

UNITED
NATIONS



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

Distr. restricted

UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM11/

10 October 2013

Original: ENGLISH

EP

**Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Pollution Monitoring
Regional Activity Center (POMRAC)**

The Eleventh NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting

Tianjin, China
09-10 October 2013

REPORT OF THE 11TH NOWPAP POMRAC FOCAL POINTS MEETING

Report of the 11th NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting

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, 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 decision of the 3rd NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting, the responsibility for NOWPAP/3 (Regional Monitoring Programme) was jointly shared by the Special Monitoring and Coastal Environmental Assessment Regional Activity Center (CEARAC) and the Pollution Monitoring Regional Activity Center (POMRAC).
3. Following the results of discussions at the 1st NOWPAP/3 Meeting (Beijing, China, 21-22 May 2001), the 7th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (Vladivostok, 20-22 March 2002) approved the resolution 3.6, "the demarcation of the responsibilities and activities between CEARAC and POMRAC". Subsequently POMRAC was allocated 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".
4. The 10th Intergovernmental Meeting of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (Toyama, Japan, 24-26 November 2005) has approved plan of future actions "New Directions for the NOWPAP RACs and RCU". Regarding POMRAC, that IGM confirmed the following for 2006 and future years: *"The Pollution Monitoring Regional Activity Center (POMRAC) in Vladivostok, Russia, currently has two Working Groups (WG1 on Atmospheric Input of Contaminants and WG2 on River and Direct Inputs of Contaminants). In 2005-2006, the experts of these working groups will prepare National Reports and then the Regional Overviews on these two issues. These documents might contribute to the State of Marine Environment Report in the NOWPAP Region which would be prepared in 2006-2007. Then, POMRAC might consider focusing on activities related to Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management which includes land-based sources of pollution. All activities related to land-based sources of pollution will be implemented in close collaboration with all NOWPAP RACs and with the UNEP/GPA"*.
5. The 4th 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 1st Meeting of ICARM WG,
 - to prepare National Reports and Regional Overview on ICARM.
6. During January-June 2007 the NOWPAP POMRAC Working Group for Integrated Coastal and River Basin Management (ICARM WG) was created.
7. The 10th NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting reviewed and discussed major POMRAC activities in 2012-2013 in accordance with the decisions of the 16th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting; reviewed, discussed and adopted structure and contents of the new activity of WG1 and WG2 for 2012-2013 "Regional overview of persistent toxic substances (PTS) in the coastal environment of the NOWPAP region"; reviewed, discussed and adopted structure and contents of the

second “State of Marine Environmental Report” for the NOWPAP region; discussed activities of the Working Group on Integrated Coastal and River Basin management (ICARM WG).

8. The 11th NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting was held in Tianjin city, China on 9-10 October, 2013. The Meeting has reviewed and discussed major POMRAC activities in 2012-2013; discussed draft "Regional overview of persistent toxic substances (PTS) in the coastal environment of the NOWPAP region"; draft of the second “State of Marine Environmental Report” for the NOWPAP region; activities of the Working Group on Integrated Coastal and River Basin management (ICARM WG), including ICARM Guidelines; and the draft workplan and the budget of POMRAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium and planned activities of its Working Groups.

9. Focal Points and experts of the NOWPAP Members, namely China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russia participated in the 11th NOWPAP POMRAC FPM. NOWPAP RCU representative, as well as representatives of CEARAC, DINRAC and MERRAC international expert Dr. Michael D. PIDO also participated in the meeting.

Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting

10. The 11th NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting was opened at 9:00 am on 9 October 2013 at the Holiday Inn Binhai Tianjin Hotel in Tianjin, China by the Director of POMRAC, Dr. Anatoly KACHUR. He greeted all meeting participants and thanked Chinese colleagues for their assistance in smooth organization of the meeting in one of the largest cities of NOWPAP region. NOWPAP RCU Deputy Coordinator, Mr. Xiaodong ZHONG followed with his welcoming remarks.

Agenda Item 2. Organization of the Meeting

Agenda Item 2.1: Election of the officers

11. The meeting was invited to elect the Chairperson and the Rapporteur for the 11th 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 and for this meeting it should be by Japan. Due to a difficulty however, it was decided that this time the Chairperson should be a representative of Russia, namely Dr. Vladimir SHULKIN, and the Rapporteur – a representative of Japan, namely Ms. Sawako TADA.

Agenda Item 2.2: Organization of work

12. The rules of procedure of this meeting were the same as of the UNEP Governing Council with necessary adjustments: the meeting was held in English and all decisions were made by consensus.

Agenda Item 3. Adoption of the Agenda

13. The Chairperson gave the floor to Director of POMRAC. Dr. Kachur presented the Provisional Agenda with the Annotated Provisional Agenda. The meeting adopted the agenda.

Agenda Item 4. Overview of the progress made during the intersessional period after the Tenth NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM)

Agenda Item 4.1. Report of NOWPAP RCU Representative on the implementation of the

Northwest Pacific Action Plan after the 10th NOWPAP POMRAC FPM

14. Mr. Zhong reported to the meeting on the progress of the entire NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period including the 17th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 11/4). Mr. Zhong also presented the implementation status of the Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) and stressed the need of launching new activities as required by the NOWPAP MTS for 2012-2017.

Agenda Item 4.2. Report on the implementation and the budget expenditures of POMRAC activities made during the intersessional period after the 10th NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting

15. Director of POMRAC reported on the implementation of POMRAC activities in 2012/2013 (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 11/5). The main activities included preparation of Regional Overview on PTS and POPs, Regional Guidelines on ICARM and State of the Marine Environment Report – 2 (SOMER-2). The meeting was invited to hold a general discussion after the presentation.

16. Mr. Zhong mentioned that all these activities were delayed according to the schedule, and he urged POMRAC to complete the three ongoing projects as soon as possible.

Agenda Item 5. Report on the major POMRAC activities in 2012-2013.

Agenda Item 5.1 Regional overview of PTS and POPs issues of ecological concern in the NOWPAP region

17. Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA, an expert of POMRAC, presented the draft of the Regional overview of PTS and POPs issues of ecological concern in the NOWPAP region. He suggested that the draft will be finished by the end of 2013 and distributed for review by the POMRAC Focal Points, experts, RACs, RCU and then later by NOWPAP National Focal Points.

18. After that, he answered to Dr. Shulkin and Mr. Zhong about the stage of preparedness of the draft, saying that chapter 3 is almost ready, and other chapters still lack some data. Also, Dr. Hyo-Bang MOON of Republic of Korea asked if it is possible to combine data of ecotoxicological effects from each member country to evaluate chemical pollution in the entire region. Dr. Shibata answered that it is a difficult task due to various strategies of contamination evaluation with ecotoxicological effects.

Agenda Item 5.2 Regional guidelines for integrated coastal planning/management

19. Dr. Pido, an international expert made a presentation on the Regional Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Planning/Management. The draft guidelines, with the help of national experts, in terms of pictures and some tables and figures, will be submitted by the end of 2013.

20. Ms. Tada, POMRAC Focal Point of Japan, asked if there is a list of experts of this project and asked when the finalized document will be ready. Dr. Kachur explained that the final version of the Guidelines will be ready not earlier than in February 2014.

21. Dr. Won-Keun CHANG, POMRAC Focal Point of Republic of Korea, asked to explain why Dr. Pido told that there is no necessity to develop absolutely new Regional Guidelines on ICARM in NOWPAP. Dr. Pido responded that the Regional Guidelines is intended to assist member states in applying efficient ICARM methodologies, including coastal area and river basin planning. Hence, the

guidelines being developed will be more supplementary document to the existing regional/international ICARM/ICM guides or manuals.

Agenda Item 5.3 State of Marine Environment Report (SOMER-2)

22. Dr. Shulkin reported on the implementation of the Second State of Marine Environment Report (SOMER-2).

23. Mr. Zhong suggested that a schedule for receiving comments from national experts should be developed. Dr. Shulkin answered that in next few weeks the draft will be sent to all RACs and experts for review. At the next POMRAC FPM the final draft will be presented, and after the 12th FPM it would be finalized and published.

24. Mr. Zhong suggested again that waiting for the next FPM to finalize the SOMER-2 would be too long, and published report should be presented at the 12th FPM of POMRAC.

25. Dr. Pido asked about the difference between SOMER and SOMER-2. Dr. Shulkin answered that the difference is structural and SOMER 2 is more updated.

Agenda Item 5.4 POMRAC activities within the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) in 2012-2013

26. Mr. Nikolay KOZLOVSKIY reported on the progress of implementation of RAP MALI.

Agenda Item 6. Presentation and discussion of the draft workplan and the budget of POMRAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium and planned activities of its Working Groups

Agenda item 6.1. Proposal for the development of the Ecological Quality Objectives (EQOs) for the NOWPAP Region

27. Dr. Shulkin reported proposal on the development of the Ecological Quality Objectives suggested for the next biennium.

28. Dr. Jeong-Hwan OH of MERRAC asked what kind of outcomes would be expected from the project, concerning that some objectives are related to other RACs activities, and guidelines and assessment tools are being developed by each RAC. It is difficult to define the criteria at target level without the guidelines and assessment tools. Therefore this activity would be premature.

29. Dr. Shulkin answered that this activity is suggested in NOWPAP MTS for 2012-2017 and some Regional Seas programmes have already developed such EQOs. As this activity is of a cooperative nature, involving all RACs in formulating the objectives is needed.

30. Mr. Hiroshi ONO of CEARAC suggested that this activity is highly relevant to national policies, so that involvement of National Focal Points and all RAC Focal Points from the early stage of activity is necessary to be in line with related national policies.

31. Dr. Kachur and Mr. Zhong indicated that this activity should be agreed upon by three other RACs before its implementation and only after the agreement it would be proposed at the IGM.

32. Dr. Pido proposed that before organizing workshop on the EQOs, a working document should be developed and circulated to the participants. In this way, the conduct of the actual workshop will be facilitated.

33. Mr. Zhong informed the meeting that an UNEP regional workshop on ecosystem indicators might be organized in NOWPAP region.

34. After the discussion, POMRAC Focal Points and all RACs agreed that this activity should be included into POMRAC workplan for the next biennium.

Agenda item 6.2. Draft workplan and budget of POMRAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium

35. Director of POMRAC presented to the meeting the Workplan and Budget for POMRAC in 2014/2015 biennium to be further corrected due to the decisions of the 18th NOWPAP IGM. The meeting was invited to discuss the document.

36. Dr. Oh suggested that the project on EQOs is quite a new activity, and may need to be referred to the NOWPAP IGM. Mr. Zhong explained that all proposed activities are new but relevant to previous activities of POMRAC. The EQOs activity is based on ICARM and regular assessment of the marine environment.

37. Dr. Kachur added that this activity is a next logical step after SOMER and SOMER-2, and it is impossible to carry out this activity without assistance of other RACs. This activity will provide a scientific background for political decisions in NOWPAP.

38. After a discussion, the POMRAC Focal Points agreed on the draft workplan and budget for the 2014-2015 biennium to be submitted to the next IGM for approval.

39. Before the next agenda item, Mr. Zhong suggested to approve schedules for finalization of ongoing activities, namely SOMER-2 (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 11/8) and Regional Overview on PTS and POPs issues in NOWPAP Region (UNEP/NOWPAP/POMRAC/FPM 11/9), as well as Regional Guidelines for ICARM. He mentioned that three reports on the activities should be finalized before starting of the EQO activity.

The meeting agreed that these reports should be published before the next FPM, in the second quarter of 2014.

Agenda Item 7. Arrangements for the 12th NOWPAP POMRAC FPM

40. The meeting was invited to discuss the place and date of venue of the Twelfth NOWPAP POMRAC FPM. It was decided that the meeting will take place in Republic of Korea (exact place is to be determined). The meeting will be held in the second quarter of 2014.

Agenda Item 8. Other matters

41. The meeting was invited to raise any other issues relevant to POMRAC activities.

42. Mr. Zhong was concerned about different formatting and style in the working documents prepared by POMRAC secretariat and he suggested that in the future POMRAC secretariat might consult with RCU on the meeting documents before circulating. Also he informed the meeting that RCU will suggest a new cover page template for RACs Focal Points Meetings documents.

Agenda Item 9. Adoption of the report of the meeting

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

Agenda Item 10. Closure of the 11th NOWPAP POMRAC FPM

The meeting was closed by the Chairperson at 12:00 on 10 October 2013.

ANNEX 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. POMRAC Focal Points (FP) and Experts

Japan

Ms. Sawako TADA - FP

Deputy Director
Water Environment Division
Office of Marine Environment
Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan
Tel:03-3581-3351(6631)
03-5521-9025(direct)
Fax:03-3593-1438
E-mail: SAWAKO_TADA@env.go.jp

Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA

Senior Principal Researcher and Program Leader
Center for Environmental Measurement and Analysis
National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)
16-2 Onogawa, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8506, Japan
TEL: +81-29-850-2450
FAX: +81-29-850-2573
E-mail: yshibata@nies.go.jp

People's Republic of China

Ms. Ye DING

Engineer,
China National Environmental Monitoring Center
No. 8B, Anwai Dayangfang, Chaoyang District
Beijing 100012, China
Tel: 0086-10-84943028;
Fax: 0086-10-84943131
Email: dingye@cnemc.cn

Mr. Ling Song ZHANG

Professor, Director
Dept. of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring ,China National Environmental Monitoring Center
No. 8B, Anwai Dayangfang, Chaoyang District
Beijing 100012, China
Tel: 0086-10-84943123
Fax: 0086-10-84650863
E-mail: wangrb@cnemc.cn

Republic of Korea

Dr. Won-Keun CHANG- FP

Associate Research Fellow
Korea Maritime Institute
1262 Sangam-dong, Mapo-gu Seoul 121-270, Rep. of Korea
Tel. 82-2-2105-2909
Fax 82-2-2105-2779
E-mail: wkchang@kmi.re.kr

Dr. Hyo-Bang MOON

Affiliation: Department of Environmental Marine Sciences, Hanyang University
Position: Professor
Address: 1271 Sa 3-dong, Sangrok-gu, Ansan, Republic of Korea
Tel: 82-31-400-5534
Fax: 82-31-408-6255
E-mail: hbmoon@hanyang.ac.kr

Russian Federation

Dr. Vladimir M. SHULKIN- FP

Head of Laboratory
Pacific Geographical Institute
Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences
7 Radio St., Vladivostok 690041
Tel.: 7-4232-320652
E-mail: shulkin@tig.dvo.ru

2. INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS

Dr. Michael Daño PIDO

Professor VI
Palawan State University
Center for Strategic Policy and Governance
Palawan State University
G/F Medical Building, Tiniguiban Heights
5300 Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, Philippines
Tel.: (+63-48) 434-9524
Fax: (+63-48) 433-5303
E-mail: mdpido@yahoo.com

3. REGIONAL COORDINATION UNIT

Mr. Xiaodong ZHONG

Deputy Coordinator
Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) of UNEP
NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit Toyama Office
5-5 Ushijimashin-machi, Toyama City, 930-0856 Japan
Tel: +81-(0)76-444-1611
Fax: +81-(0)76-444-2780
E-mail: xiaodong.zhong@nowpap.org

4. REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTERS OF NOWPAP

NOWPAP CEARAC

Mr. Hiroshi ONO

Director
NOWPAP CEARAC
5-5 Ushijimashin-machi, Toyama City
Toyama 930-0856 JAPAN
TEL:+81-76-445-1571
FAX:+81-76-445-1581
E-mail: ono@npec.or.jp

NOWPAP DINRAC

Mr. Feng YAN

Project Supervisor
Division of China-ASEAN Cooperation
China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center (CAEC)
Ministry of Environmental Protection of China
Address: Room 532, Tower A, No.1 Yuhuinanlu Chaoyang District, Beijing 100029, P.R.China
Tel: +86 10 84665952
Fax: +86 10 84665969
Email: yan.feng@chinaaseanenv.org

Mr. Fang TIAN

Project officer
DINRAC
Tel: +861084665957
Fax: +861084665969
E-mail: tian.fang@chinaaseanenv.org

NOWPAP MERRAC

Dr. Jeong-Hwan OH

Senior Consultant of MERRAC

Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness & Response Regional Activity Centre

P.O. Box 23, Yuseong, Daejeon 305-600, Republic of Korea

Tel: +82-42-866-3621

Fax: +82-42-866-3698

E-mail: jhoh@kiost.ac

NOWPAP POMRAC

Dr. Anatoly N. KACHUR

Director of POMRAC

Pollution Monitoring Regional Activity Center

Pacific Geographical Institute

Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences

7 Radio St., Vladivostok 690041, Russian Federation

Tel./Fax: 7-4232-312833

E-mail: akachur@mail.primorye.ru; kachur@tig.dvo.ru

Website: <http://www.pomrac.dvo.ru>

Mr. Nikolay KOZLOVSKIY

Translator

Pacific Geographical Institute

Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences

7 Radio St., Vladivostok 690041, Russian Federation

Tel./Fax: 7-4232-312833

E-mail: geo@tig.dvo.ru

ANNEX 2

AGENDA

Day 1 (9th October 2013)

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Organization of the Meeting
 - 2.1. Election of the officers
 - 2.2. Organization of work
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Overview of the progress made in the intersessional period after the 10th NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting
 - 4.1. Report of NOWPAP RCU Representative on the implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan after the 10th NOWPAP POMRAC FPM
 - 4.2. Report on the implementation and the budget expenditures of POMRAC activities made during the intersessional period after the 10th NOWPAP POMRAC Focal Points Meeting
5. Report on the major POMRAC activities in 2012-2013.
 - 5.1. Regional overview of PTS and POPs issues of ecological concerns in the NOWPAP region
 - 5.2. Regional guidelines for integrated coastal planning/management
 - 5.3. State of Marine Environment Report (SOMER-2)
 - 5.4. POMRAC activities within the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) in 2012-2013
6. Presentation and discussion of the draft workplan and the budget of POMRAC activities for the 2014-2015 biennium and planned activities of its Working Groups
7. Arrangements for the 12th NOWPAP POMRAC FPM
8. Other matters

Day 2 (10th October 2013).

9. Adoption of the report of the meeting
10. Closure of the meeting

ANNEX 3

**Draft POMRAC Workplan and Budget
for 2014-2015 Biennium**

Draft
POMRAC Workplan and Budget
for 2014-2015 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 7th Intergovernmental Meeting (Vladivostok, 20-22 March 2002) demarcated the responsibilities and activities between CEARAC and POMRAC as presented in document UNEP/NOWPAP IG.7/8. POMRAC was designated as 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, following NOWPAP member states decision, 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 2012, NOWPAP member states have approved the 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 suggested Activities for this Objective is ***Setting Ecological Quality Objectives for marine and coastal environment based on the regular assessments.***

Taking into account the abovementioned, the responsibilities and activities of POMRAC in 2014-2015 should focus on the following new issues:

- Joint Activity for WG1, WG2 and ICARM WG with cooperation with RACs, RCU and relevant organizations (PEMSEA, COBSEA, WESTPAC and others):
Development of the Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region with regional workshop combined with 12th POMRAC FPM.
- Activities for ICARM WG:
Regional workshop and training course in cooperation with PEMSEA for implementation of NOWPAP Regional Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Planning/Management (back-to-back with the 13th POMRAC FPM).

The following POMRAC activities are suggested for the next biennium:

- organize 12th and 13th Focal Points Meetings;
- organize brainstorming Regional Workshop “Setting Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP Region” back to back with the 12th POMRAC FPM (in cooperation with RCU, RACs, PEMSEA and other relevant organizations);
- organize Regional workshop/training course on “Implementation of regional guidelines for integrated coastal planning/management” combined with 13 POMRAC FPM (in cooperation with PEMSEA);

- prepare (jointly by WG1, WG2 and ICARM WG) “Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region”, including operational objectives, targets and indicators;
- Finalize and publish the following reports:
 1. The second State of Marine Environmental Report for the NOWPAP Region;
 2. Regional Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Planning/Management;
 3. Regional Overview of Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) in the Coastal Environment of the NOWPAP Region.

Draft Workplan and Budget for POMRAC in 2014-2015

Activity	Planned Budget US\$			Tentative Time
	2014	2015	total	
12 th and 13 th POMRAC Focal Points meetings with two workshops	25,000	25,000	50,000	FPM12 - Spring 2014 FPM13 - October 2015
Joint activity of WG1, WG2, ICARM WG: Development of the Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region	20,000	14,000	44,000*	WS - Spring 2014
Regional workshop "Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region" (back to back with 12 th POMRAC FPM)	10,000			
ICARM WG: Regional workshop/training course on application of Regional Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Planning/Management combined with 13 th POMRAC FPM (in cooperation with PEMSEA)		12,000	12,000**	WS - October 2015
Finalization and printing: 1. The second State of Marine Environmental Report for the NOWPAP Region 2. Regional Overview of Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) in the Coastal Environment of the NOWPAP Region 3. Regional guidelines for integrated coastal planning/management"	9,000		9,000	
Activities within the NOWPAP RAP MALI: Increasing public awareness about marine litter problem by developing and distributing promotional materials				
Website updates	500	500	1,000	
Cooperation, coordination of POMRAC activities, and communication	4,000	5,000	9,000	
Total	68,500	56,500	125,000	

* US\$ 1,500 for each national expert of WG1, WG2, ICARM WG from NOWPAP member countries (US\$ 18,000); US\$ 5,000 for International expert; US\$ 3,000 for printing; US\$ 8,000 for experts of RACs or relevant organizations.

** 8 participants of training course from NOWPAP Members.

ANNEX 4

**Proposal for the development of the Ecological Quality Objectives for the
NOWPAP region**

1. Background*

The ecosystem approach to the management of marine resources has been endorsed by international bodies and initiatives such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment as a valuable conceptual framework for analyzing and acting on the linkages between people and environment.

UNEP Regional Seas programs are also encouraged to introduce Ecosystem Approach. In order to apply the ecosystem approach, several leading Regional Seas programs (such as HELCOM, OSPAR and MAP, for example) have already developed the Ecological Quality Objectives based on their vision, strategic goals and assessment of ecological status and pressures in their regions.

Suggestions to develop Ecological Quality Objectives for the NOWPAP region were included in the NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy 2012-2017 (MTS) already approved by NOWPAP member states in 2012. One of main MTS goals 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). Suggested Activity for this purpose is ***Setting Ecological Quality Objectives for marine and coastal environment based on the regular assessments.***

The List of the Ecological Quality Objectives (EQO) is based on the Vision reflecting the common broadly accepted description of ecological status of the region. Vision for the NOWPAP region is suggested as follows: “***Healthy marine and coastal ecosystems in the NOWPAP region that are productive and biologically diverse for the benefit of present and future generations***”.

Several steps are suggested for the development of Ecological Quality Objectives. These steps include: 1) preparation, discussion and approval of the list of EQO; 2) elaboration of the Operational Objectives for each EQO; 3) preparation of the indicators and targets for these Operational Objectives; 4) analysis and recommendation for revision (if necessary) of existing monitoring programs; 5) continuous assessment of the state of the marine and coastal environment using agreed indicators and targets; 6) development and review of relevant action plans and programs (e.g., on marine litter, eutrophication, etc.).

* This proposal has been prepared based on the draft of discussion paper prepared earlier by the NOWPAP RCU in consultation with all RACs

2. Aim

To develop the list of Ecological Quality Objectives, Operational Objectives and indicators/targets for these Objectives taking into account natural and socio-economic conditions in the NOWPAP region as well as experience from other Regional Seas programs (HELCOM, MAP and OSPAR).

3. Main features

3.1 The list of Ecological Quality Objectives

Experience of leading UNEP Regional Sea programs was analyzed and the preliminary list of possible Ecological Quality Objectives is suggested as follows:

- Biological diversity is maintained and enhanced.
- Invasive non-indigenous species introduced by human activities are at levels that do not adversely alter the ecosystems.
- Human-induced eutrophication is prevented, including adverse effects such as loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, harmful algal blooms, and oxygen deficiency in bottom waters.
- Contaminants cause no significant impact on coastal and marine ecosystems and human health.
- Marine litter does not adversely affect coastal and marine environments.

Additional EQOs could be suggested as well, e.g. "Priority benthic habitats should be preserved and supported".

3.2 Operational Objectives and Indicators

Such broadly formulated goals need operational objectives with more or less clear description of methods and actions allowing to reach Ecological Quality Objectives. Another important issue is the development of the sets of indicators and targets. For example, for the Ecological Quality Objective related to invasive species, one of Operational Objectives could be formulated as "*Invasive non-indigenous species introductions are minimized*". One of indicators for such Operational Objective might be "*Trends in the abundance of introduced species, in particular in risk areas*". For the Ecological Quality Objective related to eutrophication, suggested Operational Objectives might be based on nutrients input and over-enrichment, while indicators could be related to nutrients

concentrations, their ratios (silica, nitrogen and phosphorus), chlorophyll-a concentrations, harmful algal blooms, dissolved oxygen content in bottom waters, etc.

The relevance and robustness of Ecological Quality Objectives directly depend on the clarity and measurability of Operational Objectives and related sets of indicators.

3.3. The integrative nature

The Ecosystem Approach includes the wide diversity of the Ecological Quality Objectives. It requires close collaboration between all NOWPAP RACs from the very beginning of this activity. List of the EQOs, Operational Objectives and sets of indicators and targets should be prepared, discussed and approved by the joint work of the experts from different NOWPAP RACs. The experience of NOWPAP partners operating in the same region (PICES, PEMSEA, YSLME) as well as other relevant organizations and projects should be also taken into account.

4. Main tasks

4.1. Preliminary Workshop

The establishment of Ecological Quality Objectives is rather ambitious activity because it implies the broad consensus of the countries and further governmental approval for the implementation of the Ecological Quality Objectives in the NOWPAP region. Close cooperation and adaption of the experience of the more advanced Regional Sea Programs like HELCOM, MAP and OSPAR are very important and necessary in this situation. Organization of a one-day brainstorming workshop is suggested in 2014 before POMRAC FPM for the discussion of the draft list of EQOs for further approval by FPM. The experts from HELCOM, MAP and OSPAR will participate in this WS along with experts and representatives of NOWPAP member states and NOWPAP partners (PEMSEA, PICES, WESTPAC and YSLME).

4.2. Development of Operational Objectives

After discussion, finalization and approval of the list of EQOs by the 12th POMRAC FPM in 2014, the development of the Operational Objectives for each Ecological Quality Objective will be the next logical step. Relevant experts and/or relevant RACs will be involved in preparation of different EQOs and related Operational Objectives.

4.3 Development of the indicators and targets for the Operational Objectives

The Operational Objectives should be accompanied by the set of indicators and targets reflecting the current status, direction and rate of changes on the way of achievement Ecological Quality Objectives. Ideally indicators and targets are determined by the nature of Operational Objectives, but the development, discussion and approval of the sets of indicators is a separate part of this activity.

5. Expected Outcomes

After preparation, discussion and approval by the POMRAC FPs and other RACs involved, the List of Ecological Quality Objectives, Operational Objectives, and the set of indicators and targets will be published and will be available for the general public, research organizations and government officials. The relevance and significance of Ecological Quality Objectives will be determined by the degree of approval and support EQOs by the officials (at the NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting). In any case, POMRAC Secretariat believes that the List of Ecological Quality Objectives, Operational Objectives, and the sets of indicators and targets will be a necessary step forward in the application of ecosystem approach to the management of marine and coastal resources in the NOWPAP region.

6. Schedule

Time		Actions	Main Body
2014	Q1	Preparation and Discussion of the List of Ecological Quality Objectives by correspondence	POMRAC, other RACs, RCU
	Q2	WS before 12 th FPM for the discussion and finalization of the List of Ecological Quality Objectives	POMRAC, other RACs, RCU, experts from NOWPAP member states and partner organizations/projects
	Q2 12 th POMRAC	Approval of the List of Ecological Quality Objectives	POMRAC and FPs

	FPM		
	Q2 to Q3	Preparation of the Operational Objectives	Experts, RACs and relevant organizations
	Q4	Review and improvement of the Operational Objectives	POMRAC, FPs and experts/RACs
2015	Q1 to Q2	Preparation of the indicators and targets	Experts from POMRAC and other RACs
	Q3	Discussion of the indicators and targets by correspondence	POMRAC, FPs and RACs
	Q3, 13 th POMRAC FPM	Presentation of the Operational Objectives and set of indicators and targets by FPM	POMRAC
	Q4	Publication of the List of Ecological Quality Objectives, Operational Objectives, set of indicators and targets	POMRAC

7. Budget

Activity/task	Timing	Output	Main body	Budget
WS on the EQOs	2014 Q2 before POMRAC FPM	Initial list of the EQOs	POMRAC, CEARAC, DINRAC, MERRAC, relevant experts and organizations	10,000

Preparation of the List of EQOs	2014 Q2-Q4	List of EQOs	POMRAC, CEARAC, DINRAC, MERRAC, relevant experts and organizations	18,000
Preparation of the Operational Objectives and set of indicators and targets	2015 Q1-Q2	Description and validation of the operational objectives and set of indicators and targets	Experts from POMRAC and other RACs	13,000
Publication of the List of EQOs, Operational Objectives, indicators and targets	2015 Q4	List of EQO with Operational Objectives, indicators and targets	POMRAC	3,000
Total				44,000

Preliminary List of the Ecological Quality Objectives

- Biological diversity is maintained and enhanced.
- Invasive non-indigenous species introduced by human activities are at levels that do not adversely alter the ecosystems.

- Human-induced eutrophication is prevented, including adverse effects such as loss of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, harmful algal blooms, and oxygen deficiency in bottom waters.
- Contaminants cause no significant impact on coastal and marine ecosystems and human health.
- Marine litter does not adversely affect coastal and marine environments.