



CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE

ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY

The 12th CTI-CFF SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING (SOM-12)

**1 – 2 November 2016
Laguna Hotel, Waigani Drive
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea**

**Adopted on 2 November 2016
by
The Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea,
the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste**

I. Opening Session

The 12th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-12), hereinafter referred to as the (“Meeting”) of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) was held on 1 – 2 November 2016 in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

The Meeting was attended by the delegations from the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste. In addition, the following CTI-CFF partners and observers also attended the Meeting: Australian Government-Department of the Environment, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Conservation International (CI), Coral Triangle Center (CTC), the Nature Conservancy (TNC), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Global Environment Facility (GEF), Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The full list of participants is attached.

The SOM-12 had the following agenda to:

1. Acknowledge Progress Report of CTI-CFF since SOM-11;
2. Consider Papua New Guinea’s Leadership Report as the Chair of Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) and Council of Ministers (COM);
3. Acknowledge development process on the Status of Brunei Darussalam as a New Member State of CTI-CFF;
4. Consider progress on the amendment to the Agreement on Establishment and Staff Regulation of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in relation with the Executive Director appointment mechanism;
5. Acknowledge the status of Ratification of the Agreement on the Establishment of Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF;
6. Consider progress on the Appointment for Deputy Executive Directors (Corporate & Program Services) of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat;
7. Review the financial report for 2016 as well as to consider the 2017 and 2018 proposed budget of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat;
8. Recommend Handover of the CTI-CFF COM Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship;
9. Review the progress of CT6 implementation of National Plan of Actions (NPOA);

10. Review and endorse the thematic working group reports which includes the plan of actions and progress in the implementation of priority actions;
11. Acknowledge and endorse the Governance Working Group (GWG) activities which includes the recommendations for the implementations of the respective working group mandates, particularly transfer of responsibility of CMWG and FRWG to CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat;
12. Consider recommendations from CMWG for additional provisions / rules under the Rules of Procedures for communication;
13. Review and endorse cross-cutting theme resolutions such as the Regional Business Forum (RBF); Business Advisory Council (BAC); Local Government Network (LGN); Women Leaders Forum (WLF); and Capacity Building;
14. Review calendar of CTI-CFF Activities for 2016 and proposed 2017 CTI-CFF Activities;
15. Acknowledge reports of Cooperation Arrangements;
16. Consider proposal on Meeting Arrangements
17. Discuss and consider draft Agenda for the 6th CTI-CFF Ministerial Meeting (MM-6)
18. Discuss and consider the Draft Text of “Joint Ministerial Statement”
19. Agree to the tentative dates and venue of the 13th CTI-CFF Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM-13)
20. Adopt and sign the Chairman’s Summary of the SOM-12

The two-days meeting was chaired by Mr. Gunther Joku, Managing Director of Conservation and Environment Protection Authority of Papua New Guinea on the first day; and by Ms. Kay Kumaras Kalim, Director for Sustainable Environment Programs of the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority of Papua New Guinea for the second day. The Chair was assisted by co-chairs from the CTI-CFF Member States delegation.

The Meeting reviewed and adopted the provisional agenda for the SOM-12 prepared by the Regional Secretariat.

II. Decisions

After deliberation during two-days meeting, the Meeting made the following decisions:

1. Progress Report of CTI-CFF since SOM-11 (Annex 1)

- 1.1. Acknowledged and appreciated the narrative Activities Report presented by the Executive Director;
- 1.2. Urged the Regional Secretariat to provide advance copies of the Activities Report to all NCCs one (1) month prior to SOM;
- 1.3. Encouraged the Regional Secretariat to raise the profile of Coral Triangle Initiative at prominent international conferences and be able to participate in decision-making processes in those fora;
- 1.4. Encouraged the Regional Secretariat to include the Activities Report of the outcome and way forward from events that it has participated in;
- 1.5. Encouraged the Regional Secretariat to note the importance of and include activities and participation of the Local Government Network (LGN) in the Activities Report; and
- 1.6. Requested for the Regional Secretariat to socialize future projects / programs with NCCs prior to SOM.

2. Papua New Guinea Report as the Chair of Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) and Council of Ministers (COM) (Annex 2)

- 2.1. Appreciated the Report from the Chair of the Senior Officials and Council of Ministers and congratulated for its many accomplishments throughout its tenure; and
- 2.2. Encouraged to include the activity of the Local Government Network (1st Local Government Network Assembly) which was held in Wakatobi, Indonesia.

3. The Updated Status of Brunei Darussalam as a New Member State of CTI-CFF (Annex 3)

- 3.1. Acknowledged the notice from Brunei Darussalam to hold its application to be a new member state of the CTI-CFF; and
- 3.2. Agreed to discontinue this agenda item from future SOM until a notification letter Brunei Darussalam is being received to indicate its readiness to be part of CTI-CFF and to fully comply to the Rules and Regulations under Rule 21.

4. Progress on the amendment to the Agreement on Establishment and Staff Regulation of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in relation with the Executive Director appointment mechanism (Annex 4.)

- 4.1. Appreciated the Government of Timor-Leste for the proposal for amendment to the Agreement on Establishment and Staff Regulation of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in relation with the Executive Director appointment mechanism;
- 4.2. Agreed that the appointment mechanism for Executive Director's post shall be made to observe the principle of rotation in alphabetical order among CTI-CFF Member States;
- 4.3. Agreed that the term of Executive Director post shall be for four (4) years based on annual performance and assessment by the CTI-COM; and
- 4.4. Agreed that the Deputy Executive Director post shall be based on merit services and it is open for all CTI-CFF member countries but will not be of the same nationality as Executive Director at any point of time.

5. Status of the Ratification of the Agreement on the Establishment of Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF (Annex 5)

- 5.1. Acknowledged the report by the Executive Director on the ratification of the Agreement on the Establishment of the Regional Secretariat of CTI-CFF by Papua New Guinea and look forward to the future cooperation among CTI-CFF Member Countries; and
- 5.2. Congratulated Papua New Guinea for its ratification of the "Agreement".

6. Progress on the Appointment for Deputy Executive Directors (Corporate & Program Services) of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat (Annex 6.)

- 6.1. Acknowledged the report made by the Regional Secretariat on the process and mechanism of the selection of Deputy Executive Directors candidates;
- 6.2. Acknowledged the current budget limitation of the CTI-CFF and agreed to initially appoint one Deputy Executive Director for Program Services as prioritized by the Regional Secretariat;
- 6.3. Agreed to appoint the Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services subject to the assessment of the endorsement of the Budget 2017; and
- 6.4. Agreed to nominate two candidates out of five (5) shortlisted candidates for the position of Deputy Executive Director for Program Services for CTI-COM to select and appoint.

7. CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Budget (Annex 7)

- 7.1. Accepted the Regional Secretariat apology for the mistake in selecting the external auditor for 2015 which was not in accordance with Regulation 5 and Regulation 12 of the Agreement on the Establishment of the Regional Secretariat of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security;
- 7.2. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to establish specific SOPs for all financial-related decisions (e.g. procurements, selection of auditors and consultants) with the guidance of the next Chair of CTI-CSO;
- 7.3. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to work closely with Philippines as the next Chair of CTI-CSO and CTI-COM to formulate the 2017 budget taking into consideration the prioritization of activities / programs, including SOM-12 decisions that have financial implications to be included in the 2017 budget for CTI-COM endorsement;
- 7.4. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to circulate the detailed budget for 2017 to all NCCs within seven to 14 working days for comments and further collate and assess those comments prior to its submission for the Council of Ministers endorsement by mid-January 2017;

- 7.5. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to work closely with Philippines as the next Chair of CTI-CSO and CTI-COM to review and revise criteria on the quantum from the respective CT6 Member Countries with regards to the country contribution.

8. Handover of the CTI-CFF COM Chairmanship (*Annex 8*)

- 8.1. Acknowledged and appreciated the contributions and leadership of current Chair of CTI-COM; and
- 8.2. Endorsed Philippines and Solomon Islands as the new Chair and Vice-Chair of the CTI-COM and CTI-CSO for the next two (2) years.

9. CTI-CFF Country Reports (*Annex 9*)

- 9.1. Acknowledged the country reports made by all NCCs;
- 9.2. Recommended to Regional Secretariat to compile financial information for projects / programs undertaken by NCCs on actual expenditure for 2016 and estimated budget for 2017 and 2018 to be incorporated in the report for potential investment / grant funding opportunities;
- 9.3. Recommended that country reports to be prepared and distributed prior to SOM and present the highlights (issues / challenges / unfunded projects) of the reports during SOM;
- 9.4. Recommended to Regional Secretariat to compile financial information on Partners' contribution thus far; and
- 9.5. Recommended to Regional Secretariat for the appraisal of the Regional Plan of Action implementation status and its effectiveness.

10. Reports of Technical Working Groups and Proposed Activities (*Annex 10*)

10.1 Seascapes Working Group

- 10.1.1 Recognized the progress made at the national level on the Seascapes targets of the Regional and National Plans of Action;

- 10.1.2 Recognized the progress made in the development of the CTI Seascapes General Model;
- 10.1.3 Tasked the WG to finalize the CTI-CFF Seascapes General Model and Framework as well as complete the monitoring and evaluation indicators by SOM 13;
- 10.1.4 Tasked Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands to revisit the Memorandum of Understanding on Bismarck Solomon Seas Ecoregion and hold discussions to advance the implementation of the BSSE; and
- 10.1.5 Endorse the SWG Work Plan.

10.2 Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Working Group

- 10.2.1 Endorsed the conduct of the 3rd Fishers Forum in the Philippines with the theme “Sustainable Coastal Fisheries through Local Innovation: Scaling Up Effective Models for IUU Reduction, Catch Documentation and Local Investments” subject to endorsement by member countries;
- 10.2.2 Endorsed the conduct of COASTFISH Workshop in 2017 subject to the endorsement of member countries;
- 10.2.3 Endorsed the conduct of Tuna Governance Workshop in 2017 subject to the endorsement of member countries;
- 10.2.4 Endorsed the conduct of the EAFM TWG meeting in July 2017 as agreed by the WG during the 5th EAFM WG meeting held on 1 June 2015 in Manado, Indonesia to further discuss on how to move forward the different EAFM sub-themes;
- 10.2.5 Tasked the EAFM Working Group to coordinate with the SWG Working Group to move forward with the implementation of the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape EAFM Implementation Plan; and
- 10.2.6 Approved the EAFM TWG Work Plan 2017.

10.3 Marine Protected Areas Working Group

- 10.3.1 Acknowledged with appreciation the contribution of the Partners on Sustainable Marine Tourism;
- 10.3.2 Acknowledged the outputs of NCC Indonesia, Regional Secretariat and the CTC for the development of the Terms of Reference as revised of the Sustainable Tourism Task Force (SMT-TF);
- 10.3.3 Acknowledged the CT Atlas Focal Points with endorsement of NCC who are tasked to update the CT-Atlas MPA database;
- 10.3.4 Called for financial support to operationalize activities under MPA Goal;
- 10.3.5 Endorsed the implementation of the 2017 Work Plan and the Roadmap for the 3rd Round of CTMPAS Nomination Recognition;
- 10.3.6 Endorsed the TOR and composition of Sustainable Marine Tourism Task Force;
- 10.3.7 Endorsed the development of a sustainable nature tourism brand for the Coral Triangle, which would be presented to the SMT-TF for consideration and adoption if approved;
- 10.3.8 Endorsed the proposed nature-based tourism governance framework and corresponding M&E indicators linked with the CTMPAS by SOM 13;
- 10.3.9 Endorsed the establishment of a system to enable countries to prioritize their MPA capacity building needs annually, through the MPA TWG platform, and disseminate these priorities to all capacity provider (supported by Regional Secretariat and CTC);
- 10.3.10 Endorsed the establishment of a process to systematically capture progress data with regards to how capacity needs for MPAs are being met in the region moving forward; facilitated through the MPA TWG; and
- 10.3.11 Endorsed the engagement and support of an experienced MPA Coordinator at the Regional Secretariat.

10.4 Climate Change Adaptation Working Group

- 10.4.1 Noted the progress of the country work plans and endorsed the progress of the CCA TWG report;
- 10.4.2. Endorsed the WG to turn over the TWG Chairmanship from Solomon Islands to Malaysia based on the WG Terms of Reference (TOR) under #3.2 of Section 3 on Membership and Structure which states that the term of the WG Chair and Co-Chair is 2 years starting on 01 January of the year following the confirmation of the SOM and for Philippines to become the Vice-Chair;
- 10.4.3 Tasked the CCA WG in collaboration with RS, WWF, and other development partners to expand the COE Desk Study Report to provide more information or guide on the establishment of benchmarks, criteria and TOR for regional and national level COE by March 2017 proposed by Malaysia;
- 10.4.4 Encouraged the countries to initiate the establishment of national COEs as a target of Goal 4 of the RPOA;
- 10.4.5 Endorsed the development of an Executive Course on CCA based on the LEAP Guide and other resources for local governments in collaboration with LGN and all WGs;
- 10.4.6 Endorsed the Government of Australia to explore options to deliver a workshop on Blue Carbon for CTI member countries which is an identified priority action for Goal 4 based on the results of the 2nd CTI-CFF Regional Priority Workshop (RPW2); and
- 10.4.7 Approved the CCA TWG Work Plan 2017.

10.5 Threatened Species Working Group

- 10.5.1 Acknowledged the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascapes Project supported by the German Government through GIZ and is implemented in the Southeast Asia member countries: Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines with marine turtle management and protection as one of its priority actions;

- 10.5.2 Endorsed the conduct of the Threatened Species WG workshop to develop the roadmap toward the achievement of the targets of Goal 5 as outlined in the RPOA;
- 10.5.3 Endorsed the conduct of the first TSWG meeting to strengthen the WG along with its plans and programs;
- 10.5.4 Tasked the TSWG focal points of each country to submit TSWG reports one month before SOM; and
- 10.5.5 Approved the Threatened Species TWG Work Plan 2017.

11. Reports of Governance Working Groups (Annex 11)

11.1. Coordination Mechanism Working Group (CMWG)

- 11.1.1. Endorsed the publication of the Establishment of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat which includes the Rules of Procedures; Staff Regulations; and Financial Regulations taking into consideration the approved amendments that have been endorsed by SOM-12;
- 11.1.2. Acknowledged the publication of the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA);
- 11.1.3. Acknowledged the progress of the drafting and design of the History of CTI-CFF and the CTI Leaders' Declaration to be completed prior to the next SOM;
- 11.1.4. Acknowledged and endorsed amendments to the CTI-CFF logo; Approved and endorsed the use of the CTI-CFF Communication Strategy (including Work Plan and Branding Guidelines) upon review by all NCC by 30 November 2016; and
- 11.1.5. Acknowledged the provision for the CTI Workspace and for Regional Secretariat to provide training and information of use for the Workspace.

11.2. Financial Resources Working Group (FRWG)

- 11.2.1. Endorsed the amendments made to the initial activities of the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) to be undertaken by the Regional Secretariat upon appointment of the Project Initiation Specialist;
- 11.2.2. Endorsed FRWG recommendations towards the establishment of the CTI Regional Fund upon completion of the NPOA Costing based on the latest NPOA;
- 11.2.3. Endorsed the Regional Secretariat to facilitate the process of scoping and design activities to package “showcase” projects for potential funding under the initial activities to be undertaken by Regional Secretariat (refer to decision 1 above);
- 11.2.4. Endorsed the Regional Secretariat to communicate and encourage Philippines and Indonesia to confirm candidate “showcase” sites for potential funding under the initial activities to be undertaken by Regional Secretariat (refer to decision 1 above); and
- 11.2.5. Acknowledged the status of the ADB / GEF concept on “Scaling Up Investments and Sustainable Financing Mechanisms in Coral Triangle”.

11.3. Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group (MEWG)

- 11.3.1. Acknowledged the progress and adopt the proposed work plan towards the continued operation of the CT Atlas with support from the Regional Secretariat and recognize the urgency for sustainable financial resources for the operation of the CT Atlas;
- 11.3.2. Urged the Technical Working Groups on Goal 1 “Priority Seascapes” Designated and Effectively Managed and Goal 5 “Threatened Species Status Improving” to finalize its indicators prior to SOM-13;
- 11.3.3. Encouraged the Regional Secretariat to ensure that the Monitoring and Evaluation System is implemented and guided by the M&E System Operation Manual;

- 11.3.4. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to allocate budget for the hiring of an M&E Coordinator and agree that the M&E Coordinator, under guidance of MEWG, will develop a transition plan by SOM-13 on the eventual transfer of mandate from MEWG to the Regional Secretariat; and
- 11.3.5. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to ensure that the MOUs between WorldFish and CT6 Member Countries data sharing are signed by SOM-13.

12. Cross-cutting Themes: Regional Business Forum (RBF), Business Advisory Council (BAC), Local Government Network (LGN); Women’s Leadership Forum (WLF); Capacity Building and Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) (Annex 12)

12.1. Regional Business Forum (RBF)

- 12.1.1. Acknowledged the activities and achievements by CT6 member countries and Partners towards sustainable marine tourism post RBF-4;
- 12.1.2. Acknowledged and congratulated Indonesia for adoption the GSTC Criteria in the Ministerial Decree no.14, 2016 by the Ministry of Tourism;
- 12.1.3. Encouraged CTI-CFF member countries to continue working on the adoption of the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) Criteria as the baseline standard for sustainability in travel and tourism in marine protected areas in the Coral Triangle and adapt these to fit local conditions;
- 12.1.4. Acknowledged the development of the Sustainable Marine Tourism Task Force Terms of Reference (TOR) funded and undertaken by NCC Indonesia and CTC and integrated with the Marine Protected Areas Technical Working Group (MPA TWG);
- 12.1.5. Acknowledged the progress made on the project funded by the Government of Australia and undertaken by WWF entitled “Developing and Promoting Sustainable Nature-Based Tourism in the Coral Triangle”, the results of which will support the task force; and

- 12.1.6. Encouraged Regional Secretariat to pursue the discussion with the Government of Malaysia on the possibility of hosting the next 5th Regional Business Forum in 2017.

12.2. Business Advisory Council (BAC)

- 12.2.1. Noted the challenges encountered towards the further development of the Business Advisory Council (BAC);
- 12.2.2. Agreed to task Regional Secretariat to continue its cooperation with CTI-CFF member countries and relevant business cooperation / associations to further the development towards the establishment of the Business Advisory Council (BAC);
- 12.2.3. Endorsed the continuance for further assessments on successful business council models to be adapted within the CTI-CFF context to be discussed in the next RBF-5;
- 12.2.4. Encouraged CT6 member countries to actively contribute to the process towards the establishment of CTI-CFF Business Advisory Council; and
- 12.2.5. Endorsed the efforts to set up a regional Ocean Industry Leadership for the Coral Triangle region at the World Ocean Council (WOC).

12.3. Local Government Network (LGN)

- 12.3.1. Acknowledged CTI-CFF Maritime LGN / Forum as an important and strategic network and as a prime mover of CTI-CFF to achieve the goals in grass root level;
- 12.3.2. Encouraged the endorsement of all activities in the grass-root level by CSO (SOM) through Regional Secretariat mechanism;
- 12.3.3. Acknowledged that LGN should play a pivotal role in boosting the achievement of the CTI-CFF mission, particularly in promoting & support local economy; and strengthen food security at grass-root level;

- 12.3.4. Acknowledged that the LGN should manage efforts (including development of conceptual model) to optimize food/good/service interchange (distribution and supply-chain) among local government in countries as well as among countries;
- 12.3.5. Acknowledged that the LGN encourages partners/donors to synergize efforts to strengthen the LGN organization as to maintain food security and the distribution of associated, triggered good/service in the CT region;
- 12.3.6. Adopted the Maritime LGN General Assembly (Wakatobi Recommendation); and
- 12.3.7. Endorsed the CTI-CFF LGN Roadmap as presented during SOM-12, which to be implemented with the support of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, CT Countries and Development Partners; CTC, TNC, WWF, CI, ADB, GEF, SPREP, SEAFDEC AND GIZ to particularly mobilize the required resources. The roadmap will enable the network to become effective and self-reliant CTI-CFF Maritime LGN and beneficial to marine natural resources sustainability, local economy and communities.

12.4. Women's Leadership Forum (WLF)

- 12.4.1. Acknowledged the CTI-CFF WLF activities in 2016;
- 12.4.2. Acknowledged the WLF proposed work plan for 2016/2017;
- 12.4.3. Identified National WLF Focal Points in CT6 member countries; and
- 12.4.4. Encouraged the CTI-CFF WLF to continue to connect at local, national, regional and international fora to leverage impact.

12.5. Capacity Building

12.5.1. Acknowledged to address the capacity support gaps in CT countries to:

12.5.1.1. *Recognized* capacity needs have been identified by all CT countries;

12.5.1.2. *Recognized* that capacity support providers (herein including government agencies, non-governmental technical support organizations, universities and academic institutions) are already providing capacity building support through a range of mechanisms across the region;

12.5.1.3. *Recognized* that some capacity needs are being more thoroughly supported than others; and

12.5.1.4. *Recommended:* capacity support providers make efforts to address the existing gaps in capacity support being provided, as identified in the assessment.

12.5.2. Agreed to broaden the utilization of effective capacity building mechanisms across the region to:

12.5.2.1. *Recognized* a range of capacity building mechanisms exist and are being utilized within the CT region;

12.5.2.2. *Recognized* that broadening the utilization of mechanisms to reach wider audiences and enable different learning formats and conditions is conducive to promoting wider capacity building opportunities and options for MPA related practitioners in the region;

12.5.2.3. *Recommended:* that capacity providers broaden their conceptions of best-fit mechanisms to meet practitioners' needs and utilize wider mechanisms where possible, appropriate; and

12.5.2.4. *Recommended:* that institutions work to remove existing obstacles to the effective utilization of mechanisms where they exist; for example,

revisiting the standardized staffing placement protocols active in government agencies that inhibit effective staff secondments and mentoring opportunities between MPA sites.

12.5.3. Supported the establishment of a system to enable countries to inform capacity providers of their priority MPA capacity building needs annually to:

12.5.3.1. *Recognized* the importance of prioritizing capacity needs and capacity provision, to target priority skills building, and reduce redundancy and duplication of capacity building efforts;

12.5.3.2. *Recommended:* the MPATWG as a potential platform through which countries may prioritize their capacity building needs annually; and

12.5.3.3. *Recommended:* the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, with support from CTC, takes responsibility for then disseminating these prioritized needs to the capacity providers.

12.5.4. Supported the development of a process to systematically capture data on how capacity needs for MPAs are being met in the region to:

12.5.4.1. *Recognized* the importance of building on this assessment and developing a systematic process to capture information about capacity building efforts being implemented across the region;

12.5.4.2. *Recommended:* the MPA TWG annually request countries to collate summary information on capacity building activities that have been conducted in their countries (addressing which need, and delivered by which provider) for regular updating of information; and

12.5.4.3. *Recommended:* the CTI-CFF regional secretariat, with support from CTC, coordinate the collation and updating of the regional information annually.

- 12.5.5. Agreed to replicate this assessment approach for the remaining four goals for the CTI-CFF RPOA to:
 - 12.5.5.1. *Recognized* that assessing the capacity building status for Goal # 3 (MPAs) is only one incremental step in assessing the capacity building status for all five RPOA goals;
 - 12.5.5.2. *Recommend:* the remaining four goals be assessed using a similar methodology and approach, to develop the full technical series of assessments, as already mandated in SOM-11.
- 12.5.6. Acknowledged the Marine Environment Education Program (MEEP) Mahonia Na Dari (MND) “Guardian of the Sea” Program as a potential CTI Youth Program mechanism;
- 12.5.7. Acknowledged the Ocean for Life Program as a potential CTI Youth Program mechanism; and
- 12.5.8. Encouraged the Regional Secretariat and Partners to undertake an assessment of current youth programs and evaluate the possibility for adaptation and expansion towards the establishment of a CT Youth Program.

12.6. Scientific Advisory Group (SAG)

- 12.6.1. Acknowledged the progress made by the Regional Secretariat with regards to the establishment of the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);
- 12.6.2. Agreed to initiate the process of the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) establishment based on the proposed approaches;
- 12.6.3. Proposed for the members of the initial SAG to be derived based on thematic issues / ad-hoc basis as per required in the implementation of CTI-CFF frameworks such as CTMPAS, CCA-REAP, M&E System etc.;
- 12.6.4. Proposed for the members of the initial SAG to include experts in the various programs / projects undertaken or are in the process of implementation by the Regional

Secretariat and / or Development Partners to leverage on the respective programs' financial support;

12.6.5. Proposed for the members of the initial SAG to include relevant experts from higher learning institutions / research organizations / regional and international organizations that have signed MOUs with the Regional Secretariat;

12.6.6. Acknowledged the CTI-CFF/USAID-DOI Regional Secretariat Work Plan for Strengthening Organizational and Administrative Capacity for Improved Fisheries Management, as the initial approach towards the establishment of the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG); and

12.6.7. Encouraged the Regional Secretariat to work with all Technical Working Groups to evaluate the draft "Mechanism of the Utilization of Experts to the establishment of the Scientific Advisory Group" and "CTI-CFF Experts Form" and amend where necessary for SOM-13 approval.

13. CTI-CFF Calendar of Activities 2017 (Annex 13)

13.1. Noted and agreed the CTI-CFF activities for 2017.

14. Reports of Cooperation Arrangements (Annex 14)

14.1. Acknowledged the effort of Regional Secretariat to act as a channel of any initiatives developed in the framework of CTI-CFF supporting activities for relevant monitoring and coordination with member countries;

14.2. Acknowledged and endorsed the effort made by the Regional Secretariat to establish cooperation arrangements:

14.2.1. Initiated and signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SEAFDEC, SPREP and CTC in 2015; with GIZ in March 2016;

14.2.2. Initiated and signed MoUs with four of Indonesian universities in October 2016 namely Bogor Agricultural

University, Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember Surabaya, Hasanuddin University and Sam Ratulangi University as for strengthening CTI-CFF to achieve its goals in terms of research supports, education, and outreach program for capacity building and scientific advisory group;

- 14.2.3. Acknowledged the initiation of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat for upcoming MOU with Universiti Malaysia Terengganu from Malaysia, James Cook University from Australia; as well as the upcoming potential signing of MoU to extend cooperation arrangements with PEMSEA, University of Queensland from Australia and Solomon Islands National University from Solomon Islands in the frame of the proposed CTI-CFF University Partnership and other potential cooperation arrangements to be established and pursued by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in the near future.
- 14.3. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to share existing MoUs with NCCs as well as to ensure NCCs involvement in respective cooperation arrangement to have better coordination and collective efforts;
- 14.4. Acknowledged the preparations done by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to collaborate with USAID-DOI for Strengthening Organizational and Administrative Capacity for Improved Fisheries Management and share the relevant project documents and information with NCCs for review and appropriate actions;
- 14.5. Urged the Development Partners to share, communicate; coordinate and follow through with the Regional Secretariat on its financial commitment and support extended to NCCs / CT6 Member Countries for transparency purposes;
- 14.6. Reviewed Regional Plan of Action in 2017 (due to expire 2020):
 - 14.6.1. Review of effectiveness rather than actions;
 - 14.6.2. Aim is to consider major regional achievements and weaknesses in RPOA and make recommendations for developing strategic direction from 2020;

- 14.6.3. Review priorities for strategic action between now and 2020 to give focus to work plans – what regional actions are still to be achieved and are of high value?; and
- 14.6.4. Partners willing and well-positioned to support this process.
- 14.7. Adopted consistent approach for Member oversight of Regional Secretariat:
 - 14.7.1. To ensure that Members provide support and feedback needed for optimal Regional Secretariat performance;
 - 14.7.2. Compare with other regional institutions (e.g. SPREP);
 - 14.7.3. Regular meetings with subset of members; and
 - 14.7.4. Member annual review of senior staff performance.
- 14.8. Facilitated greater understanding of CTI decisions and constitution:
 - 14.8.1. Utilize workspace pages within CTI-CFF website to access and upload up-to-date documents and conversations.
- 14.9. Maximized impact of external communications:
 - 14.9.1. Strengthen focus within communications materials on value-add of regional approach;
 - 14.9.2. Enhance promotion of achievements, knowledge products and lessons learned; and
 - 14.9.3. Demonstrate tangible outcomes achieved through investment to date.

15. Proposal on Meeting Arrangements 2016 (Annex 15)

- 15.1. Noted and appreciated the proposal of meeting arrangements; i.e. hospitality arrangement, layout of meeting rooms, immigration and provision of informative note as part of standardization exercise;
- 15.2. Acknowledged and accepted the proposal to be taken into consideration by the Host Country of future official meetings for further arrangement and preparations; and

15.3. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to circulate all relevant Meeting documents (including draft decisions and draft Joint Ministerial Statement) two (2) weeks prior to SOM.

16. Agenda for the 6th CTI-CFF Ministerial Meeting (MM-6) (Annex 16)

16.1. Agreed to the proposed provisional agenda for the 6th Ministerial Meeting with amendments.

17. The Draft Text of “Joint Ministerial Statement” (Annex 17)

17.1. Considered and adopted the final text of draft Joint Ministerial Statement of MM-6; and

17.2. Recommended to CTI Council of Ministers to adopt draft Joint Ministerial Statement.

18. The 13th CTI-CFF Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM-13) (Annex 18)

18.1. Recommended to Philippines, as the Chair of CTI-CFF for the period of 2016-2018, to host the 13th Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM) in 2017; and

18.2. Recommended that the exact date and venue to be communicated later based on consultation between the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and the Government of the Philippines for further confirmation.

III. Closing Session

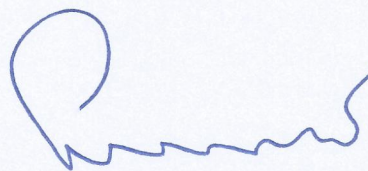
The meeting was closed with the review and signing of the SOM-12 Chairman’s Summary.

The Chair expressed her profound thanks and appreciation to all delegates for the productive discussions and commended the constructive outcome of the deliberations.

The Executive Director of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat extended his gratitude and appreciation towards the CTI-CFF Member States for their support towards the Regional Secretariat team.

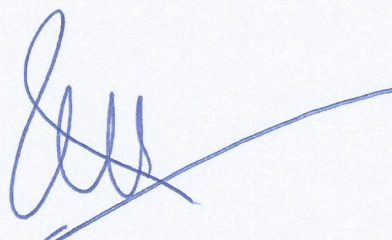
The participating delegations also conveyed their deep gratitude to the Government of Papua New Guinea for hosting the Meeting, and the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and warmly thanked Mr. Gunter Joku and Ms. Kay Kalim for their leadership in chairing SOM-12 and appreciated the Regional Secretariat for facilitating the meeting.

**Government of
the Republic of Indonesia**



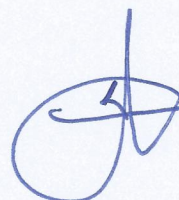
**H.E. Dr. Suseno Sukoyono
Minister's Advisor to the Minister of Marine Affairs
and Fisheries for Public and Inter-Agency Relations
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries**

Government of Malaysia



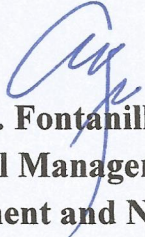
**H.E. Dr. Ramzah Dambul
Deputy Secretary General (Science, Technology &
Innovation) /
Associate Professor
Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation**

**Government of
the Independent State of
Papua New Guinea**



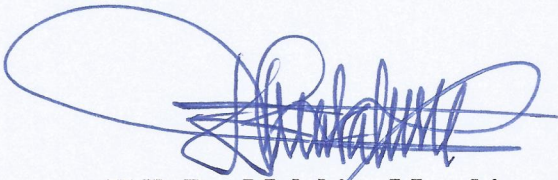
**H.E. Gunther Joku
Managing Director
Conservation and Environment Protection
Authority of Papua New Guinea**

**Government of
the Republic of the Philippines**



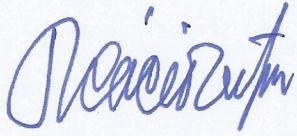
**Mr. Angelito V. Fontanilla
Director for Financial Management Services
Department of Environment and Natural Resources**

**Government of
Solomon Islands**



**H.E. Dr. Melchior Mataki
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster
Management & Meteorology**

**Government of
the Democratic Republic of
Timor-Leste**



**H.E. Acácio Guterres
General Director of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries**