



**Northwest
Pacific
Action Plan**



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Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting of
the Northwest Pacific Action Plan
Jeju, Republic of Korea
1-2 November 2012

Report of the Meeting

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Introduction

1. The 1st Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) held on 14 September 1994 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, adopted the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP). The 2nd IGM (20 November 1996, Tokyo, Japan) approved the geographic scope of the Action Plan as well as a tentative scale of contributions to the NOWPAP Trust Fund. The 4th IGM (6-7 April 1999, Beijing, People's Republic of China) agreed to establish four Regional Activity Centres (RACs). The 5th IGM (29-30 March 2000, Incheon, Republic of Korea) adopted a procedure for the establishment of the NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU), as well as its Terms of Reference. The 8th IGM (5-7 November 2003, Sanya, People's Republic of China) approved the text of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Regional Cooperation on Preparedness and Response to Oil Spills in the Marine Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region and the related Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan for the NOWPAP region.

2. Since the inception of NOWPAP, the member states have acknowledged the importance of setting up a RCU as a fundamental prerequisite for the successful implementation of the Action Plan. In Resolution 2 of the 6th IGM, the NOWPAP members decided to accept the offers of the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea to co-host RCU offices in Toyama (Japan) and Busan (Republic of Korea), respectively. Following the request of NOWPAP members, UNEP has recruited six staff members for the RCU; the RCU offices were inaugurated on the 1st and 2nd November 2004, in Toyama and Busan respectively.

3. The 10th IGM (24-26 November 2005, Toyama, Japan) decided to start the Marine Litter Activity (MALITA) in the NOWPAP region, to expand the geographical coverage of the NOWPAP Oil Spill Regional Contingency Plan (RCP) and to initiate new directions of work for the NOWPAP RACs. The 11th IGM (20-22 December 2006, Moscow, Russian Federation) decided to carry out the evaluation of the performance of NOWPAP RACs in 2007 in order to further enhance their efficiency and effectiveness. The meeting approved the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) for the NOWPAP RCU and the Focal Points Meetings of CEARAC, MERRAC and POMRAC, and also adopted the General NOWPAP Policy on Data and Information Sharing to facilitate information exchange among the member states and related organizations. The 13th IGM (20-21 October 2008, Jeju, Republic of Korea) decided to conduct RCU performance review with a focus on assessing effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of RCU activities related to overall goal and objectives of NOWPAP, including achievements of planned outputs. The 13th IGM also approved NOWPAP Regional Oil and HNS (Hazardous and Noxious Substances) Spill Contingency Plan. The 14th IGM (8-10 December 2009, Toyama, Japan) discussed the enhancement of NOWPAP RCU performance, based on the performance review, and requested NOWPAP RCU, in close consultation with all NOWPAP RACs, to develop a draft NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy (MTS) to facilitate an effective and efficient implementation of the Action Plan. The 15th IGM (16-18 November 2010, Moscow, Russia) requested NOWPAP RCU to further revise MTS in close collaboration with RACs to reflect suggestions of member states. The meeting agreed that the Korean Government will prepare a draft paper addressing future financial situation of NOWPAP to be discussed at the 16th IGM. The 16th IGM (20-22 December 2011, Beijing, China) adopted revised TOR of NOWPAP RCU and reviewed the NOWPAP MTS 2012-2017 (adopted later on by correspondence). While appreciating the increased contribution of Russia to the Trust Fund, the meeting agreed that the Korean Government would further revise the draft paper addressing future financial situation of NOWPAP and circulate among member states for their comments and suggestions before the 17th IGM.

4. Following the offer of the government of the Republic of Korea to host the 17th NOWPAP IGM, the meeting was held on 1-2 November 2012 in Jeju, Korea.

5. The meeting was attended by representatives of the NOWPAP member states, namely the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation. Directors of the four NOWPAP RACs, representatives of the NOWPAP partners, and RCU staff members also attended. The Resolutions adopted at the meeting are attached in Annex I. The full list of participants is attached as Annex II to this report. The list of documents is attached as Annex III.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

6. The 17th NOWPAP IGM was opened at 09:00 on Thursday, 1 November 2012, in Jeju, the Republic of Korea, by Ms. Kun LEI, the Head of Delegation of the People's Republic of China, hosting state of the 16th NOWPAP IGM. She extended a warm welcome to all participants of the meeting.

7. Ms. LEI expressed her deep gratitude to the organizers of the meeting. She underlined the importance of various NOWPAP activities on marine environment protection such as river basin management, biodiversity conservation, including alien invasive species, and climate change impacts requiring regional cooperation in line with approved NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy.

8. On behalf of the hosting government, Mr. Mun Ki PARK, the Head of Delegation of the Republic of Korea, made a welcome statement and appreciated RCU efforts for preparing the meeting. He noted NOWPAP as a matured, well organized regional platform with remarkable results achieved and explained that the government of the Republic of Korea is greatly interested in NOWPAP activities. He encouraged member states to strengthen cooperation under the framework of NOWPAP to make it a leading regional organization by devoting efforts for the conservation and management of marine environment. He also mentioned that there is an urgent need to have effective measures to secure a healthy budget for NOWPAP.

9. Mr. Teruhiko SHINADA, the Head of Delegation of Japan, expressed his gratitude to the government of Korea and RCU for organizing the meeting. He mentioned some progress on several marine litter related activities, including NOWPAP International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) campaign and workshop that were held in Vladivostok, Russia. Since the government of Japan (an island nation) is considering marine litter as a serious issue, he encouraged member states to continue their efforts through RAP MALI framework. He also mentioned that member states need to consider future financial situation of NOWPAP. He introduced outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference which recognized the oceans, seas and coastal areas as an integral and essential component of the Earth and hoped that NOWPAP could contribute to the conservation of the marine environment.

10. Ms. Natalia TRETIAKOVA, the Head of Delegation of the Russian Federation, stressed the importance of NOWPAP as it had laid down a solid foundation to promote mutual understanding and addressing common challenges. She mentioned the results of the 2012 APEC Summit and the meeting of the Ministers of Environment of APEC members held in Khabarovsk, Russia. She mentioned also some important RAC activities, including NOWPAP DELTA exercise to be organized by the Russian Federation in 2014. She shared recent initiatives of the government of the Russian Federation for the conservation of marine environment by becoming a party of two

IMO Conventions – Ballast Water Management Convention and Anti-fouling Convention. With growing anthropogenic stress, the biodiversity conservation is becoming critical area requiring regional cooperation in line with recent decisions made by the CBD COP-11. She underlined the importance of sharing best practices obtained from neighbouring environmental programmes and projects in the NOWPAP region. She also noted that stabilization of NOWPAP financial situation can be achieved by sustainable contributions from members.

Agenda Item 2: Organization of the Meeting

Agenda Item 2(a): Election of officers

11. According to the NOWPAP practice, the Chairman of the IGM is the representative of the hosting state, the Rapporteur is the representative of the member state to host the next IGM, and two Vice Chairpersons are the representatives of the remaining two member states, respectively. The Meeting agreed to elect the following officers among the representatives of the NOWPAP member states attending the meeting:

Chairman:	Mr. Jae Woong LEE, Republic of Korea
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. Kun LEI, People's Republic of China
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. Natalia TRETIAKOVA, Russian Federation
Rapporteur:	Mr. Teruhiko SHINADA, Japan

Agenda Item 2(b): Organisation of work

12. The Meeting agreed that the rules of procedures of the UNEP Governing Council would be applied for the Meeting with necessary adjustments (e.g., meeting will be conducted in English). Mr. Jae Woong LEE, Chairman of the Meeting, reminded the participants that all the meeting decisions will be made by consensus. He also introduced the list of documents and the provisional timetable for the Meeting (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/INF/1 and UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/INF/3, respectively).

Agenda Item 2(c): Adoption of the agenda

13. After considering the list of documents and provisional agenda submitted by the Secretariat, the meeting adopted the agenda.

Agenda Item 2(d): Presentation of credentials

14. Upon the request of the Chairman, Mr. Alexander TKALIN, NOWPAP Coordinator, confirmed that the delegates of the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation presented their credentials to the Secretariat, which were reviewed and accepted.

Agenda Item 3: Report of the UNEP Executive Director on the implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan

15. Upon the invitation of the Chairman, NOWPAP Coordinator presented the report of the UNEP Executive Director (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/3). He briefed on the major outcomes achieved in 2012 by the four RACs and mentioned that the detailed reports of the four RACs would be presented by the RAC Directors under Agenda Item 4.

16. He also reported on building partnerships, raising public awareness, and resource mobilization through developing new project proposals. He briefly introduced NOWPAP RAP MALI implementation and the status of the resolutions adopted at the 16th Intergovernmental Meeting. The status of the Trust Fund and contributions from member states were also presented.

17. The Meeting appreciated the efforts devoted by member states, NOWPAP RCU and RACs on enhancing public awareness on issues such as marine litter and oil spills, including participation in Yeosu Expo 2012. Member states also appreciated recent efforts by NOWPAP RCU and RACs on successful mobilization of external resources.

18. In reference to the contributions to the NOWPAP Trust Fund, Japan reiterated the request to the member states to make utmost efforts to meet the target amount of annual amount of contribution to the Trust Fund of US\$ 500,000 through equal contribution by four member states. Russia echoed support to the equal contributions in order to maintain NOWPAP activities. The Head of the Korean Delegation mentioned that his government will try to increase contributions to the NOWPAP Trust Fund from 2014.

19. The meeting adopted the report of the UNEP Executive Director on the implementation of NOWPAP in 2012 after discussing other agenda items, as reflected in Resolution 1.

Agenda Item 4: Reports of the implementation of NOWPAP Programme of work 2012-2013 by RACs and RCU

20. Upon the invitation of the Chairman, Directors of RACs, Mr. Hiroshi ONO for CEARAC, Mr. Hongbo SHANG for DINRAC, Mr. Jeong-Hwan OH for MERRAC and Mr. Anatoly KACHUR for POMRAC, presented the reports on their activities in 2012 (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/1-4).

21. After RAC directors' presentations, RCU representative summarised the implementation of the NOWPAP Programme of Work 2012-2013, highlighting the status of the ongoing projects, funding sources, and planned activities for 2013.

22. The representative of Japan commended CEARAC activities, especially on biodiversity and eutrophication in the NOWPAP region, which the government of Japan will continue to support. In response to the concerns raised by POMRAC regarding the project on persistent toxic substances (PTS) and persistent organic pollutants (POPs), a representative of Japan reported that the Japanese expert is under preparation for his work and will be communicating soon with people concerned.

23. The Head of Delegation of the People's Republic of China clarified that Jiaozhou Bay and adjacent area of China, one of the selected areas in the CEARAC project on the "Refinement of the NOWPAP Common Procedure for Eutrophication Assessment", was not within the NOWPAP geographic coverage. She appreciated the work being done in the last year by DINRAC and mentioned that DINRAC had been established as a platform for data and information sharing including atmospheric deposition of contaminants (AD), river and direct inputs of contaminants (RDI), harmful algal blooms (HAB), marine protected areas (MPAs), and marine invasive species (MIS) and hoped the platform to be expanded in the future.

24. The Head of Delegation of the Russian Federation commended efforts of MERRAC to implement oil spill exercises and mentioned that the government of the Russian Federation would host NOWPAP DELTA exercise in 2014, preferably with participation of all four member states. The area for the exercise would be decided later, depending on countries to be involved. She pointed out that the monitoring activities are critical for the marine environment conservation, including PTS and POPs issues which POMRAC is currently dealing with.

25. The Head of Delegation of Korea mentioned that there are more than three hundred MPAs in Korea and twenty of them are managed by MLTM. In this connection, MLTM would follow up with the Korean expert on CEARAC MPAs project. As for the activities being implemented by MERRAC, the government of Korea encouraged MERRAC to focus on oil and HNS related issues. In response to the suggestion by Russia on NOWPAP DELTA exercise planned to be held in 2014, Mr. Chang-Woo HA, a representative of Korea Coast Guard, expressed their willingness to participate by providing several response vessels. In order to implement RAC activities in a more efficient way by avoiding overlap of work among RACs, he pointed out a close collaboration among RACs was needed under the coordination by RCU.

26. Mr. Yihang JIANG, a representative of YSLME, mentioned the MPA networking meeting that was held in October 2012 in Shenyang (China) and stressed the importance of ecological corridors between the MPAs, especially for migratory birds and mammals. He also mentioned that the common procedure for eutrophication assessment introduced by CEARAC could be one of possible areas for cooperation between two organizations as well as coastal environmental assessments which might include new phenomena such as macro algae blooms and jelly fish blooms.

27. Mr. Takeo KURIHARA, a representative of PICES, suggested strengthening collaboration between NOWPAP and PICES in several areas including marine invasive species (MIS) which PICES Working Group 21 is currently dealing with. He added that collaboration between NOWPAP and PICES will help avoiding any possible duplication of work.

28. In response to the concern raised by China, the Director of CEARAC replied that the Jiaozhou Bay was suggested by Chinese CEARAC Focal Point at the 10th CEARAC FPM and it is part of the Yellow Sea, i.e. part of the NOWPAP sea area. In response to the suggestion from PICES, DINRAC agreed to cooperate closely with PICES to avoid any duplication. In response to the suggestion by the Korean government, MERRAC agreed to focus on oil and HNS related issues but may expand its activities depending on available budget and staff.

29. The meeting approved the four RACs reports (Resolution 1 of the meeting).

30. While reporting on CEARAC activities, the Director of CEARAC presented the revised terms of Reference (TOR) for their Focal Points Meeting (FPM) which was agreed at its 10th FPM (2012). China suggested CEARAC to focus on monitoring and assessment of marine and

coastal environment in order to avoid potential overlap with activities of other RACs. The meeting approved the revised TOR (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/5).

Agenda Item 5: Reports by NOWPAP member states and partners on issues related to NOWPAP implementation

31. The Head of Delegation of Japan emphasized the significance of marine biodiversity conservation. He noted that the Government of Japan supported NOWPAP activities on protecting marine environment in line with outcomes of CBD COP-10 and with the National Biodiversity Strategy, which was revised recently. The government of Japan also supports the exchange of information under the framework of RAP MALI. Furthermore, he appreciated NOWPAP participation in the Marine Litter Summit which was held in Kameoka city, Kyoto Prefecture, as an example of collaboration between NOWPAP, NGOs, and local administrations.

32. The Head of Delegation of Korea commended efforts by member states through sharing information on marine litter management and stressed the importance of marine litter monitoring, ICC campaigns and public awareness raising. Since marine litter is a transboundary issue, additional efforts from member states are needed through RAP MALI. He also proposed to circulate the information on national marine litter projects for discussion before the next IGM.

33. The Head of Delegation of the Russian Federation reiterated the necessity of implementation of biodiversity conservation projects in cooperation with NOWPAP member states and shared some recent developments since the last IGM: Russian Federation had become a party of two IMO Conventions – Ballast Water Management Convention and Anti-fouling Convention. She mentioned that the government of the Russian Federation took part in the 3rd Intergovernmental Review Meeting of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) and was elected as a member of the Bureau. With the adoption of the Manila Declaration, the government of the Russian Federation is expecting that NOWPAP might be contributing to the GPA implementation focusing on nutrients, marine litter and wastewater management through the new NOWPAP MTS 2012-2017. She stressed the significance of financial sustainability by following the principle of equal contributions of member states.

34. The Head of Delegation of China stressed the importance of marine litter management and biodiversity conservation. She mentioned the regular monitoring of marine litter in China, National Action Plan to control pollutants input as well as measures addressing invasive species. She mentioned also that these issues have been reflected in the recent five-year national plan.

35. Upon the invitation of the Chairman, representatives of partners, Mr. Chul Hwan KOH for PEMSEA, Mr. Takeo KURIHARA for PICES, Mr. Wenxi ZHU for WESTPAC and Mr. Yihang JIANG for YSLME, were invited to deliver their statements on cooperation with NOWPAP.

36. PEMSEA representative presented the statement where he encouraged close cooperation with NOWPAP in the areas of climate change impacts, protection of marine and coastal biodiversity, mitigating marine litter through integrated coastal and river basin management, implementation of the Regional Contingency Plan for Oil and Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) Spills as well as monitoring and coastal environmental assessments.

37. PICES representative suggested cooperation between NOWPAP and PICES in capacity building, World Ocean Assessment as well as in addressing harmful algal blooms, invasive species and marine pollution.

38. WESTPAC representative presented a statement (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/5/2) where he also attracted the attention of the Meeting to the ongoing World Ocean Assessment, including capacity building activities, and encouraged NOWPAP and WESTPAC member states to actively participate in this endeavor.

39. YSLME representative delivered a statement (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/5/1) which stressed the importance of collaborations between NOWPAP and the second phase of the YSLME project (expected to be started after the GEF Council decisions in November 2012), including the YSLME Commission, the Yellow Sea Partnership and other activities.

Agenda Item 6: Agreement of Cooperation between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP)

40. The NOWPAP Coordinator presented the progress of negotiations on the Agreement of Cooperation between IMO and NOWPAP (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/6) and pointed out that no final agreement was reached on the text yet. He presented two draft versions favoured by UNEP and IMO and asked member states for possible solution.

41. The Head of Delegation of the Russian Federation expressed concern about lengthy process on the agreement and raised a question whether the agreement was really needed for NOWPAP.

42. The delegate from Korea explained that this issue was raised by Japan during MERRAC FPM in 2010 and had been discussed during the last two years.

43. The Head of Delegation of China requested RCU to continue trying to solve the problem with UNEP and IMO in order to finally reach the agreement.

44. After discussion among member states, the meeting requested NOWPAP RCU to continue working closely with UNEP HQs and IMO in order to obtain an observer status for NOWPAP at IMO meetings by finalizing the Agreement of Cooperation. The Chair suggested each member state to make their efforts through their Permanent Representatives to UNEP and IMO in this regard.

Agenda Item 7: Possible measures to address the future financial situation of NOWPAP

45. Upon the invitation of the Chairman, a delegate from Korea introduced the document (UNEP/NOWPAP IG.17/7) which was prepared based on the discussion paper presented at 16th IGM by the Korean government. The Korean delegate apologized for the late submission of the document. She pointed out that earmarked contributions by the Republic of Korea and Japan in support of two RCU offices in Busan and Toyama had not been able to cover expenditures during the past several years due to raising salary costs. She added that the total expenditure

for RCU salaries should not preferably exceed US\$ 1 million per year while the expenditure of US\$ 1.33 million is expected in 2012. She suggested the following options to reduce the RCU expenditure: downgrading the current position levels, reclassifying the positions, changing the contracting status and number of staff in RCU.

46. As the discussion paper was circulated less than two weeks before the meeting, most member states were not ready to make a definite position on the options suggested by the Republic of Korea on the restructuring of the RCU.

47. The Head of Delegation of China mentioned that the document was originally prepared to address the severe situation of the whole NOWPAP Trust Fund two years ago. With increased contributions to the Trust Fund, there is no such urgency to address the issue. Instead, NOWPAP should concentrate on using the funds efficiently on the activities suggested in the new NOWPAP MTS. As this is a sensitive issue, countries should be very careful as restructuring RCU would require amending TOR of RCU and responsibilities of its staff members, which might complicate the situation.

48. The Head of Delegation of Japan appreciated the explanation by Korea on this issue but indicated that the document was prepared by Korea and Japan did not endorse the contents of the document in advance, therefore it should be considered as a Korean discussion document. Japan has no definite position at the moment on what was suggested in the document which focused on RCU staff cost. When it comes to restructuring RCU, countries have to consider various aspects, including the balance of member countries, overall structure, nationalities of staff, posts in the two RCU offices, and rotation of Coordinator and Deputy. In this light, downgrading position levels would be a possible option although other options should be explored as well, such as reducing the number of posts.

49. The Head of Delegation of Russia expressed the wish to keep the RCU structure as it is and concentrate on the NOWPAP activities rather than the staff cost. To improve the financial situation of NOWPAP, first of all it is necessary to reach the target amount of the Trust Fund, US\$ 500,000. The situation could be improved with the increased contributions from China and Korea. By downgrading the RCU posts, NOWPAP is risking to lose its image and recognition.

50. Heads of Delegations of both China and Russia mentioned that increasing cost of RCU operation was inevitable, and RCU host countries should be fully aware of and prepared for such tendency.

51. In response, delegate from Korea stressed that it would be hard for Korea to justify additional budgetary support for RCU operation and it is not reasonable to have high RCU operation cost compared to cost of NOWPAP activities. In this regard, there is a need to either reduce operational cost (salaries) or increase budget for NOWPAP activities.

52. The Head of Delegation of Japan mentioned that relatively low expenditure on activities is due to the fact that member states failed to meet the contribution target of the Trust Fund. He repeatedly called upon all members to have equal contribution to the Trust Fund.

53. NOWPAP Coordinator recalled that NOWPAP was cited as a good example among other UNEP-administered Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans by UNEP representative at the 16th IGM.

54. After taking into consideration of various views expressed by member states, the Chairman suggested RCU to prepare a draft resolution on possible measures to address financial situation of NOWPAP. The Meeting agreed on the suggestion which was later reflected in the Resolution 3 of the meeting.

Agenda Item 8: Rotation of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator between RCU Toyama office and RCU Busan office

55. Upon the invitation of the Chairman, the NOWPAP Coordinator presented the document UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/8 and reminded the decision made by the 16th IGM, which postponed for one year (till around December 2013) the rotation of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator between Toyama and Busan RCU offices.

56. The Head of Delegation of Japan suggested the rotation to take place in December 2013 and mentioned that both the Government of Japan and Toyama Prefectural Government welcome NOWPAP Coordinator to Toyama. All other three countries supported the suggestion made by the Japanese delegate.

Agenda Item 9: Preparation of the Eighteenth Intergovernmental Meeting

57. The Chairman welcomed the offer by the Head of Delegation of Japan for hosting the Eighteenth NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting in Japan. The Head of Delegation of Japan mentioned that Japan would consult internally and communicate the results among all member states and RCU on the venue and dates at a later stage. The meeting most likely will be held in Toyama in December 2013.

Agenda Item 10: Other business

58. There were no other issues raised.

Agenda Item 11: Adoption of the report and resolutions of the meeting

59. The representatives of member states had small group meeting where they discussed the ways to increase contributions and reduce operational costs of NOWPAP. They also discussed the draft meeting resolutions prepared by the RCU. Revised draft was presented to the Meeting in plenary.

60. After discussion, the meeting resolutions were adopted as shown in Annex I. It was also agreed that the report of the meeting with its annexes would be distributed by e-mail in due time and then finalized by correspondence.

Agenda Item 12: Closure of the meeting

61. After customary exchange of closing remarks, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12:00 on Friday, 2 November 2012.

Annex I

Resolution 1

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE 2012-2013 BIENNIUM

The Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting,

1. Approves the Report of the Executive Director of UNEP (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/3) on the progress for the implementation of NOWPAP activities,
2. Approves also the reports of the four Regional Activity Centres of NOWPAP (CEARAC, DINRAC, MERRAC and POMRAC) on the progress for the implementation of NOWPAP in 2012 and the revised TOR for CEARAC Focal Points Meeting (UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/5),
3. Encourages the member states to facilitate and promote the implementation of NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI),
4. Requests NOWPAP RCU and RACs to implement activities of the NOWPAP RAP MALI as agreed and planned, in close collaboration with relevant organizations, programmes and projects, including NGOs and private sector,
5. Encourages NOWPAP RCU and RACs to continue their best efforts to develop partnerships with related organizations, programmes and projects.

Resolution 2

SUSTAINABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NOWPAP TRUST FUND

Recognizing the need to implement current NOWPAP projects and to initiate new activities,

Also recognizing the necessity to increase the total amount of contributions of member states to the NOWPAP Trust Fund to the target amount of US\$500,000, as agreed at the 2nd Intergovernmental Meeting,

Taking note of resolutions of the 16th and previous NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meetings on the necessity to increase the contributions from all NOWPAP member states and also taking note of different positions of member states regarding practical possibilities to increase their contributions,

Complimenting NOWPAP RCU for its efforts on approaching potential donors to seek external funding sources,

The Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting,

1. Agrees to the total annual amount of contributions to the NOWPAP Trust Fund in 2013, in order to secure the sustainability of NOWPAP activities, as presented in Table 1.
2. Encourages all NOWPAP member states to make their utmost efforts to increase their annual contributions to meet the target amount of US\$ 500,000.
3. Encourages the NOWPAP member states, NOWPAP RCU and RACs, to keep on making utmost efforts on seeking additional funding sources (including preparation of project proposals for external funding by RACs and RCU in line with NOWPAP MTS 2012-2017).

Table 1. Scale of contributions for 2013

Member State	Annual contribution (US\$)
People's Republic of China	40,000
Japan	125,000
Republic of Korea	100,000
Russian Federation	125,000
Total	390,000

Resolution 3

NOWPAP EVOLUTION

Recognising the necessity to improve the efficiency of activities conducted by NOWPAP RACs and RCU, taking into account limited funds available,

Bearing in mind the decision of the 7th IGM on the rotation of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator,

Recalling the decisions of the 16th IGM to postpone the next rotation of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator between Busan and Toyama for one year, till December 2013, and that host countries of the RCU will have an intersessional discussion on this issue prior to the 17th IGM in 2012,

Recalling the 16th IGM decisions to further discuss the document UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/7 on possible measures addressing future financial situation of NOWPAP during the 17th IGM in 2012,

Taking note of the proposal presented by the Korean Government and preliminary exchange of views on financial situation of NOWPAP at the 17th IGM,

Taking into account the requests by NOWPAP member states to negotiate, through UNEP headquarters, to obtain an observer status for NOWPAP at IMO and keep NOWPAP member states informed on the progress,

The Seventeenth Intergovernmental Meeting,

1. Decides to undertake the next rotation of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator between the RCU Toyama and Busan offices around 4th quarter of 2013.
2. Takes note of the discussion on possible measures to address financial situation of NOWPAP at the 17th IGM and requests RCU to prepare a scope paper by June 2013 on possible measures on this matter for consideration at the 18th IGM.
3. Requests NOWPAP RCU to continue working closely with UNEP and IMO in order to obtain an observer status for NOWPAP at IMO meetings by finalizing an agreement of cooperation as presented in the document UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/6.

Annex II

List of Participants

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Annex III

List of documents

Working documents

UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/1	Provisional Agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/2	Annotated Provisional Agenda
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/3	Report of the UNEP Executive Director on implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan in 2012
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/1	CEARAC Report of Activities 2012
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/2	DINRAC Report of Activities 2012
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/3	MERRAC Report of Activities 2012
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/4	POMRAC Report of Activities 2012
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/4/5	Revised Terms of Reference for the NOWPAP CEARAC Focal Points Meeting
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/5	Statements of NOWPAP partners
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/6	Agreement of co-operation between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP)
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/7	Possible measures to address the future financial situation of NOWPAP (prepared by the Republic of Korea)
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/8	Rotation of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator between RCU Toyama and Busan offices

Information documents

UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/INF/1	Provisional List of Documents
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/INF/2	Provisional List of Participants
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/INF/3	Provisional Timetable
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 17/INF/4	Host Country Agreements between UNEP, Japan, and the Republic of Korea
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 16/9/Rev. 1	Revised Terms of Reference for the NOWPAP RCU (approved by the 16th NOWPAP IGM)
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 16/10/1/Rev.2	NOWPAP MTS 2012-2013
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 16/10/2/Rev.1	NOWPAP Programme of Work 2012-2013
UNEP/NOWPAP IG. 16/12	Sixteenth Intergovernmental Meeting of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan: report of the meeting