

# REPORT OF THE 13<sup>TH</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC FOCAL POINTS MEETING

## 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 First Intergovernmental Meeting (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 14 September 1994). Resolution 1 identified five areas of priority for implementation of the Action Plan, one of which was NOWPAP/3: Establishment of a collaborative, regional monitoring programme.
2. Following the results of discussions at the First NOWPAP/3 Meeting (Beijing, China, 21-22 May 2001), the 7<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (Vladivostok, 20-22 March 2002) approved a resolution allocating POMRAC with the responsibility to implement activities related to Working Group (WG) 1 “Atmospheric Deposition of Contaminants” and WG 2 “River and Direct Inputs of Contaminants”.
3. The 4<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting (Qingdao, China, 25-26 April 2006) decided to implement several activities related to Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management in NOWPAP Region in 2006/2007, namely:
  - to create the Working Group for Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management (ICARM WG),
  - to organize the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of ICARM WG,
  - to prepare National Reports and Regional Overview on ICARM.
5. The 12<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC FPM (4-5 September 2014, Busan, Republic of Korea) reviewed and discussed major POMRAC activities in accordance with the decisions of the 18<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM. After lengthy discussion the preliminary list of EcoQOs and POMRAC workplan

for 2014-2015 biennium were approved by correspondence. Unfortunately, due to organizational reasons the POMRAC activities were frozen during last two years, including the development of Ecological Quality Objectives (EcoQOs) in the NOWPAP region. The 20<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM (28-30 October 2015, Beijing, China) decided to facilitate the POMRAC activities through the allocation and the use of some fund with DINRAC support.

6. The 13<sup>th</sup> POMRAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) was held in Vladivostok, Russia on 19-20 May 2016 to review the progress of its current activities and to discuss the activities for the 2016-2017 biennium. Focal Points and experts of the NOWPAP Members, namely People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC FPM. NOWPAP Coordinator, as well as representative of MERRAC, and representatives of partner organizations, such as WESTPAC and PICES, also participated in the meeting.

### **Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting**

10. The 13<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting was opened at 9:30 am at the Azimut Vladivostok Hotel in Vladivostok, Russia, 19 May 2016 by the Director of POMRAC, Dr. Anatoly KACHUR. He welcomed all meeting participants and mentioned about the difficulties related with POMRAC functioning, which resulted in a delay of many POMRAC activities.

11. NOWPAP Coordinator, Dr. Alexander TKALIN, also greeted the participants of the 13<sup>th</sup> POMRAC FPM. He also stressed the difficulties with new funds management system (Umoja) that negatively affected NOWPAP activities and decreasing number of staff in NOWPAP RCU offices in Toyama and Busan which might result in worsening of coordination between RACs and RCU.

### **Agenda Item 2. Organization of the Meeting**

#### **2.1: Election of the officers**

12. The meeting was invited to elect the Chairperson and the Rapporteur for the 13<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting. As it had been decided during the previous POMRAC Focal Points Meetings, the duty of the chairpersons for FPM would be performed on a rotational basis by Japan. It was decided that this time the Chairperson should be Ms. Sayo MORITA, POMRAC Focal Point of Japan, co-chaired by Dr. Naohisa KANDA, and the Rapporteur – Dr. Jongseong RYU, acting as the National Expert of Korea and POMRAC Focal Point of Korea.

#### **2.2: Organization of work**

13. The Chairperson gave the floor to Dr. Svetlana KOZHENKOVA, the secretary of POMRAC, who explained to the participants the rules of procedure of this Meeting, including the use of English as working language and making all decisions by consensus. She also presented the provisional list of the documents (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/Inf. 1).

### **Agenda Item 3. Adoption of the Agenda**

Dr. Kozhenkova presented the Provisional Agenda (NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM13/1) with the Annotated Provisional Agenda (NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM13/2). The participants agreed with Dr. Tkalin who proposed to unite items 5, 6, and 7 of the Agenda explaining that all the

sub-items in these two paragraphs were part of the workplan for 2016-2017 biennium. Also, he suggested that the word 'adopt' should be used in the context of the FPM in these three paragraphs, and term MALITA should be replaced by RAP MALI. The secretariat agreed to change the structure of the Agenda accordingly to the comment. The two documents were adopted with changes.

#### **Agenda Item 4. Overview of the progress made in the intersessional period after the 12<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting**

##### **4.1. Report of NOWPAP RCU representative on implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan after the 12<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting**

Dr. Tkalin reported to the meeting on the progress of the entire NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period (NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM13/3). During his speech he repeatedly mentioned financial difficulties of all NOWPAP RACs due to UNEP transition to new Umoja system. The Focal Point of Japan expressed her appreciation for the great contribution to marine litter activities made by RCU.

##### **4.2. Report on the implementation and the budget expenditures of POMRAC activities period after the 12<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting**

Dr. Kachur reported on the implementation of POMRAC activities in 2014/2015 (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/4). The report covered such issues as Environmental Quality Objectives in the NOWPAP Region, ICARM activities, RAP MALI activities, as well as finalization and publishing of the report on Persistent Toxic Substances in the NOWPAP Region, the Second State of the Marine Environment Report (SOMER-2), participation of POMRAC in local and regional meetings and workshops organized by NOWPAP members or partner organizations, etc.

##### **4.3. Report on the implementation of RAP MALI in 2014-2015**

Mr. Nikolai KOZLOVSKII, representative of POMRAC, reported on the implementation of RAP MALI in 2014/2015 (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/4), namely of the Case study on application of "no special fee system" in Russian ports.

After the presentation, Dr. Tkalin commented that before publication the English language version of the Case study report prepared by the Russian Marine Litter Focal Point and expert should be submitted to other National Marine Litter FPs for their consideration and comments. He also asked when the final version of the report will be available. Dr. Kachur answered that the final version of the report will be submitted to Marine Litter FPs, RACs and RCU in July and after receiving comments it will be edited and printed.

#### **Agenda Item 5. Discussion of the future activities of POMRAC**

##### **5.1. Adoption of the structure and contents of the Regional Overview "Targets and indicators for Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region"**

Dr. Shulkin presented the Draft structure and contents of the Regional Overview "Targets and indicators for Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region"

(UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/5). The meeting was invited to discuss and adopt the structure and contents of the Regional Overview.

Dr. Tkalin put forth three suggestions to modify the "Draft structure...". First, the document should be modified as agreed upon by all meeting participants; second, POMRAC secretariat should finally decide on the terminology used in the document in case of applying such terms as operational objectives, criteria, targets, and indicators; third, the document (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/5) did not provide for signing MoUs between POMRAC and national experts, and finalization with national experts is required.

The participants agreed with these suggestions, stating that the document should be modified during the meeting.

Dr. Ryu stated that in order to concentrate on the targets of the EcoQOs, the information on indicators is also needed. Still, no common indicators are appropriate in this case, because there are numerous indicators for each target and some countries may have no information on some of these indicators. That is why each member state should select preferred indicators for each target of EcoQOs.

After a lengthy discussion among Focal Points and Experts, the revised structure of National Inputs was adopted. It is attached to the Report as Annex 1, together with tentative structure of the Regional Overview.

Also, it was decided that POMRAC secretariat will provide the experts and POMRAC Focal Points with the template for National Inputs on EcoQOs.

## **5.2. Discussion of the timetable and budget for the Ecological Quality Objectives activity of POMRAC in 2016/2017 biennium**

Dr. Shulkin presented the timetable and budget for the Ecological Quality Objectives activity of POMRAC in 2016/2017 biennium. After his presentation, these two documents were revised according to the comments by the meeting participants and adopted (Annexes 2 and 3).

## **5.3. Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management (ICARM)**

Dr. Kachur presented the joint activity of PEMSEA and POMRAC for ICARM in 2016/2017 biennium. The title of his presentation was 'the Workplan and Budget for the participation in the regional training course on Integrated Coastal Planning/Management in cooperation with PEMSEA' (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/6). This activity is supposed to be implemented through participation in the regional training course on Integrated Coastal Planning/Management. He explained that this activity will be implemented in 2017, but the exact number of the participants will depend on the place where the training course will be organized due to restricted budget for this activity. The meeting was invited to hold a general discussion after the presentation.

Japan asked about the expert nominations for the training course, and who will nominate these experts. Dr. Kachur answered that scientists or university lecturers and administrative level participants are expected to take part in the training course, and the nominations will be made by the Focal Points of POMRAC.

#### **5.4. The Workplan and budget for POMRAC RAP MALI Activities for the 2016-2017 biennium**

Mr. Kozlovskii presented the Workplan and budget for POMRAC RAP MALI Activities for the 2016-2017 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/7). The meeting was invited to discuss the presentation.

Dr. Tkalin suggested that the deadline for the submission of the Report of microplastic content and migration in the Peter the Great Gulf should be the end of August 2017, because usually annual NOWPAP ICC and Workshop on Marine Litter issues takes place in the end of September or in October and that would be an appropriate case for presentation of the Report to the participants of this event.

The secretariat agreed with this suggestion to change the deadline to the end of August 2017.

Dr. Kachur added that additional funding for this activity will be available from other research institutions in the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

#### **5.5. Review of workplan and budget of POMRAC activities for the 2016/2017 biennium**

Dr. Kachur presented to the meeting the Workplan and Budget for POMRAC in 2016/2017 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 13/7). The meeting was invited to discuss the document. After a discussion the document was adopted by the participants.

#### **Agenda Item 6. Arrangements for the 14<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP POMRAC FPM**

The meeting was invited to discuss the place and date of the Fourteenth NOWPAP POMRAC FPM. It was decided that the meeting will take place in Vladivostok, Russia or other city in the NOWPAP Region. The meeting will be held tentatively in September 2017.

#### **Agenda Item 7. Other matters**

The meeting was invited to raise any other issues relevant to POMRAC activities. No other matters were raised.

#### **Agenda Item 8. Adoption of the report of the meeting**

The draft report of the meeting was prepared by the Secretariat and checked by the Rapporteur for consideration and adoption. The report was adopted.

POMRAC secretariat will circulate the adopted report to the meeting participants within a week.

#### **Agenda Item 9. Closure of the meeting**

The meeting was closed by the Chairperson at 12:00.

## Annex 1

### **Draft Structure of the National Inputs to “Regional Overview of Targets and Indicators for EcoQOs for the NOWPAP region”**

1. Brief characteristics of natural and socio-economic features relevant to EcoQOs within the NOWPAP region.
2. Characteristics of national approaches relevant to EcoQOs for the NOWPAP region including the national legislative and institutional frameworks, monitoring systems, etc.
3. Relevance of targets and indicators suggested by POMRAC to the ecological issues and existing national approaches (including information on existing national quantitative indicators and standards).
  - 3.1. Biodiversity
  - 3.2. Alien species
  - 3.3. Eutrophication
  - 3.4. Contaminants
  - 3.5. Marine Litter

Contents of Regional Overview will be based on the National Inputs, input from NOWPAP RACs, and brief comparative analysis of EcoQOs approaches in some other regions.

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**Schedule for POMRAC activity on  
Targets and Indicators for EcoQOs in the NOWPAP region**

Time	Actions	Main body	
2016	Q1 to Q2 (13 <sup>th</sup> POMRAC FPM and back-to-back WS)	Nomination of national experts for WS	POMRAC FPs
		Selection of International Consultant for WS	POMRAC
		Approval of workplan and budget	POMRAC FPs
	Q2	Nomination of national experts for the preparation of National inputs; Signing MoUs with experts and RACs	POMRAC, POMRAC FPs, DINRAC
	Q3	Collecting Information on Indicators and Targets for each of the 5 EcoQOs in NOWPAP region	Experts
	Q3	Description of national approaches relevant to EcoQOs in NOWPAP member states	Experts
	Q3	Selection of International Consultant for the preparation of Regional Overview and signing MoU	POMRAC
	End of October	Submitting Draft National Inputs and RACs inputs to POMRAC/DINRAC	Experts, RACs
	End of November	Providing comments to the Draft National Inputs and RACs inputs	POMRAC, International
End of December	Submitting final National Inputs and RACs inputs	Experts and RACs	
2017	Q1-Q2	Preparation of draft Regional Overview	International Consultant
	End of June	Submitting Draft Regional Overview to POMRAC/DINRAC	International Consultant
	End of July	Providing comments to the Draft Regional Overview	POMRAC, POMRAC FPs,
	End of August	Submitting final Regional Overview	International Consultant
	September	Presentation of Regional Overview at the POMRAC FPM	POMRAC
	Q4	Publication of the Regional Overview (following the Guidelines of IGM)	POMRAC, NFPs, RACs, RCU

**Budget for POMRAC activity on  
Targets and Indicators for EcoQOs in the NOWPAP region**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>To be completed</b>	<b>Main Body</b>	<b>Budget (US\$)</b>
Workshop on EcoQOs back-to-back with POMRAC FPM	2016 Q2	Report of Workshop	30 June 2016	POMRAC	23,200
Collecting information on Targets and Indicators for EcoQOs and description of national approaches relevant to EcoQOs in the NOWPAP member states	2016 Q2 to Q4	RACs Inputs related to the targets and indicators of EcoQOs	31 October 2016	CEARAC	3,000
				MERRAC	3,000
				POMRAC	3,000
				DINRAC	6,000
		National Inputs on Targets and Indicators for EcoQOs in the NOWPAP region	31 October 2016	Experts in China	5,000
				Experts in Japan	5,000
				Experts in Korea	5,000
				Experts in Russia	5,000
Preparation of the Regional Overview	2017 Q1 to Q2	Draft Regional Overview	30 June 2017	International Consultant	6,800
Finalization and publication of the Regional Overview	2017 Q3 to Q4	Final version of the Regional Overview	31 December 2017	POMRAC, International Consultant	7,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>72,000</b>

## **Workplan and Budget for POMRAC for 2016 - 2017 Biennium**

### **1. Introduction**

The overall goal of POMRAC is the coordination of activities and establishment of regional cooperation in monitoring of marine and coastal environment of the Northwest Pacific region within the UNEP NOWPAP framework. Following the results of discussions at the First NOWPAP/3 Coordinating Committee Meeting (Beijing, 21-22 May 2001), the 7<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting (Vladivostok, 20-22 March 2002) shared the responsibilities and activities between CEARAC and POMRAC as presented in document UNEP/NOWPAP IG.7/8. POMRAC is fully responsible for two working groups: WG 1 - Atmospheric Deposition of contaminants into the marine and coastal environment; and WG 2 – River and Direct Inputs of contaminants into the marine and coastal environment.

From 2007, POMRAC has started practical implementation of activities related to integrated coastal area planning and integrated coastal area management. These activities were implemented in close collaboration with all NOWPAP RACs and with the UNEP/GPA and under coordination of RCU.

In 2011 16<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM adopted NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy, 2012-2017. One of main MTS Objectives for Theme 1, Integrated coastal and river basin management (ICARM), is to develop and adopt a harmonious approach towards coastal and marine environmental planning on an integrated basis and in a pre-emptive, predictive and precautionary manner (Objective (iii) from NOWPAP Action Plan). One of the suggested activities for this Theme is Setting Ecological Quality Objectives for marine and coastal environment, based on the regular assessments.

20<sup>th</sup> IGM (Beijing, People's Republic of China 28-30 October 2015) are decided in order to simplify the administrative process of recruitment of and payment to foreign experts (consultants), to assign the responsibility of implementation of two activities on the development of Ecological Quality Objectives and on the training course on ICARM with a total 2016-2017 biennium budget of US\$ 60,000 to DINRAC, while these two activities will be overseen by POMRAC.

### **2. POMRAC Workplan and Budget for 2016 - 2017 Biennium**

Taking into consideration the output and outcomes of the past activities on fields of WG 1, WG 2 and WG ICARM as well as the directions of the NOWPAP MTS, the

Secretariat of POMRAC presented a draft workplan and budget of its activities for the 2016-2017 biennium to 20<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (Beijing, People's Republic of China 28-30 October 2015).

Taking into account the abovementioned the responsibilities and activities of POMRAC in 2016-2017 should focus on the following new issues:

- Joint Activity for WG1, WG2 and ICARM WG with cooperation with RACs, RCU and relevant organizations (OSPAR, PEMSEA, PICES, WESTPAC, YSLME and others):

Development of the Regional Overview "Targets and indicators for Ecological Quality Objectives used in NOWPAP member states" with regional workshop combined with 13<sup>th</sup> POMRAC FPM.

- Activities for ICARM WG:

Regional workshop and training course in cooperation with PEMSEA for implementation of regional guidelines for integrated coastal planning/management.

- Activities for RAP MaLi implementation in Russian part of NOWPAP region:

Taking into account the abovementioned, **the following POMRAC activities are suggested** for the 2016-2017 biennium:

- to organize the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Focal Points Meetings;
- to organize Regional Workshop "Targets and indicators for Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region" back to back with the 13<sup>th</sup> POMRAC FPM (in cooperation with RCU, RACs and other relevant organizations);
- to organize Regional workshop/training course on Implementation of regional guidelines for integrated coastal planning/management in cooperation with PEMSEA;
- Development of the Regional Overview "Targets and indicators for Ecological Quality Objectives used in NOWPAP member states";
- Implement the activity within the NOWPAP RAP MALI: Research on micro-plastics content and migration in the Peter the Great Gulf.

**Table 1. Budget 2016-2017 from Trust fund of NOWPAP**

	<b>2016</b> (in US \$)	<b>2017</b> (in US \$)	<b>Total</b> (in US \$)
<b>10 PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT</b>			
<u>1600 Travel</u>			
1601 Travel on official business			
1699 Sub total:			
<b>1999 Component total:</b>			
<b>20 SUB-CONTRACTS COMPONENT</b>			
2201 Joint activity of WG1, WG2, ICARM WG: Development of the Regional Overview "Targets and indicators for Ecological Quality Objectives used in NOWPAP member states"	0	7,000	7,000
Organization of Regional WS "Targets and indicators for Ecological Quality Objectives used in NOWPAP member states" (back to back with 13th POMRAC FPM)	20,000	0	20,000
2202 ICARM WG: Organization of Regional workshop/ training course on Integrated Coastal Planning/Management of Regional Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Planning/Management combined with POMRAC FPM (in cooperation with PEMSEA)	0	12,000	12,000
2204 Cooperation, coordination of POMRAC activities, and communication	3,000	4,000	7,000
2205 Website update	500	500	1,000
2206 Activities within the NOWPAP RAP MALI: Research on micro-plastics content and migration in the Peter the Great Gulf.	3,000	3,000	6,000
<b>2999 Component total:</b>	<b>26,500</b>	<b>26,500</b>	<b>53,000</b>
<b>30 MEETING COMPONENT</b>			
<u>3300 Meetings/conferences</u>			
3301 POMRAC Focal Points Meeting	15,000	16,000	31,000
3399 Sub total:	15,000	16,000	31,000
<b>3999 Component total</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>
<b>40 EQUIPMENT COMPONENT</b>			
<b>4999 Component total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>50 MISCELLANOUS COMPONENT</b>			
<u>5200 Reporting cost</u>			
5201 Publicity Activities	0	2,000	2,000
5299 Sub total:	0	2,000	2,000
<u>5300 Sundry</u>			
5301 Communications			
5304 Other			
5399 Sub total:			
<b>5999 Component total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>
<b>99 GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>39,500</b>	<b>46,500</b>	<b>86,000</b>
13 %PSC			
<b>Total</b>			