



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY



CHAIR'S SUMMARY

19th SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING

4-5 December 2024, Dili, Timor-Leste

adopted on 5 December 2024

by

the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste



A. INTRODUCTION

1. The 19th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-19) of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) was conducted in Dili, Timor-Leste, from 4 to 5 December 2024;
2. The meeting was chaired by the Chair of CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials, H.E. Mr. Celestino Da Cunha Barreto, General Director for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste;
3. Acknowledged the participation of the CT6 Member Countries Delegation, headed by:
 - i. Dr. Hendra Yusran Siry of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Government of the Republic of Indonesia;
 - ii. Dr. Tan Beng Hoe of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, Government of Malaysia;
 - iii. Ms. Kumaras Kay Kalim of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change, Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea;
 - iv. Mr. John Erick Avelino of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Republic of the Philippines;
 - v. Mr. Karl Ogu Kuper of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management, and Meteorology, Government of the Solomon Islands;
 - vi. Mr. Celestino Da Cunha Barreto of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry, Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste;

as well as the CTI Partners:

- a. Conservation International (CI) Timor Leste and Konservasi Indonesia (KI);
 - b. Coral Triangle Centre (CTC);
 - c. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN);
 - d. *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH* (GIZ)–Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience (SOMACORE);
 - e. USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS) and Sustainable Coral Triangle (STC);
 - f. Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Southeast Asia;
 - g. World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Coral Triangle Program;
 - h. University Partnership (UP).
4. The objectives of the 19th Senior Officials Meeting were:
 - a. To acknowledge the 19th Senior Officials Meeting Chair's Report;
 - b. To acknowledge the 2024 Country Reports;
 - c. To deliberate and endorse the reports and recommendations of the Governance Working Groups, Technical Working Groups and Cross-Cutting Initiatives;
 - d. To acknowledge the Report of the Executive Director of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat;



- e. To acknowledge CTI Partners' Presentation and endorse the recommendations;
- f. To review and endorse the SOM-19 Chair's Summary.

CHAIR'S SUMMARY: DECISIONS

SESSION 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING

- 1.1 Acknowledged the Opening Remarks of the Chair of the CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials, H.E.Celestino Da Cunha Barreto, General Director for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste (*Annex 1.1*);
- 1.2 Adopted the revised Agenda of SOM-19 (*Annex 1.2*);

SESSION 2: CHAIR'S REPORT

- 2.1 Acknowledged and accepted the Chair's Report which highlighted progress in governance, partnerships, and conservation initiatives of CTI-CFF's regional and global objectives (*Annex 2.1*);

SESSION 3: COUNTRY REPORTS

- 3.1. Acknowledged the Country Reports of the CT6 Countries (*Annex 3.1.1–3.1.6*);

SESSION 4: GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP: INTERNAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE

- 4.1. Acknowledged the updates on the tasks from SOM-18 Decisions, including the expected ratification of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Host Country Agreement in early 2025;
- 4.2. Appreciated the commitment of Member Countries in fulfilling their financial contributions for 2024 and acknowledged the delay caused by internal governmental processes;
- 4.3. Acknowledged the restricted fund balance USD 269,495 as of 30 November 2024 (*Annex 4.1*) which utilization of the fund for emergency operational approved by the Chair of CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials, noting that the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat will soon replenish the USD 200,000 following the remittance of 2024 Country Contribution;
- 4.4. Acknowledged the new leadership and management in the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat since SOM-18, with the new Executive Director Dr. Frank Keith Griffin starting from 11 March 2024, the new Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services Mr. Hanung Cahyono starting from 22 January 2024 (*Annex 4.2*);
- 4.5. Acknowledged the new Staff since SOM-18, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager Mr. Agostinho Andy Irmawan from 2 November 2023 to 7 August 2024, Finance Assistant Manager Mr. Dave Senewe, starting from 30 January 2024, Data Compilation and



Documentation Officer Ms. Cristel N. Amarillo starting from 4 March 2024, and Marketing and Information Officer Mr. Fritzgerald William Y. Wenur starting from 16 April 2024;

- 4.6. Acknowledged the new personnel under USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle Team, comprising Project Manager Mr. Md Anjum Islam starting from 29 January 2024, Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning Specialist Ms. Stephanie Mapaliej starting from 11 March 2024 and Project Administration Officer Ms. Febbie Bawengan starting from 21 November 2024, noting that their remuneration is supported by USAID;
- 4.7. Acknowledged the contribution of Monitoring and Evaluation Manager Mr. Agostinho Andy Irmawan from 2 November 2023 to 7 August 2024;
- 4.8. Approved the restructuring of Regional Secretariat with the addition of four (4) new manager positions: Human Resource Manager and Information and Data Manager under Corporate Services and Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Manager and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Manager under Program Services provided that these positions will be supported externally and will not increase Country Contributions (*Annex 4.3*);
- 4.9. Acknowledged and appreciated CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat effort in securing *Deutsche Gessellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s support for the two (2) officer positions under Program Services, Seascape Officer and Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Officer, respectively;
- 4.10. Recommended the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to explore options for potential restructuring the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and collaborate with CTI Partners and CT6 Member Countries to provide professional human resources;
- 4.11. Encouraged the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in its pursuit of external support to achieve proposed restructuring staff;
- 4.12. Approved the removal of Salary Grade 8 and adjust Grade 9 to start from USD 250 per month;
- 4.13. Approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Internal Control Committee (ICC) and the establishment of the ICC (*Annex 4.4*);
- 4.14. Endorsed the salary adjustment which will be subject to a comprehensive benchmarking study as well as a capacity and performance review by the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat;
- 4.15. Acknowledged that the salary adjustment for the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat will be funded within the existing budget without increasing the Country Contribution and the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat will reallocate resources flexibly without compromising performance and noting that the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat will continue to explore



external funding sources to support the salary adjustment while adhering to the agreed Country Contribution limits (*Annex 4.5*);

- 4.16. Approved the amendment to the CTI-CFF Staff Regulation and Staff Policies and Procedures Manual (SPPM), Regulation 20 on Overtime, “*Overtime can only be carried upon prior approval by the Executive Director*” and tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to finalize and disseminate the amended to CT6 (*Annex 4.6*);
- 4.17. Approved the amendment to the CTI-CFF Financial Regulation and Financial Policies and Procedures Manual, Regulation 10.6.61.3. “The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat will not deduct income taxes from the Host Country staff’s salary;” and tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to finalize and disseminate the amended to CT6 (*Annex 4.7*);
- 4.18. Approved the Terms of Reference of Regional Coral Triangle Network Officers (RCTNO) to be based in the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and its Internship program. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to continue with the implementation with regular updates to CT6 (*Annex 4.8*);
- 4.19. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to facilitate management of overdue country contributions by implementing early notification and reminders thirty (30) days after the due date, followed by consultation and engagement sixty (60) days after the due date, with constant and monthly reminders to Member Countries;
- 4.20. Acknowledged and approved the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat 2023 Audit Report (*Annex 4.9*);
- 4.21. Acknowledged and accepted the Management Letter from the Auditor with four points:
 - 4.21.1 Legal clarity regarding the use of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Premise needs to be achieved through timely ratification of the Host Country;
 - 4.21.2 CTI-CFF’s Financial Statements need to be prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);
 - 4.21.3 Policies and Procedures for managing unpaid country contributions need to be improved;
 - 4.21.4 CTI-CFF’s financial reporting system needs to be improved;
- 4.22. Acknowledged the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat 2024 Financial Utilization Report and emphasized the critical need to enhance media engagement and provide essential support for the development of the National Plan of Action (NPOA) (*Annex 4.10*);
- 4.23. Approved the proposed 2025 budget, totalling USD 3,158,847 with USD 1,339,079 will come from country contributions and the remaining USD 1,822,768 will be sought from CTI Partners and external sources (*Annex 4.11*);
- 4.24. Approved the international events for 2025 (*Annex 4.12*);
- 4.25. Endorsed the proposed 2025 Country Contribution by using GDP 2023 (*Annex 4.13*);



- 4.26. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to review the current formula of the country contribution and propose new country contribution formula for further discussion;
- 4.27. Acknowledged the proposal of Leaders' Summit in suitable venue in 2026;
- 4.28. Endorsed the recommendation from Indonesia making reference to Regulation 14 of the CTI-CFF Finance Regulations with regard to the reappointment of the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia (*Badan Pemeriksa Keuangan Republik Indonesia–BPK RI*) as the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat External Auditor for the period of 2025 and 2026;
- 4.29. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to prepare and circulate CTI-CFF calendar of events to ensure better coordination and effective planning by January 2025;
- 4.30. Approved the IRC 2025 Budget;

SESSION 5: GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP: FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- 5.1. Acknowledged the update on the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat's tasks from FRWG on SOM-18;
- 5.2. Acknowledged and endorsed the legal establishment of US non-profit settlor of the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund (CTCF) [*Annex 5.1*];
- 5.3. Acknowledged and endorsed the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Grant Management Manual (*Annex 5.2*);
- 5.4. Acknowledged and appreciated the support from CTI Partners; *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH* (GIZ), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle (SCT), USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS), Blue Institute, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Conservation Finance Alliance (CFA);
- 5.5. Acknowledged and appreciated the support from USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle (SCT) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in organizing the first in-person CTCF board meeting on 4–5 November 2024, held in conjunction with the workshop and knowledge exchange focused on CTCF, blue finance and financial fundamentals on 6–8 November 2024 (facilitated by CFA) in alignment with RPOA 2.0;
- 5.6. Acknowledged the MoU between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and the Blue Institute (*Annex 5.3*), *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH* (GIZ) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) [*Annex 5.4*];
- 5.7. Agreed that the Philippines and Solomon Islands will extend their roles as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, to 31 December 2025;
- 5.8. Approved the 2025 FRWG Workplan and Budget (*Annex 5.4*) and preferred to have the FRWG annual meeting with in-person arrangement.



SESSION 6: GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- 6.1. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group (*Annex 6.1*);
- 6.2. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of CT Atlas Training, NPOA Learning Exchange and MEWG Meeting hosted by Papua New Guinea on 15–17 July 2024 as the collaboration between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and Papua New Guinea NCC;
- 6.3. Acknowledged and appreciated the USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle (SCT) for the financial and technical aspect support of the CT Atlas Training, NPOA Learning Exchange and MEWG Meeting in Papua New Guinea on 15–17 July 2024;
- 6.4. Acknowledged and appreciated the continuous support of USAID through the Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS) on the NPOA Development Learning Exchange Workshop and activities related to MEWG in 2024;
- 6.5. Acknowledged and appreciated the contribution of Allen Coral Atlas in the CT Atlas information sharing Training on 15 July 2024 and other activities related with CT Atlas in 2024;
- 6.6. Acknowledged and appreciated the GiZ–SOMACORE and the US Department of Interior (DOI) for their support of the development of CT6 National Plan of Action (NPOA);
- 6.7. Acknowledged and appreciated the efforts of CT6 Member Countries' in drafting the CTI-NPOA in 2024 and strongly encouraged all members to expedite the finalization of their NPOAs, aiming for completion by 2025, and recognized the countries that have already finalized their NPOA;
- 6.8. Requested the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat for one-on-one assistance in data management of the CT Atlas to the CT6 Countries;
- 6.9. Acknowledged and appreciated the 2024 M&E Report and recognized the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (*Annex 6.2*);
- 6.10. Acknowledged and appreciated the contribution of Mr. Muhammad Ichsan as the CTI-NPOA Consultant on the development of the CT6 Member Countries CTI-NPOA;
- 6.11. Acknowledged and appreciated the contribution of previous Monitoring and Evaluation Manager (MEM) of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, Mr. Agostinho Andy Irmawan from 2 November 2023 to 7 August 2024;
- 6.12. Tasked the CT Atlas Focal Points to have a bi-annual discussion and reporting meeting to encapsulate the technical components to improve and upgrade the CT Atlas platform;
- 6.13. Tasked CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to explore potential options to collaborate with CTI Partners and CT6 Member Countries to provide professional human resources;



- 6.14. Approved the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group 2025 Workplan and Budget;

SESSION 7: CROSS-CUTTING INITIATIVES

Women Leaders' Forum

- 7.1. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by the Women Leaders' Forum (WLF) (*Annex 7.1*);
- 7.2. Acknowledged and appreciated the support of USAID SuFiA TS in organizing the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Regional Exchange (REX) alongside the CTI WLF meeting held on September 9–10 and 12, 2024, in Bangkok, Thailand;
- 7.3. Acknowledged the implementation of the CTI-CFF GESI Policy led by the WLF through capacity-building sessions provided during the SSS-BSS Regional Exchange, CCA Regional Exchanges, the Communications Training and Youth Ambassador Program with the support of USAID SuFiA TS;
- 7.4. Acknowledged and appreciated the discussion regarding the Gender Equality (GE) Hub and the development of the GE Hub Roadmap led by SuFiA TS;
- 7.5. Acknowledged and accepted the CTI-CFF Policy Guidelines on Gendered Climate Vulnerability and Risk Management of Priority Seascapes in Fisheries across the Coral Triangle Region developed through the CTI-CFF/Coral Reef Alliance Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fellowship, led by SuFiA TS (*Annex 7.2*);
- 7.6. Acknowledged and appreciated the 2nd Cohort of Youth Ambassadors Program, organized by USAID SuFiA TS and CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in Bangkok, Thailand on 11–13 September 2024;
- 7.7. Acknowledged and appreciated the draft Youth Ambassadors Program Roadmap 2025–2030 led by USAID SuFiA TS;
- 7.8. Acknowledged and appreciated the 2024 M&E Report for Women Leaders' Forum (WLF) and the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (*Annex 7.3*);
- 7.9. Acknowledged and appreciated the planned WLF-GE Hub recommended 2025 activities that could be integrated with planned capacity building events at REX and other activities as supported by SuFiA TS and in collaboration with other partners and programs;
- 7.10. Acknowledged and appreciated the potential collaboration between the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat through the WLF and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in 2025, under the proposed Canadian Government Project Proposal;



- 7.11. Acknowledged and appreciated CTC for the engagement of the WLF with the Pacific Forum and the two regional exchanges and capacity building activities on the intersection of GESI, maritime environmental crimes, climate change and disaster response;
- 7.12. Acknowledged the implementation of the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap to support the WLF and strengthen capacity building for women leaders in the Coral Triangle Region;
- 7.13. Approved the WLF 2025 Workplan and Budget;

Scientific Advisory Group/University Partnership

- 7.14. Acknowledged and appreciated the CTI-CFF University Partnership in conducting the “1st International Seminar on UN SDG 14 Life Below Water” held in Manado, Indonesia on 10–11 June 2024;
- 7.15. Acknowledged and appreciated the CTI-CFF University Partnership for the ongoing establishment of “Blue Metric” IT Platform as an application that will identify and provide information on university academic activities in CT6 Member Countries;
- 7.16. Acknowledged and appreciated the commitment and physical participation during the “1st International Seminar on UN SDG 14 Life Below Water” of country experts; Prof. Dr. Grevo S. Gerung (Sam Ratulangi University), Prof. Dr. Farida Binti Mohammad (Universiti Terengganu, Malaysia), Dr. Ralph Mana (University of Papua New Guinea), Dr. Cristy S. Acabado (University of the Philippines Visayas), and Dr. Mario M. Cabral (Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e) to promote the advancement of marine science and facilitate knowledge exchange in the Coral Triangle region;
- 7.17. Approved the University Partnership 2025 Workplan and Budget (*Annex 7.5*);

Regional Business Forum

- 7.18. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to review the Regional Business Forum (RBF) and the Local Government Network (LGN), and provide the update to appropriate Working Groups in 2025;

SESSION 8: TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

Seascape Working Group

- 8.1. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by Seascape Technical Working Group (*Annex 8.1*);
- 8.2. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with



- EAFM, Seascope, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings hosted by Malaysia on 12–16 August 2024 as the collaboration among CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ–SOMACORE;
- 8.3. Acknowledged and appreciated the inclusion of the Lesser Sunda Seascope in the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascope, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascope, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings;
 - 8.4. Acknowledged and appreciated the USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ–SOMACORE for the financial and technical aspect support of the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascope Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascope, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings;
 - 8.5. Acknowledged the 2024 M&E Report for Seascope TWG and the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (*Annex 8.2*);
 - 8.6. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to facilitate or explore the possibility of including discussions on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of Parties (COP) within the CTI agenda, such as the study of the Coral Triangle Region to be identified as an Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Area;
 - 8.7. Acknowledged the concern of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste through the circular of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry, Timor Leste No. 635/DGD/PAGRA/XI/2024 dated 2 December 2024 (*Annex 8.3*) to make a revision of the RPOA 2.0 with particular to change the word “*transboundary*” into the word “*connectivity*” and to remove the line which indicates national jurisdiction boundary;
 - 8.8. Accepted the removal of all lines which indicated national jurisdiction boundary in Annex 4 of the RPOA 2.0 and retaining only the Coral Triangle Scientific Boundary and CTI-CFF Implementation Area;
 - 8.9. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to immediately follow up the removal of the lines which indicate national jurisdiction boundary in RPOA 2.0;
 - 8.10. Approved the Seascope Technical Working Group 2025 Workplan and Budget;

EAFM Working Group

- 8.11. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by EAFM Technical Working Group (*Annex 8.4*);
- 8.12. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascope, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascope, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings hosted by the Government of Malaysia on 12–16 August 2024 with the collaboration among CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ SOMACORE;



- 8.13. Acknowledged and appreciated the inclusion of the Lesser Sunda Seascape in the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings;
- 8.14. Acknowledged and appreciated the USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ SOMACORE for the financial and technical aspect support of the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings;
- 8.15. Acknowledged the 2024 M&E Report for the EAFM TWG and recognized the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (*Annex 8.5*);
- 8.16. Appreciated the acceptance of gender equality and social inclusion, and climate change consideration into Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) programs and plans per the goal of the CTI-CFF Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Policy (GESI Policy) with support from the USAID SuFiA TS;.
- 8.17. Tasked CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to work with the USAID SuFiA TS to finalize the COASTFISH Regional Framework and circulated by Q1 2025 (*Annex 8.6*);
- 8.18. Acknowledged the Draft Regional Plan on Climate Change Adaptation within an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management” as best practices for climate change adaptation and GESI integration within fisheries management plans, frameworks, regulations, and data collection, to build resilience of communities to climate impacts supported by USAID SCT (*Annex 8.7*);
- 8.19. Approved the EAFM Technical Working Group 2025 Workplan and Budget;

MPA Working Group

- 8.20. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Technical Working Group (*Annex 8.8*);
- 8.21. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of Advancing Marine Conservation in the Coral Triangle Region Program, a side event on the 2nd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference and 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference organized by the IUCN in Bangkok, Thailand on 25 April 2024;
- 8.22. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of 10th MPA REX and MPA TWG Meeting organized by CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and the IUCN (through SOMACORE Project) in Manado, Indonesia on 7–10 October 2024;
- 8.23. Acknowledged and appreciated the IUCN (through SOMACORE Project), CTC, and WWF for the financial and technical support of the 10th MPA REX and MPA TWG Meeting;



- 8.24. Acknowledged and appreciated the 2024 M&E Report for MPA TWG and the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (*Annex 8.9*);
- 8.25. Acknowledged and appreciated Indonesia for updating the MPA data and requested the other CT6 Member Countries to update the MPA data in CT-Atlas by Q1 2025 and the need for in-country support;
- 8.26. Acknowledged and appreciated the initiation of CTI MPA Managers Network, to support capacity building through training and sharing of knowledge and best practices, contributing to achieving the Objective C on improving good governance of RPOA 2.0;
- 8.27. Acknowledged and appreciated the ongoing discussions between the IUCN (through SOMACORE Project) and CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, on the recruitment of the IUCN Project Coordinator to be placed in the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to provide technical support for the Green List Program and coordinate IUCN related activities;
- 8.28. Acknowledged and appreciated the Memorandum of Understanding signing between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and the IUCN on 3 September 2024 and the further ongoing support on MPA activities supported by the IUCN (through SOMACORE Project) for 2025 (*Annex 8.10*);
- 8.29. Acknowledged the effort of the Ocean Foundation to support the intervention with MPA Technical Working Group to develop the Coral Triangle MPA managers network;
- 8.30. Tasked the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to invite the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat to present the modalities for the modification of descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and the description of new areas, as adopted during the 16th Conference of Parties to the CBD, during the MPA REX and TWG in 2025;
- 8.31. Approved the Marine Protected Area Technical Working Group 2025 Workplan and Budget;

CCA Working Group

- 8.32. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by Climate Change Adaptation Technical Working Group (CCA-TWG) [*Annex 8.11*];
- 8.33. Acknowledged and appreciated the CCA Regional Exchange and 7th CCA–TWG Meeting, co-organized by CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and the USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS), at the Le Meridien, Jakarta, Indonesia on 15–17 May 2024;
- 8.34. Encouraged the CT6 countries to provide the ministerial level signature for the 2022 Climate Change Communique (*Annex 8.12*);



- 8.35. Acknowledged and appreciated the USAID-SuFiA TS for their significant contribution in providing technical support on various activities under the CCA Work Plan in 2024, including the 2nd Executive Course, CEPA Workshop, Climate Risk Management Planning workshop and the CCA-TWG Meeting;
- 8.36. Acknowledged and appreciated the final report of the CCA Regional Exchange 2024 (*Annex 8.13*);
- 8.37. Acknowledged and appreciated the Training on Climate Adaptation Policies and Strategies, supported by USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle (SCT) on 11–12 September 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand, back-to-back with the CCA TWG Special Session;
- 8.38. Acknowledged and accepted the Climate Change Adaptation Plan developed by USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle in alignment with RPOA 2.0 Output Target B3.1.2 subject to the development and implementation of an investment plan and funding from CTI Partners (*Annex 8.14*);
- 8.39. Acknowledged and recognized the need to develop the CTI-CFF Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Coastal and Small-Islands Ecosystem by the CT6 Member Countries;
- 8.40. Acknowledged and accepted the CTI-CFF Policy Guidelines on Gendered Climate Vulnerability and Risk Management of Priority Seascapes in Fisheries Across the Coral Triangle Region, developed through the CORAL Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fellowship (*Annex 8.15*);
- 8.41. Acknowledged and appreciated the contribution of two CTI-CFF CORAL Fellows from the CT Asia countries and the CT Pacific countries in supporting the activities of the CCA-TWG in 2024 through support of the USAID SuFiA TS;
- 8.42. Approved the Climate Change Adaptation Technical Working Group 2025 Workplan and Budget;

Threatened Species Working Group

- 8.43. Acknowledged and appreciated the presentation by the Threatened Species Technical Working Group Meeting (*Annex 8.16*);
- 8.44. Acknowledged and appreciated the conduct of CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings, hosted by the Government of Malaysia on 12–16 August 2024 as the collaboration between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, USAID SuFiA TS and GiZ SOMACORE;
- 8.45. Acknowledged and appreciated the inclusion of the Lesser Sunda Seascape in the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape, Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings on 12–16 August 2024;



- 8.46. Acknowledged and appreciated WWF for the technical aspect support of the CTI-CFF Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape and Bismarck-Solomon Seas Seascape Technical Regional Exchange back-to-back with EAFM, Seascape, and Threatened Species Technical Working Group meetings on 12–16 August 2024;
- 8.47. Acknowledged and appreciated the 2024 M&E Report for Threatened Species TWG and recognized the need to develop the reporting system and assessment mechanism (*Annex 8.17*);
- 8.48. Approved the Threatened Species Technical Working Group 2025 Work Plan and Budget;

SESSION 9: CTI PARTNERS

- 9.1. Recognized and appreciated the congratulations from the CTI Partners to Dr. Frank Keith Griffin as the Executive Director of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat starting from 11 March 2024 and expressed CTI Partners' confidence in his leadership to drive impactful progress for the Coral Triangle Region;
- 9.2. Recognized and appreciated the congratulations from the CTI Partners to Mr. Hanung Cahyono in his role as the Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Services of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat starting from 22 January 2024;
- 9.3. Recognized and appreciated the congratulations from CTI Partners to Mr. Christovel Rotinsulu in his role as the Acting Executive Director of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat from 9 November 2023 to 10 March 2024, and his contribution to the smooth transition of the leadership to the new Executive Director;
- 9.4. Acknowledged the critical role of the Coral Triangle region in contributing to global biodiversity, food security, and sustainable livelihoods. The CTI Partners of the CTI-CFF reaffirmed their commitment to support and promote global and regional policy advocacy work of CTI-CFF to advance 2030 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Targets adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
- 9.5. Appreciated the newly signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and;
 - a. *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)*– Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience (SOMACORE) on 11 June 2024 (*Annex 5.4*);
 - b. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) on 3 September 2024 (*Annex 9.2*);
 - c. Coral Triangle Center (CTC) on 4 December 2024 (*Annex 9.3*);
 - d. World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Coral Triangle Program on 4 December 2024 (*Annex 9.4*);



- e. Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e on 4 December 2024 (*Annex 9.5*);
 - f. Blue Institute on 14 March 2024 (*Annex 5.3*);
- 9.6. Acknowledged the efforts of Coral Triangle Center, WWF Coral Triangle Program, USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS) and the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in the continued development, facilitation, and implementation of the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap and called upon the CT6 Member Countries to mainstream the Capacity Building Roadmap in their NPOA, Technical Working Groups, and the Cross-Cutting Initiatives;
- 9.7. Acknowledged and appreciated the support of USAID SuFiA TS, USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle, US Department of Interior, and WCS in providing targeted technical and financial assistance to the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat for the establishment of the Coral Triangle Conservation Fund (CTCF) in collaboration with the Conservation Finance Alliance and looked forward to further progress in close collaboration with the CTCF-Board;
- 9.8. Acknowledged and appreciated the visibility of the CTI-CFF in the global and regional advocacy events, including the 8th IUCN Asia Regional Conservation Forum in Bangkok side event supported by GiZ, CTC and IUCN, and the CBD COP-16 Colombia CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat announcement of commitments for the IUCN Green List programme for CT6 and the presentation of the CTCF at the event supported by IUCN and encouraged further global advocacy events such as the 2025 World Conservation Congress;
- 9.9. Acknowledged and appreciated the support through the Implementing Partners of the SOMACORE Programme funded by the International Climate Initiative (ongoing partnership agreements: GiZ, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Conservation International (CI) Timor Leste, Konservasi Indonesia, WWF Solomon Islands; upcoming partnership agreements: WWF Malaysia, Coral Triangle Center, WCS Papua New Guinea, The Nature Conservancy, Yayasan Konservasi Alam Nusantara, Indonesia–MMA, Eco Custodian Advocates);
- 9.10. Recognized the commitment of CTI Partners to support regional topics of high priority, specifically referring to the mainstreaming and implementation of the CTI-CFF Capacity Building Roadmap, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) policies and the ongoing support for CTI-CFF Technical Working Groups with emphasis on EAFM, CCA, MPA, Threatened Species and the Seascope Sub-Working Groups for the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascope (SSS), Lesser Sunda Seascope (LSS) and Bismarck Solomon Seas Seascope (BSS);
- 9.11. Committed to integrating CTI-CFF GESI Policy and the CTI-CFF GESI Implementing Guidelines across CTI's Partners Program implementation and recognizing Women Leaders Forum's role in monitoring and evaluating the GESI Policy;



- 9.12. Appreciated and acknowledged USAID Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SuFiA TS) Activity support through the CTI-CFF & SuFiA TS Partnership Concept throughout 2024 and implementation of key activities for 2025, noting the closure of the Activity in November 2025;
- 9.13. Acknowledged and appreciated the implementation of USAID Sustainable Coral Triangle, supporting the relevant working groups (TWG, GWG) and Cross-Cutting Initiatives in 2024, and continuing its support in the coming years in alignment with RPOA 2.0;
- 9.14. Encouraged the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to facilitate an annual in-person meeting with all CTI Partners to ensure smooth coordination between CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and CTI Partners;

SESSION 10: REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SECRETARIAT

- 10.1. Acknowledged and appreciated the report of Dr. Frank Keith Griffin, Executive Director of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, which highlighted significant progress in technical, governance, and conservation initiatives aligned with the RPOA 2.0, as well as the enhanced visibility and cross-cutting achievements of the CTI-CFF (*Annex 10.1*);

SESSION 11: THE 9th MINISTERIAL MEETING

- 11.1 Accepted the Agenda and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 9th Ministerial Meeting on 6 December 2024 in Dili, Timor-Leste (*Annex 11.1*);

SESSION 12: REVIEW OF THE CHAIR'S SUMMARY OF SOM-19 AND CLOSING

- 12.1 Appreciated the support of the Government of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste in the conduct of the Pre-19th Senior Officials Meeting, the 19th Senior Officials Meeting, the 9th Ministerial Meeting and the excellent chairing of the meeting by the Chair of CTI-CFF Committee of Senior Officials, H.E. Mr. Celestino Da Cunha Barreto, Director General for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste;
- 12.2 Acknowledged and appreciated the participation of the CT6 Member Countries and CTI Partners which contributed to the successful conduct of the Pre-19th Senior Officials Meeting, the 19th Senior Officials Meeting, the 9th Ministerial Meeting;
- 12.3 Appreciated the efforts and logistics support of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat in the preparation and conduct of the Pre-19th Senior Officials Meeting, the 19th Senior Officials Meeting, the 9th Ministerial Meeting.



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