



NOWPAP at UN workshop on regular process

NOWPAP representative attended the Eastern and South-eastern Asian Seas Workshop of the Regular Process on 21-23 February 2012 in Sanya, China. Contributing to the regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, this workshop was designed as a capacity building exercise and brought about 58 participants from 7 countries (including China, Japan and Korea) and several international organizations to assess the needs, gaps and capacity for future assessments for the region. The NOWPAP representative delivered a presentation introducing NOWPAP marine assessment activities implemented in recent years and discussed with partners ways of future involvement in the process. As a co-sponsor, UNEP has provided financial support to the workshop.



NOWPAP co-organized workshop on non-indigenous marine species

NOWPAP representative attended the workshop "Introduction to rapid assessment survey methodologies for detecting non-indigenous marine species (NIS)" that was jointly organized by the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (IOC WESTPAC) and NOWPAP in Nagasaki, Japan, on 8-9 February 2012. Joining 20 experts from 8 countries (including NOWPAP members China, Japan and Korea), the NOWPAP representative introduced NOWPAP activities relevant to NIS in the Northwest Pacific region and gave a briefing on the regional overview on NIS which was recently published by NOWPAP DINRAC. He also learned about the developments of the web-based database on NIS established by PICES WG 21, which is expected to be opened to the public in October 2012.

New programme assistant at NOWPAP RCU

Ms. Gyoung Hee Kim joined NOWPAP RCU and reported to the Busan office on 13 February 2012. With her arrival the administrative work in Busan office will be improved as the post had not been filled since September 2011. Ms. Kim, a Korean national, was working for the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project (YSLME) before joining RCU and it is expected that the experience with the GEF project will facilitate her orientation in the new working environment at NOWPAP.

NOWPAP at IGR-3 and GLOC

Joining more than 400 delegates from about 65 governments and European Commission as well as Intergovernmental Organizations, representatives of NOWPAP attended the Global Conference on Land-Ocean Connections (GLOC) and the Third Intergovernmental Review (IGR-3) Meeting of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) held on 23 -27 January 2012 in Manila, the Philippines.

While attending the plenary and thematic sessions on marine litter, coastal ecosystems, nutrient cycle and UN Regular Process, NOWPAP representatives learned about ocean-coastal emerging issues that are related to NOWPAP activities, such as nutrient inputs from land-based activities leading to eutrophication and coastal hypoxia, input of pollutants from land (such as marine litter, DDT, PCB, etc.) and loss of coastal ecosystem services.

The conference and the review meeting provided a good opportunity for NOWPAP representatives to learn also about the progress of other Regional Seas Programmes and share information about the implementation of NOWPAP activities (several NOWPAP publications were distributed at Manila events).

The IGR-3 was completed successfully with the adoption of Manila Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.



Contract signed between NOWPAP of UNEP and Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea Organizing Committee

NOWPAP and the Organizing Committee have recently signed a contract on NOWPAP participation in the Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea. During the Expo which will run through 12 May - 12 August 2012 in Yeosu city of the Republic of Korea, NOWPAP will present its activities (with the assistance of a designated company) in the Ocean and Coast Best Practice Area with focus on oil spill preparedness and response as well as marine litter management. A number of lectures will be also delivered during the Expo period to promote NOWPAP and enhance public awareness of marine environment conservation. In conjunction with the Expo, the 4th Joint NOWPAP Oil Spill Exercise will be organized on 18 May 2012 in Yeosu city.

Meetings / events attended by RCU staff

- EXPO 2012 International Planning Meeting, 8 February, Seoul, Korea
- APN Workshop on impacts of global warming on coastal and marine ecosystems in the Northwest Pacific, 22-23 March, Jeju, Korea

Visits to www.nowpap.org

From 1 January to 31 March 2012, NOWPAP website had been visited 2,257 times, among which 48% were new visitors.

Ten most frequently visiting countries (out of 61 in total) were:

1. Japan
2. Republic of Korea
3. United States
4. Russia
5. China
6. Philippines
7. United Kingdom
8. Australia
9. Germany



Missions / events planned for the 2nd quarter 2012

- Management Development Programme (MDP), 10-13 April, New York, USA
- Asia Pacific Workshop on Global Partnership on Waste Management, 16-18 April, Osaka, Japan
- 10th CEARAC FPM, 17-18 April, Toyama, Japan
- Asia Pacific Workshop on Integrated Solid Waste Management, 19-20 April, Osaka, Japan
- 10th POMRAC FPM & Workshop on POPs and PTS in the NOWPAP region, 23-25 April, Kanazawa, Japan
- 15th MERRAC FPM, 7th Competent National Authorities Meeting and the 4th NOWPAP Joint Oil Spill Exercise, 14-18 May, Yeosu, Korea
- 2012 International Yeosu Expo, Ocean and Coast Best Practice Area (OCBPA), 13-19 May, Yeosu, Korea
- 10th DINRAC FPM, 23-24 May, Beijing, China