



**Northwest
Pacific
Action Plan**



Distr.: GENERAL

UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/10

10 March 2017

Original: English

Twenty first Intergovernmental Meeting of
the Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Seoul, Republic of Korea
23-24 November 2016

Report of the Meeting

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Introduction

1. The 1st Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) held on 14 September 1994 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, adopted the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP). The 2nd IGM (20 November 1996, Tokyo, Japan) approved the geographic scope of the Action Plan as well as a tentative scale of contributions to the NOWPAP Trust Fund. The 4th IGM (6-7 April 1999, Beijing, the People's Republic of China) agreed to establish four Regional Activity Centers (RACs). The 5th IGM (29-30 March 2000, Incheon, Republic of Korea) adopted a procedure for the establishment of the NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU), as well as its Terms of Reference. The 8th IGM (5-7 November 2003, Sanya, the People's Republic of China) approved the text of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Regional Cooperation on Preparedness and Response to Oil Spills in the Marine Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region and the related Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan for the NOWPAP region.
2. Since the inception of NOWPAP, the Member States have acknowledged the importance of setting up a RCU as a fundamental prerequisite for the successful implementation of the Action Plan. In Resolution 2 of the 6th IGM, the NOWPAP members decided to accept the offers of the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea to co-host RCU offices in Toyama (Japan) and Busan (Republic of Korea), respectively. Following the request of NOWPAP members, UNEP has recruited six staff members for the RCU; the RCU offices were inaugurated in early November 2004 in Toyama and Busan, respectively.
3. The 10th IGM (24-26 November 2005, Toyama, Japan) decided to start the Marine Litter Activity (MALITA) in the NOWPAP region, to expand the geographical coverage of the NOWPAP Oil Spill Regional Contingency Plan (RCP) and to initiate new directions of work for the NOWPAP RACs. The 11th IGM (20-22 December 2006, Moscow, Russian Federation) decided to carry out the evaluation of the performance of NOWPAP RACs in 2007 in order to further enhance their efficiency and effectiveness. The meeting approved the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) for the NOWPAP RCU and the Focal Points Meetings of CEARAC, MERRAC and POMRAC, and also adopted the General NOWPAP Policy on Data and Information Sharing to facilitate information exchange among the Member States and related organizations.
4. The 13th IGM (20-21 October 2008, Jeju, Republic of Korea) decided to conduct RCU performance review with a focus on assessing effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of RCU activities related to overall goal and objectives of NOWPAP, including achievements of planned outputs. The 13th IGM also approved NOWPAP Regional Oil and HNS (Hazardous and Noxious Substances) Spill Contingency Plan. The 14th IGM (8-10 December 2009, Toyama, Japan) discussed the enhancement of NOWPAP RCU performance, based on the performance review, and requested NOWPAP RCU, in close consultation with all NOWPAP RACs, to develop a draft NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy (MTS) to facilitate an effective and efficient implementation of the Action Plan. The 15th IGM (16-18 November 2010, Moscow, Russia) requested NOWPAP RCU to further revise MTS in close collaboration with RACs to reflect suggestions of Member States. The meeting agreed that the Korean Government will prepare a draft paper addressing future financial situation of NOWPAP to be discussed at the 16th IGM.
5. The 16th IGM (20-22 December 2011, Beijing, the People's Republic of China) adopted revised TOR of NOWPAP RCU and reviewed the NOWPAP MTS 2012-2017 (adopted later on by correspondence). While appreciating the increased contribution of Russia to the Trust Fund, the meeting agreed that the Korean Government would further revise the draft paper addressing future financial situation of NOWPAP and circulate among Member States for their comments and suggestions before the 17th IGM. The 17th IGM (1-2 November 2012, Jeju,

Republic of Korea) requested the RCU to prepare a scoping paper by June 2013 on possible measures to address financial situation of NOWPAP for consideration at the 18th IGM. The meeting also requested NOWPAP RCU to continue working closely with UNEP and IMO in order to obtain an observer status for NOWPAP at IMO meetings by finalizing an agreement of cooperation.

6. The 18th IGM (4-6 December 2013, Toyama, Japan) agreed on the scale of contribution to the NOWPAP Trust Fund for the next two years reflecting an increased contribution from the Republic of Korea starting from 2014. The meeting approved the Agreement of cooperation with IMO granting NOWPAP observer status at the IMO meetings and conferences. As some important decisions were not made during the meeting, the Member States adopted the meeting resolutions through correspondence in April 2014. The Meeting agreed to hold an extraordinary IGM in Korea in April 2014 to consider possible decisions on measures to address the concerns of the hosting countries over the financial sustainability of the RCU in compliance with the Host Country Agreements. The meeting asked UNEP to conduct an audit of RCU.

7. The 1st Extraordinary NOWPAP IGM (9-10 April 2014, Seoul, Korea) decided to reduce the total number of RCU staff members of the UNEP to a maximum of four and requested UNEP to conduct a functional review of NOWPAP RCU offices two years after the recruitment of the last staff member. The meeting also decided to discuss functions of new posts for the two RCU offices at the 19th NOWPAP IGM to be held in Russia in the second half of 2014, in order to conclude discussions on appropriate measures regarding the financial sustainability of the RCU offices.

8. The 19th IGM (20-22 October 2014, Moscow, Russia) decided to consider at the 20th IGM the implementation of the NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy 2012-2017. Financial Rules and Procedures for the NOWPAP Funds were adopted by correspondence after the meeting. The Member States also agreed to have a second extraordinary IGM in the first quarter of 2015 in Korea.

9. At the 2nd Extraordinary NOWPAP IGM (1-2 April 2015, Seoul, Korea), Member States finalized the discussions on the NOWPAP RCU restructuring (with four UN staff members in two RCU offices) and approximate timing (around February 2016). It was decided also that fund management support will be provided by UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi, to be covered by NOWPAP Project Support Cost.

10. The 20th NOWPAP IGM (28-30 October 2015, Beijing, the People's Republic of China) approved the NOWPAP Programme of Work 2016-2017, and requested RAC directors, in consultation with their Focal Points, to prepare detailed work plans with quarterly milestones to monitor the progress of implementation in line with the approved budget and NOWPAP 2016-2017 Programme of Work. The meeting has also decided that the Medium-term Strategy 2018-2023 should be prepared in close collaboration between Member States, NOWPAP RACs and RCU.

11. Following the offer by the government of the Republic of Korea to host the 21st NOWPAP IGM, the meeting was held on 23-24 November 2016 in Hotel Lotte, Seoul, R. Korea.

12. The meeting was attended by representatives of the NOWPAP Member States, namely the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as China, Japan, Korea and Russia). Directors of the NOWPAP RACs, two representatives of UNEP Headquarters and RCU staff members also attended the meeting. Representatives of the North Pacific Science Organization (PICES), Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project (YSLME), North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental

Cooperation (NEASPEC), and Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) attended the meeting as observers.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

13. The 21th NOWPAP IGM was opened at 09:00 on Wednesday, 23 November 2016, by Mr. Xiangbin PEI, the head of the delegation of China, the hosting state of the 20th NOWPAP IGM. He welcomed participants and invited Mr. Hyung-jong LEE, Director-General for Climate Change, Energy and Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea to give his opening remarks. Mr. LEE highlighted that this meeting was all the more meaningful as it was the first IGM after completing the restructuring efforts of the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU). He stressed that NOWPAP members have common duty and responsibility to cooperate to create new value and generate common benefits resulting from marine environmental protection for current and future generations. NOWPAP is a tangible outcome of this transboundary cooperation. He pointed out that Korea is proud that it played a significant role in boosting regional cooperation through marine environment conservation activities. Korea helped to seek substantial tools by setting up a new vision and strategy for conserving the region's marine environment. Mr. Hyung-jong LEE expected the meeting renew commitment to cooperation through the revised draft of 2018-2023 NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy (MTS) and adoption of the proposed Seoul Declaration.

14. Mr. PEI invited the heads of delegations to give statements. Mr. Atsushi IWASAKI, Head of the Delegation of Japan expressed gratitude to Korea for hosting the meeting, and congratulated the new RCU members on the appointments. He pointed that this meeting was to renew and set the work plan of NOWPAP based on relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and resolutions. He noted that the discussion of the next NOWPAP MTS is timely. He expected the role of NOWPAP to increase in the future. Marine litter, including micro-plastic issues should be addressed by NOWPAP members urgently and effectively in accordance with the relevant resolution adopted at the Second United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2). Mr. IWASAKI expressed satisfaction that RCU offices in Toyama and Busan are fully functional after the restructuring. He noted that the Japanese government is looking forward to continue working with the member states and new RCU in meeting new regional challenges.

15. Mr. Xuefeng SUN, representative from the delegation of China also expressed his appreciation to the Korean government for hosting the meeting and congratulated delegations for the achievements made by NOWPAP during the last 20 years. He highlighted that the discussion on MTS is very important for member states and thanked RCU for successful preparation of the meeting.

16. Ms. Natalia TRETIAKOVA, Head of the delegation of Russia expressed her gratitude to Korean government for hosting the meeting. She noted the achievements made by NOWPAP were due to the well-established and clear NOWPAP organizational structure and operational Regional Activity Centers (RACs). Russian delegation expressed hope that the new RCU Coordinator could establish good relationships with all four member states and be as effective as the former coordinator, Mr. Alexander Tkalin who was supported by Russia. She reminded participants of the NOWPAP's 20th Anniversary commemoration Symposium held in Russia in 2014, which discussed national priorities for marine environmental protection in the NOWPAP region. Ms. TRETIAKOVA stressed the importance for NOWPAP to continue assessing state of the marine biodiversity and ecosystems, working on oil spill preparedness and response and addressing marine litter issues. She also noted that the discussion of the next MTS document should be prioritized.

17. On behalf of the UNEP Executive Director (ED), Ms. Lisa Emilia SVENSSON, Coordinator of the Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch of UNEP welcomed participants. She stressed that regional organizations play an essential role in supporting and facilitating actions by national governments for conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal ecosystems and biodiversity, and assessing progress towards agreed goals. The integrated nature of SDGs requires cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination at the regional level and is underpinned by national-level activities. She noted that the UNEP Regional Seas Programme and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) are leading global response by UNEP. As mandated by member States through resolution 2/10 of UNEA-2 on Oceans and Seas, Regional Seas programme could play an important role supporting Member States to implement and report on the ocean-related SDGs. She stated that since its establishment in 1994, NOWPAP made critical progress in building trust and understanding among its members and built sustainable institutional and financial architecture. The major goal of this meeting is to start discussing NOWPAP future that has to be connected to the evolving global and regional oceans agenda. Proposed for the meeting Mid-term Strategy 2018-2023 and its implementation plan utilize a holistic approach to tackle multiple regional challenges and make several important suggestions on how to revitalize and expand NOWPAP partnership. She believed it could not be a better starting point for the reformed Secretariat to coordinate new phase of the NOWPAP evolution.

Agenda Item 2: Organization of the Meeting

Agenda Item 2(a): Election of officers

18. According to the NOWPAP practice, the Chairperson of the 21th IGM is the representative of the hosting state, the Rapporteur is the representative of the Member State to host the next IGM, and two Vice Chairpersons are representatives of the remaining two Member States. The Meeting agreed to elect the following officers among the representatives of member states attending the meeting:

Chairperson:	Mr. Sei-Joong KWON, Korea
Vice-Chairperson:	Mr. Xiangbin PEI, China
Vice-Chairperson:	Ms. Natalia TRETIAKOVA, Russia
Rapporteur:	Mr. Atsushi IWASAKI, Japan

Agenda Item 2(b): Organisation of work

19. The meeting participants agreed that the rules of procedures of UNEA would be applied with necessary adjustments (e.g., the meeting will be conducted in English and decisions will be made by consensus).

Agenda Item 2(c): Adoption of the agenda

20. Mr. Sei-Joong KWON, Chairperson, introduced the provisional agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/1) and annotated agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/2). Delegations agreed to the agenda except for deciding to move the discussion on “Seoul Declaration” from Agenda Item 10 to Agenda Item 9 “Other business” and without including the proposed Agenda item 12 “Consultation meeting with RACs” in the official agenda of the IGM. The revised agenda was adopted.

Agenda Item 2(d): Presentation of credentials

21. Upon request of the Chairperson, NOWPAP Senior Coordinator confirmed the receipt and the acceptance of credentials from member states.

Agenda Item 3: Report of the UNEP Executive Director on the progress in the implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan

22. Upon invitation of the Chairperson, NOWPAP Senior Coordinator presented the report of the UNEP Executive Director (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/3). He suggested not including discussion on the Terms of Reference of the NOWPAP RCU in the meeting agenda and to distribute instead the document by email. He stressed that current NOWPAP expenditure rate stands at about 20% resulting in a continuing accumulation of unspent trust fund resources. He recommended the meeting to review, discuss and adopt the report of the Executive Director on the status of NOWPAP implementation, review and adopt the report on the status of the NOWPAP Trust Fund, and agree on the increased contributions of member states to the NOWPAP Trust Fund (reaching 100%). He affirmed NOWPAP RCU intention of working together with RACs and in consultation with NOWPAP member states to enhance efforts in securing additional funds from the external sources for NOWPAP activities.

23. In the discussion that ensued, Japan emphasized the importance of spending surplus funds efficiently and expeditiously. Japan urged NOWPAP member states to meet the Trust Fund target of US\$500,000 per annum. As for marine litter, Japan suggested NOWPAP should step up its work in this area. RAP MALI should be made more results-oriented. There is need to enhance work on marine litter prevention and reduction instead of just focusing on monitoring efforts.

24. China agreed to comment on the new TOR of RCU through email, and also informed that the Chinese Authority will make its decision in March 2017 on the increase of China's annual contribution to the NOWPAP Trust Fund to \$US125,000. China agreed with Japan's comments that NOWPAP should use trust funds efficiently. RACs should work closer with each other. China supported Japan's proposal for the necessity to increase NOWPAP efforts addressing marine litter prevention and reduction.

25. Korea inquired about the details of the RCU recruitment process and requested UNEP to communicate with member states in this regard in the future. UNEP responded that the recruitment process for RCU staff members followed UN rules and procedures and was open, transparent and competitive process. UN rules of procedure are designed to avoid potential conflicts of interests and external interference in the recruitment process. Korea also inquired about the total number of staff in Toyama RCU since member states agreed to have a total secretariat staff of four including two staff members in Toyama and two staff members in Busan. RCU answered that three staff members are working in the Toyama office, including a staff seconded from the Toyama prefecture government.

26. Russia agreed to provide comments on the TOR of RCU by e-mail after the meeting and adopt the revised TOR at the next NOWPAP IGM, the proposal was also supported by Japan.

27. RCU Coordinator responded to comments by suggesting that surplus in the NOWPAP trust funds should be utilized through re-programming and suggested to discuss this on the second day of the meeting. He agreed to submit the revised draft TOR of RCU in early 2017. He also committed to work more closely with RACs in fundraising efforts.

28. After the discussion, the UNEP ED report (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/3) was adopted.

Agenda Item 4: Reports on the implementation of NOWPAP Programme of Work in 2014 and 2015 by RACs

29. Upon invitation of the Chairperson, Directors of NOWPAP RACs, Mr. Yuichi NAGASAKA for CEARAC, Mr. Feng YAN for DINRAC, Mr. Seong-Gil KANG for MERRAC and Mr. Anatoly KACHUR for POMRAC, presented results of RACs activities during the past 2014-2015 biennium and status of activities for the 2016-2017 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/4/1-4). The RAC directors reported on the status of implementation of their Programme of Work, including organization of Focal Points Meetings, specific projects, RAP MALI activities, cooperation and coordination among RACs and with the RCU, website updates as well as other routine tasks and plans.

30. Commenting on the RACs reports, Japan requested the databases established by DINRAC should reflect user needs of relevant agencies of member states.

31. Russia emphasized the importance of CEARAC activities. Methods for monitoring of the marine environment and coastal area are important to assess the environmental status and provide baseline information for other NOWPAP RACs. Seagrass assessment is particularly important in this regard. Russia thanked DINRAC for administrative support provided to POMRAC during the biennium 2016-2017. Russia considered DINRAC activities successful and proposed to adopt their report.

32. China raised concerns about the potential overlap between CEARAC activities on marine litter and the work of other centres and suggested better integration with the RAP MALI activities. It also suggested that focal points from relevant ministries who are responsible for policy making should be invited to provide inputs to CEARAC activities. CEARAC responded that CEARAC worked with national focal points on marine litter of member states in the past. For example, the International Coastal Clean-up (ICC) in Slavyanka, Russia in September 2016, was attended by national focal points for marine litter. CEARAC's activities on marine litter have been conducted under the coordination of RCU.

33. Korea requested clarification from DINRAC on the delay in signing MOU with experts affecting the implementation negatively. DINRAC responded that it intends to speed up the process of expert recruitment. DINRAC already collected environmental quality data, data on endangered species - phase II, and information on regulations and environmental standards. By the end of the year, the signing of MOU and collection process will be accelerated.

34. Japan and Korea inquired POMRAC on difficulties in making payments to foreign experts and organizations, and asked whether POMRAC can implement all planned activities in 2016 and 2017. POMRAC responded that with the administrative assistance of DINRAC, they can conduct their activities. POMRAC provided clarification on the existing funds arrangement brokered by UNEP, POMRAC and DINRAC and the meeting discussed the options to continue the existing practice in the future. In response to comments from Korea, UNEP responded that it will continue looking for ways to facilitate direct funds transfer process to DINRAC.

35. China commended MERRAC for its work on oil spill preparedness and on sea-based sources of marine litter but raised some questions on how to account for litter originating from sources in the agriculture and aquaculture sectors. China also noted the importance of developing activities addressing marine litter prevention and working with local communities. MERRAC responded it is important to know the sources of sea-based marine litter and its regional transfer. MERRAC formed an expert group to address knowledge gaps related to sea-based marine litter and will develop recommendations for member states in 2017.

36. Korea congratulated MERRAC on its achievements and welcomed enhanced regional cooperation through the implementation of MERRAC activities. Korea Coast Guard is planning to hold Expert Meeting in conjunction with Hebei Spirit oil spill incident symposium for the 10-

year anniversary of incident occurrence and welcomed marine pollution related agencies to attend the symposium to share experiences.

37. Responding to MERRAC report, Russia expressed an interest to expand the scope of the existing oil and NHS spill contingency plan to include oil spills from off-shore installations connected with oil and gas exploration and production on the continental shelf. This issue was discussed during the last MERRAC FPM but no progress was achieved. Russia supports the principle of zero discharge for offshore oil and gas platforms. Russia expressed its continuing support for the activities of POMRAC, especially the preparation of NOWPAP marine environmental status report and development of marine environmental quality Objectives (EQOs).

38. MERRAC Director confirmed that NOWPAP member states did not reach an agreement yet on whether to consider oil spills from off-shore installations in the Regional Plan and continue debating the issue. The 20th IGM requested MERRAC to start developing recommendations on how to respond to oil contaminated wildlife and then move to the feasibility assessment for including off-shore platform issue in the Regional Plan as a MERRAC project for the next biennium 2018-2019. The next MERRAC FMP in 2017 is planning to consider this issue.

39. After the discussion, RAC reports (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/4/1-4) were adopted.

Agenda Item 5: Status of implementation of the NOWPAP Programme of Work for 2016-2017

40. The NOWPAP Senior Coordinator updated member states on the status of implementation of the NOWPAP Programme of Work in 2016-2017. He pointed out that 59% of planned work is completed, 32% of activities are delayed, and 9% were not yet started.

41. Korea requested further details on the project related to the assessment of climate change impacts in the NOWPAP region. NOWPAP Coordinator responded that over the last three to four years, RCU consulted with experts and organizations, but no tangible result was achieved. The project should have started in 2016, but there was limited technical capacity in the RCU to implement this activity because of the continuing restructuring. He proposed for RCU to undertake rapid assessment of issues and institutions addressing climate change impacts on NOWPAP environment if member states could provide limited additional resources to support this activity. Given other priorities, it is very difficult for RCU to secure external funding.

42. China commented that during initial consultation of the NOWPAP MTS 2018-2023, China objected to include climate change issues in the MTS. If RCU could secure external funds, it would be possible to pursue the project, but China expressed concerns to use NOWPAP Trust Fund resources for this purpose. China holds an opinion that there are other than climate change priority issues such as land based pollution and marine litter issues.

43. Russia inquired about the mandate of the RCU to work with RACs to mobilize resources. NOWPAP Coordinator responded that climate change has two sides: climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation. In the context of NOWPAP, there are ongoing global efforts on the mitigation front such as e.g., increasing energy efficiency in the shipping industry. However, the continuing temperature increase in the surface and deep waters of the region would have profound impacts on a range of NOWPAP "traditional" focus areas such as biodiversity, pollution and others. There will be increasing impacts on the coastal zone such as higher incidence of storms. NOWPAP efforts should emphasize the importance of building climate resilience, and how NOWPAP could support member states in integrating climate

change impacts with approaches addressing marine pollution, marine biodiversity and coastal zone management.

44. China supported RCU intention to seek external funds for rapid assessment of institutions, projects, and issues related to climate change impacts and proposed RCU to report results of this assessment at the next IGM meeting for further decision.

45. Chairperson suggested organizing stakeholder meeting involving relevant policy makers to discuss climate change issues early next year.

46. Japan commented that its government is fully aware of the importance of climate change impacts on the marine and coastal areas. Japan emphasized that the issue is not a matter of securing additional financing but of limited capacity of member states and RACs in this area. For this reason, climate change issues were not included into the MERRAC work plan for 2016-2017. Some background efforts should be undertaken to assure that member states and RACs are ready to implement the project on climate change impacts and have sufficient capacity and resources.

47. Russia commented the proposed decision "i. RAC Directors to accelerate completion of the delayed activities and report progress to the next NOWPAP IGM;" and suggested to add "in consultation with RCU", because RACs could not do it without the help of RCU, and also change "accelerate" into "complete". As for climate change, member states can support the global activity from the regional point of view and regional efforts in connection with marine environment, and political obligations and commitments of the countries in the framework of Paris climate change agreement.

48. Chairperson summarized that climate change issue cannot be decided here but participants should keep consultations on how to consider climate change impacts in activities related to regional seas and oceans. NOWPAP region should follow the trends and good momentum of the Paris agreement.

Agenda Item 6: Reports by NOWPAP Member States and partners on issues related to NOWPAP implementation

49. Japan reported about its work on marine litter. G7 Summit was held in Japan in 2016 and marine litter issues were discussed at the meeting. The leaders committed to promote the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) approach when it applies to marine litter. The G7 Environmental Ministers meeting, held in Toyama, re-affirmed the decision of G7 Summit on combating marine litter. Five priorities were identified there: (i) environmentally sound waste management; (ii) reduction of marine litter, including collection and removal to prevent micro-plastic pollution, (iii) promotion of international cooperation with international organizations such as UNEP, IMO and FAO, (iv) support for outreach activities, and (v) standardizing and harmonizing marine litter monitoring methodologies. Following the decisions of the meeting, Japan has already taken actions to address the above priorities. Japan has held the APEC high level meeting in Tokyo in September 2016 that addressed financing for waste management systems in the Asia Pacific region. Japan also takes a lead in supporting efforts in standardizing and harmonising marine litter monitoring methodologies and will hold an expert meeting on the harmonization of methodologies for micro-plastics monitoring in December 2016. Japan also supports Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meetings, the last one held on 18 April 2016. Member states decided to organize a workshop on marine litter. Japan, China and Russia have conducted joint research on marine litter in July and August 2016. China and Japan organized a senior officers meeting to address marine litter issues. Both parties established a dialogue platform of experts to address marine litter and will continue conducting research on marine litter in 2017 and beyond.

50. China reported that China Maritime Safety Administration (China MSA) participated in the regional cooperation for the preparedness and response to marine oil spills under the framework of NOWPAP. China has attended related meetings and exchanged information with other member states on capacity building for marine pollution preparedness and response. China also actively supports and participates in the exercises under the framework of NOWPAP, including communication exercises and combating exercises. In July 2016, the NOWPAP (China-Korea) Joint Oil Spill Response Exercise was successfully conducted in the coastal sea area of Weihai, China, as organized by China MSA and co-organized by Korea Coast Guard. As always, China is willing to strengthen regional cooperation on marine pollution preparedness and response under the framework of NOWPAP.

51. Recently Russia adopted several Federal laws on waste management and best available technologies and best environmental practices. In 2016 Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology focuses on the implementation of these laws. The Ballast Water Convention comes into force in September 2017. Russia is a Party to the Convention and accelerated preparatory steps to be ready for the implementation. The next year is the Year of Ecology in the Russian Federation. A lot of events and activities are being prepared. Russia emphasizes close cooperation with all NOWPAP member states and continues reflecting NOWPAP vision in its bilateral cooperation activities.

52. Korea introduced country's efforts combating marine litter. Korea has attended the NOWPAP TEMM Joint Workshop on marine litter management held in Slavyanka, Russia in September 2016. Korea informed about its policies addressing marine litter and engaged in discussions with stakeholders at that meeting. Korea is also implementing the Second Comprehensive Management Plan for marine litter. Policy direction has shifted from collection-oriented to management oriented. In order to strengthen regional cooperation concerning marine litter, Korea is going to organize a training workshop on marine litter in Yeosu, Korea, in March 2017. The training is funded by APEC. Korea invited member states to join this training program.

53. Mr. Hiroaki SAITO from PICES provided overview of PICES, its functions, and presented PICES-NOWPAP Framework for Scientific Cooperation in the North Pacific Ocean, and informed the meeting about PICES' upcoming events. Responding to questions, Mr. SAITO explained that PICES does not have a formal way to reach out to policy makers. PICES disseminates scientific results as scientific publications that could be used for informed policy-making. PICES is willing to organize a joint workshop with NOWPAP on how to translate scientific knowledge into policy and could provide facilities free of charge.

54. ESCAP representative, Ms. Nobuko KAJIURA, briefed participants on the Northeast Asia Marine Protected Area Network, and stressed that NOWPAP is an important partner for the network. The network holds annual workshops with the participation of marine protected area managers. ESCAP looks forward to continue cooperating with the NOWPAP and YSLME to complement activities of each other and avoid duplication.

55. The representative of YSLME, Mr. Yingfeng GUO, introduced the objectives and outcomes of YSLME GEF project. He highlighted that considering good collaboration during the first phase of YSLME project and overlapping geographical coverage, YSLME considers NOWPAP as an essential partner of the YSLME SAP implementation. YSLME looks forward to a continued collaboration with NOWPAP in the implementation of the YSLME SAP and discussion of the draft NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy 2018-2023.

56. The representative of PEMSEA, Mr. Jae Ryoung OH, stated that PEMSEA and NOWPAP have a long history of partnership. NOWPAP is PEMSEA Non-Country Partner since 2007 and the two organizations have engaged in a number of joint activities in the past. Under the

NOWPAP's new leadership, PEMSEA looks forward to a stronger and more active collaboration between the two organizations.

Agenda Item 7: Discussion of the draft NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy 2018-2023

57. The Chairperson highlighted the importance of reviewing NOWPAP MTS 2018-2023, including the discussion on the resource mobilization and measurable targets. He invited UNEP to provide background information on major developments in the global oceans agenda before discussing details of the draft MTS.

58. UNEP described major priorities for its Regional Seas programme and how they are linked to the work of NOWPAP. Among them are the necessity to reach out to non-environmental ministries responsible for development agenda, adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the importance of linkages between security, energy and food, and multiple opportunities for development of blue economies. UNEP introduced the global role played by the Regional Seas Programme, its work on land-based sources of pollution, 2017 campaign on marine litter and partnership on coral reefs. There are 576 agreements worldwide related to oceans; ocean governance frameworks have to be strengthened and oceans agenda become more visible and relevant in the development agenda. UNEP emphasized the importance of building bridges with relevant international stakeholders such as FAO (on fisheries), UNDP, ILO, UNESCO (on science), and with IMO (on shipping) to strengthen regional cooperation. The cooperation between regional seas and fisheries management bodies is moving ahead as manifested by the first ever global meeting of Regional Seas and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) held in Seoul in September 2016. Pollution is also a critical issue for member states to tackle. With regard to regional seas and SDGs, there are indicators and targets in the global framework that should be taken in account and harmonized with specific indicators used by Regional Seas. In February 2017 UNEP will launch a global campaign on marine litter and engage Regional Seas. Marine litter campaign will also be conducted in China. There is need to address marine pollution at the source. The GPA partnership needs to be revitalized. UNEP also informed participants about forthcoming global meetings on oceans, including UN SDG 14 Conference, EU-UNEP high-level meeting in December 2016, the 4th Review Meeting of the GPA in 2017, and the meeting of Regional Seas, LME, and RFMOs in December 2016. Concluding, UNEP emphasized that Regional Seas play an important role in the global ocean governance and are important institutional mechanism to support cooperation at multiple levels between and within member states and other stakeholders such as private sector.

59. Senior Coordinator introduced the background and elements of the NOWPAP MTS 2018-2023 and its core themes, monitoring and evaluation and future steps to finalize the strategy.

60. Japan made initial comments and thanked UNEP and RCU for preparing the background information on the MTS, presenting a global picture, and providing detailed explanation and ideas behind the proposed strategy. Japan shared its basic understanding about NOWPAP. NOWPAP is a framework of regional cooperation for an action plan. It is not a standalone organization which has the dedicated staff except for the RCU staffed by UNEP, thus capacity is limited. MTS is the tool to define the future direction of the NOWPAP and because of the limited resources the issues to be taken by NOWPAP have to be prioritized. The purpose of the MTS is to set the direction and priorities. NOWPAP needs to avoid duplication with activities of other organizations. Future MTS should be aligned with the SDG 14 and relevant resolutions of UNEA. At the same time, MTS should address most urgent and emerging issues relevant to this particular region. The current draft MTS identified major environmental issues, and is very comprehensive. Japan supports the MTS overarching goal of building ecosystem resilience which is in line with the overall NOWPAP goals. Regarding MTS core themes,

sustainable production and consumption (SCP) in the region is addressed by other stakeholders. NOWPAP can go upstream to address the issue on marine litter to some extent but not too far. With its limited resources, there is need to consider what could specifically be done to get tangible results. One could reach out to financial, economic bodies, institutions and private companies NOWPAP is not working with currently. Further discussion is warranted on the NOWPAP effectiveness issues described in the draft MTS document. With regard to mobilization of resources, Japan cannot accept any increase in the trust fund resources at this stage. RCU should focus on the effective utilization of the existing surplus and then look for external resources to implement NOWPAP Programme of Work.

61. China expressed the appreciation to UNEP for providing the global overview and to RCU for delivering comprehensive presentation. China also raised concerns about the practicalities of the proposed MTS implementation. The MTS should take into account global context, member states' concerns, availability of human and financial resources, and necessary capacity building. The contents of the MTS need to be discussed, such as prevention and reduction of land based pollution, conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity. China also asked for more time to consult internally on the content of the proposed MTS and asked for clarification about the difference between strategy and action plan.

62. Korea largely supported opinions expressed by Japan and China. It added that the MTS should consider projects conducted by other organizations in order to avoid duplication of projects. For an example, Korea, Japan and China already participate in the PEMSEA's integrated coastal area river basin management activities.

63. Russia thanked UNEP and RCU for the background information and detailed presentation. Russia pointed out that there is a need for in-depth national-level discussion of the MTS. Russia emphasized that the proposed document should still be called MTS and not an action plan not to confuse it with the NOWPAP terminology. Russia noted that the MTS should be internally-consistent, practical and realistic. Proposed activities should be prioritized as short-term and longer-term activities.

64. Comments from NOWPAP RACs largely supported observations made by member states.

65. NOWPAP Senior Coordinator thanked member states for their constructive and useful comments. He clarified that the strategy is a vision document and not an action plan. He acknowledged that the proposed document provides a baseline for further discussion of specific projects and activities. He further clarified the rationale behind proposed MTS 2018-2023 structure broken down into themes, outcomes and outputs. He appreciated useful and constructive feedback provided by participants and suggested to focus ensuring discussion on the process for preparing the MTS.

66. Chairperson summarized the discussion by noting that the MTS should compose of the three building blocks: one is the regional strategy including themes and core themes; the second one is the expected outcomes and what projects the member states should pursue to address the identified challenges, and the third block is a roadmap for implementation.

67. Korea inquired RCU to explain further theme of biodiversity and whether the proposed regional action plan for marine and coastal biodiversity will be implemented by all the four RACs using NOWPAP project budget such as RAP MALI, and also what are the steps to the development of 2018-2023 MTS with requesting RCU to elaborate the purpose of the partnership conference in the proposed schedule for finalizing the MTS.

68. Japan clarified their early comments that MTS is a concept document and strategy to show the vision and set directions instead of providing a work plan. But member states need to think

what they could achieve in 2018-2023. Proposed in the document schedule to finalize the strategy is difficult to implement for member states because of the limited available resources, and preferred way would be to finalize documents by collecting comments from member states mediated by the RCU, unless there are issues that members need to discuss by teleconference. This opinion was supported by Russia.

69. Responding to comments, NOWPAP Coordinator suggested for RCU to submit a simplified version of the MTS which will include the outline, list of themes, and strategic objectives, requesting member states to consult, and express their opinions if they agree with the proposed themes and objectives. The strategic objectives are not only relevant for 2018-2023 MTS, but also for future directions of NOWPAP. He agreed the RCU to follow conventional way of consultations through e-mail and commenting. He affirmed that RCU will work closely with RACs on specific projects and ideas in preparing the MTS. He accepted comments provided on NOWPAP governance challenges. He asked member states to consider the importance of supporting organization of the partnership conference to build ownership for the future NOWPAP MTS. Responding to question from Korea, the Coordinator said that all the four RACs should be involved in the development of regional biodiversity plan if agreed by member states similar to how the work is proceeding for RAP MALI.

Agenda Item 8: Preparation of the Twenty-second Intergovernmental Meeting

70. Following the intervention by Japan and its generous invitation, the meeting agreed that the 22nd NOWPAP IGM would be organized in Toyama, Japan in late 2017 with the exact dates communicated later after consultation with UNEP and other stakeholders.

Agenda Item 9: Other Business

71. Russia proposed to have a separate resolution on marine litter acknowledging various activities and the importance of this issue for NOWPAP.

72. Korea requested UNEP for information about the outcomes of the bilateral meetings between UNEP and member states and how to further increase the efficiency for the operation of two RCU offices, which co-hosted by Korea and Japan after the RCU restructuring.

73. The NOWPAP Coordinator agreed that RAP MALI is a priority for NOWPAP and results of its implementation were included in the UNEP ED report for the IGM. Last IGM approved the work plan and budget for marine litter activities. After clarification and request from Russia, it was decided to have a separate resolution on marine litter for 21st IGM.

74. NOWPAP Coordinator responded to Korea clarifying that the RCU is establishing currently its work flows by setting up proper communication infrastructure. RCU also plans to announce internships for both offices in January 2017. RCU will develop TOR and disseminate the announcement among member states and other stakeholders. Clarifying the purpose of bilateral meetings held during the IGM, Coordinator noted that these meetings discussed the linkages between NOWPAP and global agenda and aimed to better understand national priorities of NOWPAP members. He suggested continuing the practice of bilateral meetings in the future.

75. The Chairperson introduced the Seoul Declaration (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/7/Rev.01). Russia expressed its gratitude to Korea for hosting the IGM and taking a leading role in drafting the Declaration and noted that members had insufficient time to consult on the text and questioned whether there is a necessity to have a separate document in addition to regular resolutions of the IGM. China supported this opinion and added that as the Declaration represents a document of political will and has to be agreed at the higher-level. He added that

the time is pre-mature to issue such Declaration and that this could set future precedent in the NOWPAP. Japan supported the above comments and added that the rationale for Declaration in addition to IGM resolutions remains unclear.

76. The Chairperson provided explanation to member states noting that the main purpose of the Declaration was to express commitment from member states to the NOWPAP in the context of changing global environment, to commemorate more than 20 years of NOWPAP achievements since its 1st IGM in Seoul in 1994, and to set the tone for the NOWPAP MTS 2018-2023. He urged members to consider adopting the Declaration.

77. After exchange of opinions by member states and discussion, the meeting agreed to change the title of the document (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/7/Rev.01) to Recommendations on Future Vision of the 21st NOWPAP IGM Chairperson and include them in the records of the meeting for future consideration by member states. The final document is attached as Annex 2.

Agenda Item 10: Adoption of Resolutions of the Meeting

78. Four resolutions were drafted by the RCU taking into account discussions at the meeting. After joint revision, the resolutions were adopted as attached in the Annex 1.

Agenda Item 11: Closure of the Meeting

79. The Chairperson thanked the participants for fruitful discussions and emphasized that the meeting provided a good opportunity to understand each other, build trust and confidence. Participants expressed their thanks to the Government of Korea for organizing and hosting the 21st NOWPAP IGM.

80. The meeting closed at 18:00 on 24 November 2016.

81. Resolutions of the 21st NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting, Recommendations of the Chairperson of the NOWPAP 21st Intergovernmental Meeting, List of participants, and List of documents are presented in Annexes 1 to 4, respectively.

Annex 1: Resolutions of the 21st NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting

Resolution 1

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE 2016-2017 BIENNIUM

Acknowledging RACs and RCU efforts in implementing the NOWPAP 2016-2017 Programme of Work (PoW),

Recognizing the importance of joint efforts to protect the shared marine environment and manage sustainably its natural resources by engaging neighboring countries in comprehensive and specific regional actions contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Taking note that more than half of planned activities included in the 2016-2017 NOWPAP PoW were implemented on time,

The Twenty first Intergovernmental Meeting,

1. Approves the Report of the UNEP Executive Director (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/3), takes note of the NOWPAP implementation progress and the status of resources in the NOWPAP Trust Fund.
2. Approves the reports of NOWPAP four Regional Activity Centers – CEARAC, DINRAC, MERRAC, and POMRAC (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/4/1-4) and acknowledges with satisfaction the progress made.
3. Having reviewed the Status of Implementation of NOWPAP PoW for 2016-2017 report (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/5), requests:
 - a. RAC Directors supported by NOWPAP RCU to complete planned activities and report progress to the 22nd NOWPAP IGM;
 - b. NOWPAP RCU in co-operation with RACs, in 2017 organize stakeholder consultation meeting to map the existing projects and initiatives addressing climate change impacts on marine and coastal ecosystems in the NOWPAP region and report results to the Twenty-second NOWPAP IGM;
 - c. NOWPAP RCU and RACs to continue their best efforts to maintain and expand partnerships with relevant organizations, programmes and projects to support implementation of NOWPAP and report progress at each IGM;
 - d. NOWPAP RCU and RAC Directors with the support of member states enhance external resource mobilization for the implementation of NOWPAP Programme of Work and report progress at each IGM;
 - e. NOWPAP RCU and RAC Directors to enhance efforts in public communication and outreach aiming at the increased NOWPAP presence, relevance and visibility in the region and beyond, including in all four languages of the region;
 - f. Appreciates contributions of regional partners, including PICES, PEMSEA, YSLME and NEASPEC supporting implementation of NOWPAP Programme of Work and requests NOWPAP RCU together with RAC Directors to include relevant joint activities in the NOWPAP MTS 2018-2023;

- g. Requests NOWPAP RCU to circulate the Terms of Reference for the restructured RCU by e-mail by January 31st, 2017 for comments and approval at the 22nd NOWPAP IGM;
- h. Hold 22nd NOWPAP IGM in 2017 in Toyama, Japan.

Resolution 2

SUSTAINABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NOWPAP TRUST FUND AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Recognizing the necessity to increase the total amount of contributions of all member states to the NOWPAP Trust Fund to the target amount of US\$500,000 as agreed at the 2nd IGM,

Also recognizing with satisfaction the continuing and stable contributions to NOWPAP Trust Fund by member states in 2017,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Chinese delegation to reach the target amount of contribution to the NOWPAP Trust Fund of US\$125,000 annually in 2017,

The Twenty first Intergovernmental Meeting.

1. Agrees to the contributions to the NOWPAP Trust Fund in 2017 as presented in Table 1.
2. NOWPAP RCU together with RAC Directors undertake utmost efforts to re-program existing resources and reach 100% expenditure rate of the NOWPAP Trust Fund by the end of 2016-2017 biennium;
3. Encourages the NOWPAP Member States, NOWPAP RCU and RACs to continue seeking additional funding to support NOWPAP activities.

Table 1. Scale of contributions for 2017 Member States	Annual contribution (US\$)
People's Republic of China	100,000
Japan	125,000
Republic of Korea	125,000
Russian Federation	125,000
Total	475,000

Resolution 3

NOWPAP MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY 2018-2023

Recognizing the need to develop the NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy 2018-2023 that is aligned with national and regional priorities and Sustainable Development Goals,

Having considered the draft Medium-term Strategy 2018-2023 (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/6) and taking note of the Background Note for the 21st NOWPAP IGM (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/INF/6),

The Twenty first Intergovernmental Meeting,

1. Requests RCU with the support of RACs Directors and in consultation with member states and NOWPAP partners to finalize MTS 2018-2023 for the adoption by the 22nd NOWPAP IGM and to this effect decides:
 - a. NOWPAP RCU to submit the revised MTS 2018-2023 to member states by December 5th, 2016;
 - b. Member states to provide comments and suggestions on the revised MTS 2018-2023 by March, 30th 2017,
 - c. NOWPAP RCU together with RACs Directors supported by NOWPAP Focal Points undertake consultations with NOWPAP member states, partner organizations, and relevant stakeholders on the proposed activities, initiatives and projects to be included in the MTS 2018-2023 implementation plan from December 2016 until October 2017;
 - d. RAC Directors supported by NOWPAP RCU to undertake consultations on the draft MTS 2018-2023 at the RAC FPMs in 2017.

Resolution 4

REGIONAL ACTION PLAN ON MARINE LITTER

Acknowledging the negative impacts of marine litter on the coastal and marine environment in the NOWPAP region,

Acknowledging also the efforts of NOWPAP member states to address marine litter problem to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment,

Taking into account that the implementation of the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) adopted in 2008 is in line with national and regional priorities identified by the NOWPAP member states,

Taking note that most of RAP MALI activities are expected to be implemented at the national and local level, in cooperation with local governments and relevant authorities as well as private sector, research institutions, NGOs and the general public,

Complimenting NOWPAP RCU for its efforts working with UNEP GPA office and other relevant organizations and initiatives to expand activities addressing marine litter and its sources,

The Twenty first Intergovernmental Meeting,

1. Encourages NOWPAP member states to carry out activities to prevent, monitor and remove marine litter at a national and local level through the implementation of the NOWPAP RAP MALI,
2. Requests NOWPAP RACs and RCU to implement the NOWPAP RAP MALI work plan for 2016-2017 as scheduled in close consultation with UNEP GPA office and other international organizations, projects and programmes involved.

Annex 2: Recommendations on future vision of the Chairperson of the 21st NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting

1. *Celebrating* with pride more than 20 years of the regional environmental cooperation established at the First Intergovernmental Meeting held in Seoul, Republic of Korea in 1994 which adopted the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region, and recognizing its important contribution to regional security, sustainable development and ecosystem-based management of the coastal and marine environment in the Northwest Pacific and shared commitments of the NOWPAP member states and its partners,
2. *Recalling* the overall goal of the UN Environment Regional Seas Programme, and the Outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development “The Future We Want” and the UN General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,
3. *Noting* Regional Seas Strategic Directions (2017-2020) adopted by the 17th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans held in Istanbul, Turkey on 20-22 October 2015,
4. *Recalling* the Paris Agreement on Climate Change adopted at the 21st session of the Conference of Parties of UNFCCC in Paris, France on 12th December 2015 that entered into force on 4th November, 2016,
5. *Acknowledging* with great satisfaction the work of NOWPAP Regional Activity Centers in implementing NOWPAP activities,
6. *Mindful* of the continuing [increasing] degradation of the marine and coastal environment in the Northwest Pacific from both natural and human factors, as summarized in the State of the Marine Environment Report for the NOWPAP Region (SOMER 2),
7. *Welcoming* the efforts and measures taken by NOWPAP member states to strengthen and stabilize the NOWPAP institutional framework and enhance its activities responding to complex challenges to the Northwest Pacific environment with the renewed trust in the value and relevance of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan,
8. *Recognizing* with appreciation the valuable financial contributions by member states to the NOWPAP Trust Funds, and cash and in-kind contributions of other national, regional, and international organizations and stakeholders in the work and achievements of the NOWPAP,
9. **Renew** our commitment and step up efforts to address together the challenges related to environmental protection and sustainable development of the Northwest Pacific and its coasts, in the global framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
10. **Further implement** the NOWPAP at the regional, national and sub-national levels, with the application of the ecosystem approach as an overarching principle and in this context to finalize formulation of the Northwest Pacific Ecological Quality Objectives [and related targets] towards good environmental status of the Northwest Pacific,

11. **Adopt** the NOWPAP Mid-Term Strategy for 2018-2023 at the Twenty-Second Intergovernmental Meeting of the NOWPAP and start thereafter its implementation, as the strategic framework for wise use, development and management of the coastal and marine environment of the Northwest Pacific region and consistent with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,
12. **Increase** the effectiveness, strengthen and where necessary expand the scope and accountability of activities of NOWPAP Regional Activity Centers by aligning their program of work with the NOWPAP Mid-Term Strategy for 2018-2023,
13. **Review** the feasibility and propose appropriate operational modality for the expansion of regional network of partners and institutions in support of NOWPAP activities aimed to reduce pressures on the marine and coastal environment in the context of sustainable development at the Twenty-Second Intergovernmental Meeting of NOWPAP,
14. **Apply** ecosystem approach to managing the marine and coastal environment in the region, including through enabling inter-sectoral cooperation in the integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning,
15. **Take** the necessary measures to progressively eliminate pollution reaching the Northwest Pacific region with a particular focus on marine litter as an emerging issue of regional and global concern and with the goal of achieving its significant reduction by 2023 in synergy with relevant initiatives at the global, regional, national and sub-national levels,
16. **Affirm** our commitment to increase the resilience of the Northwest Pacific marine and coastal socio-ecological systems to the impacts of climate change in collaboration with relevant institutions at the global, regional and national levels and include necessary measures in the NOWPAP Mid-Term Strategy for 2018-2023,
17. **Enhance** public outreach and awareness of NOWPAP activities at global, regional, national and sub-national levels. Develop NOWPAP Public Communication Strategy and Action Plan underpinned by available financial resources for the adoption by the Twenty Second Intergovernmental Meeting of the NOWPAP.

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Annex 4: List of Documents

Working documents

UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/2	Annotated provisional agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/3	Report of the UNEP Executive Director on implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan in 2015 and 2016
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/4/1	CEARAC report of activities in 2015 and 2016
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/4/2	DINRAC report of activities in 2015 and 2016
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/4/3	MERRAC report of activities in 2015 and 2016
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/4/4	POMRAC report of activities in 2015 and 2016
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/5	Status of implementation of the NOWPAP Programme of Work 2016-2017
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/6	Draft NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy (MTS) 2018-2023
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/7/Rev.01	Draft Seoul Declaration

Information documents

UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/INF/1	Provisional list of documents
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/INF/2	Provisional list of participants
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/INF/3	Statement of UNEP
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/INF/4	Statement of PEMSEA
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/INF/5	Statement of IOC PICES
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 21/INF/6	Background Note for 21st NOWPAP IGM
UNEP/WBRS.17/8	Discussion: Twenty Years of Cooperation for Sustainable Use and Management of the Coastal and Marine Environment in the Northwest Pacific
UNEP/WBRS.18/INF13 rev.1	Regional Seas Strategic Directions (2017-2020)
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 20/12	Compilation of the resolutions of the Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, which are relevant to the Regional Seas Programme
UNEP/NOWPAP/CEARAC/FPM 14/9	Report of the 20th NOWPAP IGM
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/14	UNEP/NOWPAP IG.21/INF/10 Annotated Provisional Agenda for Meeting with NOWPAP RACs
UNEP/IMO/NOWPAP/MERRAC/FPM 19/19	Report of the Fourteenth NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/9	Report of the Fourteenth NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
	Report of the Nineteenth NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points Meeting
	Report of the Thirteenth NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting