



**Northwest
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Action Plan**

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Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Data and Information Network
Regional Activity Centre

The 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
Beijing, the People's Republic of China, 16 - 17 June 2014

**Meeting Report of
the 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting**

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Background

1. The Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) and three Resolutions were adopted at the 1st Intergovernmental Meeting (Seoul, 14 September 1994) by the States in the Northwest Pacific region: People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as China, Japan, Korea, Russia, respectively). Resolution 1 identified five areas of priority for implementation of the Action Plan, one of which was NOWPAP/1: Establishment of a Comprehensive Database and Information Management System.
2. In December 2000, the Data and Information Network Regional Activity Center (DINRAC) hosted by the Environmental Information Center of the State Environmental Protection Administration of China (SEPA) was established in Beijing based on the Resolution 2 of the 4th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting. DINRAC was designated to function as the Secretariat for NOWPAP/1 and the NOWPAP/1 Coordinating Working Group (CWG) and took on the responsibilities as defined in its Terms of Reference.
3. The NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) had been held for 11 times since its first meeting in Shanghai, China in 2002.
4. The 11th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was held on 24-25 July 2013 in Beijing, China with the kind support from NOWPAP Regional Coordination Unit (RCU). The meeting reviewed the progress made in the intersessional period after the 10th NOWPAP DINRAC FPM, discussed and approved the adjusted DINRAC workplan and budget in 2013, and discussed and agreed upon the proposed DINRAC workplan and budget for the 2014-2015 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 11/15) to be submitted to the 18th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) for final approval. The 18th NOWPAP IGM held in Toyama, Japan, 4-6 December 2013 approved the proposed DINRAC workplan and budget for the 2014-2015 biennium.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

Agenda item 1.1: Opening and welcome statements by DINRAC

5. The 12th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was opened at 9:30 a.m. on 16 June 2014 in Beijing. Mr. Feng Yan, on behalf of the DINRAC Secretariat, opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. He invited Mr. Yi Li, the representative from the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China to give a welcome speech. Mr. Yi Li thanked all the participants for their attendance and appreciated NOWPAP RCU and DINRAC Focal Points for their support and contribution to DINRAC's activities in the past.
6. Mr. Feng Yan introduced Dr. Dongmei Guo, the representative of China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center (CAEC)/China Center for Shanghai Cooperation Organization Environmental Cooperation (CSEC), which is the hosting organization for the DINRAC Secretariat. Dr. Dongmei Guo

presented a welcome statement as well by expressing her gratitude to NOWPAP RCU, DINRAC Focal Points, experts, major partners and participants from the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China.

Agenda item 1.2: Statements by representatives of NOWPAP/UNEP and of the participating States

7. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong, the representative of NOWPAP RCU, delivered an opening statement to the meeting. He expressed the appreciation to DINRAC for its work in the past years, and also thanked the experts for their contribution. He hoped the meeting will discuss how to implement DINRAC's workplan of the 2014-2015 biennium approved by the 18th NOWPAP IGM and he wished this meeting a success.

8. The DINRAC Focal Points, representatives of RACs, PICES and YSLME (partners of NOWPAP) made brief opening statements respectively. Dr. Hee-Dong Jeong, Focal Point of Korea, introduced Dr. Joon-Soo Lee as the new Focal Point of Korea and Dr. Sang-Hwa Choi as the expert of Korea.

Agenda item 2: Organization of the meeting

Agenda item 2.1: Election of the officers (Chairperson and Rapporteur)

9. According to the Terms of Reference for the NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting, the Meeting unanimously elected Dr. Kun Lei, DINRAC Focal Point of China, as the Chairperson, and Mr. Akihiro Seta, DINRAC Focal Point of Japan, as the Rapporteur respectively.

Agenda item 2.2: Organization of work

10. The Meeting agreed to apply the rules of procedures for the meeting in line with the Terms of Reference of the NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting. English would be the working language of the meeting, and decisions would be made by consensus.

Agenda item 2.3: Adoption of the agenda

11. Upon the invitation of the Chairperson, Mr. Feng Yan, on behalf of Director of DINRAC, made a brief introduction of the Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/1) and the Annotated Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/2). All the delegates agreed to proceed with the Agenda items suggested.

Agenda item 3: Progress report on the implementation of NOWPAP activities since the 11th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

12. The NOWPAP RCU representative briefed the meeting on the progress of the NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period since the 11th DINRAC FPM, including the results of the 18th NOWPAP IGM held in Toyama, Japan, 4-6 December 2013 and the Extraordinary NOWPAP IGM in Seoul in April

2014. He briefly introduced current activities of CEARAC, MERRAC and POMRAC, and efforts made by RCU and RACs on building partnerships with other international mechanisms and programmes, raising public awareness, resource mobilization and the work under the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI).

13. Dr. Igor Rostov raised a question that Marine Protected Area (MPA) was originally a DINRAC activity, and asked clarification on CEARAC activities in the field of MPA. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong explained that CEARAC proposed to assess how biodiversity had been conserved in the region after CBD COP10, and started to prepare a regional report on the status of selected MPAs. CEARAC took the result of DINRAC's activity as a reference in the assessment. A joint workshop between NOWPAP and NEASPEC was held, but no substantial work on MPA networking has been taken by NOWPAP after that.

14. Dr. Hee-Dong Jeong commented on the partnership building between NOWPAP and YSLME. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong explained that NOWPAP will work with YSLME when the second phase of YSLME is started. Dr. Yihang Jiang made a brief introduction of how UNDP/YSLME worked and the progress of the second phase project. Then he commented that the deliveries and linkages between activities were critical for NOWPAP. He also suggested DINRAC should work together with other information networks in the region. He made comments on the upcoming POMRAC FPM, reminding the POMRAC Secretariat to notify the difference between "environmental" and "ecological".

15. Ms. Qian Li suggested more support from RCU and RACs are needed to enrich DINRAC website and promote the DINRAC's activities.

16. Mr. Chuanlin Huo introduced the status of cooperation between NOWPAP and PICES.

Agenda item 4: Progress made in the implementation of DINRAC workplan and budget for 2013

17. Mr. Feng Yan presented the report on the implementation of DINRAC activities and budget for 2013 (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/4). Mr. Chunwei Han stated the progress report on "Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States" (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/5), "the Summary of the Policies and Measures on the Prevention of Coastal and Marine Pollution in member states" (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/6), and "Progress Report on Atlas of Marine Invasive Species in the NOWPAP Region" (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/7).

18. Dr. Igor Rostov raised a question that "Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States (MED)" and "the Summary of the Policies and Measures on the Prevention of Coastal and Marine Pollution in member states (MEP)" were not disseminated. Mr. Chunwei Han explained that the hardcopies of publications will be disseminated after the meeting.

19. Dr. Yihang Jiang raised a question that there was no time series, coordinates, and depth of monitoring sites in collected data from the forms in the MED dataset. He stressed that only with detailed parameters can the availability of the data collected be enhanced. Dr. Hee-Dong Jeong pointed out all collected items should be standardized i.e. unified data format should be established as a preliminary condition. He explained that exchange of format exists when submitting the data to DINRAC. Ms. Qian Li commented that the data from China were from published reports with only overall assessment on sea water quality data by the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China and State Oceanic Administration of China. She also encouraged all member states to submit all categories of data according to the required data format. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong suggested that the background information should be provided along with the data collected in the future.

20. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong emphasized that no new activities should be proposed at the meeting. Mr. Chunwei Han explained that only recommendations were made when considering the implementation and the proposal may be made when discussing workplan for the next biennium.

21. After thorough discussion, the meeting adopted the reports.

Agenda item 5. Discussion on DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium

Agenda item 5.1: Overall DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium

22. Mr. Feng Yan presented a report of Overall DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/8).

23. Dr. Igor Rostov raised a question that the coherence of naming for the activity "Collection of the information on endangered/threatened marine species in the NOWPAP region" was different from the approved activity by the 18th NOWPAP IGM without "marine" in the title. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong explained that this project is marine related activity, so it is appropriate to add the word "marine" in the title.

24. After thorough discussion, the meeting adopted the Workplan and Budget.

Agenda item 5.2: Implementation Plan for Annual Update of Existing Databases

25. Mr. Feng Yan presented the implementation plan for annual update of existing databases (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/9).

26. Dr. Igor Rostov raised a question of the procedures for the updating of established databases, and suggested DINRAC Secretariat to provide sample forms for respective databases. Mr. Feng Yan explained the collecting protocol. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong pointed out that DINRAC need to be clear on how to update the existing databases. .

27. From the statistical report for page views of DINRAC website, Dr. Joon-Soo Lee commented that most visitors are within the framework of NOWPAP and suggested DINRAC to expand the variety of users.

28. After thorough discussion, the meeting adopted the implementation plan.

Agenda item 5.3: Implementation Plan for Upgrading the DINRAC Website

29. Mr. Feng Yan presented the implementation plan for upgrading the DINRAC Website (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/10).

30. Mr. Akihiro Seta raised a question about the accessibility of DINRAC website from Japan. Mr. Feng Yan replied that the Secretariat have purchased a new web server which will be allocated in new workplace with larger bandwidth. He also mentioned that it would be discussable to build decentralized IT structure to resolve the issue in the long run.

31. Dr. Igor Rostov enquired about the progress on the base map of the WebGIS system. Mr. Feng Yan explained that DINRAC Secretariat had already been coordinating with YSLME and JODC about the Base Map. Mr. Akihiro Seta added that he would like to provide support regarding the base map. Mr. Feng Yan added that the most urgent issue now is not the base map, but the linkage between the WebGIS system and the data. DINRAC will work closely with DINRAC Focal Points, RCU and other RACs to develop WebGIS system included in the website.

32. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama commented that the commercial license for GIS software is expensive, and DINRAC Secretariat should consider making full use of the license in the 2016-2017 biennium and afterwards. Mr. Feng Yan explained that DINRAC Secretariat will take a full consideration of Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama's suggestion. Mr. Chunwei Han added that the license issue would be taken care of seriously.

33. After thorough discussion, the meeting adopted the implementation plan.

Agenda item 5.4 Implementation Plan for Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States

34. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama presented the implementation plan for Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member State (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/11).

35. Dr. Igor Rostov raised the concern of the format for collecting data, and asked Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama to present a filled form for reference. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama explained the data format and presented a filled sheet of data.

36. Dr. Yihang Jiang commented that the current collection form will not deliver useful results. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama explained that this activity was based on current red lists. If information on red data lists was to be collected, it will require much more work and budget.

37. Dr. Igor Rostov asked a question on the estimated number of collected species. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama stated that according to his calculation, about 50 species will be collected. He also explained with additional information on the difference of Red List between IUCN and Japan. Dr. Igor Rostov commented that Russia could collect about 50 species, and some of the species were not presented in IUCN list.

38. Mr. Akihiro Seta raised questions about the budget allocation of this activity. As Mr. Akihiro Seta suggested, Mr. Feng Yan agreed to reallocate USD 1,000 which was originally allocated to DINRAC Secretariat to the experts. RCU reminded the meeting that this activity was originally planned for 2014 and now it is extended to 2015. As Mr. Akihiro Seta stated that the work for leading expert and national expert would be different, it was suggested that the budget allocation would be USD 2,000 for leading expert and each national expert.

39. After thorough discussion, the meeting adopted the implementation plan with reallocation of the budget.

Agenda item 5.5: Implementation Plan for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States

40. Mr. Chunwei Han presented the implementation plan for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/12).

41. Dr. Igor Rostov commented that it is suggested to keep existing data category rather than to create the unified format of the collection form in the direction of data specification. He also mentioned the data were provided with a delay. Mr. Feng Yan explained that unified data format is significant for the comparison and utilization of the data collected in the long run.

42. Mr. Akihiro Seta commented that at present, no change of data format for Japan and in the future, the data collection form may be revised. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama commented that the purpose of this activity is collecting data, not comparing data. Different situations for each member states should be considered.

43. Dr. Hee-Dong Jeong commented that each member state has real data, which is suggested to be shared. Dr. Kun Lei responded that progress was made in China by providing more concrete data.

44. Given the current situation, Mr. Xiaodong Zhong asked the meeting to consider the feasibility for using unified format. Focal points or experts may consider using existing format to update the databases while considering provision of more explanation on the data being updated.

45. After thorough discussion, the implementation plan was adopted with the adjustment that no unified format will be discussed at this stage and data with detailed information should be provided.

Agenda item 6: Arrangement of the 13th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

46. The meeting agreed that the 13th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points meeting would be held in May in China in 2015. The concrete date and venue of the meeting will be decided through consultation among DINRAC Focal Points by the DINRAC Secretariat later.

Agenda item 7: Other Matters

47. Mr. Takafumi Yoshida explained some of the CEARAC activities in the 2014-2015 biennium, and asked DINRAC Focal Points and Secretariat to cooperate on these activities through outputs of DINRAC activities.

48. Mr. Sangjin Lee and Mr. Xiaodong Zhong reiterated that the DINRAC is encouraged to present a proposal in cooperating with PICES in the field of data and information sharing, marine invasive species and jointly promote the study group with PICES. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong also mentioned mainstreaming gender issue into the DINRAC activities which was required by UN/UNEP.

49. DINRAC Focal Points of Japan suggested that considering the next focal point meeting will discuss workplan and budget for the next biennium, it should take a longer time to prepare and discuss. Thus it is suggested to allocate one more day for the next Focal Points Meeting. It is also suggested to initiate the preparation phase in advance, and the deadline for proposals should be considered and the drafts should be prepared before the end of 2014. The time allocated for progress report should be shortened in order to have more time for the discussion on the new proposals for the 2016-2017 biennium.

Agenda item 8: Adoption of the report of the meeting

50. The draft report of the 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/13), with its annexes, was prepared by the Secretariat and Rapporteur for consideration and adoption by the meeting. After amendments, the report was adopted by the meeting as the record of its deliberations.

Agenda item 9: Closure of the meeting

51. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the Chairperson declared the Meeting closed at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 17 June 2014.

List Of Annexes

- Annex I** List of Participants to the 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
- Annex II** List of Documents for the 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
- Annex III** DINRAC Workplan and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium

Annex I

List of Participants to the 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

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Annex II

List of Documents to

the 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

<u>Working Documents</u>	
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/1	Provisional Agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/2	Annotated Provisional Agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/3	RCU Report for DINRAC 12th FPM
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/4	Report on the Implementation of DINRAC Activities and Budget
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/5	Progress Report on Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/6	Progress Report on the Summary of the Policies and Measures on the Prevention of Coastal and Marine Pollution in member states
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/7	Progress Report on Atlas of Marine Invasive Species in the NOWPAP Region
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/8	Report on DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for 2014-2015 Biennium
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/9	Implementation Plan for Annual Update of Existing Databases
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/10	Implementation Plan for Upgrading the DINRAC Website
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/11	Implementation Plan for Information Collection of Endangered/Threatened Marine Species in NOWPAP Region.
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/12	Implementation Plan for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/13	Report of the 12 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
<u>Information Documents</u>	
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/Ref.1	Announcement of the 12 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/Ref.2	Logistic Information for the 12 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/Ref.3	List of Documents
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/Ref.4	List of Participants
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 12/Ref.5	Tentative Timetable
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 16/10/1/Rev. 2	NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy, 2012-2017
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 18/4/2	Report on the activities of the NOWPAP Data and Information Network Regional Activity Centre (DINRAC) in 2013
UNEP/DINRAC/FPM/9/13	Report of 9 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/DINRAC/FPM/10/9	Report of 10 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/DINRAC/FPM/11/16	Report of 11 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

Annex III

DINRAC Workplan and Budget for the 2014-2015 Biennium

Activity	Timing	Outputs/performance indicators	Quarterly Milestones	Budget (in USD)	
				2014	2015
Coordination with RCU, other RACs, UNEP and partners	Continuous throughout the biennium	Regular contacts with other relevant organizations and programmes	None	2,000	2,000
Organization of the 12 th and 13 th Focal Points Meetings	May 2014 May 2015	FPM reports	Invitations sent out (8 weeks before FPM), working documents prepared and uploaded on website (6 weeks before FPMs), visa documents sent (4 weeks before FPM) Draft FPM reports circulated (1 week after FPM) and then finalized (3 weeks after FPM)	25,000	25,000
Update, maintenance and enrichment of DINRAC website	Continuous throughout the biennium	- Upgraded website platform - Updated webpages - DINRAC website with user-friendly interface and easy-to-access databases	1Q 2014: New server procured Every quarter : Website front page and layouts updated, visiting statistics assembled, and posted on website	2,000	2,000
Accessibility and traffic analysis of DINRAC website	Oct 2014 Oct 2015	Extended bandwidth Monthly traffic analysis	4Q 2014: bandwidth extended Monthly: traffic analysis	4,500	4,500

Activity	Timing	Outputs/performance indicators	Quarterly Milestones	Budget (in USD)	
				2014	2015
Development of visualized DINRAC website and enrichment of the thematic maps in the web GIS system	Oct 2014 Oct 2015	-Upgraded Web GIS platform at DINRAC Website -Visualized Database Information of Marine Invasive Species (MIS) -Updated Visualized Oil and HNS Spill Geographic Information, -Updated Visualized HAB Areas -Visualized ML Areas	1Q 2014: draft framework for upgraded Web GIS platform prepared 4Q 2014: MIS data available in WebGIS system	9,000	5,000
Annual updates of existing databases to reflect the latest data	Continuous throughout the biennium	-Updated databases with latest information available -Annual publication of data inventory on the website and in hard copy	Nov 2014/2015: printed hard copies	7,000	5,000
The information collection on endangered / threatened marine species in the NOWPAP Region	Nov 2014 Nov 2015	-Information on endangered/threatened marine species in the NOWPAP region presented to the 13 th FPM	MoUs signed with experts 2 weeks after 12 th FPM Nov 2014: Collected information set Nov 2015: Complied information set with supplementary statements	8,000	2,000
Preparation of annual summary of major marine environmental data available in member states	Dec. 2014 Dec. 2015	-Collection of thematic marine environmental data with standardized data submission formats/templates -2012-2013–17 data sheets; -2014-2015 (targeting) - 15~20 data sheets	MoUs signed with experts 2 weeks after 12 th /13 th FPM Every 4Q: Data uploaded on DINRAC website and data sets published	8,000	8,000

Activity	Timing	Outputs/performance indicators	Quarterly Milestones	Budget (in USD)	
				2014	2015
Maintain and update marine litter data and information based on inputs by member states and RACs	Continuous throughout the biennium	Updated marine litter data	Every Quarter: updated marine litter data	3,000	3,000
Publications	Continues throughout the biennium	Reports published	4Q 2014: report on Marine Environmental Data and Species on the Red List of the NOWPAP Region are published	3,000	3,000
Total Budget				71,500	59,500