.
- 5.6 The proposed reporting mechanism aims to facilitate the reporting of progress on the implementation of the six (6) targets outlined in the Dongying Declaration, which includes the following:
 - a. Mainstream ICM strategies, objectives and targets into the local government development plans for sustainable marine and coastal development and for building a blue economy;
 - b. Implement the PEMSEA ICM Code and Recognition System across 50 percent of the PNLG local government membership by 2015 as a certification of local government achievement and success in sustainable coastal development through ICM implementation;
 - c. Apply the State of the Coasts Reporting System across 100 percent of PNLG local government membership by 2015 to identify and validate social, economic and environmental status and changes in coastal and marine areas and measure progress and impacts of ICM implementation among local governments of the region;
 - d. Co-organize an annual regional forum for local chief executives on ICM Scaling up, in collaboration with the PEMSEA Resource Facility and the Xiamen World Ocean Week, to promote and encourage local chief executives from around the region to develop, implement and extend ICM as a tool for sustainable development around the region;
 - e. Co-organize site-specific capacity development programs, in collaboration with responsible national agencies, local government networks and the PEMSEA Resource Facility, as appropriate, to foster improved awareness, understanding and management and technical skills in ICM implementation; and
 - f. Engage local governments within each PNLG member to develop and implement ICM and to join the PNLG and achieve a 100 percent increase in PNLG membership by 2015.
- 5.7 The proposed reporting format includes 30 guide questions that are designed to determine progress as well as identify gaps and constraints in the implementation of the six targets. The criteria to measure progress were based on the State of the Coasts reporting guidelines as well as requirements of the ICM Code.
- 5.8 The draft reporting template was disseminated to all the PNLG members. The following sites were able to submit the completed templates, including a one-page summary of progress made between 2006–2011: Philippines (Bataan, Batangas, Guimaras), China (Lianyungang, Quanzhou, Xiamen) and Thailand (Chonburi).

- 5.9 The General Assembly was requested to review and discuss the proposed reporting process, the format and content of the reporting template and recommend changes where appropriate to facilitate subsequent monitoring.
- 5.10 Discussions on the reporting template are found under the Open Forum section of the proceedings.

6.0 CHANGWON STATE OF THE COASTS REPORT

- 6.1 Dr. Chan-Won Lee, Professor, Department of Urban Environmental Engineering of Kyungnam University, RO Korea, presented the Changwon/Masan Bay State of the Coast Report.
- 6.2 The Bay of Masan is located on the southeast coast of the Korean Peninsula and serves as a gateway to other countries like Japan, Russia and PR China. Masan has been an important port city and center for trade throughout its history. The economic activities, however, have severely affected the quality of its environment. In 2000, the bay was redesignated as a special management area (SMA) with the aim to effectively regulate the economic activities in the watershed. In 2006, the Changwon Declaration of Environmental Capital City was adopted and paved the way for the introduction of the Total Pollution Load Management System (TPLMS) in 2008, which is the first case in RO Korean history. With the vision of establishing Changwon into a Marine Environmental Capital City, the Changwon City Government initiated a number of efforts on environmental protection and development.
- 6.3 The State of the Coasts Report of Changwon/Masan Bay adopted the SOC reporting guideline of PEMSEA with slight modification on the reporting of status (i.e., good, moderate and bad) and trends (i.e., improving, maintaining and deteriorating).
- 6.4 The SOC of Changwon/Masan Bay showed varying levels of success in the government's effort to improve governance of the coastal and marine areas and in addressing the various aspects of sustainable development. The introduction of the TPLMS resulted to a number of significant achievements in terms of:
- Heightened public awareness and mobilization as a result of the implementation of a comprehensive outreach program to promote the importance of a clean environment and its realization through the TPLMS.
 - Public awareness has significantly contributed to the success of the implementation of TPLMS in Masan Bay. A significant improvement in the water quality status of the bay has been shown over the past years.
 - From 2007 to 2010, over US\$ 200 million have been invested in TPLMS with 30 percent of the funding being provided by the private sector.
 - Positive results in habitat protection, restoration and management were shown. Significant improvement in the water quality of Bong-Am Tidal Flat, which was designated as a National Wetland Protection Area in 2011, was shown as a result of strong cooperation among the stakeholders. Ecological restoration is currently being conducted to improve the productivity of the tidal flat.

- Massive reclamation and conversion activities since the 1960s did not take into consideration the environmental carrying capacity of the bay which affected water quality significantly. The situation is starting to improve with the implementation of the TPLMS and dialogues being established and conducted with the city government.
 - From 2000 to 2010, the fisheries production in the bay has shown good results.
- 6.5 Prof. Lee further shared the 2020 Vision of Changwon City of becoming a World Environment Capital, which includes eight strategies under four major goals:
- Sustainable city that is mindful of its future with carbon dioxide reduction, eco-mobility, green networks and city governors;
 - Eco-city co-existence balancing harmony with nature;
 - Coastal city with cultural abundance and biological diversity; and
 - Educating for healthy citizens and environment.
- 6.6 The Changwon SOC report is developed as part of the local government's commitment to implement the Dongying Declaration. It can be emphasized that while a local university was involved in its development, it is important that the interpretation of the results should have a balance of the academic perspective and practical aspects of the local government's operations.
- 6.7 Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, Chair of the EAS Partnership Council, congratulated Changwon for preparing its SOC that is easy to understand and supported by good diagrams and images. Dr. Chua explained the rationale of the SOC reporting and its importance as a tool to support for local government's ICM program implementation. Dr. Chua cited that the SOC reporting is different from the usual environment monitoring reports as it provides clear indication of what has been done, what needs to be done (gaps and challenges that require policy and management intervention) and basis for future course of action. Dr. Chua emphasized on the process of developing the report. He particularly underscored the importance of stakeholder engagement and consultation during its development not only to promote ownership but to ensure that the information contained in the report is validated, thus providing an accurate picture of the status of the coastal environment. The SOC is considered as a living document since it undergoes regular updating in line with ICM program implementation.
- 6.8 Prof. Lee indicated that the SOC report will be opened to the public to secure consensus for its further refinement.
- 7.0 OPEN FORUM: STRENGTHENING THE PNLG AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN/DONGYING DECLARATION COMMITMENTS**
- 7.1 The open forum was divided into two groups of presenters/panelists. The first group included representatives from Preah Sihanouk Province (Sihanoukville), Cambodia; Dongying, China; Bali, Indonesia; and Batangas, Philippines.

- 7.2 On behalf of the local government of Preah Sihanouk Province, Cambodia, Mr. Prak Visal, ICM Project Management Office, presented the experiences, key achievements and challenges of ICM implementation in Sihanoukville. As one of the three designated economic development areas of Cambodia, Sihanoukville is faced with increasing pressure from industrial development. In particular, Sihanoukville's coastal resources and environment are facing threats, including pollution, overexploitation of resources, destruction of pristine habitats and environmental degradation. In addressing these challenges, Sihanoukville, through ICM implementation, has implemented various projects on pollution reduction, waste management, tourism development, habitat protection, water use and supply management, and most recently addressing natural and man-made hazards brought about by climate change. Based on their ten-year experience of ICM implementation, Mr. Visal summarized the key experiences and lessons learned of Sihanoukville as follows:
- Through the ICM framework, the institutional mechanism was established, which provided a platform for interagency coordination and consultation. Multiple resource use conflict can also be minimized.
 - For ICM implementation to be successful, it is important to develop action plans and allocate the necessary budget for their implementation including exploring environmental investment opportunities.
 - ICM does not only deal with technical issues but also political issues. It is therefore important to generate political commitment from all levels because without political support, policies and strategies will be difficult to implement.
 - Public awareness is necessary to facilitate perception change.
 - Developing the necessary skills and knowledge takes time and has to be continually addressed over time.
 - Effective coastal and marine management cannot be implemented by a single sector alone. It requires coordination and cooperation among all sectors of society — from national to local government, local community, civil society, business sector and other stakeholders.
 - ICM provides the framework for the integrated management of the land and water resources in Sihanoukville.
- 7.3 On behalf of Dongying City, China, Mr. Liu Pei expressed Dongying's concurrence with the proposed indicators and reporting format and shared Dongying's experience in completing the reporting template. Mr. Liu suggested that the timelines be modified from 2006–2011 to 2006, 2010 and 2011 in order to easily distinguish the difference between the timelines.
- 7.4 Mr. Liu provided the following details on how ratings were assigned to several indicators under the four targets of the Dongying Declaration:
- Under Target 1, Indicator 1 on long-term coastal strategy and multi-year coastal strategy implementation plan being developed and adopted by the local government, Dongying rated 4 points in view of the Dongying Sea Area Use Plan, Dongying Marine Environmental Protection Plan, both are ten-year plans from 2006 to 2015.
 - Under Target 2, Indicator 10 on local government-sought recognition and certification of ICM program, Dongying scored 1 point as Dongying formally started with ICM implementation only in 2009 and further work needs to be carried out in the coming years.

- Under Target 3, Indicator 22 on local government-developed ICM knowledge products to facilitate knowledge exchange, transfer of information and promoting ICM program implementation, Dongying rated 3 points in view of the pending publication of the book on the Dongying ICM Program.
- Under Target 4, Indicator 26 on local universities and research institutions being involved in the ICM program, Dongying rated 2 points. The reason behind the rating is that Dongying is a relatively new city, having been established only in 1983. Most of the local universities do not have the capacity to provide the required technical support for ICM implementation. These institutions, however, are now starting to handle small programs, particularly on capacity building.

7.5 On behalf of Bali, Indonesia, Mr. Anak Agung Badus Sudharsana provided a short overview on Bali and some of the initiatives that they have undertaken to address a number of challenges, such as:

- Limited lands
- Beach erosion
- Lack of water resources
- Saltwater intrusion due to underground water exploitation
- High production of waste
- Degradation of forest resources
- Degradation of rivers, lakes and reservoir
- Lack of public awareness
- Weak law enforcement
- Limited human resources
- Lack of infrastructure for environmental resources management
- Limited funding

Some of the initiatives undertaken by the Government of Bali include:

- Regional spatial planning
- Reforestation of critical land
- Development of organic farming
- Conservation of lakes and rivers
- Conservation of coral reefs
- Rainwater harvesting
- Beach conservation
- Integrated Coastal Management

7.6 Mr. Sudharsana underscored the importance of the reporting mechanism for the local government of Bali in monitoring, evaluating and reporting of progress on ICM implementation in Bali.

7.7 On behalf of the Province of Batangas, Philippines, Mr. Luis Awitan shared the Batangas experience in accomplishing the reporting format under the six targets of the Dongying Declaration.

- Under Target 1: Mainstream ICM strategies, objectives and targets. The provincial government has Provincial Ordinance No. 5-2008, an ordinance strengthening the institutional mechanism related to ICM. Some of the relevant plans include the Strategic Environmental

Management Plan 2005–2020, which has been incorporated into the Provincial Development Physical Framework Plan, annual investment plan and local expenditure program of the province.

- Under Target 2: Implement the PEMSEA ICM Code and Recognition. The Province of Batangas is establishing a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) consisting of 35 MPAs spanning 12 coastal city/municipalities to protect the coastal habitats and enhance fisheries productivity. A monitoring and enforcement system has been put in place to minimize illegal acts and destructive practices through the establishment and networking of *Bantay Dagat*, a civilian fisheries patrol force deputized as fish wardens.
- Under Target 3: Apply the State of the Coasts Reporting System. Batangas has developed its State of the Coasts report, which helped in identifying issues and concerns that require management interventions.
- Under Target 4: Organize an annual local and regional forum for ICM Scaling up. The Batangas Province consistently participated in environment-related forums and events and shared their experiences.
- Under Target 5: Co-organize site-specific capacity-development programs. The province has organized site-specific capacity development partnership arrangements with the private sector and NGOs to facilitate the implementation of the ICM program.
- Under Target 6: Engage local governments to develop and implement ICM and join PNLG. The provincial government has been sharing its best practices and experiences in ICM implementation in various forums and events, including the hosting of study tours.

7.8 Mr. Awitan provided the following comments on the reporting mechanism format:

- There is a tendency for the guide questions to be interpreted differently. For example, on the question, “Has a coastal use, marine spatial plan or similar plan been adopted on coastal and marine waters within the jurisdiction of the local government?,” the scope of the coastal zoning plan or marine spatial plan is interpreted as covering the entire coastal waters of the local government. However, several plans of the province, such as the marine protected area management plan, cover only specific coastal areas.
- On the question, “Does the local government regularly conduct or facilitate environmental monitoring of marine and coastal water resources and surrounding watershed areas?,” the local governments have limited technical knowledge and resources to undertake such activities on their own but can be undertaken through collaborative arrangements with the national government, private sector and NGOs.

7.9 The following recommendations on the reporting mechanism format were provided:

- Notification to initiate the preparation of the report is proper since the report is not a regular undertaking of the local governments, such as the preparation and submission of annual reports.
- Set annual deadline, i.e., every January 30 or February 15 of each year.
- Inclusion of column or portion for short remarks to include more explanation on the ratings provided by local governments.

- There should be a detailed guideline on how to answer each question to avoid under rating or over rating.
- Clear and distinct timelines 2006–2010, and a separate column for 2011 and so on.

Discussion

7.10 Prof. Lotilla opened the floor for questions and comments.

Question: How does the national government support the local government in the development and implementation of the ICM program in your country?

- 7.11 In Sihanoukville, Cambodia, Mr. Visal highlighted the coordination between and among the various mechanisms and committees established in support of the ICM program, such as the Provincial Coordinating Committee chaired by the governor and the Technical Working Group. At the national level, the Ministry of Environment, which serves as PEMSEA's National Focal Point in Cambodia, also serves as the national focal point for ICM implementation and works closely with Sihanoukville.
- 7.12 In Bali, Indonesia, an annual integrated and coordinated planning/programming is undertaken between the central government and local government. The Province of Bali also works with various ministries of the central government with mandates on environmental protection and development, forestry and fisheries. Such ministries provide support to ICM implementation in Bali.
- 7.13 In Dongying, China, the State Oceanic Administration serves as the representative institution of the central government providing technical support to ICM program implementation. The Dongying Municipal Government allocates the necessary financial support for the implementation of ICM-related activities and programs.
- 7.14 In the case of Batangas, Philippines, Mr. Awitan emphasized that the link between the local and central government is not merely a case of receiving or providing support, but more of a partnership. The issuance of Executive Order 533 adopting ICM as the national strategy to achieving sustainable development in the coastal and marine areas provided opportunities for policy and functional integration and more importantly, enhancing capacity development at the local level.
- 7.15 The second batch of presenters/panelists was composed of representatives from the following local governments: Selangor, Malaysia; Chonburi, Thailand; Shihwa, Republic of Korea; and Thua Thien Hue, Vietnam.
- 7.16 On behalf of Selangor, Malaysia, Mr. Khairi Bin Selamat, Director, Lembaga Urus Air Selangor, outlined the key activities undertaken by Selangor as part of their ICM program. These include:
- (a) The preparation of the State of the Coasts Report has been initiated, and a committee has been established to work on the data collection. The gathering of information from relevant agencies, however, would require more time.

- (b) A strategic action plan has been developed in Klang and Kuala Langan. Also in the final stages of preparation are the coastal strategy action plan in Kuala Selangor and Suba Burnam. A consultant has already been engaged to undertake an initial risk assessment.
 - (c) In line with ICM scaling up, the local government of Pang in Selangor will also be preparing a strategic action plan.
 - (d) A river basin management plan is also being developed to complement the coastal management efforts. This effort is important to address pollution coming from upstream.
 - (e) An effluent discharge regulation has been recently approved and will cover a number of activities including aquaculture, land-based activities, etc.
 - (f) In line with the Klang River Improvement Program, which includes the coastal area, an action plan is being prepared with support from the State Government in order to improve water quality in Klang River.
- 7.17 Mr. Selamat provided two key comments/suggestions on the reporting format: (1) there is a need to include an additional column for remarks to enable the ICM site to indicate further explanation on the status of their implementation; and (2) the report should help show real achievements in the sites.
- 7.18 On behalf of Chonburi Province, Thailand, Dr. Suriyan Tunkijjanukij, Dean, Faculty of Fisheries, Kasetsart University, presented the status of Chonburi's implementation of the PNLG Strategic Action Plan (SAP). Dr. Suriyan highlighted that the Chonburi ICM program started with five local governments in 2001, and has recently expanded to include 99 local governments now covering the entire province. In Chonburi's assessment, a number of the key targets under the PNLG SAP have already been partially and substantially met. In particular, the Coastal Strategy Implementation Plan (CSIP) has been mainstreamed into the local medium-term development plan of the province. The local government has also been implementing a number of ICM activities using its own funds and with the support of various entities including the private sector. The province has also developed a coastal use zoning and marine zoning plan as well as the State of the Coasts Report. Chonburi will continue to implement the Coastal Strategy and Implementation Plan to meet the targets set.
- 7.19 Representing Shihwa is Mr. Ik-Hwan Eom, Deputy Director, Marine Environment Policy Division, Marine Policy Bureau, Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of RO Korea. Mr. Eom provided the following suggestions for the improvement of the reporting and monitoring mechanism, as well as in enhancing ICM implementation in various sites:
- (a) There is a need to provide more detailed guidance for the reporting procedure, including: number of members and composition of a task team responsible for preparing the report; consensus-building process; and scoring method relating to problem-solving process.
 - (b) To enable various reports to be compared qualitatively, it would help to include more information on the report.
 - (c) The Project Management Offices should be capacitated not only in implementing ICM but also in preparing their monitoring reports. The role of the PNLG Secretariat in providing guidance and additional technical assistance and support to ICM sites is crucial.

- (d) There is a need to clarify the level of local government (e.g., municipal or provincial level) that will be considered in line with the target to increase the PNLG membership by 100 percent by 2015.
- 7.20 On behalf of Thua Thien Hue, Vietnam, Mr. Le Van Thu, Deputy Director, Provincial Agency for Seas, Islands and Lagoons, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, expressed his concurrence on the targets and indicators of the proposed reporting format. He sees the value for national agencies responsible for overseeing ICM implementation in the country (i.e., Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands [VASI]) in applying the same reporting mechanism to better management and monitoring of ICM implementation in the country. However, Mr. Le believes that the time frame should be based on the Five-Year Strategic Action Plan so as to better show environmental changes which often takes several years.
- 7.21 Mr. Le shared the following experiences of Thua Thien Hue in ICM implementation in relation to the six targets of the Dongying Declaration:
- Target 1: Mainstreaming ICM strategies, objectives and targets into the local government development plan – Thua Thien Hue has developed a Coastal Strategy and action plan. The lack of a coordinating mechanism at the national level that would link local efforts hindered the implementation of the action plan. Recent developments, such as the approval of Program 158 that promotes ICM application and implementation in 28 coastal provinces, as well as the establishment of VASI at the national level and PASIL at the local level, provide opportunities to strengthen and improve ICM implementation in the country. The need to strengthen or put in place an effective monitoring mechanism was emphasized.
 - Target 2: Implementation of ICM Code and Recognition System – Thua Thien Hue has developed a coastal use zoning plan including an action plan for climate change resilience, which will facilitate compliance to the ICM Code.
 - Target 3: Application of the SOC reporting system – Thua Thien Hue has initiated the development of the SOC.
 - Target 4: Co-organize and participate in regional forum – Thua Thien Hue has participated in local, national, regional and international forum to share and exchange experiences in ICM implementation. The province also developed ICM knowledge products, such as the book titled *Where Water Meets Land*, which is used in primary and secondary schools in TTHue.
 - Target 5: Co-organize a site-specific capacity-development program – Funds are allocated for capacity strengthening. Partnership arrangements PEMSEA, VASI and NGOs are established to facilitate ICM implementation.
 - Target 6: Increase PNLG membership to 100 percent by 2015 – Thua Thien Hue actively promotes and disseminates information on the PNLG. Several potential members, such as Nge Anh and Soc Trang, have been identified.
- 7.22 Finally, Thua Thien Hue expressed its commitment to apply the reporting and monitoring mechanism to ensure achievement of objectives and targets.

Discussion

Question: How is SOC communicated to the people?

7.23 The panelists highlighted that multistakeholder consultation and consensus building is an integral part of the SOC process. SOC is essential in facilitating the ICM planning process because it provides the necessary information on the status, progress made and gaps in the ICM program. While there are variations in the structure of the coordinating mechanisms in the various countries/local governments, stakeholder participation/involvement is a common element. In RO Korea, for instance, the Local/Community Advisory Councils allow multi-stakeholder participation where suggestions/recommendations are provided not only to local governments but also to the national government.

Question: Given the different conflicts occurring in the coastal areas and marine environment, who is responsible for resolving conflicts in the countries? How are conflicts resolved in sectoral agencies? How are coastal and sea use zoning plans implemented?

7.24 Based on Xiamen's experience, Vice Mayor Pan Shijian provided some information and lessons learned. Vice Mayor Pan emphasized that the management of coastal and marine environment is not only the responsibility of one agency, it requires strong leadership and commitment of the whole local government. The local government implementing ICM should therefore have a clear understanding and appreciation of ICM. Public information and consultation is important in building local support, and various channels are used to convey the right message, such as through television programs and announcements. Xiamen has introduced several changes/reforms to improve environmental quality. For instance, with the help of scientific studies, dikes were opened to promote seawater circulation and exchange. The social, economic and environmental benefits are now becoming apparent, and these changes are attributed to ICM implementation over the past 20 years.

7.25 Dr. Chua noted the significant personal development that is evident in a number of people who have been involved in ICM implementation. The thoughtful experience they have shared showed that ICM is not an easy process; it requires deep understanding of ICM, taking concrete action and commitment. Conflicts in environmental management can be efficiently addressed if an interagency coordinating mechanism is set in place at the start. This has been demonstrated by the Xiamen case study, wherein a coordinating mechanism, with strong involvement of key local government officials and stakeholders, has made significant changes. Dr. Chua further emphasized that ICM is a process and the results may take time to become visible. In order to achieve positive change, it is critical that the various stages of the process have to be followed, i.e., development of SOC baseline as part of the overall monitoring, evaluation and reporting system, etc. The SOC helps establish the baseline and show progress made and areas for further improvement at the end of the cycle. The process of SOC reporting becomes easier once the initial efforts of developing the reports are initiated and initial data are collated, analyzed and validated.

Question: Citing the case of Samar island in the Philippines and the pending proposal to the Philippine legislative body on establishing a protected area and establishment of commission that would focus on marine and terrestrial concerns, a question was raised on whether the PNLG as a body is able to help local governments lobby for approval of legislative proposals/agenda in the countries.

- 7.26 Mr. Selamat of Selangor, Malaysia, shared the difficulties they have encountered in the Selangor Water Management Authority. While the authority has been established and enabling policy has been approved, the changes in the mindset, particularly when the authority was downsized a few years back, greatly affected their operations. The situation, however, has changed in recent years.
- 7.27 Prof. Lotilla noted that while the PNLG could not offer a solution to the concern shared by Samar, he emphasized the value of gathering public support to rally behind the idea or initiative. Through which, there will be a better chance of securing legislative approval.
- 7.28 In line with this, a representative from Shihwa Lake, RO Korea, shared their experience and highlighted the importance of public participation in reversing a project or decision that can be detrimental to the environment. A large part of Shihwa, for instance, was initially identified for a big reclamation project. With public support, the project was reassessed and considerations of environmental quality and scientific understanding of the physical processes have helped Shihwa transform the area into one of the biggest tidal power plants in RO Korea.
- 7.29 To further assist local governments in implementing ICM and in engaging the strong support of local leaders, Mr. Le Van Thu of Thua Thien Hue, Vietnam, also suggested for the PEMSEA Executive Director to conduct regular visits in their respective sites. Prof. Lotilla indicated that in line with the ongoing process of developing the national Five-Year SDS-SEA Implementation Plans for the next phase of PEMSEA, the PRF will be conducting visits and consultations in various countries and ICM sites to ensure that their situations and needs are considered in the development of the plans.

Question: How is the ICM membership defined and how is the target of 100 percent increase in PNLG membership by 2015 being achieved?

- 7.30 Ms. Bermas emphasized that the 100 percent increase in PNLG membership by 2015 is a common target for all the members. The network currently has 29 members, and each member is encouraged to disseminate the benefits of ICM and the value of being a member. As part of their commitment to achieve one of the targets of the Dongying Declaration, the PNLG members should be working toward increasing the membership to 58 by 2015.
- 7.31 Dr. Chua further emphasized that the rationale for the target is not only to increase the number of members but most importantly to ensure that each member is implementing an ICM program to ensure quality of membership. This is the main criteria in becoming a PNLG member. As the region and international communities look into the significant progress being made by the PNLG, it is of utmost importance that each member show concrete actions on the ground and

demonstrate that their ICM programs conform to quality requirements in relation to the ICM Code and Recognition System.

- 7.32 Prof. Lotilla further highlighted the assessment and verification processes that each potential member undergoes before becoming a PNLG member in order to ensure the quality membership and strong commitment and leadership to implement the ICM program.

Strengthening the PNLG Secretariat

- 7.33 Prof. Lotilla informed the assembly of a letter received from the mayor of Xiamen in support of one of the targets to further strengthen the PNLG Secretariat. In particular, the letter states that the Municipal Government of Xiamen expressed its willingness to host the permanent PNLG Secretariat and to enhance the institutional capacity and leadership of the secretariat based on previous cooperation. In view of the strong commitment of Vice Mayor Pan Shijian to the PNLG as its incumbent president, and the significant progress that he has contributed to PNLG development, the mayor requested and recommended to the PNLG General Assembly the designation of Vice Mayor Pan as Secretary General of the PNLG to ensure continuity in leadership and meet new challenges in the future development of the PNLG. The mayor also shared the recent election of Vice Mayor Pan as Vice Chair of Xiamen Committee's Chinese People Consultative Conference. The mayor further reiterated Xiamen Municipal Government's commitment to provide the necessary human resources and support to promote PNLG as an important mechanism for coastal and ocean development in the region.
- 7.34 Dr. Chua informed the assembly of the ongoing transformation of PEMSEA as an international legal entity. In line with this transformation, he emphasized the need for PEMSEA to change its mode of operations and to strengthen the PNLG Secretariat as an important network of PEMSEA. The continuing growth of PNLG requires a stronger secretariat that is able to meet the needs of its members and address future challenges. In particular, Dr. Chua emphasized the need for the network to continuously improve the quality of ICM implementation. This does not necessarily mean that the PRF will no longer play a role in the PNLG. Dr. Chua underscored that the PNLG will always be a part of the big PEMSEA family and in order to move forward, it is important for each member of PEMSEA to contribute and continuously improve. Xiamen has benefited from ICM, and they have set up the PNLG Secretariat and started the annual Xiamen World Ocean Week (XWOW). Dr. Chua reiterated that this provides a good opportunity for the PNLG to showcase its successes and lessons learned. In order to make the PNLG become more visible as a strong player in ocean and coastal governance, it is important to establish a stronger secretariat. PNLG is already doing and demonstrating the key principles and targets of the Rio+20 and with the SDS-SEA Five-Year Implementation Plan developed, Dr. Chua expressed confidence that the region is in a better position to address the challenges ahead. With this, Dr. Chua urged the assembly to take advantage of this opportunity being offered by the Xiamen Municipal Government.

- 7.35 Gov. Nava moved to accept the generous offer of the Xiamen Municipal Government and requested the PNLG Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements to put into effect the recommendation of designating Vice Mayor Pan as Secretary General as part of the strengthening of the PNLG Secretariat.

Decision of the General Assembly:

The General Assembly decided on the following:

- 7.36 Approve the recommendation of the Xiamen Municipal Government to designate Vice Mayor Pan Shijian as Secretary General of the PNLG Secretariat.
- 7.37 Adopt the proposed reporting mechanism with some revisions as recommended by the General Assembly.

E. TURNOVER OF THE PNLG FLAG

- 8.1 In accordance with the PNLG Charter, President Pan Shijian informed the General Assembly of the need to identify a host for the next PNLG Forum. President Pan emphasized that while organizing a PNLG Forum is an arduous task, it is important to highlight the value and benefits of hosting the PNLG Forum, including the following: learning and sharing of practices and experiences; raising awareness of local government officials; enhancing the reputation of the city or municipality; and increasing awareness and understanding of ICM and PNLG. Through the hosting of PNLG Forums, the host may also showcase their good initiatives through field visits.
- 8.2 Prof. Lotilla informed the assembly of the expression of interest from the Mayor of Shima City, Japan, to host the 2013 PNLG Forum, subject to further consultation with the Shima City Council. Through the PRF Executive Director, Shima requested that this interest be announced during the General Assembly. Apart from Shima, the Port Klang of Malaysia has also expressed its interest to host the PNLG Forum in 2014.
- 8.3 In view of the pending formal confirmation from Shima, Japan, it was suggested for the PNLG flag to be turned over to the PNLG Secretariat. Incoming President Nava expressed his concurrence to the suggestion and moved for the PNLG flag to be turned over to the PNLG Secretariat. Dr. Zhou Lumin accepted the flag from Changwon City.

F. CLOSING CEREMONY

- i. President Pan Shijian expressed his sincere thanks to all the delegates and for their active participation during the discussions. President Pan believes that the 2012 PNLG has reached significant milestones particularly with the election of a new set of officers of PNLG that will ensure continued and strong leadership of PNLG. Moreover, the adoption of the reporting and monitoring mechanism for the PNLG Strategic Action Plan and Dongying Declaration is significant in ensuring

better understanding and appreciation of the PNLG objectives and targets. President Pan expressed his commitment to continuously work with the PNLG members and Secretariat to further advance the goals of the PNLG. He expressed confidence that the PNLG Secretariat will play a stronger and bigger role in contributing to the sustainability of the East Asian Seas community. In closing, President Pan expressed his heartfelt thanks to all the participants and the City Government of Changwon as well as to the organizing committees for the successful organization and conduct of the General Assembly. President Pan adjourned the meeting at 5:30 pm, 8 July 2012.

ANNEX 1
PNLG GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

**2012 PNLG FORUM
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
8 July 2012
Changwon City, Republic of Korea**

PROGRAMME

7 July, Saturday Arrival and early registration
Venue: Changwon Hotel
12:00 Lunch
19:00 – 21:00 Welcome Reception

8 July, Sunday

Opening Ceremony

Dongbaek Hall, Changwon Hotel

08:30 – 09:00 Registration
09:00 – 09:10 Acknowledgment of guests and participants
09:10 – 09:20 Welcoming Remarks
Hon. Park Wan-Su
Mayor, Changwon City, RO Korea
09:20 – 09:30 Remarks
Hon. Pan Shijian
Vice Chair, Chinese People's Political Consultative Committee
(CPPCC) of Xiamen and PNLG President
09:30 – 09:40 Remarks
Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla
Executive Director, PEMSEA Resource Facility
09:40 – 10:10 Coffee Break and Group Photo

General Assembly of the PNLG

Chair: Mr. Pan Shijian, Vice Chair, CPPCC Xiamen and PNLG Secretariat
Co-Chair: Mr. Enrique T. Garcia, Jr. PNLG Vice President and Governor, Bataan
Province (Philippines)

Business Session

10:10 – 10:40 Report of the PNLG Secretariat

- 3rd PNLG Executive Committee Meeting
- Amendment of the PNLG Charter
- Election of PNLG Officers
- New members
- Reporting mechanism for PNLG Strategic Action Plan and Dongying Declaration
- Strengthening of the PNLG Secretariat

Dr. Zhou Lumin
Head, PNLG Secretariat

10:40 – 10:55 Adoption and Nomination and Election Guideline
10:55 – 11:25 Election of Officers and Oath Taking
11:25 – 11:40 Induction of New PNLG Member
Haiyang, PR China
Signing of PNLG Charter
Brief Statement of the New Member

INTERACTIVE SESSION

Co-Chair: Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla
Executive Director, PEMSEA Resource Facility

11:40 – 12:10 Progress, Achievements and Challenges in ICM Implementation
and the Dongying Declaration: Reporting Mechanism
12:10 – 12:30 Changwon State of the Coast Report
Dr. Chan Won Lee
Professor, Department of Urban Environmental Engineering
Kyungnam University
12:30 – 14:00 Lunch Break
Video Showing – The Coast
Chang-Hwan Kim
Deputy Managing Director
MBC Gyeongnam Planning and Product Division
14:00 – 16:00 Open Forum
Strengthening the PNLG and its implementation of the
5-Year Action Plan/Dongying Declaration commitments
Panel: PNLG members
16:00 – 16:30 Coffee Break
16:30 – 17:30 Continuation of Open Forum
Conclusions and Recommendations
17:30 – 17:45 Turnover of PNLG Flag to the 2013 PNLG Forum Host
Local Government
17:45 – 18:00 Closing of the General Assembly
19:00 – 21:00 PNLG Partnership Night
Mokryun Hall, Changwon Hotel
Hosted by PNLG and PEMSEA

9 July, Monday

EAS Congress 2012 Opening Ceremony and PNLG Technical Workshop

10 July, Tuesday

09:30 – 17:30 Site Visit

- Inland Aquaculture Research Center
- Inland Water Environmental Eco-Park
- Samgwi Coast
- Machang Grand Bridge
- Maritime Filming Studio

ANNEX 2
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

2012 PNLG FORUM
Changwon City, Republic of Korea
8–10 July 2012

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 3
OPENING CEREMONY SPEECHES

Welcome Message
Honorable Wan Su Park
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Honorable Chairman, Pan Shijian, delegations from East Asian local governments, and ladies and gentlemen!

On behalf of 1.1 million Changwon citizens, I would like to welcome you all to the green city of Changwon, the environmental capital of the Republic of Korea.

I am very pleased to open the PNLG Forum in the run up to the EAS Congress 2012.

As you are all aware, mankind is currently facing a number of environmental crises, such as global climate change and energy depreciation, pollution of the coastal environment, destruction of habitats and reduction in biodiversity due to the overfishing of marine resources.

These problems cannot be solved with a single country's efforts. Active participation and efforts by all citizens around the world, as well as close international cooperation and information sharing, is required.

In this regard, the PNLG has set an example by making innovative efforts to achieve sustainable development including the preservation of coastal resources and coastal management for the seas of East Asia.

Changwon City, which has a beautiful coastline stretching about 300 km, is making its utmost efforts to preserve and manage its coastal environment by conducting an eco-stream recovery project and a coastal management information system project and reducing waste in coastal area in addition to the introduction of a Total Pollution Load Management system.

I hope that practical measures can be discussed at this Congress for the sustainable development of the East Asian Seas based on the achievements by the PNLG.

In addition, I expect the PNLG's efforts and programs to spread to non-member local governments for the mutual prosperity of the East Asian community.

I hope this gathering can serve as an opportunity for all of you to build strong trust and friendship among maritime-related organizations and national delegations during your stay in Changwon.

Once again, I would like to extend my wholehearted welcome to you all, and I wish you a pleasant stay, good health and all the best.

Thank you.

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Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning.

Today will be the last time that I will attend the PNLG Annual Forum as the president of this organization so let me take a few moments to take you back to the history of PNLG to review some milestone events in our history. I remember the original name of the organization is not PNLG; it was RNLG, the Regional Network of Local Governments Implementing ICM. The name changed in 2006, during the EAS Congress held in Haikou City, China. Although the name has changed, our mission stays the same — to promote sustainability through ICM implementation. Also, at that Haikou Conference, we adopted the PNLG Charter, we defined the obligations and rights of all our members, the Secretariat was established, and I and Governor Garcia was elected as the first President and Vice President of PNLG.

Then we came to the year 2007; the annual forum was held in Danang City, Vietnam. At that forum, we welcomed five new members, they are Port Klang of Malaysia and other four cities; they are Dongying, Quanzhou, Fangchenggang and Haikou City, all of China. They are the five new members which made our members from 18 to 23. At that conference, we had very fruitful discussions about how to adjust the coastal security and hazards prevention. Then in November 2007, the PNLG's first meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Xiamen, and we made some amendments on the PNLG Charter, and we discussed about the next annual forum to be held in Cambodia. And then in the year 2008, the annual forum was held in a very beautiful province, Sihanoukville of Cambodia. At that annual forum, we had another new member, the Province of Guimaras.

In the year 2009, the General Assembly was held in the hometown of Governor Garcia, the Province of Bataan of the Philippines. That year was actually a new starting point for PNLG because we signed a Letter of Cooperation with PEMSEA Concerning the Sustainable Development and Management of Marine and Coastal Environment Resources of the Seas of East Asia. At that year, the PNLG became a formal non-government partner of PEMSEA. I and Governor Garcia were again elected as President and Vice President of PNLG, these very important positions. During that annual forum, we had another new member from Vietnam. After that, we went to Manila to attend the East Asian Seas Congress 2009, and we learned a lot from that Congress.

Then in August of 2010, the Second Executive Committee Meeting of PNLG was held on Xiamen and in that meeting, we discussed about the PNLG Strategic Action Plan, the

next General Assembly and the PNLG Workshop to be held during the Xiamen World Ocean Week. In November of 2010, the General Assembly was held in Chonburi, Thailand. We went to that beautiful place, and we adopted the PNLG Strategic Action Plan. Our new member for that year was the Jakarta Province from Indonesia. After that November, some members of the PNLG were invited to attend the Xiamen World Ocean Week, to attend the PNLG workshop concerning river basins.

Then last year was the tenth anniversary of our PNLG. We gathered in Dongying City of China, wherein we signed the Dongying Declaration and we welcomed our first associate members. They are the First Institute of Oceanography of the State Oceanic Administration of PR China, also the Coastal and Ocean Management Institute of Xiamen University. Last year, our host for this General Assembly, Changwon City, and two other cities — Lianyungang and Laoting of PR China — became the three new members joining the big family of PNLG.

On March 1 of this year, the third Executive Committee Meeting of PNLG was held in Xiamen. We have all the Executive Committee members; we have representatives from Changwon City during that meeting to discuss how we are going to conduct the PNLG General Assembly here in Changwon, and that is why we all came here today.

Please allow me, on behalf of PNLG, to express my gratitude to PEMSEA, to PNLG Secretariat, and I would like to give my special thanks to the Changwon Municipal Government and to all the people and staff of the Local Organizing Committee who have been working really hard to make this possible. I would like to thank the mayor of Changwon City and the president of Changwon City Council for gracing this Opening Ceremony.

Lastly, I wish the PNLG General Assembly 2012 a complete success.

Thank you.

Remarks
Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla
Executive Director, PEMSEA Resource Facility

The Honorable host, Mayor Park Wan Su of Changwon City
The Honorable Chair of the City Council of Changwon City, Bei Jong Chon
The President of PNLG, the Honorable Pan Shijian
The Chair of the PEMSEA Partnership Council, Dr. Chua Thia-Eng
Our distinguished officials, Mr. Manuel Beltran, representing Bataan and Governor Garcia; Governor Felipe Nava; Vice Governor Prak Sihara; and Dr. Zhou Lu Min, the Secretariat of PNLG

Friends, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning to all of you. On behalf of PEMSEA, I wish to extend my best wishes and felicitations to all of you on the occasion of the 2012 PNLG Forum and General Assembly.

At the outset, allow me to introduce the other members of the PEMSEA Executive Committee who are here in full force with us this morning: Mr. Hiroshi Terashima, Chair of Technical Session; Ambassador Mary Seet-Cheng, the Co-Chair of the Council; Dr. Chul-Hwan Koh, Co-Chair of Technical Session; and Undersecretary Analiza-Teh, Co-Chair of the Intergovernmental Session.

I wish to extend my thanks to PNLG for this opportunity to participate in today's important meeting. It seems only yesterday that I visited Changwon City and Mayor Park two years ago, when this city was chosen as the venue for the East Asian Seas Congress 2012. Let me tell you that Changwon won a beauty contest that was held in Korea at that time on who was going to host the East Asian Seas Congress was determined, and therefore I would like to express our thanks to the mayor and to his fellow hardworking officials, and to the people of Changwon for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements.

Changwon has move forward as an eco-city, an environmental city under the mayor's leadership. We look forward therefore to a productive and enjoyable stay in this beautiful ocean city.

Friends, ladies and gentlemen, we have heard Mayor Pan Shijian recall the history of PNLG. My congratulations therefore to you, your officers, your members and the PNLG Secretariat for the work done in promoting the implementation at the local level of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA). Your numbers have grown with the years as Mayor Pan Shijian has recounted. There are 29 formal members, and we are welcoming an additional number at this meeting. But you actually represent more than 100 local governments in the East Asian Seas region. Your leadership in the region is indispensable if we are to attain the target of placing at least 20 percent of the region's coastline under Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) by the year 2015. That target is the tipping point that could move the rest of the region toward a more sustainable stewardship of its oceans and coasts particularly at the local level. In

recognition of this leadership role, you have become a non-country member of the East Asian Seas Partnership Council, PEMSEA's governing body.

I also wish to acknowledge and welcome the presence of observers and friends from outside the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments. We have observers from the Coral Triangle initiative and from the local governments from the Philippines, and we look forward to the future to their becoming actively involved in the PNLG affairs.

The Republic of Korea's attainment of developed country status provides a role model to the other countries in the East Asian Seas region. The hosting of the East Asian Seas Congress provides an opportunity for Korea to provide stronger leadership in promoting cooperation in the management of the interlinked seas of the region and for showcasing its national thrust to pursue sustainable development and green growth. The East Asian Seas Congress is taking place in the wake of Rio+20. There is, therefore, a clear opportunity to demonstrate how the East Asian Seas region will deepen and strengthen implementation of the consensus at Rio, Rio+10 and Rio+20. Sustainable development, as I know all of you have realized from direct experience, is a continuing effort to find a balance or manage the tension between conservation and development. Conflict in many instances can be avoided by using an integrated approach. Where conflict is unavoidable, it needs to be resolved in a manner that is participatory and inclusive. This requires a multistakeholder approach to governance that takes into account various interests enlightened by science-based knowledge to ensure that any damage to the environment is not irreversible. PEMSEA has promoted a sustainable development implementation framework using integrated coastal management or ICM, particularly at the levels of local governments. It requires the strengthening of the quality of governance in order to address the various sustainable development needs and concerns of the community at the national and local levels.

Let me finally point out that the PNLG and the EAS Congress have enabled various countries and stakeholders even at the local level to interact and put together a common vision and action plan, compare experiences and lessons learned and develop approaches to address emerging and new challenges. Despite the differences in language, culture, history and politics, the solidarity of the East Asian Seas community is perceptible in the PNLG General Assembly and Forum.

I therefore join you in welcoming our other guests to this forum, and we look forward to an enjoyable and productive stay in this beautiful ocean city of Changwon.

Thank you very much.

Welcome Remarks
Honorable Jong-Cheon Bae
Chairman, Changwon City Council, RO Korea

Honorable Chairman, Pan Shijian,
Delegations from East Asian local governments,
Distinguished guests,

I would like to welcome all of you to the city of Changwon.

Marine resources provide a generous support to our lives as it is said everything we lost can be found in the ocean. However, the resources will eventually run out if we use them without a plan and conservation effort.

Our future resources are seriously threatened by the pollution of the sea and the environment, and we do not have time to waste anymore.

Expansion of green space, establishment of green transportation system, including promotion of using bicycles, and all the policies place a high priority on the environment. By doing this, the citizens have managed an exemplary lifestyle to protect and conserve nature.

To make an effort to enjoy the right to live in a healthy and clean environment and to bequeath a stable environment to our descendants is a duty and not a choice.

I look forward to advanced discussions on the ocean and the environment and action plans for building a blue economy to preserve marine ecosystem, to promote human welfare and to develop the ocean economy. All of these cannot be done without your support.

I expect the PLNG's efforts will set a good example for other maritime countries not only in East Asia but also in the world for the prosperity of all people.

I wish you all a comfortable and pleasant stay in Changwon.

Thank you.

ANNEX 4
NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PNLG OFFICERS

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PNLG OFFICERS

1. An election of PNLG officers is scheduled for the July 2012 PNLG General Assembly. The following guideline has been developed by the secretariat to facilitate the nomination and election-by-consensus of a new slate of officers during that meeting.

Election of Officers, as Directed by the PNLG Charter

2. Article 26 of the PNLG Charter states, “The *regular members* of the General Assembly shall elect the President and the Vice President from among the regular members.”

Terms of Office, as Directed by the PNLG Charter

3. Article 27 states that “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 two consecutive terms.”
4. The charter is silent on the officer nomination and election process, although Article 25 states that “Decisions [of the General Assembly] shall be arrived at through consensus building.”

Guideline on the Nomination and Election of PNLG Officers

5. The following guideline has been prepared for consideration by the Executive Committee. The guideline is based on the procedure used by the EAS Partnership Council for electing officers to the Executive Committee, with appropriate amendments.
6. The President and Vice President of the PNLG are elected by consensus by the *regular members* by the following procedure:
 - A.1. Nomination of President and Vice President
 - i) The Executive Committee, through the PNLG Secretariat, shall call for nominations for the officers, based on their personal qualifications, during a one-month nomination period beginning in March of the election year or, as a minimum, at least three months prior to the election.
 - ii) The nominations shall be made in writing addressed to the Executive Committee and sent to the PNLG Secretariat, stating specifically the name of the candidates and the positions for which such candidates are nominated. *Regular members* may nominate only one candidate for each position.
 - iii) The nominees will be notified of their nominations. The secretariat shall secure the consent of the nominees for their respective nominations. No person shall be nominated to more than one position. In cases where an

individual has been nominated to more than one position, the secretariat shall give the person the option to consent to only one nominated position.

A.2. Consultation and Consensus Building

- i) After the nomination period, the PNLG Secretariat will consolidate the list of the confirmed nominees and conduct a series of consultations with the *regular members* in order to promote consensus on a single candidate garnering the most support for each position, thus facilitating the election of officers at the General Assembly.
- ii) The Secretariat's first round of consultations will be focused on narrowing down the choices to a shortlist of the top two nominees for each position, as and when required.
- iii) The second round of consultation will focus on the top two nominees resulting in identification of lone nominees for each position.
- iv) The third round of consultations is expected to generate consensus on the lone nominee for each position by 30 June 2012. The names of the nominees selected by consensus shall be submitted to the Executive Committee.
- v) The Executive Committee, through the PNLG Secretariat, informs the candidates and reports the results of the consultation to the *regular members*.
- vi) The secretariat shall keep all documents and records pertaining to consensus building and election process.

A.3. Formal Election at the General Assembly

- i) The lone nominees who garnered the most support of the regular members will be formally elected to their respective positions at the PNLG General Assembly, at the invitation of the Chairman of the PNLG General Assembly.
- ii) The incumbent officers of the PNLG shall administer the oath of office to the incoming officers immediately following their election.
- iii) The incumbent officers shall remain in office until the closure of the PNLG General Assembly, at which time the incoming officers shall assume office.

Action Required from the General Assembly:

7. The General Assembly is invited to review, discuss and adopt the proposed guideline for the nomination and election of the President and Vice President of the PNLG.

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ANNEX 5
ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES OF THE NEWLY ELECTED
PNLG PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

**Acceptance Speech
Honorable Felipe Hilan Nava
Governor, Province of Guimaras
Philippines**

To all the members of the PEMSEA Executive Committee, officers, members and guests of this PNLG General Assembly 2012,

A pleasant morning to each and everyone.

When we joined PEMSEA in 2008, we were driven by the desire to pursue the sustainable development of our island province. Recovering from the devastation of the 2006 oil spill, we were searching for answers on how we can best address the need to rehabilitate the affected ecosystems and regain our economic drivers which are anchored in agriculture, fisheries and tourism.

We realized that achieving those objectives requires a lot of determination and external support, owing to the fact that there are factors beyond our control. Being a member of PEMSEA provided us with answers and enabled us to respond to the challenges of managing the fragile island environment. We certainly gained not only colleagues but friends facing similar challenges in the context of local governments.

Being elected as President of PNLG is certainly a great honor for me personally, as well as for my province and my country, and I sincerely thank everyone for the vote of confidence and trust. This, however, comes with great responsibility, and it is for this reason that I am counting on the support of the honorable members who are with me in this noble undertaking.

The challenges we are facing as local governments, mutually joined together by the desire to improve the lives of our constituents, are certainly daunting owing to the emerging threats facing our marine and coastal environments. I am, however, optimistic that this partnership can make the difference in our greater resolve that will enable us to achieve meaningful gains to push toward our goal, guided by the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA).

Again, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for all the members and to PEMSEA for giving me this opportunity to be of service and make my humble contribution for the sustainable seas of East Asia.

Thank you very much and good day, everyone.

Mabuhay!

**Acceptance Speech
Honorable Prak Sihara
Vice Governor, Sihanoukville, Cambodia**

Ladies and gentlemen,

Honorable Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, Chair, EAS Partnership Council, PEMSEA
Honorable Prof. Raphael Lotilla, Executive Director, PEMSEA Resource Facility
Honorable Mayor Pan Shijian, President, PNLG
Dr. Zhou Lu Min, Lead, PNLG Secretariat
Governor Felipe Nava

Today is a great honor for me and my country and my province. On behalf of my governor and myself, I would like to thank you for giving us the chance to become an official of the PNLG. It's a great honor. Congratulations to our new PNLG President as well.

We are part of a small country and have implemented ICM in a situation that is not easy. Many of you are aware of our socioeconomic and political condition, but we work hard. We try our best and as what we always say, "If we can do it in Cambodia, you can all do it too, what needs to be done, but much needs to be done."

We discovered that as we solve some things, more work started coming. We are pleased of the friendship that we developed along the way through the PNLG. The PNLG, for us, is not only a network of ICM implementers but also a network of local governments helping one another.

We hope that we can strengthen the friendship to become better at what we do, managing our resources not only the coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass but ourselves, as well as stakeholders of the most important resources.

We thank you for trusting Sihanoukville to be part of PNLG official, request for your support so we can all move forward in our goal. Let us all continue to inspire one another and work together to achieve our mission and objectives.

In Sihanoukville, we do our best to work with the PNLG Network.

Thank you very much.

ANNEX 6
STATEMENTS OF THE NEW PNLG MEMBERS

**Statement of Haiyang City, PR China
Delivered by Dr. Zhang Zhaohui, First Institute of Oceanography, SOA, China
on behalf of Haiyang City**

Good morning to all the delegates of the PNLG Meeting.

The Honorable President and Vice President of PNLG and newly elected President and Vice President of PNLG.

As you know, Haiyang City is a coastal city along the Yellow Sea with a coastline of more than 200 km. The important coastal industry is the nuclear power equipment and industry. As a new member of PNLG, Haiyang will follow the regulations of the PNLG Charter, and we will participate in all the activities. We will share our knowledge and experience with other members. We will promote our blue economy by implementing ICM.

Finally, as a new member of the PNLG, I wish all the delegates will have the opportunity to visit Haiyang City.

Thank you.

**Statement of Jembrana Regency, Indonesia
Delivered by Mr. Anak Agung Bagus Sudharsana
on behalf of Jembrana Regency**

Thank you very much for all the PNLG members.

I would like to explain about the Jembrana Regency. Jembrana Regency is one of the nine regencies in Bali Province that is located at the west part of the island, approximately 80 km from Denpasar, capital city of Bali island.

Jembrana is an agricultural area and has the potential to develop the area of agri-tourism or eco-tourism with the support of the people and increasing tradition of agriculture. Bali's *Subak* (rice-growing cultural landscape), is now a world cultural heritage site as officially announced at St. Petersburg in Russia last June 2012. There are also various support to protect the subak.

Thank you very much.

ANNEX 7
MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR ENRIQUE GARCIA, JR.

**Message from Governor Enrique T. Garcia, Jr.
Vice President of PNLG**

A pleasant good morning to all our distinguished guests and participants in this annual forum of the PNLG. First of all, I would like to extend my deep appreciation to the commitment and generosity of the Changwon City Government for hosting this significant event. Furthermore, I give my sincerest gratitude to PEMSEA and the PNLG Secretariat, for their support and assistance during my term as the PNLG Vice President. Your efficiency and hard work made our plans and projects a reality and a success.

We must take advantage of this occasion to make our PNLG Forum better equipped in realizing the goals and objectives in implementing our decisions/plans and programs on the proper management of our coastal and marine areas because this entails a collective effort in our part.

At this pivotal time in the East Asian region, the call for regional cooperation is loud and clear. All of us here must integrate our efforts to prove the permanent solidarity of our leadership.

Sustainable development shall not only be brought about by policies alone — it must be taken up by society at large as a principle; guiding us in the actions that we do every day. And this requires profound changes in thinking for social, economic and environmental recoveries.

Let us put on highest priority the needs of the most vulnerable; and put our mind, heart and soul in our efforts when looking for solutions to our environmental issues and concerns.

As we have made significant progress in our coastal and marine areas, this is not sufficient enough to put a stop in our actions. Rather, we must continuously own or take up our responsibilities in order to achieve a sustainable future for our region.

The Province of Bataan, in its vision and work program, has entrenched sustainable development in its actions, as it is not only my policy but my solemn duty and obligation toward the present and future generations of my province.

I want to emphasize that focusing on the biodiversity target is right and important. This is a great challenge for all of us, and I hope that this forum will continuously make valuable contributions to the Seas of East Asia.

Lastly, I want to congratulate the fine gentlemen who will be elected as the new PNLG President and Vice President. We hope that you will carry on our main objective of collaborative efforts and integrated approach in the restoration and protection of our coastal and marine biodiversity in the region.

Thank you, good luck and have fruitful days ahead of you!

ANNEX 8
AMENDMENT OF THE PNLG CHARTER

AMENDMENT OF THE PNLG CHARTER

Introduction

1. In Article 14 of the PNLG Charter, the **PNLG members** are categorized into the following:
 - a) **Regular members**, which are limited to eligible local government units in the East Asian Seas region; and
 - b) **Associate members**, which may include local government units outside the East Asian Seas region, as well as local government associations, governmental and nongovernmental organizations, universities and academic institutions, the business sector, foundations, international organizations and donor agencies within and outside the East Asian Seas region.
2. The 2011 PNLG Forum witnessed the signing of the PNLG Charter by the network's first associate members, namely the Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) of Xiamen University and the First Institute of Oceanography (FIO) of the State Oceanic Administration.
3. Prior to the 2011 Forum, the Executive Committee met in Xiamen on 18 June 2011 and discussed the membership eligibility of COMI and FIO. Two issues were raised:
 - a. There are no guidelines or criteria on the eligibility or acceptance of associate members to the PNLG; and
 - b. Article 21 of the PNLG Charter stipulates payment of membership fee of USD 500 for **regular members only**. There is no reference concerning payment of membership fees by **associate members**.
4. The Executive Committee decided that the PNLG Secretariat should draft appropriate amendments to the PNLG Charter for consideration by the Executive Committee, including the following:
 - a. Developing eligibility criteria for associate members, for adoption by the General Assembly and incorporation as an annex to the Charter; and
 - b. Amending the Charter to stipulate the membership fee for both Regular and Associate Members of the PNLG.
5. The Executive Committee further agreed that COMI and FIO would not be required to pay the membership fee until such time that the PNLG Charter will be amended.

Draft Amendment of Articles 20 and 21 (Roles and Obligations)

6. The current provisions in the Charter concerning membership fees read as follows:

Current provision:

PNLG Charter para. 20:

The PNLG members shall:

- a. Attend the network annual meetings at their own cost;
- b. Exchange information, publication and experiences with other PNLG members;
- c. Link websites with PEMSEA and other PNLG members where possible; and
- d. Recruit new network members for participation in annual meetings and for development and implementation of ICM programs.

PNLG Charter para. 21:

In addition, **regular members** shall:

- a. Pay an annual membership fee of US\$ 500;
- b. Develop, implement, consolidate and sustain ICM programs within their jurisdictions;
- c. Abide by the Code of Conduct of PNLG members;
- d. Sponsor and host at least one network annual meeting and study tour; and
- e. Monitor environmental quality and submit a triennial state of the environment report.

7. The proposed amendment is to delete bullet: (a) from paragraph 21, and insert it as bullet (e) of paragraph 20, thus stipulating that all PNLG members, including regular and associate members, are required to pay an annual fee. It is further suggested that the specification of the annual fee be deleted from the Charter. The setting of annual fees will be included as part of the business of the PNLG General Assembly, as and when necessary, and can be adopted as a decision of the General Assembly, without changing the Charter.

8. The amended paragraphs would read as follows:

Proposed amendment:

PNLG Charter para. 20:

The PNLG members shall:

- a. Attend the network annual meetings at their own cost;
- b. Exchange information, publication and experiences with other PNLG members;
- c. Link websites with PEMSEA and other PNLG members where possible;
- d. Recruit new network members for participation in annual meetings and for development and implementation of ICM programs; and
- e. Pay an annual membership fee.

PNLG Charter para. 21:

In addition, regular members shall:

- a. Develop, implement, consolidate and sustain ICM programs within their jurisdictions;
 - b. Abide by the Code of Conduct of PNLG members;
 - c. Sponsor and host at least one network annual meeting and study tour;
and
 - d. Monitor environmental quality and submit a triennial state of the environment report.
9. The Secretariat further recommends that all resolutions and declarations adopted by the PNLG General Assembly be maintained as annexes to the Charter for direction and reference by existing and future PNLG members.

Action required from the PNLG General Assembly:

10. The PNLG General Assembly is invited to review and discuss the proposed amendment to the charter, including the eligibility criteria for associate members attached as Annex 1, and recommend its approval and adoption.

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Annex 1

Guidelines on Eligibility of PNLG Associate Members

1. The eligibility criteria currently listed in Article 13 of the PNLG Charter state, “The PNLG shall be open to membership to all local government units and *other stakeholders* that subscribe to the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the PNLG.”
2. In line with the objective to encourage the active participation, support and collaboration among the PNLG regular and associate members, particularly in promoting the application of Integrated Coastal Management as an effective framework to achieve sustainable coastal development, it is proposed that the following criteria be included in assessing the eligibility of interested parties for associate membership:
 - a. Partnership with a local government implementing ICM or related programs;
 - b. Experience in at least one collaborative activity with a local government in support of ICM implementation;
 - c. Implementation of individual programs and projects that support the objectives of the PNLG; and
 - d. Capacity development support in coastal and marine management.