



**Northwest
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Action Plan**

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Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Data and Information Network
Regional Activity Centre

The 13th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
Dalian, the People's Republic of China, 9 - 10 July 2015

**Meeting Report of
the 13th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting**

Background

1. The Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) and three Resolutions were adopted at the 1st Intergovernmental Meeting (Seoul, 14 September 1994) by the States in the Northwest Pacific region: People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as China, Japan, Korea, Russia, respectively). Resolution 1 identified five areas of priority for implementation of the Action Plan, one of which was NOWPAP/1: Establishment of a Comprehensive Database and Information Management System.
2. The Fourth NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (Beijing, 6-7 April 1999) decided to establish the network of Regional Activity Centers. In December 2000, the NOWPAP Data and Information Network Regional Activity Centre (NOWPAP DINRAC) was formally established in the Environmental Information Centre (EIC) of the State Environmental Protection Administration of China (SEPA). The purpose of the establishment of NOWPAP DINRAC was to coordinate various regional activities relevant to data and information exchange and to offer the reliable and up-to-date information services related to coastal and marine environment in the NOWPAP region. China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center (CAEC) is currently functioning as the Secretariat for the NOWPAP DINRAC. CAEC also manages the NOWPAP DINRAC websites.
3. DINRAC has the specific objective to coordinate regional activities, as specified in the terms of reference decided at the Fourth Intergovernmental Meeting. DINRAC was established recognizing that the activities under NOWPAP produce information on a number of different topics from several sources; that there is the need for regional harmonization of data sets and information system, for development of databases and networks for linking relevant institutions in the region and for providing coherent information to serve the needs of the region, as well as the need to develop protocols for data sharing. The development of a comprehensive database and information management system for the region is also coordinated and implemented by DINRAC.
4. The 12th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was held on 16 June 2014 in Beijing, China with assistance from NOWPAP Regional Coordination Unit (RCU). The meeting reviewed the progress achieved in the intersessional period after the 11th NOWPAP DINRAC FPM, discussed and approved the adjusted DINRAC workplan and budget in 2013, and discussed and got the consensus upon the proposed DINRAC workplan and budget for the 2014-2015 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM11/15) to be submitted to the 18th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) for the final approval. The 18th NOWPAP IGM held in Toyama, Japan, 4-6 December, 2013 approved the proposed DINRAC workplan and budget for the 2014-2015 biennium. The implementation plans for 2014-2015 biennium were endorsed at the 12th DINRAC FPM and were reported to the 19th NOWPAP IGM held in October 2014 in Moscow, Russia.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

Agenda item 1.1: Opening and welcome statements by DINRAC

5. The 13th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was opened at 9:00 a.m. on 9 July 2015 in Dalian Golden Shine (Int'l) Hotel in Dalian, China. Mr. Feng Yan, on behalf of the DINRAC Secretariat gave a welcome statement to all participants. He invited Mr. Guangwei Li, the representative from Dalian Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau to give a welcome speech. Mr. Li mentioned Dalian was granted "The-Top-500 Best Environmental-Friendly Cities" by UNEP. He also stated that the Opening of the 13th DINRAC FPM also provided an important opportunity for Dalian to share information with other NOWPAP member states.

6. On behalf of Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) of P.R.China, Mr. Feng Yan read the prepared speech by Department of Pollution Prevention and Control. The speech addressed that the implementation of the activities would improve the level of the cooperation among member states in the field of marine environmental data and information sharing and enhance the collaborative management capabilities regionally in Marine Ecosystem protection, and the outcomes would also benefit the member states in terms of marine sustainable development.

7. Mr. Xiaodong Zhong, the deputy coordinator of NOWPAP RCU delivered a welcoming remarks to the meeting. He stressed that the year of 2015 is important for DINRAC and NOWPAP as a whole since NOWPAP RCU is going through restructuring and DINRAC has two new Focal Points at the meeting. He also encouraged the Focal Points and experts of DINRAC to give their contribution to the 13th DINRAC FPM. He hoped the meeting would discuss thoroughly the workplan and budget of 2016-2017 biennium which will be submitted to the 20th NOWPAP IGM for approval, and he wished this meeting a success.

8. The DINRAC Focal Points, representatives of other RACs and observers (University of Science and Technology Beijing, Dalian Environmental Protection Volunteers Association) made brief opening statements. Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama, Focal Point of Japan, introduced Mr. Yasuhiko Karigome as the new Focal Point of Japan, and Dr. Igor Rostov, Focal Point of Russia, introduced Mr. Andrey Kruts as the new Focal Point of Russia.

Agenda item 2: Organization of the meeting

Agenda item 2.1: Election of the officers (Chairperson and Rapporteur)

9. According to the Terms of Reference for the NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting, the meeting unanimously elected Dr. Yoshihisa Shirayama, DINRAC Focal Point of Japan, as the Chairperson, and Dr. Joon-Soo Lee, DINRAC Focal Point of Korea, as the Rapporteur respectively.

Agenda item 2.2: Organization of work

10. The Meeting agreed to apply the rules of procedures for the meeting in line with the Terms of Reference of the NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting. English would be the working language of the meeting, and decisions would be made by the consensus.

Agenda item 2.3: Adoption of the agenda

11. Dr. Shirayama, as the Chairperson of 13th DINRAC FPM made a brief introduction of the Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/1) and the Annotated Provisional Agenda (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/2). All the delegates agreed to proceed with the Agenda items suggested.

Agenda item 3: Report of the NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) on the Implementation of NOWPAP Activities since the 12th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

12. The deputy Coordinator of NOWPAP RCU briefed the meeting on the progress of the NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period since the 12th DINRAC FPM including the challenges that each RAC is facing and the results of the 19th NOWPAP Intergovernmental meeting held on October 2014 in Moscow and the 2nd Extraordinary Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) held on April 2015 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. He briefly introduced current activities of CEARAC, DINRAC, MERRAC and POMRAC, and efforts made by RCU and RACs on building partnerships with other international mechanisms and programmes, raising public awareness, resource mobilization and the work under the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI). He also mentioned other developments including restructuring the NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU), OIOS audit and new management system (Umoja).

13. The meeting emphasized that it is important for DINRAC to actively cooperate other RACs and RCU. Though facing difficulties since departure of responsible staff members in RCU, RCU has been trying its efforts in mobilizing resource to fund NOWPAP activities, for example, the GPML regional node.

Agenda Item 4: Review of the Progress in the Implementation of DINRAC's Workplan for the 2014-2015 biennium**Agenda Item 4.1: Report on the Implementation of DINRAC Activities and Budget for 2014**

14. Mr. Feng Yan presented the report on the implementation of DINRAC activities and budget for 2014 (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/4).

15. Because the payment supposed to be done in 2014 was delayed, the DINRAC Secretariat would push it to be done before August 2015.

16. The meeting clarified the component in table 1 “Publication of the information collected on endangered/threatened marine species in the NOWPAP Region” should be “Collection of the information on endangered/threatened marine species in the NOWPAP Region”.

17. The meeting has been aware of the fact that the new version of DINRAC website was under development since 2014, however new data collected were not uploaded on the DINRAC website timely. The DINRAC Secretariat ensured the meeting that the data updating process would not be affected by the development of the new DINRAC website.

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

18. Dr. Chunwei Han presented the progress report on the activity since the 12th DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/5).

19. The meeting raised the issue on the format of data which was highly important that the data submitted in this activity should follow the same format or pattern, so that the data could be used or compared in a meaningful approach. The meeting also suggested that action should be taken to formulate standardized data format instead of realizing the issue but taking no further action. The compiled data on MED will be updated at the DINRAC website after the data are processed.

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

20. Dr. Shirayama presented the progress on the activity since the 12th DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/6).

21. It was found only part of species listed in the IUCN red list was evaluated in the red list of Member States.

22. Due to some misunderstanding on MOU, the data submitted by Korea expert didn't match the format drafted by the leading expert. Korea Focal Point ensured the meeting that Korea expert would resubmit the data. After that the leading expert would re-compile the data and the Secretariat would update the compiled data on DINRAC website.

Agenda item 4.4: Progress Report on the Upgrading of DINRAC Website

23. Dr. Chunwei Han presented the progress on the activity since the 12th DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/7).

24. The Secretariat reassured the meeting that the data updating of current DINRAC website would not be affected by the development of the new DINRAC website. The Secretariat briefed

the meeting the progress for the development of WebGIS system and the status for the bug tracking of the new DINRAC website. The DINRAC Secretariat also clarified the meaning and the demand to expand data resources.

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

Agenda Item 5.1: Proposal for the Development of DINRAC Website

25. Dr. Chunwei Han made a presentation on the Proposal for the Development of DINRAC Website (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/8).

26. The Secretariat explained to the meeting the history of involvement and software cost of the WebGIS system. The Secretariat suggested to consider other RACs to provide DINRAC direct access to their own databases.

27. CEARAC commented that the databases for CEARAC website are hosted and operated by private companies, so that the direct access to the database is not available.

Agenda item 5.2: Proposal for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States

28. Dr. Chunwei Han made a presentation on the Proposal for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/9).

29. The meeting emphasized the importance of collecting data in the NOWPAP region and standardized data format in this activity. It was also suggested that actions like negotiation should be taken to tackle the issue on data format.

Agenda item 5.3: Proposal for Marine Ecosystem Service Valuation in NOWPAP Member States

30. Mr. Feng Yan made a presentation on the Proposal for Marine Ecosystem Service Valuation in NOWPAP Member States (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/10).

31. Dr. Shirayama commented that it is estimated that there should be comprehensive research in World Ocean Assessment. It would be highly likely to bring the duplication or overlapping issues when the proposed activity is conducted.

Agenda item 5.4: Proposal for a Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards

32. Mr. Feng Yan made a presentation on the Proposal for a Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/11).

33. The meeting agreed that the proposal should be revised to clarify that the scope of this activity is to compile marine environmental standards and detailed laboratory testing methods are not included.

Agenda item 5.5: Proposal for Land-Use and Land-Cover Change Assessment in Coastal Areas of NOWPAP Region

34. Mr. Feng Yan briefly introduced the Proposal for Land-Use and Land-Cover Change Assessment in Coastal Areas of NOWPAP Region (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/12).

35. Mr. Yan explained the relationship between Land-use, Land-Cover Change and Marine Environmental Protection, and the scope and availability of the proposal.

Agenda item 5.6: Proposal for Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (Second Stage)

36. Dr. Shirayama, DINRAC Focal Point of Japan, the leading expert of the first stage of the activity for Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red List of NOWPAP Member States, made a presentation on the proposal (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/13).

37. The targeted objectives between the first stage and the second stage of the activity were explained.

Agenda item 5.7: Proposal for compilation data on the latest changes of major sea water pollution characteristics in the coastal zone of NOWPAP sea area

38. Dr. Rostov, DINRAC Focal Point of Russia, made a presentation on the Proposal for compilation data on the latest changes of major sea water pollution characteristics in the coastal zone of NOWPAP sea area (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/14).

39. The data availability and the differences between the proposal and the proposal “Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data in Member States” were explained.

Agenda item 5.8: Proposal for collection data on contemporary air and water characteristics change of the coastal zone of NOWPAP area

40. Dr. Rostov, DINRAC Focal Point of Russia, made a presentation on the Proposal for collection data on contemporary air and water characteristics change of the coastal zone of NOWPAP area (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/15).

41. Dr. Shirayama expressed the concern that the World Ocean Assessment to be done at the end of 2015 might have overlapping with the proposed activity. Dr. Kun Lei pointed out the issue on data availability.

Agenda item 5.9: Overall DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for the 2016-2017 Biennium

42. The Secretariat presented the overall DINRAC workplan and budget for the 2016-2017 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/16).

43. After lengthy and thorough discussion, the meeting endorsed the following proposals to be carried out in the 2016-2017 biennium by consensus of all DINRAC FPs of member states, and the leading entities of the proposals were decided:

- a) Proposal for the Development of DINRAC Website, led by the DINRAC Secretariat;
- b) Proposal for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States, led by Focal Points of China and assisted by the DINRAC Secretariat;
- c) Proposal for a Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards, led by the Focal Points of China;
- d) Proposal for Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (Second Stage), led by the Focal Points of Japan.

44. The remaining budget of USD 2000 from unapproved proposals was assigned to project "Proposal for a Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards". The total budget for the 2016-2017 biennium is USD 140,000. The revised workplan and budget for the 2016-2017 biennium is agreed by the meeting (Annex III). It was suggested at the meeting that milestones for the implementation for all the endorsed proposals is essential for the implementation of the projects, and the proposals should be revised accordingly after the meeting for the final approval by the 20th NOWPAP IGM.

Agenda item 6: Arrangement of the 14th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

45. It was agreed that the 14th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting would be held in mid-May 2016 in China. The concrete date and venue for the Meeting would be decided through consultation among DINRAC Focal Points by the Secretariat in later stage.

46. It was stressed by the meeting that the DINRAC Focal Points shall mark the calendar for next Focal Points Meeting and the working documents shall be disbursed 6 weeks before the opening of the meeting according to the related UN rules.

Agenda item 7: Other Matters

47. The meeting reminded that the DINRAC Secretariat should strengthen cooperation between DINRAC and other RACs, and mission report by the DINRAC Secretariat's involvement and

participation into other RACs' activities should be shared among DINRAC Focal Points in order that DINRAC Focal Points could realize the progress made by other RACs. It was also suggested that progress report of DINRAC's activities should be shared among other RACs in time.

Agenda item 8: Adoption of the report of the meeting

48. The draft report of the 13th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/17), with its annexes, was prepared by the DINRAC Secretariat and the Rapporteur for consideration and adoption by the meeting. After amendments, the report was adopted by the meeting as the record of its deliberations.

Agenda item 9: Closure of the meeting

49. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the Chairperson declared the Meeting closed at 13:00 on Friday, 10 July 2015.

Annex I

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Annex II

List of Documents

<u>Working Documents</u>	
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/1	Provisional Agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/2	Annotated Provisional Agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/3	RCU Report for the 13 th DINRAC FPM
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/4	Report on the Implementation of DINRAC Activities and Budget
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/5	Progress Report on Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in NOWPAP Member States
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/6	Progress Report on the Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/7	Progress Report on the Upgrading of DINRAC Website
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/8	Proposal for the Development of DINRAC Website
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/9	Proposal for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/10	Proposal for Marine Ecosystem Service Valuation in NOWPAP Member States
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/11	Proposal for a Compilation on Marine Environmental Standards
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/12	Proposal for Land-Use and Land-Cover Change assessment in Coastal Areas of NOWPAP Region
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/13	Proposal for Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States(Second Phase)
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/14	Proposal for Assessment of the latest changes of major sea water pollution characteristics in the coastal zone of NOWPAP sea area
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/15	Proposal for Assessment of contemporary air

	and water characteristics change of the coastal zone of NOWPAP area
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/16	DINRAC's Workplan and Budget for 2016-2017 Biennium
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/17	Report of the 13 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
<u>Information Documents</u>	
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/Ref1	Announcement of the 13 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/Ref2	Logistic Information for the 13 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/Ref3	List of Documents
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/Ref4	List of Participants
UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM13/Ref5	Tentative Timetable
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 16/10/1/Rev. 2	NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy, 2012-2017
UNEP/DINRAC/FPM/12/13	Report of 12 th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting

Annex III

DINRAC Workplan and Budget for 2016-2017 Biennium

Activities		Timing	Outputs / Performance Indicators	Quarterly Milestone	Budget (USD)	
					2016	2017
Routine work of DINRAC Secretariat	Cooperation, Communication of DINRAC Activities	Continuous throughout the biennium	Regular contacts with other relevant organizations and programmes	(None)	5,000	5,000
	Organization of FPMs	May 2016, May 2017	FPM reports	Invitations sent out (8 weeks before FPM), working documents prepared and uploaded on website (6 weeks before FPMs), visa documents sent (4 weeks before FPM) Draft FPM reports circulated (1 week after FPM) and then finalized (3 weeks after FPM)	25,000	25,000
	Development of DINRAC Website	Continuous throughout the biennium	- Upgraded website platform - DINRAC website with user-friendly interface and easy-to-access database - User friendly interface for WebGIS with 3 thematic maps		15,000	15,000

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

Activities	Timing	Outputs / Performance Indicators	Quarterly Milestone	Budget (USD)	
				2016	2017
Standards		marine environment and marine ecosystem - Database on standards related to marine environment and marine ecosystem in the NOWPAP Region	4Q 2016: Collected standards 4Q 2017: Complied standards with supplementary statements		
Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States(Second Stage)	Nov 2016, Nov 2017	Collected information on endangered species Compiled data were uploaded to the DINRAC website	1Q 2016: MoUs were signed 4Q 2016: Data were collected 3Q 2017: Data were compiled and uploaded to the website	10,000	5,000
<i>Total:</i>				75, 000	69, 000