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**NOWPAP**



**Northwest  
Pacific  
Action Plan**

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**The Meeting Report of the 17<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP Data and Information  
Network Regional Activity Centre Focal Points Meeting**

**Dalian City, the People's Republic of China  
22-23 August 2019**

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**Regional  
Seas**

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## List of Acronyms

CEARAC	Special Monitoring and Coastal Environmental Assessment Regional Activity Center
DINRAC	Data and Information Network Regional Activity Center
FP	Focal Point
FPM	Focal Points Meeting
IGM	Intergovernmental Meeting
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
MED	Major Marine Environmental Data
MEE	Municipal Bureau of Ecology and Environment
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTS	Mid-Term Strategy
NEAR-GOOS	North-East Asian Regional pilot project of the Global Ocean Observing System
NOWPAP	Northwest Pacific Action Plan
NPO	Nonprofit Organization
NW	North-West
RAC(s)	Regional Activity Center(s)
RAP MALI	Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter
RCU	Regional Coordination Unit
SDG(s)	Sustainable Development Goal(s)
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WebGIS	Web-Based Geographic Information System

**THE MEETING REPORT OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP DINRAC FOCAL POINTS MEETING**  
**(Dalian City, the People's Republic of China, 22-23 August 2019)**

## **Background**

1. NOWPAP DINRAC was established in 2000 to coordinate regional activities relevant to data and information exchange and to provide the reliable and up-to-date information services related to marine and coastal environment in the NOWPAP region.
2. NOWPAP DINRAC has the specific objectives to coordinate regional activities, as specified in the Terms of Reference adopted at the Fourth NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (1999, Beijing, China). DINRAC was established recognizing that the activities under NOWPAP produce information on 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.
3. The 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC Focal Points Meeting (FPM) was held on 30-31 May 2018 in Beijing, China with assistance from NOWPAP Regional Coordination Unit (RCU). The meeting reviewed the progress achieved during the intersessional period after the 15<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP DINRAC FPM and discussed and agreed the implementation plan for the 2018-2019 biennium (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM1/16).

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

4. The 17<sup>th</sup> DINRAC Focal Points Meeting was opened at 10:00 a.m. on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 in Central Plaza Hotel Dalian in Dalian, China. Dr. Feng YAN, the director of DINRAC, on behalf of the DINRAC Secretariat, gave an opening statement to the meeting. Ms. Xinrong XING, Division Director of the Dalian Municipal Bureau of Ecology and Environment, was invited to give a welcome remark.
5. Dr. Ning LIU, Program Officer of NOWPAP RCU, gave a welcome statement, and highlighted that more attention has been given by regional and global partner to enhance on the work in terms of the marine environmental data collection and sharing. DINRAC can play a very important role in helping NOWPAP member states to achieve UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
6. Dr. Jeung Sook PARK, Focal Point of the Republic of Korea, suggested to make linkage between UN SDGs, global environmental issues and DINRAC activities, with respect to more tangible and visible output in marine environmental data & information collection and sharing in the NOWPAP region.

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

7. In line with paragraph 5.2 of the Terms of Reference of the NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Points Meeting, the meeting elected Mr. Norio BABA, the Focal Point of Japan as the Chairperson and Dr. Jeung Sook PARK, Focal Point of the Republic of Korea, as the rapporteur. English would be the working language of the meeting, and decisions would be made by the consensus of all Focal Points.

8. Ms. Yuri ASAHARA, representative of Japan Oceanographic Data Center, Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard, proposed to move introduction of Web-GIS system "MSIL" in Agenda Item 8 after Agenda Item 6.

9. The meeting adopted the provisional Agenda prepared by DINRAC Secretariat with minor modification proposed by Ms. ASAHARA.

### **Agenda Item 3: Report of the NOWPAP RCU on the Implementation of NOWPAP Activities since the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC Focal Points Meeting**

10. Dr. LIU briefed the meeting on the progress of the NOWPAP activities during the intersessional period since the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM including the activities of each Regional Activity Center (RAC), communications (including a web story posted on the main page of UNEP website regrading NOWPAP Eutrophication Assessment Tool), and the resolutions of the 23<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting held in October 2018 in Moscow, Russia.

11. Ms. ASAHARA raised a question about the status of summary report of RCU-RACs meeting, Dr. Liu responded that the summary report will be finalized and circulated to NOWPAP RACs' Focal Points.

### **Agenda Item 4: Review of the Final Status in the implementation of DINRAC's Work plan for 2018-2019.**

12. Dr. YAN reported to the meeting on the final status of the DINRAC activities during the intersessional period since the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/4).

13. Dr. LIU raised a question about the sustainability of the newsletter and attendance of international meetings. Dr. YAN responded that DINRAC Secretariat will continuously work with partners like Shanghai Rendu to conduct offline marine litter collection campaigns, and DINRAC Secretariat will take more efforts on participation of international conference.

14. The meeting adopted this report.

#### **4.1 Implementation Report on Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in NOWPAP Member States**

15. Dr. YAN, the director of DINRAC Secretariat, presented the progress on the annual summary of major MED available in member states since the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/5).

16. Mr. BABA, Focal Point of Japan, clarified and confirmed that Japan has provided the all 7 categories data from 2010 to 2017.

17. Dr. SALIUK, the Focal Point of Russia, noted that the collected data are presented in different tables with different formats.

18. Dr. Kun LEI, the Focal Point of China, suggested to improve data format of MED database so as to the data obtained from member states could be facilitated for further analysis and other purposes.
19. Dr. PARK mentioned the necessity to discuss a possible way to improve the current practice of MED data collection and suggested to allocate this issue to an agenda item for the 18<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM. The meeting agreed to the Korea's suggestion.
20. The meeting adopted this report.

#### **4.2 Implementation Report on the Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (3<sup>rd</sup> Stage)**

21. Dr. Yoshihisa SHIRAYAMA, the Focal Point of Japan, presented the progress on the collection of data and information on species filed in the red lists of NOWPAP Member States since the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/6).
22. Dr. PARK requested DINRAC Secretariat to recheck the status of the nomination of Korean national expert and submission of a signed MoU. DINRAC Secretariat checked and confirmed that Korean expert has done both in a timely manner.
23. Dr. SALIUK suggested to elaborate possible ICT technologies to facilitate the display of the data collected, if available.
24. The meeting adopted this report.

#### **4.3 Implementation Report on Human Marine Activity Projects (Sustainable Sea Ports)**

25. Dr. SALIUK delivered a presentation on the Implementation plan for Human Marine Activity Projects (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/7).
26. Dr. PARK appreciated Dr. SALIUK's work to improve the project proposal and prepare a form of data collection based on comments and suggestions provided at the last DINRAC FPM.
27. Dr. PARK pointed out that the DINRAC Focal Points and Secretariat of DINRAC should pay more attention to the geographical names used in the meeting documents in order to avoid unexpected conflicts with respect to geographical complexity in the region. She also mentioned the need of further clarification for terms listed in the current data collection form.
28. After lengthy discussion, the meeting agreed that leading expert of this activity will further elaborate the data and information items in the data collection form.
29. The meeting adopted this report.

#### **4.4 Implementation Report for Sea Reclamation State and Management Project**

30. Dr. LEI presented the progress of activity since the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/8).

31. 3Dr. PARK expressed concern over the current text of this activity, due to the different period of Sea Reclamation conducted by each of NOWPAP member states. She suggested that a baseline year to collect data and information for this activity would be 1980s and the scope of data to be collected should be further clarified with textual explanation in the implementation plan. She also elaborated that despite administrative delay to carry out the DINRAC project activities such as sea reclamation, sea port and biodiversity agreed by the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM and approved by the 23<sup>rd</sup> NOWPAP IGM, each project activity is recommendable to be carried out as the time schedule clearly described in the workplan for 2018-2019 and in the MoU signed with national expert designated, respectively, with respect to DINRAC's performance evaluation.

32. After lengthy discussion, the meeting agreed to carry out this activity as scheduled, and to encourage the updated data and information collected accordingly in due time.

#### **4.5 Progress Report on DINRAC Annual Update of Existing Databases**

33. Dr. YAN express that some member states has provided updates for existing databases in 2018, it is suggested to continuously update the existing databases when it is applicable in next biennium.

34. The meeting adopted this report.

#### **4.6 Progress Report on the Development of DINRAC Website and WebGIS System**

35. Dr. YAN presented the progress on the Development of DINRAC Website and WebGIS System since the 16<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPM (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/10).

36. Dr. SALIUK commented that it is considerable to use EXCEL files (or other database tables) to further categorized Records in the Existing databases with matrix parameters for the further data searching or statistical calculations. Dr. Feng YAN responded that the all 17 thematic databases are combination with numbed data and non-structured information, DINRAC Secretariat will try to structure all data in Records into certain form, with prioritized file-pattern such as EXCEL.

37. The meeting adopted this report.

### **Agenda Item 5: Discussion on DINRAC's Work plan and Budget for 2020-2021 Biennium.**

#### **5.1 Proposal for the Development of DINRAC Website**

38. Dr. YAN presented the Proposal for the Development of DINRAC Website (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/11).

39. Dr. LIU suggested it is considerable to ensure the marine litter activity to be one of mainstreaming task for DINRAC in developing Website and WebGIS system.

40. Dr. SALIUK said that it is necessary to plan and improve information technologies used within the allocated budget.
41. The meeting agreed this proposal.

### **5.2 Proposal for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States**

42. Dr. YAN presented the Proposal for Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/12).
43. Mr. BABA suggested that it is considerable to invite outside consultation for dealing with the comparability of the data collected.
44. Dr. PARK readdressed the necessity to discuss a possible way to improve the current practice of MED data collection and suggested to allocate this issue to an agenda item for the 18<sup>th</sup> DINRAC FPs Meeting.
45. After lengthy discussion, the meeting agreed this proposal. It was also encouraged to present more detailed parameters and uniform tables for the selection of comparable data by the DINRAC member states.

### **5.3 Proposal for the Collection of Data and Information on Endangered Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (3rd Stage 2020-2021)**

46. Dr. SHIRAYAMA presented the Proposal for the Collection of Data and Information on Endangered Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (3rd Stage, 2020-2021) (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/13).
47. After lengthy discussion, the meeting agreed this proposal. Dr. LEI passed Chinese national expert's (Dr. LI Hongjun) willingness to lead the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of this activity in 2020-2021 biennium.

### **5.4 Proposal for the Assessment of contemporary climate change air and water characteristics of the coastal zone of NOWPAP area**

48. Dr. SALIUK presented the Work plan for the Assessment of contemporary climate change air and water characteristics of the coastal zone of NOWPAP area (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/14).
49. Dr. PARK suggested to revise the proposal to avoid the overlapping or duplications in existing climate change related results available at the global level.
50. Mr. BABA commented that this activity is also likely to overlap with IOC or NEAR-GOOS, although NEAR-GOOS would collaborate with NOWPAP.



51. Dr. LEI suggested to revise this workplan with the consideration of data availability and suggested to build an inventory of projects/activities for DINRAC.
52. Dr. SALIUK responded that we need to analyze historical long-term variability of MED.
53. The meeting agreed to revisit this proposal at the next DINRAC FPM.

### **5.5 Discussion on NOWPAP DINRAC Workplan and Budget for the 2020-2021 Biennium**

54. Mr. BABA, on behalf of DINRAC Secretariat, presented the budget plan of 2020-2021 biennium, including the organization of a workshop to discuss DINRAC future's activities (the budget plan was not circulated before the meeting).
55. Dr. LEI expressed the necessity on holding experts' meeting to discuss the construction of data format of MED.
56. Dr. PARK agreed to the budget plan in principle. She also requested the Secretariat provide a written document to explain why the workplan and budget for 2020-2021 biennium presented was different from the meeting document distributed. The document shall include background information, current situation and purpose of the modification, and shall be circulated to member states, hopefully within 1 week after this meeting, to facilitate the discussion and share common understanding. The DINRAC Focal Points shall give their feedbacks within 3 weeks after receiving the document delivered by the DINRAC Secretariat.
57. The meeting agreed the Workplan and Budget for the 2020-2021 Biennium. The meeting also designated DINRAC Secretariat to prepare the document as per Dr. PARK suggested.
58. Dr. Park also expressed her concern on how technical activities (rather than brainstorming activities) could contribute and/or to be elaborated into DINRAC's future activities. She suggested, if acceptable, to evaluate the necessity for revision of the overall mandate for DINRAC and its activities to improve DINRAC's performance.

### **Agenda Item 6: Discussion on the further development of the Northwest Pacific Regional Node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter.**

59. Dr. Yan gave the presentation on Implementation plan for the Northwest Pacific Regional Node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter.
60. Mr. BABA requested a clarification on demarcation of the role between DINRAC Focal Points and RAP MALI Focal Points in this activity. Dr. YAN explained that RAP MALI Focal Points are the decision- making body for activities related to RAP MALI and DINRAC Secretariat will enhance connection with RAP MALI Focal Points for the further development of the regional node.
61. Dr. Yoshida TAKAFUMI, on behalf of NOWPAP CEARAC, informed the meeting to translate the current NW Pacific Regional Node into Japanese Language with CEARAC's budget.
62. The meeting agreed this implementation plan.

### **Agenda Item 7: Updates from DINRAC Focal Points**

63. Ms. ASAHARA gave a presentation on introduction of Web-GIS system "MSIL" and showed an example.

64. Dr. SHULKIN raised a question about the possibility of adding the sea water quality and contaminants parameters. Mr. BABA responded that the platform could be customized for the users.

### **Agenda Item 8: Discussion on the coherence for DINRAC' activities with NOWPAP MTS (2018-2023).**

65. Dr. YAN gave the presentation the coherence for DINRAC' activities with NOWPAP MTS (2018-2023) (UNEP/NOWPAP/DINRAC/FPM17/15).

### **Agenda Item 9 : Arrangements of the 18th DINRAC Focal Points Meeting**

66. The meeting agreed to hold the 18<sup>th</sup> DINRAC Focal Points Meeting where the venue and date will be decided later.

### **Agenda Item 10: Other matters**

67. Mr. Yonglong LIU, representative from Shanghai Rendu Ocean NPO Development Center and DINRAC consultant, briefly introduced Rendu's work in the field of Marine litter Management and discussed further cooperation in the near future.

68. Dr. LI introduced his work as national expert for the project on Endangered Species data collection in China and commented that the information status of project on Endangered Species is not consistent within member states.

69. Dr. SALIUK said that is necessary to increase the responsibility of leading experts in carrying out projects regarding the time and forms of presentation of materials according to MoU. And in each MoU for a national expert to specify a leading expert and its contacts.

### **Agenda Item 11 : Adoption of the meeting report**

70. After review, a draft version of meeting report was adopted by the DINRAC Focal Points.

### **Agenda Item 12 : Closure of the meeting**

71. The meeting was closed at 14:45, 23<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

**Annex 1. Proposed NOWPAP DINRAC Workplan and Budgets  
for the 2020-2021 Biennium**

No.	Activities	Budget (USD)		
		2020	2021	Total
1	DINRAC Website upgraded with WebGIS	21,500	21,500	<b>43,000</b>
2	Annual Summary of Major Marine Environmental Data Available in Member States	8,000	15,000	<b>23,000</b>
3	Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States (3rd Stage) collected, compiled	10,000	13,000	<b>23,000</b>
4	Strengthened regional capacity on data and information share; Reports of the 18th and 19th NOWPAP DINRAC Focal Point Meeting prepared	25,000	25,000	<b>50,000</b>
5	Back to back Expert Meeting with FPM	17,000	17,000	<b>34,000</b>
6	Coordination of international cooperation by DINRAC Secretariat	6,000	6,000	<b>12,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>185,000</b>