



**IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME FOR THE YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM: RESTORING ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES AND CONSOLIDATION OF A LONG-TERM REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK
(UNDP/GEF YSLME Phase II Project)**

Program of the First Meeting of Regional Working Group on Habitat

Songdo, RO Korea, 5-6 September 2017

Background

Workplan of the Regional Working Group on Habitat for 2017-2019 and the Project Workplan for 2017 were approved by the first meeting of the Interim Commission Council last July in 2017. One of major deliverables of this RWG-H in 2017 is to develop “YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Plan” to preserve habitats that include establishment of regional nature reserves/Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) for coastal wetlands, endangered and vulnerable species and spawning and nursery ground of critical species. Based on decisions of the Interim Commission Council, implementation of activities of these workplans need to consider the following factors:

- Significant delay of the second phase of the Project and delayed establishment of the RWGs and the urgency of implementation of activities immediately;
- Review of planned activities carefully by RWG members who have not participated in the first meeting of the MSTP;
- Maximizing cooperation and coordination among experts of RWGs from participating countries.

In this regard, the 1st meeting of the RWG-H will be held in the Interim Commission Secretariat in Songdo, RO Korea on September 5-6, 2017. The meeting will be organized by the Secretariat.

Objectives and Outcomes of the meeting

The 1st meeting of the RWG-H is expected to achieve the following objectives:

- To review and refine the TOR of RWG-H and workplan for 2017-2019 as necessary and agreement on the work arrangement among RWG members;
- To discuss and agree on the draft program of YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Planning Workshop for distribution by the Secretariat to stakeholders;
- To review and agree on the TORs of the regional activities under purview of the RWG-H to enable expedited implementation of project activities in 2017;

It is expected that the workshop could provide the following tangible outcomes:

- 1) Revised TOR and workplan activities proposed in the 3-year workplan and agreed work arrangement among RWG-H members;
- 2) Revised program of YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Planning Workshop, agreed dates and venue, and speakers identified and budget allocated;
- 3) Cleared TORs of project regional activities and activities with inputs to planning workshop;
- 4) Agenda of next RWG meeting back to back to planning workshop

Participants

- Members of the RWG designated by China and RO Korea
- FIO/SOA, China
- KOEM, RO Korea
- Anyang National Univ., Chungnam National Univ. RO Korea
- Korea Institute of Environment Ecology, RO Korea

Tentative Programme

5 September (Tuesday)	
09:30~10:00	Registration for participants
10:00~10:15	Opening of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome addresses • Introduction of the members and participants
10:15~10:30	Group Photo and Coffee Break
10:30~10:50	Organization of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Chair and designation of rapporteurs • Adoption of agenda
10:50~11:50	Review and refine the following documents approved by the Interim YSLME Commission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference of RWGs and Chairs/Vice Chairs; • TOR of RWG-H; • RWG-H workplan (2017-2019)
11:50~12:10	Review workplan for 2017 and activities, and work arrangement among RWG-H members
12:10~12:30	Key elements of the YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Plan (no documents) and process for adoption (the Chair will facilitate a discussion and agree on draft elements of the YBCP and process for review and adoption by the two countries)
12:30~13:30	Lunch
13:30~14:00	(Continued) Key elements of the YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Plan (no documents) and process for adoption
14:00~15:30	Review the draft YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Planning Workshop (meeting document) (the Secretariat will present the program. It is expected that the meeting will agree on the venue, dates, outcomes of the workshop, sessions and outputs, Chair-co-chairs of each session, speakers from RO Korea and China and other organizations under each session, and facilitators of break-out group discussions, and field visit program)
15:30~15:45	Coffee Break
15:45~16:10	Budget for the workshop
16:10~18:00	Review of Terms of Reference (ToR) of consultants to contribute to the workshop (meeting documents)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Planning Specialist for assessment of coastal and marine habitats and species of critical global and regional significance in the Yellow Sea and drafting of YSLME Biodiversity Conservation Plan • Natural Resource Specialist to Assess Coastal Reclamation and Impact to Critical Coastal Habitats of Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem • Legal Expert to Assist in Strengthening the Capacity of National and Local Government to Improve China's Compliance with International and Regional Treaties and Programs • Consultant to synthesize progress with coastal and marine ecosystem and community impact assessment in YS region • Consultant to harmonize valuation methodologies, standards and guidelines for evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ecosystem-based restoration projects
6 September (Wednesday)	
09:00~11:00	<p>Review of TORs for regional activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 4 of Output 4.1.1: develop strategies and governance mechanisms to achieve regional habitat and species targets at 2 demonstration sites, including assessment of impacts of modification of areas of critical habitats and monitoring the effectiveness of management plans • Activity 2 of Output 4.2.1: analysis of country coastal management guidelines, identification of conservation areas according to planning zones; • Activity 3 of Output 4.2.1: survey and produce overlays to analyze gaps and conservation needs of critical species and habitats (i.e. seal, migratory birds, fish spawning and nursery sites, cold water mass, etc) and make recommendations on new MPAs • Activity 7 of Output 4.4.2. Prepare training modules on ecosystem-based management in LME 1) ecosystem carrying capacity (ECC) – habitat-based and food-chain based approaches for habitat conservation; and 2) ECC: MPA networking
11:00~11:15	Coffee Break
11:15~11:30	Agenda of next RWG meeting back to back to planning workshop
11:30~11:40	Other Business
11:40~11:50	Wrap-up and closure of the Meeting
11:50~	Lunch