



The Indonesia National Coordinating Committee attended the Coordination Mechanisms Working Group meeting in Putra Jaya, Malaysia

The Indonesia National Coordinating Committee (NCC) for Coral Triangle Initiatives Coral reefs, Fisheries and Food security (CTI CFF) attended the Coordination Mechanisms Working Group (CMWG) meeting on 18 February 2014 in Putra Jaya Malaysia. The Indonesia delegation was led by Ms. Sri Atmini and consisted of officials from the Indonesia Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia NCC Secretariat, and partners (TNC and CTC). This meeting was attended by representatives from the government of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Philippines, Solomon Islands and the Independent State of Timor -Leste. The meeting was also attended by CTI Partner representatives (the Government of Australia, the Government of the USA, ADB, TNC, CTC and WWF) and observer from a few organizations including the GIZ. Unfortunately, the representatives from the independent State of Papua New Guinea was unable to attend the meeting due to a travel ban in effect at the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The objective of the meeting was to deliberate on draft documents to guide the process of transitioning to a permanent Regional Secretariat for recommendation to the Council of Senior Officials, such as: Initial Staffing Structure, Operation Plan and Operation Budget; Review and provide feedback on the Host Country Agreement; CTI Communication Guidelines and initiation of a process for generating several proposed CTI core themes.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Anang Nugroho, Chair of the CMWG, who thanked all participants for allocating their time and to the USCTI for supporting the meeting. He then reviewed the progress in the institutional-building of the CTI to date and outlined



the objectives of the day's meeting, and finalization of the CTI Communication Strategy Guidelines. He also reported the status of each country regarding ratification, and informed the participants that Indonesia was still waiting for the President's signature..

The second session of the meeting was begun with a presentation by Ms. Anissa Lawrence of TierraMar Consultants, which had prepared the draft of Operation Plan for the permanent Regional Secretariat for 2014. Participants generally agreed that the draft document was comprehensive but some suggestion from CTI countries members needed to be included to establish the Secretariat such as procurement plan, etc. Participants concluded that a structure of 5 professional staffs was ideal and this should consist of the following: Executive Director; Coordinator; Information Management and Communication Manager; Operation and Office Manager; and Finance Manager. The CMWG also agreed to recommend that the CT6 be ready to



provide their annual contribution. Meanwhile CTI Partners noted that they would provide contributions if the contributions from Coral Triangle Countries could be shown.

The next session was a discussion on the Host Country Agreement (HCA). Professor Stuart Kaye of the University of Wollongong summarized the key aspects of a pre-draft of the HCA prepared by a Legal Specialist : Dr. Milda Kamil of the University of Indonesia. It is not a draft Agreement proposed by GOI. The draft suggested that Indonesia should provide the same level of service as being provided to other international organizations already in Indonesia such as ASEAN Secretariat. However, the final arrangement will ultimately be negotiated and concluded between the GOI and the CTI Executive Director. As we know that the Secretariat location is in Indonesia, therefore some issues regarding immunities, securities, etc must be consulted with the Provincial Government of North Sulawesi. The pre-draft of the HCA prepared by the consultant will be presented to related authorities in Indonesia, especially the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The HCA discussions with the ASEAN Secretariat took three years and we can expect that we will be in a situation where an Executive Director is already in place but the HCA is not there yet. According to Professor Kay, in this situation it does not mean that the Secretariat cannot be operated since the secretariat has legal access. However it will need to be discussed with GOI regarding: What terms and conditions will be accepted by the GOI; How the GOI envision things will operate; what level of immunities and tax exemption will be charged and many more. In order to facilitate and expedite the establishment of a

permanent Regional Secretariat, the CMWG was proposed to provide feedback on the pre-draft of the HCA to inform the further drafting and negotiation of a HCA. The terms of the HCA will have important implications for the budget and operations of the permanent Secretariat.

The next session on the agenda was the finalization of the CTI Communication Strategy Guideline. The Interim Regional Secretariat provided a short presentation on actions that would be undertaken to strengthen communication within the CT Countries. From the discussion the participants agreed that the key target audience and key messages need to be identified to get focus on outreach campaign.

The meeting was closed by Mr. Anang Nugroho with some recommendations that there would be one more meeting to prepare and finalize recommendations prior to the Special Meeting of the Council of Senior Officials and Council of Ministers in May 2014.



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