



**Northwest
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Action Plan**

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Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Data and Information Network
Regional Activity Centre

The 14th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
Beijing, the People's Republic of China, 26-27 May 2016

Meeting Report of the 14th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

I. Background

1. The purpose of the establishment of NOWPAP DINRAC was to coordinate regional activities relevant to data and information exchange and to offer the reliable and up-to-date information services related to coastal and marine environment in the NOWPAP region.
2. DINRAC has the specific objective to coordinate regional activities, as specified in the Terms of Reference decided at the Fourth Intergovernmental Meeting. DINRAC was established recognizing that the activities under NOWPAP produce information on a number of different topics from several sources; that there is the need for regional harmonization of data sets and information system, for development of databases and networks for linking relevant institutions in the region and for providing coherent information to serve the needs of the region, as well as the need to develop protocols for data sharing. The development of a comprehensive database and information management system for the region is also coordinated and implemented by DINRAC.
3. The 13th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was held on 9-10 July 2015 in Dalian, China with assistance from NOWPAP Regional Coordination Unit (RCU). The meeting reviewed the progress achieved in the intersessional period after the 12th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM), and discussed and agreed the proposed DINRAC workplan and budget for the 2016-2017 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/17) to be submitted to the 20th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) for the final approval. The 20th NOWPAP IGM held in Beijing, China, 28-30 October, 2015, has approved the proposed DINRAC workplan and budget for the 2016-2017 biennium.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting

1.1: Opening and Welcome Statements

4. The 14th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was opened at 9:30 a.m. on 26 May 2016 in Xiyuan Hotel in Beijing, China. Mr. Feng Yan, on behalf of the DINRAC Secretariat gave a welcome statement to all participants. Mr. Bo Feng, the representative from Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (MEP) was invited to give a welcome remark. Mr. Feng mentioned that the Chinese government has been paying the high attention to marine environmental issues, which are addressed in particular by the Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Water Pollution launched in 2015. He also stated that MEP will continue to support the work of all regional activity centers (RACs) and wished that the marine environment of NOWPAP will continue to be improved.
5. Dr. Alexander Tkalin, NOWPAP coordinator, delivered a welcoming remark to the meeting. He stressed that all RACs should strengthen cooperation among each other. He also briefly described that challenges to NOWPAP DINRAC externally, such as not having a whole coordinator for UNEP Regional Seas Programme, the transition of UNEP finance management system to Umoja system, the RCU restructure issues, etc.

6. The DINRAC Focal Points made brief opening statements, and Mr. Andrey Kruts, Focal Point of Russia, introduced Dr. Pavel Saliuk as the new Focal Point of Russia for DINRAC.

Agenda Item 2: Organization of the Meeting

2.1: Election of the Officers (Chairperson and Rapporteur)

7. According to the Terms of Reference for the NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting, the meeting unanimously elected Dr. Joon-Soo Lee, DINRAC Focal Point of Korea, as the Chairperson, and Mr. Andrey Kruts, DINRAC Focal Point of Russia, as the Rapporteur respectively.

2.2: Organization of Work

8. It was 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 the consensus of all Focal Points.

2.3: Adoption of the Agenda

9. Mr. Yan made a brief introduction of the Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM14/1) and the Annotated Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM14/2). The meeting suggested to discuss the cooperation with other partners in a separate agenda.

10. All Focal Points agreed to proceed with the changes to the Agenda suggested.

Agenda Item 3: Report of the NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) on the Implementation of NOWPAP Activities since the 13th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

11. Dr. Tkalin, NOWPAP Coordinator, briefed the meeting on the progress of the NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period since the 13th DINRAC FPM including the challenges that each RAC is facing and the results of the 20th NOWPAP Intergovernmental meeting held on October 2015 in Beijing (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/3).

12. At the meeting, it has been appreciated that the hard work of RCU in such a difficult time has been made and it is crucial for all the RACs to cooperate with each other, and the importance of marine litter issue was also addressed.

Agenda Item 4: Review of the Progress in the Implementation of DINRAC's Workplan for 2015

4.1: Report on the Implementation of DINRAC Activities and Budget for 2015

13. Mr. Yan briefly introduced the report on the implementation of DINRAC activities and budget for 2015 (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/4).

14. Mr. Chunwei Han explained that, the payment for this activity in 2014-2015 biennium was postponed to the 2016-2017 biennium because MoUs of updating existing databases were not signed in the 2014-2015 biennium. After signing MoUs, the expenditure for experts will be disbursed.

15. RCU clarified that the Project Support Cost (PSC) collected by UNEP and the budget on marine litter is not included in DINRAC's budget. Mr. Yan explained that the cost in the expenditure table is rounded due to in-kind contribution from MEP and will use the exact expenditure numbers in the future.

16. After discussion, the meeting adopted this report.

4.2: Progress Report on Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in NOWPAP Member States

17. Mr. Han presented the progress report on the activity since the 13th DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/5).

18. Mr. Yasuhiko Karigome said Japan could make effort to submit data in all categories and that CEARAC and POMRAC could provide data directly to DINRAC. Dr. Vladimir Shulkin, as the POMRAC representative, expressed the concerns of data availability in all categories.

19. At the meeting, the Focal Points expressed the concerns to get a unified data format. Dr. Tkalin suggested that the Secretariat could work directly with experts in order to get as much data as possible from each member state.

20. The meeting also suggested to alter the schedule of work according to the earliest possible time for data submission by the member states.

21. After discussion, the meeting adopted the report.

4.3: Progress Report on the Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States

22. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama presented the progress on the Activity since the 13th DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/6).

23. Mr. Han clarified that the data will be uploaded to NOWPAP DINRAC website soon after the meeting. He also explained that due to the fact that the data collected do not have geographic information, the data collected could not be displayed in WebGIS system currently.

24. After discussion, the meeting adopted the report.

4.4: Progress Report on the Upgrading of DINRAC Website

25. Mr. Han presented the progress on the Activity since the 13th DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/7).

26. Mr. Han explained that in the WebGIS system, spatial analysis can be implemented, but time series analysis is not possible yet. He also explained that if a database is to be displayed in the WebGIS system, geographical information has to be present in the database.

27. After discussion, the meeting adopted the report.

Agenda Item 5: Discussion on DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for 2016-2017 Biennium

5.1: DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium

28. Mr. Yan made a presentation on DINRAC's workplan and budget for the 2016-2017 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/8).

29. At the meeting, it was expressed that the databases of DINRAC shall be updated on a regular basis, and it was suggested that DINRAC should enhance to cooperate with other RACs in order to play as the information sharing platform in the NOWPAP region.

30. After discussion, the meeting adopted the report.

5.2: Implementation Plan for Annual Update of Existing Databases

31. Mr. Han made a presentation on Implementation Plan for Annual Update of Existing Databases (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/9).

32. Considering that marine environmental standards will be collected (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/11), the meeting decided not to collect data on marine environmental standards in this activity. At the meeting, it was also suggested to find connections/links between different databases in order that the use of data could be improved.

33. After discussion, the meeting adopted the report.

5.3: Implementation Plan for the Development of DINRAC Website

34. Mr. Han made a presentation on the Implementation Plan for the Development of DINRAC Website (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/10).

35. At the meeting, it was suggested that more communication is needed between the Secretariat and the DINRAC Focal Points in order that problems regarding the development of the website could be dealt with timely.

36. After discussion, the meeting adopted this report.

5.4: Implementation Plan for Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards

37. Dr. Kun Lei made a presentation on the Implementation Plan for Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/11). The revised version of Implementation Plan (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/11/Rev.1) was presented at the meeting, and the activity will be focused on marine environment quality standards, pollutant effluent standards and marine environment status assessment methods.

38. Dr. Lei explained to the meeting the data collection table and said that she will give an example after the meeting. She also made adjustments to the data collection table as suggested by the meeting.

39. After discussion, the meeting adopted this report.

5.4: Implementation Plan for Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (second stage)

40. Dr. Shirayama made a presentation on the Implementation Plan for Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (second stage) (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/12).

41. Dr. Shirayama presented two options with boundaries beyond the NOWPAP area: one with larger area and the other with smaller area. After discussion, the meeting agreed that this activity will focus on smaller area.

42. RCU suggested the Secretariat that outcomes of this activity could be fully utilized for public awareness by means of disbursing booklets in international meetings and such.

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

43. Mr. Han briefly introduced the Implementation Plan for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/13).

44. After discussion, the meeting adopted this report.

Agenda Item 6: Arrangement of the 15th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

45. It was agreed that the 15th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting would be held in mid-May 2017 in China. The concrete date and venue for the Meeting would be decided through consultation among DINRAC Focal Points by the Secretariat afterwards.

46. It was stressed by the meeting that the DINRAC Focal Points shall mark the calendar for next Focal Points Meeting and the working documents shall be presented a few weeks before the opening of the meeting.

Agenda Item 7: Cooperation with Other Partners

47. Mr. Huo, representatives from PIECES, briefly introduced the cooperation between NOWPAP and PICES and the coming 25th PIECES anniversary meeting to be held in San Diego, USA on 1-13 November 2016. He also expressed that more cooperation between NOWPAP and PICES is expected.

48. Dr. Lei expressed China's hope that DINRAC shall enhance cooperation and communication with other RACs. She also suggested to form a fixed mechanism for information sharing between DINRAC and other RACs.

49. Mr. Shibuya, the representative from Ministry of Environment of Japan, briefed the meeting on cooperation between Tripartite Environment Ministers Meetings (TEMM) action plan on marine litter and NOWPAP RAP MALI. He also suggested that DINRAC should enhance data collection and presentation of information on marine litter on DINRAC website with member states' support.

Agenda Item 8: Other Matters

50. The meeting suggested that after the NOWPAP MTS 2018-2023 is formulated at the 21st NOWPAP Intergovernment Meeting to be held later this year, the 15th NOWPAP DINRAC FPM will discuss the future activities of DINRAC and link between DINRAC activities and objectives of NOWPAP MTS 2018-2023.

Agenda Item 9: Adoption of the Report of the Meeting

51. The draft report of the 14th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM 14/14), with its annexes, was prepared by the DINRAC Secretariat and the Rapporteur for consideration and adoption at the meeting. After amendments, the report was adopted by the meeting as the record of its deliberations.

Agenda Item 10: Closure of the Meeting

52. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the Chairperson declared the 14th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was closed at 12:30 on 27th May 2016.

52. Annex I

DINRAC Workplan and Budget for 2016-2017 Biennium

Activities		Timing	Outputs / Performance Indicators	Quarterly Milestone	Budget (USD)	
					2016	2017
Routine work of DINRAC Secretariat	Cooperation, Communication of DINRAC Activities	Continuous throughout the biennium	Regular contacts with other relevant organizations and programmes	Throughout	5,000	5,000
	Organization of FPMs	May 2016, May 2017	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
	Development of DINRAC Website	Continuous throughout the biennium	- Upgraded website platform - DINRAC website with user- friendly interface and easy-to-access database - User friendly interface for WebGIS with 3 thematic maps	3Q 2016: Design and administration interface changed 4Q 2016: migration of data from the old DINRAC website is completed 2Q: 2017: development of WebGIS system with MERRAC is completed, development of invasive species is partly completed 4Q 2017: development of invasive species is	15,000	15,000

Activities	Timing	Outputs / Performance Indicators	Quarterly Milestone	Budget (USD)	
				2016	2017
			completed in WebGIS system		
Annual Update of Existing Databases	Continuous throughout the biennium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated databases with latest information available - Annual publication of data inventory on the website and in hard cop 	2Q 2016: MoUs signed 1Q 2017: data collected 2Q 2017: data compilation 3Q 2017: upload to DINRAC website	4,000	4,000
Maintain and update marine litter data and information based on inputs by member states and other RACs	Continuous throughout the biennium	Updated marine litter data	Throughout	3,000	3,000
Developing and Maintaining Databases	Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collection of thematic marine environmental data - Compiled data - Data updated to the DINRAC website 	2Q 2016: MoUs signed 2Q 2017: data collected for 2015 3Q 2017: data collected for 2015 updated to DINRAC the website	8,000	8,000
	Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brief regional overview on existing standards related to marine environment and marine ecosystem - Database on standards related to marine environment and marine ecosystem in the NOWPAP Region 	2Q 2016: MoUs signed with experts 1Q 2017: Collected standards 2Q 2017: Complied standards with supplementary statements 3Q 2017: update to the DINRAC website	6,000	5,000

Activities	Timing	Outputs / Performance Indicators	Quarterly Milestone	Budget (USD)	
				2016	2017
Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (Second Stage)	Nov 2016, Nov 2017	Collected information on endangered species Compiled data were uploaded to the DINRAC website	2Q 2016: MoUs were signed 1Q 2017: Data were collected 3Q 2017: Data were compiled 4Q 2017: upload to the DINRAC website	10,000	5,000
Total:				76,000	70,000