



PEMSEA EC Meeting Report 5

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Manila, Philippines**

**24 – 25 July 2009**



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## **Executive Summary**

The Fifth Executive Committee (EC) Meeting was held on 24–25 July 2009 in Manila. The Meeting was organized as an expanded EC meeting, with representatives from 11 Country Partners and 9 non-Country Partners, as well as from the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok and UNDP Philippines. The following are the highlights of the Meeting:

### **Recognition of PEMSEA’s International Legal Personality**

Country Partner representatives from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Indonesia, the Philippines, RO Korea, Timor-Leste and Vietnam expressed their country’s approval in principle to sign the Agreement Recognizing the Legal Personality of PEMSEA, and were waiting for formal approval from their respective national authorities. In the case of Japan, Singapore and DPR Korea, the Agreement requires further consultation with their relevant national authorities.

The EC requested the Countries to target the completion of their respective internal consultation and approval processes before November, with a view to signing the Agreement during the EAS Congress 2009. The EC further requested the PRF to assess the arrangements for a signing ceremony at the EAS Congress 2009 and to continue to negotiate the Headquarters Agreement with DENR Philippines and other responsible national authorities.

### **Ministerial Declaration**

The Meeting reviewed the draft Ministerial Declaration. The Meeting successfully produced a revised Declaration for further consideration and consultation within the respective countries, as attached in Annex 5 of this report. The Meeting agreed that the Ministerial Declaration will be named the “Manila Declaration.”

The EC adopted the following timetable for the finalization of the Declaration:

- 20 August 2009: receive country comments;
- 25 August 2009: revise the draft, to be circulated to countries;
- 15 September 2009: receive country comments; and
- 20 September 2009: finalize the draft (ready for approval).

### **PEMSEA’s Future Role and Operating Modality**

The Meeting discussed a number of important questions concerning PEMSEA’s future thrusts and strategies, as part of its transformation into an international organization with a legal personality. Four aspects of PEMSEA were examined: functionalities and interrelationships; operating modality; capacity development; and financial sustainability.

The EC decided that the PRF will undertake the development of an implementation plan for the SDS-SEA, with guidance from the EC and will prepare a draft business plan for PEMSEA that will highlight PEMSEA’s niche in ICM implementation and build a globally-recognized brand name based on its strengths.

Regarding the possible inclusion of The World Bank as a sponsoring organization of PEMSEA, the Meeting agreed in principle to the concept paper tabled by the Secretariat. The EC decided that the PRF will further refine the concept paper and negotiate with The World Bank on becoming a sponsoring organization of PEMSEA.

Aside from the above, the EC discussed and provided guidance on the organization of the Third Ministerial Forum and the EAS Congresses 2009 and 2012, as well as recommendations concerning two applications from potential partners of PEMSEA.

A special event held after the Opening Ceremony was the signing of the Letter of Agreement between KMI and PEMSEA regarding cooperation on EAS Congress 2009 and SDS-SEA implementation.

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## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel, Manila, Philippines, 24-25 July 2009**

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

- i. The Fifth Executive Committee (EC) Meeting was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Manila, Philippines on 24-25 July 2009. The Meeting was organized as an expanded EC Meeting, with Country and non-Country Partners in attendance.
- ii. The Meeting was attended by the members of Executive Committee, the EAS Partnership Council Chair, Dr. Chua Thia-Eng and the Technical Session Chair, Mr. Hiroshi Terashima. Due to urgent matters in China, the Intergovernmental Session Chair, Dr. Li Haiqing expressed his apology for not being able to attend the important Meeting. The representatives from 11 Country Partners and nine non-Country Partners, as well as the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok and UNDP Philippines, on behalf of the Implementing Agency, attended the Meeting. The PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as the Secretariat.
- iii. A full list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

### **B. OPENING CEREMONY**

- i. On behalf of the PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF), Prof. Raphael P.M. Lotilla, the Executive Director of the PRF, welcomed and thanked the participants to the expanded EC Meeting. He stressed the importance of the expanded 5<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting to prepare for the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2009; recognition of International Legal Personality of PEMSEA; and the Ministerial Declaration. He stated that the Meeting is a demonstration of Partners' ownership of PEMSEA as witnessed by the many participants from Partners to the Meeting. He expressed his appreciation to the members of the Executive Committee for their support and guidance as well as to the host country represented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). He wished a frank discussion and fruitful results from the Meeting.
- ii. The Council Chair, Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, officially opened the Meeting and reported the progress of the conduct of EC business during the intersessional period. He underscored the two most important agenda items for the Meeting as being: i) the efforts and progress made towards the recognition of PEMSEA's legal personality; and ii) the draft Ministerial Declaration on strengthening the implementation of integrated coastal management (ICM) for sustainable development and climate change adaptation. Other key items for discussion included PEMSEA's future role and operating modality and the EAS Congress and Ministerial Forum.
- iii. The Chair informed the Meeting that since 2007, the EC has provided considerable effort in guiding the PRF in four major areas, including: i) SDS-SEA implementation; ii) PEMSEA's sustainability beyond the current phase of GEF support; iii) partnership building; and iv) building national and regional policy

- support. The EC expressed its appreciation to the efforts made by the PRF, participating countries and Partners. However, the Chair, expressed the EC's concern over the slow pace in executing some activities under the GEF project and emphasized the need for stronger working relationships. As for initiatives related to PEMSEA's sustainability, the Chair congratulated Prof. Lotilla for the progress and efforts in securing the recognition of PEMSEA's legal personality, as well as the support provided by Dr. Li Haiqing and Mr. Terashima. The Chair emphasized the importance of voluntary financial support from participating governments in ensuring sustainability and expressed special thanks to China, Japan and RO Korea for their continuous financial contribution, as well as to the Philippines for hosting the PEMSEA Office. The Chair also highlighted the EAS Congress as a tool in promoting partnerships and joint activities. He was optimistic that the EAS Congress 2009 will be a success similar to previous Congresses and expressed gratitude to Secretary Jose L. Atienza, Jr. and DENR Philippines for their support. The Chair also conveyed the EC's support to the PRF in promoting the development of national ocean and coastal policy, legislation and coordinating mechanisms towards sustainable management of coastal seas in the region. Dr. Chua reminded the Meeting that the proposed Ministerial Declaration is intended to raise political commitment in applying ICM to address sustainable development issues and climate change adaptation.
- iv. In building partnerships and to ensure sustainability, the Chair encouraged the PRF to strengthen its working relationship with Country and non-Country Partners as well as consolidate achievements and strengthen current capacity. The Chair highlighted an important challenge that lies ahead – to put in place an effective operational partnership mechanism that would enable PEMSEA to function as an efficient, participatory and forward looking regional organization. The Chair urged the Meeting's full involvement in the deliberations of agenda.
- v. The DENR Secretary, Hon. Jose L. Atienza Jr., joined the Meeting at 4:30 pm on 24 July 2009 due to schedule conflict in the morning. The Secretary shared some of the key actions undertaken by the Philippines with regard to improved coastal and marine resource management and watershed and river basin management which they also hope to share at the EAS Congress 2009. In particular, he highlighted Executive Order 533, which recognizes ICM as a national strategy for the sustainable development of coastal and marine areas, rehabilitation and sustainable management of Manila Bay and its watershed, and strengthened collaboration among key partners through the implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility and mobilization of the Manila Bay Coordinating Committee. As the Chair of the National Organizing Committee (NOC) of the EAS Congress 2009, he informed the participants that the preparations for the Congress were well underway. He also informed the Meeting that the former President of the Philippines, Fidel V. Ramos, will make a keynote address at the opening ceremony of the Congress and that he received positive indication from Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to grace and deliver the keynote at the opening ceremony of the Ministerial Forum. On behalf of the Government of the Philippines and DENR, Secretary Atienza invited all the participants to help increase the publicity of the Congress by disseminating information and securing active participation by the respective countries to the Congress.

- vi. After the opening ceremony, a signing ceremony for the Letter of Agreement between KMI and PEMSEA regarding the cooperation on EAS Congress 2009 and SDS-SEA implementation was held as a separate event.
- vii. The full text of the speeches may be found in Annex 2.

### **C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

- i. The Secretariat introduced the provisional agenda and the list of documents for the Meeting.
- ii. The Chair proposed that the meeting consider the following agenda items as a priority, namely: i) Recognition of PEMSEA's international legal personality; ii) the proposed Ministerial Declaration; and iii) PEMSEA's Future Role and Operating Modality, and to reorganize the agenda accordingly. The Meeting agreed to the revised agenda as proposed by the Chair.
- iii. The Meeting agenda and list of documents are included in Annexes 3 and 4 respectively.

### **1.0 PEMSEA'S LEGAL PERSONALITY**

- 1.1 The representatives of the Country Partners reported on the status of their national consultations for the signing of the Agreement Recognizing the International Legal Personality of the Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (the "Agreement") as follows:
  - a. Cambodia's representative reported that the text of the Agreement has been approved by the Ministry of Environment. Senior Minister Mok Mareth fully supports the recognition of PEMSEA's legal personality and has requested the Cambodian Ambassador in the Philippines to endorse of the Agreement to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of Environment is waiting instructions from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on how to move the process forward.
  - b. China's representative communicated that the State Oceanic Administration had secured the consent and approval of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the State Council on the text of the proposed Agreement. The document is going through internal processes for signature in November.
  - c. Indonesia's representative expressed that the International Cooperation Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports the recognition of PEMSEA's legal personality and has approved the text of the Agreement in principle. On the "Amendment" provision of the Agreement, Indonesia suggested that "any amendment to the Agreement will form an integral part of the Agreement." The representative further informed the Meeting that, according to their legal expert, the Minister and the Deputy Minister are authorized to sign such Agreement under Indonesia's internal laws.



- d. Japan's representative reported that the proposed Agreement will be discussed by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). Japan needs to go through its internal procedures to get the formal endorsement from MFA. The NFP will try to find a way to expedite the approval process within Japan.
  - e. Lao PDR's representative reported that the Treaty and Laws Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has approved the text of the Agreement and is now ready to sign subject to its internal processes.
  - f. The Philippine representative informed the Meeting that the Department of Foreign Affairs has approved the text of the Agreement and endorsed its signing. DENR is now in the process of securing full powers, where needed, for the signing of the Agreement.
  - g. RO Korea's representative informed the Meeting that a request by the Ministry of Land, Transport, and Maritime Affairs (MLTM) had been forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to proceed with the approval of the Agreement by the President. It was anticipated that final approval would take about three months.
  - h. Singapore's representative reported that it is currently consulting with the Office of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the approval of the text and the endorsement of the Agreement for signing.
  - i. Timor-Leste's representative reported that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries will discuss the Agreement with other agencies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for possible signing in November.
  - j. Vietnam's representative informed the Meeting that the Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI) and the Ministry of Environment have agreed on the text of the Agreement. The document is now with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Vietnam also raised the need to clarify the obligations of countries under the Agreement regarding the grant of privileges and immunities to PEMSEA.
- 1.2 Mr. Terashima emphasized the need for PEMSEA to have its own legal personality to be able to receive support directly from financial institutions. He indicated that there is a need for PEMSEA to change its operation from a UN project mode to that of an independent and self-sustaining organization.
- 1.3 The representative from UNDP/GEF (Bangkok) welcomed the move of PEMSEA to become an independent institution. It was reiterated that obtaining a legal personality is one of the criteria for receiving further support from GEF and other direct contributions to PEMSEA. It was also suggested that PEMSEA establish close linkages with the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) and Mangroves for the Future (MFF).
- 1.4 The representative from GEF/SGP likewise supported the move of PEMSEA for achieving its legal personality. It was stressed that, at present, GEF/SGP cannot provide funds to PEMSEA directly, as it is another GEF project. However with its

own legal personality, contractual arrangements may be developed between PEMSEA, GEF/SGP and other sources of financing.

- 1.5 The KMI representative stressed that recognition of PEMSEA's legal personality will provide opportunities for non-Country Partners to collaborate and work with countries. Non-Country partners can play an important role.
- 1.6 Prof. Lotilla acknowledged the concerns of countries. In particular, he said that a letter to Vietnam will be prepared similar to that sent to RO Korea clarifying the obligations of countries under the Agreement. A letter to Indonesia will also be prepared to clarify the matter on amendments. For the countries needing assistance in their consultation process, the Secretariat will provide relevant materials as may be requested. It is also possible for Prof. Lotilla to visit countries to discuss the provisions of the Agreement, as required.
- 1.7 The Meeting was informed that the Technical Working Group is currently preparing the Headquarters Agreement in collaboration with DENR Philippines. Formal negotiations with the Department of Foreign Affairs will commence upon confirmation of signatures of at least three countries to the Agreement on the Recognition of the International Legal Personality of PEMSEA.
- 1.8 The Chair thanked the National Focal Points for their initiatives in moving forward the endorsement of the said Agreement. The EC requested that Country Partners confirm their willingness to sign the Agreement in writing to the PRF Executive Director as soon as they have received clearance internally.

***The Executive Committee decided that:***

- 1.9 PRF will continue to seek the participation of countries in the EAS region who are not yet Partners. Embassies should be notified of the progress on the recognition of PEMSEA's international legal personality;
- 1.10 PRF will provide Country and non-Country Partners with information documents and written report/feedback on the positive outcome of the EC Meeting discussions on the legal personality to facilitate approval and signing of the document by Country Partners;
- 1.11 Countries should target completion of their respective consultation and approval processes with a view to signing the Agreement during the EAS Congress 2009;
- 1.12 Based on progress on country consultations and confirmations, PRF will make preparations for the signing ceremony at the EAS Congress 2009; and
- 1.13 PRF will continue consultations and preparations for the adoption of the Headquarters Agreement with DENR Philippines for submission and approval by the Government of the Philippines.

## 2.0 THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

- 2.1 The Meeting suggested the following issues to be addressed in a revised draft:
- a. Mitigation such as mangrove planting as a methodology of CDM and carbon trade and a bio-sequestration measure, may be included;
  - b. Linkage between the two declarations (Manado and Ministerial Declaration) should be made considering the fact that the Manado Declaration is a global agreement whereas the Ministerial Declaration is a regional one;
  - c. Avoid using “burdensome” language such as commitment, financial, shall, etc.;
  - d. Match the language of the Declaration with the ones which are gaining currency in international negotiation including: incremental financing and technology transfer, to mainstream the Declaration into the global efforts;
  - e. Considering the countries of EAS are mostly developing ones, sustainable development needs to be the first priority, which covers economic development such as the blue economy or green economy; and
  - f. Include concerns for vulnerable stakeholders such as youth, women, and the private sector.
- 2.2 A small Working Group was organized and requested to consolidate the comments and prepare a revised draft. Volunteers for the Working Group included representatives from China, Indonesia, Japan, RO Korea, Singapore, UNEP/GPA, KMI, OPRF, and UNDP Philippines. Mr. Adrian Ross was requested to coordinate and convene meetings of the Working Group.
- 2.3 The Working Group presented a revised text to the Meeting, taking into account the concerns and suggestions raised during the Meeting. The resulting draft, which contained unresolved texts in brackets, was then presented to the plenary for another round of discussion. The Meeting provided final comments and agreed on the text of Working Group Draft 4, which is attached as Annex 5.
- 2.4 In order to be consistent with the other two ministerial declarations in Putrajaya and Haikou and in recognition of EAS own initiatives, it was suggested that the proposed Ministerial Declaration be named as the **“Manila Declaration on Strengthening the Implementation of Integrated Coastal Management for Sustainable Development and Climate Change Adaptation in the Seas of East Asia Region (Manila Declaration).”**
- 2.5 The Meeting further discussed on the process and timeframe of country consultation for finalization of the text of the Manila Declaration. The following timeline was agreed:
- 20 August 2009: receive country comments;
  - 25 August 2009: revise the draft, to be circulated to countries;
  - 15 September 2009: receive country comments; and
  - 20 September 2009: finalize the draft (ready for approval).

***The Executive Committee decided that the PRF will:***

- 2.6 Gather comments from countries on the draft Manila Declaration for further revision and finalization in accordance with the agreed timeline; and
- 2.7 Circulate the final version for approval of signature by the Minister.

**3.0 PEMSEA'S FUTURE ROLE AND OPERATING MODALITY**

**Future Role and Operating Modality**

- 3.1 Acknowledging the importance of PEMSEA's future role as a regional mechanism for ocean and coastal management, the Meeting discussed the issue with candor and provided various inputs and comments, as noted below:
  - a. Remain focused on coastal and ocean governance/management;
  - b. Non-Country Partners can contribute to management measures including capacity building activities, sharing of research results and providing scientific advice;
  - c. Maintain its regional identity through enhancing cooperation within the region as well as building closer working relationships with other countries who are not yet Partners of PEMSEA, particularly Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Thailand;
  - d. Further develop and apply ICM as a management system for addressing emerging issues such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, ecosystem-based management etc.;
  - e. Strengthen collaboration with international organizations for mutual benefit in sustainable development of the region;
  - f. Develop project proposals to assist governments of the region to address pertinent environmental and sustainable development issues related to climate change, pollution, biodiversity, water resources, etc., as well as assist local governments in developing proposals to promote ecological, sustainable or clean and safe cities for submission to funding organizations;
  - g. PEMSEA's future role and comparative advantage of experience and knowledge as well as its new roles after attaining legal personality;
  - h. Enhance PEMSEA branding through improved marketing of "certified" products;
  - i. Concentrate on the implementation of SDS-SEA and the needs of the region; and
  - j. Promote complementarities of PEMSEA with other programmes and organizations in the region, by clearly identifying PEMSEA's niche such as its contribution in ICM.
- 3.2 The RO Korean representative informed that he will seek possibility of funding PEMSEA for projects on sustainable development, which is in congruence with the main theme of Yeosu Expo, to help PEMSEA's sustainable future operation.

***The Executive Committee decided that:***

- 3.3 PRF will develop an SDS-SEA implementation plan and PEMSEA business plan, with guidance from the EC;
- 3.4 In identifying PEMSEA's future role, the PRF needs to highlight PEMSEA's niche on coastal and ocean governance and build a globally-recognized brand based on its strengths;
- 3.5 Assist interested developing countries in developing appropriate sustainable development project proposals for possible funding under the Yeosu Project; and
- 3.6 PRF will report the progress and outputs to the 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting.

**The World Bank as a Sponsoring Organization of PEMSEA**

- 3.7 The Meeting reviewed the concept paper for possible inclusion of The World Bank as a sponsoring organization of PEMSEA. The Meeting agreed in principle to the concept paper.

***The Executive Committee decided that:***

- 3.8 PRF will further refine the concept paper especially pertaining to the funding limit of 1 million US dollars and above as the fundamental requirement to qualify for sponsoring membership and to further negotiate with The World Bank on the conditions of becoming a sponsoring organization of PEMSEA.

**4.0 REPORTING OF PROGRESS**

**4<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Decisions and Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Meeting commended the effort of the PRF for the implementation of the EC decisions and recommendations.

***The Executive Committee decided that:***

- 4.2 The progress report on EC decisions and recommendations be prepared in a manner that provide information on status and outcomes of implementation. It should also include the status of all previous decision items which have not been fully implemented to date; and
- 4.3 Financial status be reported, for example, funds under the Cost Sharing Agreements and PEMSEA Trust Fund and funds for specific projects to ensure evaluation of financial status and performance.

**SDS-SEA Implementation**

- 4.4 The Meeting recognized and appreciated the efforts of PRF in implementing the project, which has been supported by the participating countries with unusually

high level of co-financing. The EC appreciated the demonstration of ownership of the programme by the participating countries.

- 4.5 Some Partners identified ongoing activities which had direct benefit to SDS-SEA implementation, including: development of a national ICM training modules and establishment of the Indonesian Coastal Management Association; selection of an ICM site in Japan; conservation and rehabilitation of national nursery for replanting of seagrass in RO Korea; National Water Resources Policy and Action Plan in Lao PDR; IOC/WESTPAC's intention to seek complementary training courses on ocean monitoring; and OPRF's willingness to join the Twinning Arrangement to introduce Integrated River Basin and Coastal Area Management in Japan.
- 4.6 The UNDP representative raised a concern that the assessment of possible extension of the GEF project may be necessary considering the slow pace of the implementation. In case the extension of the project is necessary, it was requested that the PRF inform GEF/UNDP/UNOPS on changes and realignment of the timetable and budget allocation ahead of time. The timing of the mid-term evaluation would also need to be determined in collaboration with UNDP.
- 4.7 In expressing concerns on the slow pace of the GEF project implementation, the Chair urged the countries to accelerate the SDS-SEA implementation to avoid the lengthy extension of the project, which may result in reduced budget for activities in the respective countries.

***The Executive Committee decided that the PRF will:***

- 4.8 Include analysis of the achievements and impacts of project activities along with highlight of major achievements, outcomes and problems in future reports on SDS-SEA implementation;
- 4.9 Facilitate signing of agreements (MOAs) on the national implementation of SDS-SEA with the remaining three countries (i.e., Indonesia; Thailand; and Vietnam) to avoid further delays in the start up of implementation of their country work programmes;
- 4.10 Assess the possibility of the need to extend the project and inform GEF/UNDP/UNOPS on changes and realignment of timetable and budget allocation;
- 4.11 Accelerate the development and finalization of the ICM Code, ICM training modules and required Special Skills Training Programmes, in collaboration with interested Partners; and
- 4.12 Implement the demand and supply survey of management and technical skills for integrated management of coasts and oceans, in collaboration with National Focal Points, local governments and universities in the region, with a view to preparing a standard curriculum for an ICM post-graduate degree course by the end of 2009.

## **5.0 THE THIRD MINISTERIAL FORUM AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS' MEETING**

### **Ministerial Forum Programme**

- 5.1 The Meeting suggested various inputs for consideration of the PRF and DENR in developing the concrete programme of the Forum, including:
- a. Ministerial Forum may serve as an occasion to formally recognize PEMSEA as an international organization with a legal personality;
  - b. Prepare an opening video (2 minutes) to feature the urgent need for ICM scaling up for sustainable development and climate change adaptation within the region;
  - c. As part of the Council Chair's report, prepare a 10-minute video introducing PEMSEA and countries' achievements;
  - d. Taking into account the tight schedule of the Ministers, the pre-Forum briefing should be organized on the evening of 25 November, and the field activity will be set as an optional activity;
  - e. For Vietnam, the invitation letter should be addressed to the Prime Minister; and
  - f. Non-Country Partners should be invited to the Minister's Forum, as in past Forums.
- 5.2 In view that the Ministerial Forum is a high-level gathering, the Meeting requested the PRF to prepare for proper protocol and security as well as safety plan for the Ministers. In response to this concern, the Undersecretary of DENR, Mr. Demetrio Ignacio, stated that the host country will assure the proper protocol and safety of the Ministers with the warm Filipino hospitality.
- 5.3 The PRF requested that Country Partners to confirm their respective Minister's travel schedule as soon as possible in order to facilitate proper coordination and arrangements for the Ministerial Forum and its associated events and possible bilateral meetings.

### ***The Executive Committee decided that the PRF will:***

- 5.4 Confirm the Ministers' attendance as early as possible through direct interaction with National Focal Points of each country;
- 5.5 Consult with the National Focal Points regarding the signing of the Agreement on recognizing PEMSEA's legal personality as well as the Manila Declaration during the EAS Congress 2009; and
- 5.6 Finalize the Ministerial Forum programme and field activity in coordination with the NOC, ensuring arrangements for safety and protocol.

### **Senior Government Officials' Meeting (SGOM)**

- 5.7 Taking into account the busy schedule of senior government officials and National Focal Points, the Meeting suggested the SGOM be organized on 24 November 2009, prior to the Partnership Night dinner.

***The Executive Committee decided that the PRF will:***

- 5.8 Organize the SGOM on 24 November 2009 prior to the Partnership Night dinner; and
- 5.9 Send invitation letters to countries for nominating their senior government officials for the SGOM.

**6.0 EAS CONGRESS**

**EAS Congress 2009**

- 6.1 The Meeting expressed satisfaction on the progress made on the preparations for the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2009, particularly on the administrative and logistical arrangements. The Chair commended efforts of the Organizing Committees in promoting the Congress. The Meeting was impressed with the encouraging number of registrants received thus far (768 registrations as of July 2009) and expects further increase as the EAS Congress approaches.
- 6.2 Given the additional interests received and in order to give opportunity for more stakeholders to share their efforts on coastal and ocean development and management, the Meeting requested for an extension of the deadline for submission of abstracts. The PRF encouraged the Partners to submit additional abstracts as soon as possible to enable the Secretariat to assess the papers and inform the authors/presenters accordingly.
- 6.3 A suggestion to involve legislators to the EAS Congress was raised. The Meeting was informed that a Legislators' Dialogue is being organized as part of the Workshop on Coastal/Ocean Policy and Legislation: Implementation and New Initiatives being co-convened by the OPRF of Japan with the assistance from the Office of Senator Pia Cayetano of the Philippines. The Dialogue focusing on coastal and ocean concerns is considered a first in the region and as such support from Country Partners was encouraged to solicit more participation from their respective legislators.
- 6.4 The Meeting emphasized the need to ensure the technical quality of the International Workshops. The Chair mentioned that while majority of the workshops are already in good shape, some workshops would need further polishing in coordination with the co-conveners. The PRF was requested to ensure that all workshops are well coordinated and papers from presenters are secured in advance. In line with this, the Meeting was informed that selected papers from the EAS Congress 2006 have been published in the Ocean and Coastal Management Journal, and that similar effort will be undertaken for the EAS Congress 2009.
- 6.5 Support and commitments from the Partners were offered and reiterated, including:
  - a. OPRF's invitation to local government officials of Japan to participate in the PNLG Forum;



- b. IOC-WESTPAC's convening of the Session on the Monsoon Onset Monitoring exclusive to IOC-WESTPAC representatives and network;
  - c. SENSA's financial support of 50,000USD for the EAS Congress and the possibility of contributing to the special workshop proposed by the MFF;
  - d. CI-Philippine's submission of abstracts on Sulu-Sulawesi-Seascape (SSS), co-convening of the Workshop on Addressing Transboundary Issues, exhibit participation, and possible launching of publication on Sulu-Sulawesi action/work plans of Subcommittees on species, fisheries, and MPA networking during the EAS Congress; and
  - e. UNEP/GPA's plans to organize a workshop and becoming a Congress sponsor.
- 6.6 In view of concerns and difficulties of some Partners regarding the registration fee for the EAS Congress, it was clarified that based on previous Congresses and as a standard practice, all cost should be covered through co-sponsorship and registration payment as a means to ensure self-sustainability of the EAS Congress.
- 6.7 The Chair underscored the importance of publicizing the EAS Congress, especially since it is being targeted to serve as the venue to announce PEMSEA's international legal personality. To further promote the EAS Congress, several suggestions were provided, including: i) broadcast Congress recordings through Webcast and YouTube; and ii) explore possibility of engaging professional facilitator(s) or media personalities particularly for major events such as the Congress and Ministerial Forum opening ceremonies. The Meeting was informed that the Secretariat is currently communicating with MFF to explore the possibility of bringing in their media network to the EAS Congress. As for the EAS Congress daily reporting/coverage, the PRF is already communicating with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Reporting Services.
- 6.8 As one of the key events of the EAS Congress, the Chair and Mr. Terashima stressed the importance of highlighting and promoting the 2<sup>nd</sup> EAS Youth Forum and the need to engage the youth as part of PEMSEA's future thrust. Given the low turnout of youth applications, the Chair encouraged the Partners to actively support and send their youth representatives to the Forum. The PRF was also requested to develop an attractive and dynamic Youth Forum programme, including inviting major speakers (i.e., Former Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos and Singapore's Ambassador-at-Large Tommy Koh) to meet with the youth participants, as well as to utilize new media often used by the youth (i.e., Facebook, YouTube, etc.).
- 6.9 A number of partners offered their support for the Youth Forum, including:
- a. The representative of IOC-WESTPAC and professor of the University of Tokyo will seek the support of the Japan Foundation and Alliance of Professors and Scientists in sending students to the Youth Forum;
  - b. Indonesia will explore possibility of inviting young artists, as well as encourage its local governments, institutions and NGOs to send youth representatives;
  - c. RO Korea will seek support from the Yeosu Expo team to co-finance the Youth Forum participants from RO Korea;

- d. UNDP will promote the Youth Forum through its regional media networks;
  - e. UNEP will explore possible engagement of their youth programme, as well as encouraged the reporting by the youth participants of their experience to the international youth community; and
  - f. The Congress Secretariat also submitted application to ASEAN Foundation to avail support for youth representatives from ASEAN countries.
- 6.10 The Meeting was also ensured of the safety and security arrangements for all participants particularly to youth representatives.

***The Executive Committee decided that:***

- 6.11 PRF will ensure the quality of technical workshops and paper presentations, as well as proper coordination of each EAS Congress activity with co-conveners and the NOC;
- 6.12 Country and non-Country Partners submit additional abstracts for assessment by the EAS Congress Secretariat as well as list of participants to the EAS Congress Secretariat by 31 August 2009;
- 6.13 PRF explore engaging international and regional media as well as tapping new media to expand promotions and publicity of the EAS Congress;
- 6.14 PRF and Country and non-Country Partners seek further possible funding or tapping of co-sponsors to cover registration fees or other expenses during the EAS Congress; and
- 6.15 Country and non-Country Partners provide support in disseminating information on the EAS Congress and in securing youth applicants/participants for the 2<sup>nd</sup> EAS Youth Forum.

**EAS Congress 2012**

- 6.16 The RO Korea representative reiterated its confirmation to host the EAS Congress 2012 and delivered a brief presentation on the initial plans and preparations. The meeting was informed that the budget has already been secured and ready to organize the NOC involving all the stakeholders within RO Korea.
- 6.17 The RO Korea representative requested the technical support from the Philippines (DENR) and PRF for the organization of the EAS Congress 2012 considering their experience with the EAS Congress 2009.

***The Executive Committee recommended:***

- 6.18 With gratitude, the offer of RO Korea to host the EAS Congress 2012 for approval at the Special EAS Partnership Council Meeting in November 2009.

## **7.0 OTHER BUSINESS**

### **EAS Partnership Council Meetings**

- 7.1 The Secretariat proposed a Special EAS Partnership Council Meeting be convened during the EAS Congress 2009 considering: i) a number of pending issues to be endorsed by the Council including: EAS Congress 2012 host country; inclusion of new partners such as IUCN-Asia Regional Office, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development; and ii) taking advantage of having almost all the Partners at the Congress. The date for the Special Council Meeting is proposed on 25 November 2009 at 7:00 pm which will be organized in conjunction with a dinner.
- 7.2 The UNDP/GEF (Bangkok) reminded the Meeting on the requirement of having the project steering committee meeting for the approval of GEF/UNDP/UNOPS project on SDS-SEA implementation work programme and budget for 2010. Hence, it was suggested that the work programme and budget may be discussed and approved at the Special Council Meeting in lieu of the project steering committee meeting.
- 7.3 For the 3<sup>rd</sup> EAS Partnership Council Meeting, the Meeting was informed of the tentative date of July 2010. Since the host of the Council Meeting has not been identified, the Meeting was invited to nominate or volunteer the host of the Council Meeting. In this request, RO Korea representative requested that the discussion on the host of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting be deferred to the Special Council Meeting during the EAS Congress 2009.

#### ***The Executive Committee decided that the PRF will:***

- 7.4 Organize a Special EAS Partnership Council Meeting on 25 November 2009 with possible agenda, including: i) host country of the EAS Congress 2012; ii) inclusion of new Partners; iii) host of the 3<sup>rd</sup> EAS Partnership Council Meeting; and iv) work programme and budget for the SDS-SEA project; and
- 7.5 Seek Country and non-Country Partners' suggestions for the agenda of the Special EAS Partnership Council Meeting.

### **Inclusion of New Partners**

- 7.6 The Meeting was informed of the two applications submitted to the PRF for becoming non-Country Partners of PEMSEA: the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG). The background of the applications as well as activities and characteristics of ACB and PNLG were provided.
- 7.7 The Meeting welcomed the ACB and PNLG's applications for becoming new Partners of PEMSEA considering the importance of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as stronger linkage with ASEAN; and the role of local governments in promoting the implementation of ICM in the region.

***The Executive Committee recommended:***

- 7.8 The inclusion of the ACB and the PNLG as non-Country Partners of PEMSEA for approval at the Special EAS Partnership Council Meeting in November 2009.

**6<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting**

- 7.9 The Secretariat proposed possible date of the 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting as March 2010. Venue and specific date are to be determined. The Chair suggested that the venue will be determined through discussion among the members of the EC.

**E. CLOSING**

- i. On behalf of the Executive Committee, Dr. Chua thanked the host agency of the Meeting, DENR Philippines, for their warm hospitality. He also expressed his appreciation to all the participants for the active discussions and contributions and the PRF for the preparation of the documents and arrangements for the Meeting. He urged the PRF to continue its efforts related to the legal personality, Ministerial Forum and EAS Congress 2009.
- ii. On behalf of the PRF, Prof. Lotilla expressed his sincere appreciation to the members of Executive Committee and participants who actively participated in the discussions and resolved many important issues. He assured the participants that the PRF will keep on working closely with the respective Partners.
- iii. On behalf of the host government, Undersecretary of DENR, Mr. Demetrio Ignacio congratulated the Executive Committee and the PRF for a successful Meeting and expressed his sincere thanks to the participants for attending the Meeting. He invited all participants to the EAS Congress 2009.
- iv. Mr. Terashima, Technical Session Chair of the Council, expressed his appreciation to the participants for their productive discussion during the Meeting. He expressed his expectation to meet again with all the participants at the EAS Congress 2009. He also thanked the DENR for hosting and the PRF for organizing the Meeting.
- v. On behalf of the Partners, Dr. Zhang Zhanhai expressed his sincere appreciation to the Executive Committee and the participants for contributing to fruitful discussions during the Meeting. He also expressed his gratitude to the PRF for the preparation of the Meeting and the hospitality of the host country and DENR.
- vi. Dr. Chua declared the Meeting closed at 5:30 PM, 25 July 2009.

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## **Annex 1**

### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

## FIFTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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## **Annex 2**

### **FULL TEXT OF SPEECHES OPENING CEREMONY**

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

Ladies and Gentleman, Chairs of the Executive Committee of PEMSEA, our representatives of Country and non-Country Partners and Sponsors of PEMSEA, and implementing and executing agencies,

Good morning to all of you!

It is my pleasant task to be the one who welcome you to this expanded Executive Committee Meeting. For those of you who attended the last Council meeting which was held in July 2008 in Tokyo, you will recall that the Council made a decision to hold an expanded Executive Committee Meeting in July 2009 in Manila for a number of reasons: 1) preparation for the EAS Congress in November 2009; 2) International legal personality of PEMSEA; 3) preparatory work for the Ministerial Declaration which will be signed in November 2009. Therefore, we are pleased with the attendance today and tomorrow from both Country and non-Country Partners.

It is important to stress at this point that the presence particularly from Country representatives emphasizes the country ownership of the programme and the future activities that are going to be conducted by PEMSEA. In this light, this is an opportunity for Country and non-Country Partners to be able to infuse your thoughts, your proposals and your guidance to the PEMSEA Secretariat not only for short term but for long term goals.

I wish to acknowledge our thanks to the Executive Committee, the Chair, Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, and Mr. Terashima for being here with us. Dr. Li Haiqing at the last moment could not make it here because of pressing matters back home; but he sent his message to the Country and non-Country Partners that he will participate actively in the EAS Congress 2009.

I also wish to express my gratitude to the host country represented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources represented this morning by Undersecretary Tesam Castillo. The Secretary of DENR, Hon. Jose L. Atienza Jr. who originally schedule to be with us this morning is now with President and therefore he will be able to be with us this afternoon. We will postpone his remarks and talk with us until such time.

With that, I hope that we are going to have a productive meeting and I hope that we will have a frank discussion among ourselves given that everyone is partners, Country and non-Country Partners of PEMSEA.

Thank you very much.

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**Opening Remarks and Chair's Report of Dr. Chua Thia-Eng  
Council Chair, PEMSEA**

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to join the Executive Director, Prof. Lotilla, in welcoming the representatives of our Country and non-Country Partners and our colleagues from the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Development Programme. I note with great appreciation the participation of all Partners in this expanded Executive Committee Meeting, fully reflecting the importance you have accorded to the agenda of this session.

This 5th meeting of the Executive Committee is to discuss two very important issues that affect the future of PEMSEA and its future role in coastal and ocean governance in the region: 1) It will discuss the efforts and progress made towards the recognition of the legal personality of the PEMSEA Resource Facility, and 2) It will review a draft Ministerial Declaration on "strengthening the implementation of integrated coastal management for sustainable development and climate change adaptation". This is the main reason for this expanded EC meeting so that both Country and non-Country Partners are adequately consulted. In addition to these two issues, the EC will also initiate the discussion on the future role of PEMSEA and its operating modality as well as other important items including the East Asian Seas Congress and the Ministerial Forum.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Since the establishment of the Executive Committee in 2007 and guided by its terms of reference, the Committee held four meetings over the last two years in Manila, Tokyo and Beijing, discussing several challenging matters concerning the current and future activities of PEMSEA. In addition, as the Council Chair, I have taken the initiative to visit Manila at least two to three times a year to interact with the PRF staff, providing technical advice and support in implementing the decisions of the Council and that of the Executive Committee. I would like to take this opportunity to briefly report to you the achievements made and on-going activities of the Executive Committee.

We are very pleased that Prof. Lotilla has taken over the helm as the Executive Director of PRF and is leading us through this important transitional and transformation period of PEMSEA. This is an extremely difficult task requiring not only strong diplomatic skills to secure the support of our Country and non-Country Partners but also capable leadership in mobilizing resources towards self-sustainability. The Executive Committee will stand behind him in his efforts to undertake appropriate institutional reforms in making PEMSEA a true, unique and cost-effective regional organization in coastal and ocean governance.

In close cooperation with the PRF, the EC focuses its efforts on the following priorities related to: (1) SDS-SEA implementation; (2) sustainability beyond the current phase; (3) partnerships building; and (4) building national and regional policy support.

## **1. Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia**

Through its regular committee meetings, the EC constantly reviewed the progress made by the PRF in the execution of the GEF project with special attention on its delivery of targets and outputs. The Committee appreciates the efforts being made by the PRF and the participating Countries and Partners in executing the GEF project activities. However, the Committee is concerned about the slow pace of activities in the execution of the various activities outlined in the GEF project. While part of the delay is due to the change in the Executing Agency, the need to strengthen stronger working relationships with the participating Country and non-Country Partners is extremely important and needs to be strengthened so that activities can be implemented smoothly.

The Committee is appreciative of the efforts being made by the PRF in developing a template for documenting national implementation of the SDS-SEA. This is an important activity and we would like to see that extra effort be made to ensure such a template is used by the participating partners.

It is essential that PEMSEA should ensure that its usefulness or, at least, its presence is being felt by our Partners and that they will look to PEMSEA for technical solutions in the implementation of the SDS-SEA.

## **2. PEMSEA's sustainability**

Towards this objective, the EC supports the effort of the PRF in securing the recognition of an international legal personality. We are pleased of the progress being made by the PRF in the negotiations with governments in extending their recognition and the efforts in securing the Headquarters Agreement with the Government of the Philippines and we would like to congratulate Prof. Lotilla for his relentless efforts towards this end. Similarly, I would also like to place on record the efforts made by our Intergovernmental Session Chair and the Technical Session Chair for their efforts in facilitating the support from China and Japan respectively.

Related to future sustainability, it is essential to ensure the continuous support of the concerned governments to provide voluntary financial support to the PRF. We are pleased and thankful that PR China, Japan and RO Korea continue to provide the much needed support. We are thankful to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines for the PEMSEA office building which can now serve as the headquarters of PEMSEA.

As part of the efforts to ensure sustainability, PRF needs to strengthen its current capacity by consolidating the gains that it has achieved over the past 15 years. The EC has discussed with the PRF to concentrate on consolidating these achievements or activities which can make PEMSEA a significant regional organization in coastal and ocean governance. We hope the PRF will place more efforts to develop and standardize the practices in areas where PEMSEA has already secured a competitive edge in areas such as integrated coastal management, integrated information management system, the ICM code of practices and the ICM manuals, and the postgraduate program which enables PEMSEA to use these comparative advantages and play a lead role in coastal and ocean governance in the region.

### **3. Partnerships**

The third area of focus for the EC is to strengthen partnerships with Country and non-Country partners. The triennial East Asian Seas congress is one of the best tools in making such partnerships visible. The EC supports the efforts of the PRF towards this direction in providing policy direction and, to a certain extent, technical advice in the organization of the Congress. The EC has closely monitored the development and progress in the preparation of the 3rd EAS Congress which is hosted by the Government of the Philippines. Again I would like to thank Secretary Atienza for his personal support and interest to make this Congress a significant event of the Philippines. We are pleased that the first two Congresses in Putrajaya and Haikou have met tremendous success and we are certain that the 3rd Congress in Manila will be equally if not more successful. In addition to building stronger partnerships through joint activities, the Congress is playing another more significant role in promoting national interest and awareness of the importance of the seas of East Asia and the world's oceans at large.

In line with the concept of partnership, the EC has been discussing with the PRF on how to ensure that Partners can benefit from this loose but meaningful relationship. It is essential that both Country and non-Country Partners should be able to benefit and also contribute to this noble relationship towards the sustainable use of the seas of East Asia. The EC hopes that such mutual benefits be highlighted and become more obvious in the years to come.

### **4. Policy support**

Sustainable development of the seas of East Asia cannot be achieved without appropriate policy and legislative support. As such, the EC supports the efforts of the PRF in promoting national governments in the region to develop ocean and coastal policy, legislation and coordinating mechanisms to plan and manage their coastal seas in a sustainable manner. The EC is pleased with the progress made in the region towards this direction.

As part of the policy support, the proposed Ministerial Declaration drafted by the PRF is intended to raise political commitments to apply integrated coastal management for addressing sustainable development issues including adaptation measures for climate change which PEMSEA has developed, tested and promoted. Effective application of which will place the region ahead of many others in putting political commitments to real actions on the ground, something that the region already has the comparative advantage of doing so.

A challenge that the PRF might need to consider is how to ensure that the triennial Ministerial Forum can continue to attract interest and involvement of the concerned Ministers, taking note that there is an increasing number of ministerial forums and ministerial declarations being organized and promoted in recent years. PEMSEA should place greater emphasis on its comparative advantage in coastal and ocean governance.

Ladies and gentlemen,

A significant challenge to the Executive Committee and the Partnership Council is how to put in place an appropriate and effective operational partnership mechanism for the PRF to function as a regional organization with less bureaucracy, become more efficient,

become participatory in approach and forward-looking in addressing regional marine problems.

You will agree with me that we want a regional organization with unique roles in coastal and ocean governance that will help us in the implementation of the SDS-SEA, our regional Marine Strategy that is parallel to that of the Maritime Strategy of the European Community.

In closing, I call for your full involvement in the deliberations of various agenda in the next two days.

Thank you and a very pleasant good morning.

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**Welcoming Remarks of Hon. Jose L. Atienza Jr.  
Secretary, DENR Philippines**

Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, Council Chair, EAS Partnership Council,  
Mr. Hiroshi Terashima, Technical Session Chair,  
Prof. Raphael Lotilla, Executive Director of PEMSEA Resource Facility,  
Partner Countries, Stakeholder Partners, PEMSEA Sponsoring Agencies  
Ladies and Gentlemen!

I believe that a number of key issues and policy matters on PEMSEA operations have been discussed, including the two main events for this year. In particular, I am very delighted to see the PEMSEA Country Partners and non-Country Partners here today to help us ensure the smooth and successful preparation for the forthcoming EAS Congress 2009 and the Third Ministerial Forum.

The Government of the Philippines has undertaken a number of actions and adopted a number of innovative policies with regard to improved coastal and marine resource management and the influencing watershed and river basin management, over the past couple of years.

In particular, the Executive Order 533 recognized the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) as a national strategy for the sustainable development of the coastal and marine areas, and we are in the process of implementing a national ICM work program in support of this Executive Order.

Current efforts are focused on the rehabilitation and sustainable management of Manila Bay and its influencing watershed in line with the goals and objectives set forth under the Operational Plan for Manila Bay Coastal Strategy (OP-MBCS), and in compliance with the Supreme Court decision to clean the bay and its catchment areas.

The water pollution issue of Manila Bay is on top of our agenda that needs collaborative and immediate actions among the concerned National government agencies, LGUs, the Civil Society and Business sector.

We have sought the commitment of the two major water concessionaires of Metro Manila to speed up and shorten the implementation schedule in putting up wastewater treatment facilities in order to accomplish 100% service coverage within 7 to 10 year period from the original 25 years plan; initiated massive dismantling of illegal fish pens and illegal fish cages within Manila Bay and Laguna Lake; issued Notice of Violations to polluting industrial and commercial firms that pollute the waters of Marilao-Meycauyan-Obando River system and the Pasig River, and speed up the enforcement of Ecological Solid Waste Management Act (RA 9003) and its implementation through the Local Government Units within the Manila Bay Region.

As we recognize the important roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders in cleaning the Bay, we have strengthened collaboration and coordination among our key partners particularly the implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and mobilized Manila Bay governance and institutional arrangement through the Manila Bay Coordinating Committee (MBCC).



We hope to share this and a number of good practices and initiatives in the country at the forthcoming EAS Congress, and we would like to encourage all of you to take advantage of this opportunity as well.

As the Chair of the National Organizing Committee of the Congress, I am very pleased to inform you that the preparation for the Congress is well underway. Last month, the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Organizing Committee meeting was conducted, and the International Conference workshop programmes are in the final stages of completion. Renowned speakers and luminaries from different parts of the world have also confirmed to participate, including the former President of the Philippines, Fidel V. Ramos.

We have also received positive indication from Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to grace and deliver the keynote at the opening ceremony of the Ministerial Forum. DENR and PEMSEA will work together to ensure the final confirmation of the President.

The DENR is working closely with PEMSEA and other concerned government agencies in the country to ensure the success of the Congress. We hope that with our combined efforts, we can help make the EAS Congress a meaningful as well as a self-sustaining event for the region.

On behalf of the Government of the Philippines and the DENR, I would like to convey my sincere appreciation to all of you for expressing interest and support for the EAS Congress. Once again, on behalf of the EAS Congress organizers, I would like to invite all of you to help us in disseminating information and in securing active participation for the Congress.

I wish the expanded Executive Committee a fruitful meeting and a pleasant stay in Manila.

Thank you.

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**Speech by Dr. Ghang, Jong-hee  
President, Korea Maritime Institute  
LOA Signing Ceremony between KMI and PEMSEA**

Honorable Undersecretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines, Ms. Tessam Castillo,  
Chairs of the Council, Dr. Chua Thia-Eng and Mr. Terashima,  
Executive Director of PEMSEA Resource Facility, Professor Raphael Lotilla,  
Representatives from Countries and non-Country Partners of PEMSEA,  
Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning, *magandang umaga*

It is my honor to participate in this 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee of PEMSEA today. As we are very well aware, PEMSEA has been providing continuous efforts to achieve the sustainable development of the East Asian region since 1994 through the implementation of integrated coastal management. I understand that its hard work has been highly valued by the international society as well as member countries, partners and even local communities.

Taking this opportunity, I'd like to pay my sincere gratitude and congratulation to former Regional Program Director of PEMSEA, Dr. Chua and current Executive Director, Professor Lotilla for their enthusiasm and devotion as well as achievements.

In this regard, the Korea Maritime Institute also takes pride in our small contribution to PEMSEA. I believe KMI has been closely working with PEMSEA in various areas since 2001. As you may know, the Twinning Secretariat for the integral management of river basin and coastal sea was established at KMI to jointly address maritime pollution in East Asian region in 2008. From its inception, KMI has received strong support from the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea and PEMSEA Secretariat.

I believe today's ceremony is the result of PEMSEA's success and cooperation efforts among three organizations, MLTM, PEMSEA and KMI. It signifies more active participation of MLTM and KMI for the implementation of the SDS-SEA of PEMSEA. I hope that occasion like this could contribute to enhancing the managerial capacity of the region and encourage the participation of other stakeholder entities within and outside of our region as well.

I have been told that many important agendas of this meeting will be discussed today and tomorrow. I am confident that this meeting will set an important stepping stone for the success of the 3<sup>rd</sup> EAS Congress and PEMSEA's sustainability for the Seas of East Asia.

I may not be able to join the entire meeting due to my schedule in Manila; however, you have my strong support for all the decisions and suggestions you will make in this meeting.

Lastly, I'd like to pay my sincere thanks to the officers of the Executive Committee, PEMSEA and its staff and all the participants for their support. I wish you a fruitful meeting. Thank you.

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**Annex 3**

**FIFTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

## **FIFTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **Agenda**

#### **24 July 2009 (Friday)**

- 09:00 - 1000           **Opening Ceremony**
- 10:00 - 10:05           **1.0    Organizational Matters**
- 2.0    Adoption of Agenda**
- 10:05 - 12:30           **3.0    PEMSEA's Legal Personality and Headquarters Agreement**
- 4.0    Ministerial Declaration**
- 5.0    PEMSEA's Future Role and Operating Modality**
- 12:30 - 14:00           **Lunch**
- 14:00 - 17:30           **6.0    Reporting of Progress**  
                              **6.1    4<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting**  
                              **6.2    SDS-SEA Implementation**
- 7.0    Preparation for EAS Congress 2009: Focus on Ministerial Forum**  
                              **7.1    Ministerial Forum**  
                              **7.2    Senior Government Officials' Meeting**
- 18:30 - 20:30           **Dinner**

#### **25 July 2009 (Saturday)**

- 09:00 - 12:30           **8.0    Preparation for EAS Congress 2009**  
                              **8.1    EAS Congress Program, Special Meetings, Youth Forum and Exhibition**  
                              **8.2    EAS Congress 2012**
- 9.0    Other Business**  
                              **9.1    EAS Partnership Council Meetings**  
                              **9.2    Inclusion of New Partners**  
                              **9.3    6<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting**
- 12:30 - 14:00           **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 17:30           **10.0  Conclusions and Decisions of the 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting**

**Closing**

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**Annex 4**  
**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

## FIFTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

### List of Documents

ITEM NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT	DOCUMENT NUMBER
1.0	Organizational Matters	List of Documents	EC/09/DOC/01
		List of Participants	EC/09/DOC/02
2.0	Adoption of Agenda	Provisional Agenda	EC/09/DOC/03
		Annotated Agenda	EC/09/DOC/04
3.0	Reporting of Progress		
3.1		Implementation of Executive Committee Decisions and Recommendations	EC/09/DOC/05
3.2		SDS-SEA Implementation	EC/09/DOC/06
3.3		PEMSEA's Legal Personality and Headquarters' Agreement	EC/09/DOC/07
4.0	PEMSEA's Future Role and Operating Modality	PEMSEA's Future Role and Operating Modality	EC/09/DOC/13
	The World Bank as a Sponsoring Organization of PEMSEA	The World Bank as a Sponsoring Organization of PEMSEA	EC/09/DOC/14
5.0	Ministerial Forum and Declaration		
5.1		Ministerial Forum	EC/09/DOC/08
5.2		Senior Government Official's Meeting	EC/09/DOC/09
5.3		Ministerial Declaration	EC/09/DOC/10
6.0	EAS Congress		
6.1		EAS Congress 2009 Program, Special Meetings and Events, and Exhibition	EC/09/DOC/11
6.2		EAS Congress 2012	
7.0	Conclusions and decisions		
8.0	Other Business		
8.1		3 <sup>rd</sup> EAS Partnership Council Meeting	
8.2		Review of application of inclusion of new partner(s)	EC/09/DOC/12
		EAS Congress 2009 Information Package	EC/09/INFO/01

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## **Annex 5**

### **DRAFT MANILA DECLARATION**

**MANILA DECLARATION  
ON  
STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED COASTAL  
MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
ADAPTATION IN THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA REGION**

Ministerial Forum  
Manila, Philippines  
26 November 2009

1. We, the representatives of the countries of the Seas of East Asia region, have gathered this day in Manila to discuss policies and actions for bringing into realization the shared vision of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) as adopted through the Putrajaya Declaration in 2003, and to review and evaluate progress towards priority targets for SDS-SEA implementation, as agreed through the Haikou Partnership Agreement in 2006.
2. We recognize the important role of coasts and oceans in providing valuable resources and services in the development of our economies and the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. We therefore acknowledge the need for continuing efforts to realize the SDS-SEA objectives, facilitating compliance with global and regional commitments, as well as responding to common threats posed by uncontrolled development of coastal areas, poverty, resource degradation and pollution.
3. We acknowledge that our region is vulnerable to various impacts of climate change, which include frequent and extreme weather events, acidification of the oceans and seas, flooding, water shortage, salt water intrusion, sea level rise and other environmental emergencies that we all face. We stress that the impacts of climate change cut across various areas and issues including water resources, food security and livelihood, pollution, hazards and disaster, as well as biological diversity.
4. We recognize that additional capacity will be required in the region to adequately reduce the risks posed by climate change to sustainable development.
5. We recognize that ICM is fundamental to sustainable development and climate change adaptation, as affirmed in the Manado Ocean Declaration adopted in May 2009, and as an effective mechanism towards the broader goals of sustainable development in various other instruments such as the Agenda 21, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of



Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and the World Summit on Sustainable Development Plan of Implementation.

6. We are encouraged by the gains made by the countries of the region over the past 3 years in SDS-SEA implementation, particularly with regard to the formulation and implementation of national policies and action plans for sustainable coastal and ocean development, and the initiation of national and subnational Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) programmes to achieve on-the-ground improvements in managing and sustaining marine and coastal resources. We acknowledge that ICM has been developed, demonstrated and applied across the region for the past 15 years as a systematic approach to achieving sustainable development of the coastal and marine environment and resources, specifically through on-the-ground implementation by local governments. We note that the Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) was instrumental in this effort.
7. We will continue to work together constructively to meet our regional targets, as set in the Haikou Partnership Agreement to implement ICM programmes in at least 20 percent of the Region's coasts and adopt national coastal and ocean policies in 70 percent of the countries by 2015. We see the urgency of addressing the pressing issues due to climate change in line with these adopted targets, through scaling up of ICM.
8. The recent recognition of PEMSEA's legal personality provides countries with their own regional mechanism whose focus is sustainable development, and the comparative advantage of experience and knowledge gained from almost 2 decades of ICM practice.
9. Therefore, we agree to strengthen and accelerate the implementation of ICM for sustainable development and climate change adaptation, in accordance with the following priorities:
  - a. Setting up sub-regional and national coordinating mechanisms for strengthening existing mechanisms to oversee and guide the implementation of ICM programmes;
  - b. Mainstreaming ICM into development plans and programmes;
  - c. Delineating highly vulnerable coastal areas, coastal communities and resources and habitats, as well as vulnerable sectors of society, including the poor, women and the youth, and strengthening their resiliency to the impacts of climate change;
  - d. Developing and applying land- and sea-use zoning plans and schemes;
  - e. Implementing capacity building and technical assistance programmes to strengthen leadership capacities, skills and scientific and technical capabilities, including local governments' capacity to develop and implement ICM programmes;
  - f. Applying ICM good practices as guidance in developing and implementing ICM programmes;

- g. Employing innovative financing mechanisms and managing available funds in a cost-effective and cost-efficient manner;
  - h. Undertaking habitat restoration and management programmes, including coral reefs, seagrass beds, coastal wetlands and mangroves, to improve natural defenses to the impacts of climate change and to enhance carbon sequestration capacities; and
  - i. Formulating and implementing disaster risk management programmes including preparing for, responding to and recovering from natural and man-made disasters.
10. We agree to report on the progress of ICM programmes every three years, including the measures taken for climate change adaptation.
11. We call on PEMSEA, as the regional mechanism for the implementation of the SDS-SEA, to undertake the development of the Implementation Plan for the SDS-SEA in 2010 for consideration by countries, and to facilitate the scaling up of ICM programmes in countries across the region, in accordance with the Haikou Partnership Agreement.
12. We encourage Non-Country Partners, international organizations, donors, scientific and research organizations, the academe, local governments, communities, and individuals to play active roles in the development of the region's capacity in implementing ICM, protecting the environment and pursuing climate change adaptation measures.
13. We encourage the cooperation and support of our local governments in implementing ICM scaling up programmes and, where applicable, to mainstream such programmes into their local development plans.
14. We support the efforts of the global community to address the interrelationship between climate change and the coasts and oceans. We are committed to contribute to these global efforts, including the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (COP 15), through ICM implementation and the sustainable development of the Seas of East Asia.

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