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Facility

***Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends
in the
South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand***

REPORT

**Eighth Meeting of the Regional Working Group for
the Mangrove Sub-component**

Koh Kong, Cambodia, 19th – 22nd April 2007



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Report of the Meeting

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 Welcome Address on behalf of UNEP

1.1.1 Dr. John Pernetta, Project Director opened the meeting, at 0830 on 19th April 2007, and welcomed participants on behalf of the UN Under-Secretary General and Executive Director of UNEP, Dr. Achim Steiner; and the Deputy Executive Director of the UNEP, and Officer-in-Charge of the UNEP Division of Global Environment Facility Co-ordination, Mr. Shafqat Kakakhel.

1.1.2 Dr. Pernetta noted that originally it had been planned that the eighth meeting of the working groups would be the last but in the light of the extension of activities to the first half of 2008 it was envisaged that a 9th and final meeting would be convened next year.

1.1.3 Dr. Pernetta noted further that the meeting would need to review the Total Economic Values for mangroves calculated by the Regional Task Force on Economic Valuation (RTF-E) and consider the cost benefit analysis that would be included in the next draft of the Strategic Action Programme. In addition the meeting would need to consider plans at the national level to adopt the National Action Plans and to review the Strategic Action Programme.

1.1.4 A further important item on the agenda was the consideration of plans for the conduct of national echo-seminars following the completion of the regional training course in Penang. Since it was likely that some costs would be associated with support by the Specialised Executing Agencies to the conduct of these national echo seminars it would be necessary to revise the budgets and extend the MoUs.

1.1.5 Dr. Pernetta noted with pleasure that His Excellency Mr. Yuth Phouthang, the Governor of Koh Kong Province had taken time from his busy schedule to attend the opening session of the meeting and to say a few words on behalf of the Provincial Government. He invited the Governor to address the meeting.

1.2 Opening Statement by the Representative of Koh Kong Provincial Government

1.2.1 His Excellency Mr. Yuth Phouthang, Governor of the Koh Kong Province welcomed participants to Koh Kong and to the meeting. He expressed thanks to UNEP, the GEF and the South China Sea Project for their support, both technical and financial, to the activities of the Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary.

1.2.2 The Governor noted that in the past, the cutting of mangroves for charcoal and clearance for aquaculture pond construction had both been activities contributing to the degradation of the mangrove habitat but that the Provincial Government has worked hard in cooperation with relevant agencies of the central Government to develop sustainable use of mangroves. He noted further that the regional SAP was a key to more sustainable use of coastal habitats and resources bordering the South China Sea.

1.2.3 In conclusion the Governor wished the meeting all success and on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, expressed the hope that participants would be able to visit the Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary and would enjoy their stay in Koh Kong.

1.3 Introduction of Participants

1.3.1 Dr. Pernetta noted that Dr. Do Dinh Sam had retired in early April from Government Service and his replacement had not yet been designated, hence regrettably Viet Nam was not represented in the meeting. He noted further that two of the regional experts, Dr. Sanit Aksornkoae and Dr. Nguyen Hoang Tri were unable to be present in the meeting, but that both of these individuals would be involved in the regional training course.

1.3.2 It was noted that no new members were present in this meeting and that the regional working group had now worked together for five years hence there was no necessity for members to introduce themselves to the meeting. The list of participants is provided in Annex 1 of this document.

2. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING

2.1 Election of Officers

2.1.1 Members recalled that during the fifth meeting Mr. Nyoto Santoso, Focal Point for Indonesia, Dr. Gong Wooi Khoo, expert member from Malaysia and Dr. Nguyen Hoang Tri, expert member from Viet Nam, were elected as Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Rapporteur respectively. During the sixth meeting Mr. Santoso was re-elected as Chairperson, and Mr. Florendo Barangan and Mr. Ke Vongwattana were elected as Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur respectively.

2.1.2 Members recalled further that during the seventh meeting Dr. Hangqing Fan, Dr. Sonjai Havanond, and Dr. Do Dinh Sam were elected as Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur respectively. Members were reminded that the Rules of Procedure state that the Regional Working Group shall elect from amongst the members a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur and that, such officers may be re-elected no more than once. All three officers have served for one year Hence both Dr. Fan and Dr. Sonjai were both eligible for re-election.

2.1.3 The Project Director called for nominations of individuals as officers of the Regional Working Group on Mangroves. Dr. Gong proposed and Mr. Koh Hock Lye seconded the nomination of Dr. Fan as Chairperson. Mr. Koh nominated Mr. Vongwattana as Vice-Chairperson and this nomination was seconded by, Dr. Sonjai. Dr. Fan nominated Mr. Koh as Rapporteur and this nomination was seconded by, Mr. Santoso. The officers were elected by acclamation.

2.2 Documentation and Administrative Arrangements

2.2.1 The Chairperson invited the Project Director to introduce the documents available to the meeting, a list of which was presented in document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/Inf.2. He noted that documents had been lodged on the project website in advance of the meeting. Members were invited to table any additional documents including copies of new national publications if any. The list of documents available to the meeting is contained in Annex 2 of this report.

2.2.2 Dr. Pernetta noted that, the documents included the reports of progress at the demonstration sites, the latest draft of the Strategic Action Programme, and documents relating to the Total Economic Values of mangroves as calculated by the RTF-E. Dr. Pernetta briefly introduced the published reports and noted that two meetings of the RTF-E had been held in January and March this year the reports of which were included in the meeting folder.

2.2.3 The Chairperson invited Dr. Pernetta to introduce the draft programme for the conduct of business contained in document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/Inf.3. Members noted that as usual the meeting would be conducted in English and in plenary.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

3.1 Dr. Fan, the Chairperson introduced the Provisional Agenda prepared by the Project Co-ordinating Unit (PCU) as document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/1, and the Annotated Provisional Agenda, document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/2 (this document), and invited members to consider the agenda, and propose any amendments or additional items for consideration.

3.2 There being no proposals for amendment or additions to the agenda it was adopted as it appears in Annex 3 of this report.

4. STATUS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS FOR 2006: PROGRESS REPORTS; EXPENDITURE REPORTS; AND AUDIT REPORTS

4.1 The Chairperson invited the Project Director to introduce document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/4, *"Current status of budgets and reports from the Specialised Executing Agencies in the participating countries"* and to draw to the attention of the meeting any outstanding issues or matters requiring the attention of the working group. As of 30th January 2007, progress and expenditure reports from Indonesia, Philippines and Viet Nam for the period 1st July – 31st December 2006, had been received by, the Project Co-ordinating Unit.

4.2 Dr. Pernetta noted that members had been asked to ensure that outstanding reports were forwarded to the PCU in advance of the meeting for finalisation during the meeting and noted with regret that this had not been done. Dr. Pernetta stated that after 5 years of involvement in the project, all members should be very familiar with the procedures for reporting on progress and expenditures. He noted that reports were due within 30 days of the end of the reporting period that is by 30th July and 31st January, and noted with regret that three sets of reports for the period July to December 2006 were outstanding.

4.3 Dr. Pernetta noted that projects in UNEP normally required quarterly reporting and that the six months adopted in the South China Sea Project had been an experiment in reducing the reporting load. He noted further that because of the failures of the SEAs to report on time in this project it was unlikely that future UNEP projects would use a six-month reporting period but that they would revert to a quarterly reporting period.

4.4 From Table 2 of the document it could be seen that the only countries that were up-to-date were Indonesia and Viet Nam. In this connection Mr. Barangan noted that he had brought with him the final signed reports for the Philippines. Table 3 outlining the Status of Demonstration Site reports indicated that a number of reports were outstanding as were a number of audit reports. Dr. Pernetta reminded members that audit reports are due by 31st March of the year following the expenditures.

4.5 The attention of members was drawn to Table 6, which detailed the co-financing for this component of the project and from which it could be seen that actual co-financing was in excess of twice the anticipated amounts. In considering cash balances held by the SEAs Dr. Pernetta noted that US\$24,000 in respect of the Trat demonstration site was still unaccounted for as was US\$21,000 transferred to Thailand for national level activities. He noted that funds currently held by the SEAs would need to be spent and accounted for by end of June 2007.

4.6 Dr. Pernetta noted that substantial cash sums were held in respect of the demonstration sites and that this was unlikely to be a true reflection of the situation since expenditure reports had not been received but expenditures had taken place over the period July to December 2006. Dr. Fan apologized for the delays in reporting on the Fangchenggang expenditures, which were the result of a need to clarify the tax liability of one of the partners, he stated that the situation had now been clarified and he anticipated having all documents necessary for completion of the report by the end of the month.

4.7 Dr. Pernetta requested members to take administrative matters seriously since the financial accounts of the project needed to be closed by the end of 2008. He noted that one of the consequences of not filing reports by June 2008, was that the Specialised Executing Agency involved might be black-listed by UNEP, prejudicing their possibilities for future involvement with UNEP projects.

4.8 Mr. Barangan noted that in the case of the Philippines the DENR had commissioned an audit of all components, and noted that he would request that a separate report be prepared for the mangroves in the Philippines. Mr. Santoso noted that a similar situation applied in Indonesia where expenditures under all components were being audited together. He noted that the audit report would be submitted to the PCU by 15th August. Mr. Vongwattana noted that the Cambodian reports had been sent to the PCU on 12th April, comments have been received and the report will be finalised immediately. He noted that Price Waterhouse had been commissioned to undertake the audit but would not be able to complete the audit until June.

4.9 Dr. Sonjai noted that there had been problems with progress at the Trat Demonstration site that had resulted in funds not being disbursed according to the original schedule. Dr. Pernetta noted that Thailand's financial record was not good and that he hoped expenditures would speed up and that the planned outputs and outcomes would be produced before the end of the project.

5. STATUS OF THE SUBSTANTIVE OUTPUTS

5.1 Publication of National Reports in National Languages and English

5.1.1 Members recalled that national mangrove reports have been produced by all countries, with the exception of the Philippines'. Members were informed that the National Mangrove Reports in English have already been edited and formatted, and are ready for printing. The member from the

Philippines was requested to advise the meeting whether or not the national report would be finalised and presented in the near future. In response Mr. Barangan noted that this had been finalised although not yet printed and he anticipated it would be printed in the next three months.

5.2 Status of Finalisation, Adoption and Implementation of the National Action Plans

5.2.1 The Project Director reminded members that prior to the sixth meeting of the RWG-M in August 2005 revised NAPs had been received only from Cambodia, China and Viet Nam. The revised Indonesian NAP was tabled in hard copy during that meeting, however no revisions of the Thailand and Philippines National Action Plans were provided. It had been agreed that second revisions of the National Action Plans of Thailand and the Philippines would be circulated by December 2005. Regrettably, second revisions of these NAPs had not been received by the PCU by the time of the seventh meeting in September 2006, which noted that, the NAPs would be approved according to the following timetable: China and Viet Nam, December 2006; Cambodia, November 2006; Indonesia and Thailand, June 2007; Philippines, June 2007. As of the present time no mangrove NAP has apparently been approved by the respective government.

5.2.2 Dr. Fan noted that the 3rd IMC meeting in April 2007 had considered and approved all the NAPs, although there was a need to revise the costs of activities and more clearly define the organizations/agencies responsible for the implementation of the NAP activities. Mr. Santoso noted that all relevant ministries/agencies had approved the content of the Indonesian mangrove NAP and that a National Mangrove Task Force had been created consisting of four ministries: Department of Coastal and Marine; Department of Forestry; Department of Environment; and Department of Home Affairs; with IMRED as the Secretary of the group. He noted that the Task Force had agreed on the need for a legal umbrella, and that it was currently drafting a Presidential Decree, for implementation of the NAP but that in the meantime the NAP was being implemented. He noted that a letter from the Department of Home Affairs had been sent to all Governors of coastal provinces in Indonesia regarding the implementation of the NAP. He noted that he would provide the final version to the PCU.

5.2.3 Mr. Vongwattana noted that in Cambodia the Coastal Zone Steering Committee had considered the NAP and that the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, would like to add to the content of the NAP, as would several other agencies. He envisaged the Cambodian NAP would be finalised and approved by the end of 2007. In the case of the Philippines Mr. Barangan noted that the NAP would be finalised end of the first half of 2007 when it would be published for dissemination.

5.2.4 Dr. Sonjai noted that the Thai NAP had been prepared and disseminated in Thai language and that a meeting had been convened last month to consider comments. It was proposed to convene a large national consultative meeting in August, with the aim of submitting the NAP to cabinet in December. Dr. Pernetta asked Dr. Sonjai when the PCU could expect to receive the English version of the mangrove NAP for Thailand and reminded Dr. Sonjai that an expected output was an English language version of the NAP. Dr. Sonjai noted that he would send this to the PCU next month.

5.3 Update of the Regional GIS Database and Meta-database and Use of the Project Website

5.3.1 The Focal Points were reminded of their agreed responsibility to ensure that they present new mangrove related GIS and metadata sets to the Project Co-ordinating Unit as they become available at the national level, and their prior agreements during the sixth meeting regarding revision and updating of national data for inclusion in the regional databases on-line. Dr. Pernetta directed the attention of the meeting to Table 2, on page 3 of document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/5. He noted that this contains information concerning when data were submitted to the GIS and meta-databases. The Project Director invited members to advise the meeting regarding new data sets and entries that have been placed on-line since the seventh meeting.

5.3.2 In terms of the use of the website for exchange of information and experiences through new functions including e-fora, demonstration site pages and on-line up-dating of the regional meta-database; the RWG-M started actively discussing the issue of EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) particularly in respect of the building of a Tourism Facilities Complex in an area of 200ha of mangroves and seagrass in Viet Nam initiated by Dr. Hoang Tri in October 2006. 10 postings were

made between 29th September and 28th October 2006 following the meeting but there the discussion ended. This perhaps reflects the fact that the original software used did not send e-mail alerts if a previous alert had not been activated. That software programme was changed on 12th November, 2006.

5.3.3 It was noted that Mr. Santoso had agreed to moderate the discussions during November following which each national focal point was to have taken responsibility for discussions for one month commencing with Viet Nam and proceeding in reverse alphabetical order.

5.3.4 Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that during the 6th meeting in Siem Reap, the PSC had agreed that the PCU in consultation with SEA-START-RC convene an Information Technology (IT) workshop regarding the further development and long-term sustainability of the website. The aim of the workshop would be to examine and recommend ways to enhance the capacity of members of the SCS network in using this modern technology to sustain project activities beyond the GEF funding.

5.3.5 Dr. Fan noted that ongoing work in Guangxi, China might result in new GIS data becoming available later this year and made a commitment to update the regional GIS data by the end of 2007. Mr. Vongwattana noted that he had submitted data following the last meeting to the GIS, whilst Mr. Santoso noted that he was in the process of revising the data. Mr. Barangan noted that the National Mapping and Resource Inventory Authority had been requested to provide GIS data for the SCS coast of the Philippines and that he anticipated this would be made available during 2007. Dr. Sonjai noted that Thailand would publish a report on GIS and meta-data within the next month.

5.3.6 In relation to the use of the e-forum discussion facility of the project website Dr. Fan expressed his opinion that the nature of the topic under discussion was critical in stimulating members to contribute, and participate or not. He noted that members should have some common interest in the topic at hand and suggested that the group might wish to use the forum to discuss how to continue the activities of the group beyond the end of the project.

5.3.7 Mr. Santoso noted that he had visited the website after the 2006 meeting of the RWG-M but had not contributed anything. He noted that sometimes the Internet connection at his institution cuts out and that it was very slow such that he does not use the Internet very often.

5.3.8 Mr. Vongwattana noted that he had distributed information regarding the URL address for the website to members of the national committees in Cambodia to improve awareness of the project outcomes.

5.3.9 Dr. Gong noted that there were apparently two major reasons for the low use of the discussion fora: people were not familiar with the use of e-forum, and as in the case of Indonesia poor internet connections in some areas. Dr. Fan noted that language was a challenge to which Dr. Pernetta responded that the site included software to complete an automatic translation of the web page into Chinese and seven other languages.

5.3.10 Mr. Christopher Paterson demonstrated the use of the South China Sea Project and several tools aimed at improving communication between project partners and for extending project news and information to the project's partner network and other interested parties. These tools include:

- The partner network contacts database
- Information pages for the Regional Working Group on Mangroves
- Information pages for each of the mangrove habitat demonstration sites
- The online multi-media centre containing videos and other audio-visual material produced by project participants
- Electronic discussion forums
- The SCS "Blog"
- RSS news feeds
- An online "helpdesk"

5.3.11 Mr. Paterson showed all members how to log into the project website, and how to contribute information to e-forum discussions and the pages for the RWG-M and mangrove habitat demonstration sites. He also demonstrated the use of the online "helpdesk" on the home page.

5.3.12 It was agreed that members would take responsibility on a monthly basis for stimulating discussion on the e-forum. The responsibilities of each of the members are as follows:

May – Dr. Gong
June – Dr. Fan
July – Mr. Vongwattana
August – Mr. Koh
September – Mr. Santoso
October – Mr. Barangan
November – Dr. Sonjai
December – Dr. Pernetta
January – Dr. Hoang Tri
February – Vietnamese focal point
March – Dr. Gong
April – Dr. Fan
Etc.

5.3.13 Dr. Fan suggested and the meeting agreed that the trainees in the mangrove training course should be permitted to contribute to the e-forum and Mr. Paterson agreed that each participant in the training course would be registered as a user of the e-forum, with assigned rights to contribute to the mangrove e-forum discussions.

6. REVIEW OF THE MANGROVE TRAINING COURSE

6.1 Review of Materials produced for use in the Training Course

6.1.1 The Chairperson invited the Project Director to brief the meeting on the status of training activities planned in support of the mangroves sub-component and mangrove demonstration site interventions. The Project Director reminded members that, during the seventh meeting of the RWG-M in September 2006, members had commented on the minimum content for a joint mangrove and wetland, training course proposed by the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee. They had also identified training topics for which the expert members of the RWG-M could act as resource persons during course delivery, and had commented on potential implementing entities for the course.

6.1.2 Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that the seventh meeting of the RSTC convened in Siem Reap, Cambodia during November 2006 had recommended that the proposed joint mangroves and wetlands course be split into two independent courses, one on mangroves and one on wetlands. The rationale for this decision was that the two weeks allocated to the joint training course were considered insufficient to adequately cover both mangroves and wetlands in depth. In this connection, Dr. Pernetta noted that a proposal for a “*UNEP/GEF/SCS Training Course on Sustainable Use of Mangrove Ecosystems*” had been received by the PCU from the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and had subsequently been approved by the RSTC subject to amendments to the proposed budget. Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that: an MoU covering the conduct of the mangrove training course had been agreed with Universiti Sains Malaysia; USAINS the commercial arm of the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) had agreed to manage the conduct of the training course; and that the training course would be convened in Penang, Malaysia from 25th April to the 8th May 2007.

6.1.3 Dr. Pernetta noted that the original purpose of this agenda item was to review materials produced for the training course. He explained that, since the course had not yet been conducted, this would not be possible during the course of the meeting. Instead he suggested, and the meeting agreed that, Dr. Gong, one of the course Co-Directors, could provide the meeting with an overview of several of the resource persons’ PowerPoint presentations she had on hand.

6.1.4 Dr. Gong noted that she had brought PowerPoint Presentations to the meeting that would be used by the expert members of the RWG-M, namely Professors Sanit Aksornkoae and Nguyen Hoang Tri, and herself in the delivery of the course. She noted that these presentations covered topics including: Introduction of Participants and Trainers; Introduction to Mangroves; Mangrove Tree Productivity; Carbon and Nutrient Fluxes in a Mangrove Ecosystem; Mangrove Rehabilitation; Mangrove Degradation and Causal Chain Analysis; and the Economic Valuation of Mangrove Ecosystems. Dr. Gong proceeded to present a slide show to be used in the training course on Mangrove Tree Productivity.

6.1.5 Dr. Gong briefed members on the educational background and professional expertise of the trainees and resource persons. Dr. Gong noted that course participants had a diverse range of professional backgrounds, with individuals involved in forestry, fisheries and mariculture, ecology, conservation, tourism, education, resource economics, rural development, and management. She noted that all participants except one had tertiary qualifications in relevant disciplines.

6.1.6 Dr. Gong noted further that the following individuals would act as resource persons: Dr. John Pernetta (keynote address on carrying capacity); Professor Sanit Aksornkoe (mangrove rehabilitation); Professor Nguyen Hoang Tri (mangrove degradation and causal chain analysis); Dr. Jurgenne Primavera (aquaculture, community participation); Dr. Ong Jin Eong (mangrove structure and function, productivity, detrital pathway, estuarine circulation, Kyoto Protocol and carbon trading, field trips, and general discussion); Dato' Razani Ujang (Matang mangrove management); Dr. Sasekumar (mangrove fauna); Mr. Tan Kim Hooi (mangrove flora, ecotourism); Dr. Tye Shzee Yew (mangrove economics); Professor Zulfigar Yasin and Dr. Aileen Tan (introduction to the Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies); Dr. Foong Swee Yeok (phosphorus cycle); Mr. Kumaradevan (demonstration of photosynthesis and respiration measurements); and herself (introduction of participants, introduction to mangroves, productivity and respiration, carbon and nutrient budgets, field trips, and general discussion).

6.1.7 In response to comments from several members that the course appeared to be highly technical and theoretical in nature, Dr. Gong noted that participants would gain practical exposure to mangrove management during several field trips. She highlighted that participants would visit the Merbok Mangroves in Kedah, USM's Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies, and the world renowned Matang Mangrove Forest Reserve.

6.1.8 Dr. Gong informed the meeting that the Merbok field exercise was aimed at introducing participants to the flora and fauna of a mangrove area that has extremely high plant diversity. Participants would be involved in the collection of both plants and animals during this exercise for laboratory identification exercises at USM. The participants will also be introduced to the consequences of loss of mangrove area, due to conversion for aquaculture and housing. Activities during the second field trip include demonstration of a variety of items of eco-physiological equipment, and the ongoing research activities of the USM's Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies, and practical exercises involving the measurement of photosynthesis in a forest canopy. Dr. Gong noted that the field trip to the Matang Mangrove Forest Reserve was aimed at introducing participants to the sustainable management of mangroves primarily for timber production and how this has been achieved at this 40,000 hectare mangrove forest over the past century.

6.2 Organisation of, and support to the National Echo-seminars

6.2.1 Members were reminded that the trainees attending the regional training courses are expected to conduct "National Echo seminars" over a 1 to 3 day period following the completion of the regional training course, and that the Specialised Executing Agencies and the Focal Points for the corresponding sub-component of the project are expected to provide logistic support as required. Members were invited to brief the meeting on the arrangements for the national echo seminars.

6.2.2 Dr. Gong noted that participants had been allocated time during the final days of the training course to prepare for national "echo" seminars. Dr. Pernetta informed members that funds were available in the GEF project grant to support these national level echo-seminars, and requested members to brief the meeting on any arrangements that had been made for the conduct of the seminar, and prepare budgets during the meeting.

6.2.3 Dr. Fan informed the meeting that the mangrove "echo" seminar in China would be convened at the Fangchenggang Mangrove Education Centre in May 2007. He indicated that approximately 50 individuals would participate in the seminar, including stakeholders of the Fangchenggang mangrove habitat demonstration site, representatives of several relevant NGOs, and officials of local government agencies and institutes. He expressed his view that the echo seminar in China should cover all the content of training course in brief, and focus on aspects of mangrove science and management that are of particular relevance to the Fangchenggang demonstration site.

6.2.4 Mr. Vongwattana recommended that in the case of Cambodia two echo seminars be convened at the Peam Krasop mangrove and wetland demonstration site during July 2007. He suggested that the first seminar be held at the provincial level (Koh Kong Province) with a target audience of 25 representatives of government departments and agencies associated with the implementation of demonstration site activities. The second seminar will be aimed at the local community at the demonstration site, involving up to 50 representatives of villages within the Peam Krasop conservation area. He noted that the seminars would cover the entire content of the training course in brief.

6.2.5 Mr. Santoso informed the meeting that two "echo" seminars would be convened for the mangrove sub-component in Indonesia. The first, a provincial level seminar will be attended by, key stakeholders in mangrove management in Indonesia, including Departments of Forestry, Coastal and Marine, and Environment, as well as prominent academics. The second, a site level seminar will involve the village heads from each of the 20 coastal villages in the area of the Batu Ampar demonstration site, as well as representatives from local government departments and agencies. The provincial and site level seminars will be attended by, no more than 30 and 26 individuals, respectively.

6.2.6 Dr. Sonjai noted that there are 22 communities within the area of the Trat, Thailand demonstration site. He expressed the view that involving school teachers from each of these communities in the national "echo" seminars would assist in improving mangrove education currently conducted in local schools at the site. Dr. Sonjai estimated that 50 individuals would participate in a single "echo" seminar in Thailand, including 22 school teachers, six local officials, and the heads of the 22 villages in the area.

6.2.7 In response to a statement from Dr. Sonjai regarding the use of training materials previously developed in Thailand for the Thai "echo" seminar, Dr. Pernetta reminded the group that the purpose of the seminars is to "echo" the content of the regional training course. He noted that participants in the regional courses are required to develop specific training materials in local languages for use in the national seminars, and it is a requirement that these be sent to the PCU for loading to the project website.

6.2.8 Mr. Barangan noted that individuals attending the course from the Philippines will jointly deliver two echo seminars, one in the south and one in the north of the Philippines coast of the South China Sea during June 2007. The Southern course may be held at Mindoro and participants will come from 5 provinces, 7 coming from Busuanga (4 community.3 officials), 6 from DENR (including the 3 involved in the regional training course). In the northern course there will be 20 participants. Mr. Barangan indicated that the seminars would be held in early June 2007 at an estimated cost of US\$6,000.

6.2.9 Mr. Koh noted that since there will be only one Malaysian participant in the regional training course on mangroves, he suggested, and the meeting agreed, that this individual should collaborate with the Malaysian participants in the regional training course on wetlands to deliver a joint mangrove and wetland "echo" seminar in Malaysia.

7. PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION; EVALUATION; AND COMPLETION OF THE DEMONSTRATION SITE ACTIVITIES

7.1 Fangchenggang, China

7.1.1 The Project Director reminded members that, not only do the Focal Points have responsibility for periodically reporting on the status of these sites to the RWG-M, but also, the RWG-M has a collective responsibility to ensure successful implementation through the provision of oversight and guidance. Accordingly during the Seventh Meeting of the RWG-M in Pontianak, Indonesia, it was agreed that full written reports of outputs resulting from the implementation of the demonstration sites would be submitted to the PCU for inclusion in the documents of the meeting.

7.1.2 Such reports were included amongst the meeting documents together the mid-term self-evaluation reports from Fangchenggang, Trat, and Peam Krasop. It was noted that the self-evaluation reports do not include copies of the outputs generated to date and members had been requested to bring such outputs to the meeting for consideration of other members.

7.1.3 The Chairperson invited the relevant focal points to make presentations regarding the status of activities in the mangrove demonstration sites. Copies of the presentations will be lodged on the project website, after the meeting and focal points were requested to highlight any lessons learned to date.

7.1.4 The Chairperson initiated proceedings by providing the meeting with an overview of progress and outputs to date at the Fangchenggang mangrove demonstration site in China. He noted that activities at the Fangchenggang site are managed under five components, including cross-sectoral management, financial sustainability, legislation, capability building, and biodiversity conservation, and he proceeded to outline achievements and outputs according to these components.

7.1.5 In terms of the establishment of cross-sectoral management at the site, Dr. Fan reported the following activities and achievements: the signing of an agreement covering the execution of project activities at the site with GMRC, BEMNR, and Xindi Co.; prevention of power-line installation across the urban mangrove site; a consultation meeting for application for National Urban Wetland Park and completion of plans for the urban mangrove marine park by the Xindi Company; development of guidelines for the management of the Fangchenggang mangrove site; establishment of the Fangchenggang project website as a means of improving communication and dissemination of information; and establishment of a mangrove friendly association and mangrove co-management association. He noted that key outputs included: the drafting of zoning plans: to protect coastal bird habitats and wild *Heritiera littoralis*; for the urban mangrove wetland park; and for the Beilun Hepu National Reserve.

7.1.6 Dr. Fan reported significant achievements in terms of initiatives aimed at ensuring the longer-term financial sustainability of activities at the site. He noted that during the past year Xindi Co. had conducted a study to identify potential revenue streams from mangroves at the site, and had subsequently initiated the testing of eco-farming at the site. Dr. Fan informed the meeting that the site has also been successful in securing a total of 4,600,000 Chinese Yuan and 30,000 US Dollars cash co-financing for the site. A review of existing laws and regulations relating to the management of the site has been completed; including recommendations regarding the harmonization of legislation for improved mangrove management has been submitted to officials of the Guangxi Provincial Government.

7.1.7 Dr. Fan informed the meeting that recent capacity building activities at the site have included: completion of the Fangchenggang mangrove education centre and associated audio-visual displays (display of 110 specimens of mangrove benthos, CD-ROM, DVD, 12 notice boards, four posters, two brochures, mangrove reading materials for elementary schools); workshop on sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems in southern China (51 participants); training course on avifauna in mangroves for mangrove managers and researchers (held at the Fangchenggang site), training course of public participation in mangrove areas for mangrove managers; photograph of Fangchenggang mangroves included on a series of national postage stamps promoting biodiversity conservation in China; involvement of in excess of 1000 individuals in mangrove replanting and educational activities.

7.1.8 Dr. Fan also noted that due to their involvement in the Fangchenggang demonstration site, Mr. Su Bo and Mr. Li Wuzheng had been recently promoted to the positions of the Director of the Shankou National Nature Reserve and the Beilun National Nature Reserve, respectively. The first post graduate student to conduct research at the site, Ms. Zeng Cong, recently graduated at the Masters Degree level. Her research focused on *Heritiera littoralis*.

7.1.9 Dr. Fan also reported a range of outputs from activities aimed at improving the conservation of biodiversity at the site. These include the construction of two nurseries, and the cultivation of 2,000 seedlings of *Heritiera littoralis* and more than 20 species of endangered coastal plants. Dr. Fan noted that approximately 20 hectares of *Rhizophora stylosa* mangroves have been planted to improve the urban *Avicennia marina* landscape at the site.

7.1.10 Dr. Fan reported an interesting development at the site in that there has been an increase in the collection of the roots of *Acanthus* for use in self treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, that had resulted in severe depletion of the population of this plant. *Acanthus* was now being propagated through the project. There followed a lengthy discussion regarding the viability of exporting *Acanthus* products from Indonesia where the plants are super-abundant to southern China as a potential source

of alternative income. Another interesting development at the site has been the discovery of a *Bhesa sinica* tree. *B. sinica* is endemic to China and it is believed that there are only two individual trees of this species remaining in China.

7.1.11 Mr. Barangan asked a question regarding what the “ecofarming” listed in the table on Page 2 of Dr. Fan’s report referred to and how many species of mangroves there are in China. Dr. Fan noted that there are 26 species of true mangroves in China and that *Rhizophora stylosa* had disappeared from the site 20 years ago, but that this species was currently being replanted in the area to enhance the species diversity of the mangrove stands.

7.2 Trat Province, Thailand

7.2.1 Dr. Sonjai informed the meeting that due to significant delays in the commencement of activities at the Trat mangrove demonstration site, he had worked with PCU staff during the inter-session period to revise the budget and implementation plan for the site. He noted that the project is now comprised of four key components including: establishment of an appropriate community-based management system for the Trat mangroves; rehabilitation and protection of Tha Ta Pao and Nam Chieo Mangrove Forest area; developing a business model for sustainable financing of site activities; and public awareness, education, and capacity building.

7.2.2 Dr. Sonjai reported that the following activities had been conducted at the site during the inter-session period:

- Identification of the procedure for developing a management plan for the site;
- Consultations to inform communities of planned activities at the site;
- Conduct of mangrove ground surveys, including informal training of community members in mangrove identification and survey techniques;
- Conduct of a questionnaire survey for the collection of socio-economic data at the site;
- Fishing village surveys;
- Mapping of mangrove diversity, density, and distribution at the site;
- Preparation of a GIS map on land-uses at the Trat mangrove site;
- Valuation of mangrove goods and services at the site; and
- Implementation of public awareness raising initiatives, including publication of newsletter.

7.2.3 The Project Director noted a range of technical and administrative issues associated with Dr. Sonjai’s presentation for example the two maps of land use presented side by side had been stretched or compressed in order to fit them on the slide, making it impossible to use the maps to estimate area at the site or to describe any apparent changes in land-use. He noted that this problem was made worse by the fact that the map for the year 2000 was not included in Dr. Sonjai’s written report, and the map of the 2005 data in the presentation had been referred to 2006 in the report. Dr. Pernetta pointed out that this was made more confusing since the next slide in the presentation contained data about the area of the site, and the areas of certain land-uses at the site, but the area data had been presented in acres instead of the internationally acceptable standard of hectares.

7.2.4 Mr. Barangan noted that the population growth rate of 3.5% presented by Dr. Sonjai in relation to the Trat site was rather high and questioned whether the growth rate included immigration into the area. Following lengthy discussion of this matter it was determined that the reported population growth rate was based on surveys conducted in small communities at the site that have little if any immigration.

7.2.5 Regarding the educational level and occupation-type information presented, Dr. Pernetta noted that since the data were expressed as percentages only it is not possible to determine the actual number of individuals that have a given level of education or are employed in particular occupation-types, nor was it possible to assess the significance of the different levels in different villages and the data did not present information about the ages of the individuals surveyed.

7.2.6 Dr. Pernetta noted that the economic values of mangrove goods and services contained in the presentation were not presented as values per hectare making it difficult for the data to be used by the Regional Task Force on Economic Valuation.

7.2.7 Dr. Pernetta drew the attention of the group to the fact that the estimated total value of mangroves at the Trat site according to Dr. Sonjai's survey was of the order of US\$10 million/yr and noted that in comparison with the estimates calculated by the RTF-E for mangroves the Trat values appear to be quite high. It was noted that the total area of the Trat site is approximately 2,000ha, giving a total value of mangrove goods and services at the Trat demonstration site of US\$5,000 per hectare.

7.2.8 Dr. Pernetta noted that the first disbursement of funds to the Trat mangrove demonstration site was US\$42,700 in 2005, and to date the site has recorded an expenditure of US\$21,400, or approximately half of the initial disbursement. Dr. Pernetta drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that despite the low level of expenditure at the site, Dr. Sonjai has reported a significant number of activities supported through the regular activities and co-financing of the Thai Government.

7.3 Peam Krasop, Cambodia

7.3.1 Mr. Vongwattana noted that the objectives of the Peam Krasop mangrove and wetland demonstration site are: to develop in full consultation with all stakeholders, government, private sector and civil society, a management plan (including strategy, regulation and monitoring guideline) for the sustainable use of the natural resources in PKWS; to restore degraded mangrove and wetland areas; to support local communities in improving their livelihoods through mechanisms including partnership with private sector investors and NGOs; to promote understanding of wetlands and mangroves among local communities and authorities; and to improve the knowledge and skills of government officials, local authorities and communities with respect to wetland and mangrove management. In this connection he noted that the Peam Krasop site had achieved some important outputs and outcomes, including:

- Translation of the five-year management plan for the Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary into English language;
- Development of Sustainable Management Framework for Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary;
- Recruitment of a site manager and assistant;
- Meetings of the Management Advisory Group (MAG) and Management Board (MB) convened from 29th - 30th June 2006 and from 28th - 29th December 2006;
- Participation in the first joint meeting of the MAGs and MBs of the Peam Krasop (Cambodia) and Trat sites (Thailand);
- Field survey for species distribution, density, composition, area, and key associated benthic resources conducted by the Department of Natural Resources Assessment and Environmental Data Management of the Ministry of Environment;
- Development of GIS map of the site by the Department of Natural Resources Assessment and Environmental Data Management of the Ministry of Environment;
- Contract let to the Department of Planning and Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Environment to report on a survey of socio-economics, uses, values, incomes and costs, analysis of present and potential uses, values, net incomes, and costs, as well as GIS maps of use zones and analysis of potential use conflicts and the costs of future management needs;
- Report on monitoring methods drafted by Department of Natural Resources Assessment and Environmental Data Management, and an associated five management plan developed;
- Publication of a report on the review of techniques/methods for mangrove planting, including information on multi-species planting of mangroves;
- Ongoing activity of replanting 250 ha of mangroves in the Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary;
- Posters and leaflets on mangrove and wetland importance and sustainable published and distributed to all stakeholders at the provincial, district, commune, and village level in June 2006;
- Seminar on mangrove and wetland biodiversity and sustainable use for policy makers at provincial and district levels convened on 27th – 28th November 2006;

- Public awareness raising workshop convened at the village level 9th - 10th October 2006
- Training of demonstration site manager and associated staff in project management (19th - 26th June 2006) and report writing (17th - 23rd July 2006)
- Training course on community-based mangrove resource management (18th - 22nd September 2006)

7.3.2 Several questions were raised by members regarding the estimated values of mangrove goods and services at the Peam Krasop site presented by Mr. Vongwattana. Dr. Pernetta sought clarification regarding the “service” values reported. Mr. Vongwattana informed the meeting that the service values related primarily to tourism at the site. Dr. Gong also sought clarification regarding the column heading “estimated cost/hectare”. It was agreed that this heading should be changed to “estimated US\$ value/hectare” as the data reflect benefits rather than costs. Mr. Koh suggested that the greater than (>) or less than (<) symbols should be removed from the cells containing the value data, as the column header reflects the fact that the values are estimates.

7.3.3 The Project Director noted that of the five demonstration site reports tabled by Mr. Vongwattana during the meeting, three did not display the South China Sea Project logo, and the site name had been spelled in four different ways on the covers of four of the reports. Mr. Vongwattana noted that the correct spelling of the site name is “Peam Krasop”. Dr. Fan suggested that the full sets of raw data relating to economic value should be included in the reports rather than just the summary tables.

7.4 Batu Ampar, Indonesia

7.4.1 Mr. Santoso informed the meeting that the key activities at the Batu Ampar mangrove demonstration site included the: establishment of an institutional framework for sustainable mangrove management; development of baseline environmental and socio-economic databases and a decision support system; development of a business plan in support of the implementation of the overall management plan; training, education and public awareness; and facilitation of the development and approval of local regulations.

7.4.2 During his presentation Mr. Santoso reported on the results of recent resource surveys conducted within the Batu Ampar site, as well as the results of studies on the economic value of mangroves, identification and financial analysis of alternative livelihoods at Batu Ampar. Mr. Santoso also introduced the training and capacity building established in support of demonstration site implementation. Comprehensive summaries of the results of the studies conducted at Batu Ampar are summarised in document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Batu *“Report of the Progress in the Implementation; Evaluation; and Completion of the Batu Ampar demonstration site.”*

7.5 Xuan Thuy/Balat Estuary, Viet Nam

7.5.1 No presentation on the status of Xuan Thuy/Balat Estuary was available since the representative from Viet Nam has not been replaced.

7.6 Busuanga, Philippines

7.6.1 In introducing the status of the proposed Busuanga Medium-Sized Project (MSP) in the Philippines, Mr. Barangan apologised to the group for not being able to join the seventh meeting in Batu Ampar due to poor health. He explained that at this time he was also extremely busy assisting in the co-ordination of the response to a major oil spill in Philippines. Mr. Barangan proceeded to introduce document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Busu, and explained that the last action he had taken in this regard was to send the final draft of the proposal to the PCU on 21st August, 2006.

7.6.2 Dr. Pernetta reminded the meeting of the moratorium on the funding of new projects introduced by the GEF in May 2006 until such time as the situation with regard to the funding of GEF phase 4 was clarified. He noted that since the final proposal for the Busuanga MSP had been received after this deadline there was until recently little that could be done to expedite the approval of the proposal.

7.6.3 Dr. Pernetta noted that he was pleased to be able to inform the meeting that following discussions between UNEP and the GEF Secretariat regarding the stalled pipeline of projects, the seven MSPs have now been re-pipelined for funding in GEF Phase IV (i.e. after July 1st 2006). He informed Mr. Barangan that the key documentation the PCU would require prior to submission of the Busuanga proposal was a formal letter of commitment in relation to co-financing. He noted that for two sites, namely the East Bintan (seagrass) and Shantou (wetlands) sites, funds would hopefully be released before June 2007.

8. FINALISATION OF THE REGIONAL STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME (SAP)

8.1 Finalisation of Inputs from the Regional Working Group on Mangroves to the Revised SAP

8.1.1 The Chairperson invited the Project Director to introduce this agenda item and the draft revision of the Strategic Action Programme presented in document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/7. Dr. Pernetta advised members that he had modified this document on the basis of inputs from the RSTC and PSC meetings and subsequent inputs from the Philippines' member. He suggested that the working group should review the contents of this draft in the light of the inputs from other working groups in particular to consider whether or not the proposed actions and associated costs, are in conformity with those proposed by the remaining habitat working groups. He suggested further that consideration should also be given to the fisheries component of the SAP in that the proposed fisheries activities addressed the linkages between fish stocks and their habitats.

8.1.2 Mr. Vongwattana asked whether countries were required to convene national stakeholder consultation meetings during 2007 to approve the content of the SAP. Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that this was a key task for the Focal Ministries in relation to SAP adoption. He reminded the meeting that the immediate task for the RWG-M was to review and comment on the text and proposed activities included under the mangrove component of the SAP, and to compare this text and activities with the proposals for other components.

8.1.3 Mr. Santoso informed the meeting that he had introduced the mangrove component of the SAP to national level stakeholders in Indonesia. He noted that there was some concern regarding which agency would be responsible for implementation of the mangrove activities of the SAP in Indonesia given that there are four agencies/departments with responsibility for mangrove science and management in Indonesia.

8.1.4 Dr. Pernetta explained that a key activity of the Regional Task Force on Legal Matters (RTF-L) was the conduct of national focus group meetings to discuss how to strengthen regional co-operation in terms of SAP implementation. He noted that in the case of Indonesia it appears at this stage that some form of MoU was the preferred mechanism. In contrast he informed the meeting that Viet Nam appeared to prefer a legally binding instrument such as a convention, whilst other countries would prefer a mix of instruments.

8.1.5 Dr. Sonjai noted that in relation to the ecological/environmental indicators included in Table 4 of the mangroves component of the SAP, sesarmid crab size and abundance could also be used as a useful indicator of ecological status. It was noted by, Dr. Sonjai in relation to the use of *Scylla serrata* as an indicator species that fisheries scientists working in the Gulf of Thailand and Andaman Sea have recently identified the fact that *Scylla serrata* does not occur in the Gulf of Thailand but that two other species do. It was agreed that "*Scylla serrata*" should be replaced with "*Scylla spp.*" in the SAP text.

8.1.6 In relation to the section entitled "*Challenges for Mangrove Management*", Dr. Sonjai noted that the fifth challenge: "*Lack of experience and techniques for multi-species replanting (in all countries)*" may not be appropriate given that in some areas multi-species replanting may not be viable. Dr. Pernetta reminded the group that in considering this issue during previous meetings it had been agreed that there was extensive experience of replanting *Rhizophora* in the region but comparatively little experience in replanting other species and even less experience of multi-species replanting.

8.1.7 Mr. Barangan informed the meeting that multi-species re-planting is a priority in the Philippines, and he had asked producers of seedlings to propagate a variety of species for this purpose. Dr. Pernetta noted that where the primary objective was to simply restore mangrove cover then obviously a mono-culture of *Rhizophora* met the objective, however if the objective was to improve the biological diversity then multi-species replanting was a necessity.

8.2 National Workshop to consider the Revised SAP

8.2.1 Dr. Pernetta reminded members that National Workshops to consider the regional Strategic Action Programme were planned to be carried out during 2007. He requested members to advise the meeting about plans for these meetings at the national level.

8.2.2 Dr. Fan asked the Project Director whether it was possible for PCU members to participate in these National Workshops. Dr. Pernetta noted that whilst PCU members could present the content and advise on the proposed actions it would not be appropriate for members of the PCU to be involved in the process of approval since this could be interpreted as influencing national decision making.

8.2.3 Mr. Barangan noted that in the case of the Philippines there were plans to convene a national seminar to adopt the National Action Plan (NAP) on Mangroves during the second half of May 2007. Dr. Sonjai noted that Thailand plans to convene a national seminar in August on mangrove ecosystems. He noted that approximately 400 people will attend this important national event, which presents a good opportunity to present Thailand's NAP on Mangroves. He informed the meeting that he would convene a meeting of the National Mangrove Committee before August to review the NAP, and will hold a second meeting of the committee in September to include comments received from the national seminar prior to submission of the NAP to cabinet. Mr. Koh noted that in Malaysia the Focal Ministry would co-ordinate the adoption of the SAP.

8.2.4 Dr. Pernetta noted that the Regional Task Force on Legal Matters had yet to finalise the section of the SAP relating to the strengthening of regional co-operation in the management of the environment of the South China Sea marine basin. It was therefore not possible at this point in time to predict what mechanisms would be recommended for implementing the SAP. He noted however several recent developments that suggested certain portions of the SAP might be funded through different mechanisms. With respect to the Fisheries component he informed the group that he had already in collaboration with Mr. Takehiro Nakamura of UNEP/DGEF discussed the possibility of preparing a "PIF" for submission to the GEF in May for funding of up to 5 million US dollars for work to further develop and implement the regional system of fisheries *refugia*.

8.2.5 Dr. Pernetta noted that at the present time discussions were ongoing regarding the strategic priorities for implementation during GEF Phase IV under the biodiversity portfolio. It was possible that this might include a focus on tropical forest ecosystems and he had held discussions with Dr. Anna Tengberg of UNEP/DGEF, regarding the possible inclusion of a five million dollar project to implement the mangrove component of the SAP in the South China Sea. At the same time he had, together with Mr. Takehiro Nakamura formulated a one page pre-project proposal regarding the mangrove sub-component of the SAP for consideration for possible funding by the Japanese Government. He informed the RWG-M that he would keep them informed of any future developments.

9. CONSIDERATION OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC VALUES AND TOTAL ECONOMIC VALUES FOR MANGROVES DETERMINED BY THE REGIONAL TASK FORCE ON ECONOMIC VALUATION

9.1 The Chairperson invited the Project Director to introduce document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/8 "*The Total Economic Values of Mangrove Habitats and Cost-Effectiveness of Actions Proposed in the Strategic Action Programme*". Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that the work of the task force was critical to the implementation of the SAP in that it provides a basis for an analysis of the costs and benefits of action versus no action. He noted that the basis for the work of the RTF-E were data sets of the values of the goods and services of coastal habitats that had been assembled at the national level, and compiled into one regional dataset.

9.2 Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that the RTF-E had faced some major challenges in determining how data sets from different locations bordering the South China Sea and from different periods in time could be compiled into a single data set. He noted that it is well known that there is often wide variation in prices for certain mangrove goods within one country, and that this is often driven by the relative proximity of the place where the good is collected to key markets. He noted for example that where blood cockle beds (*Anadara granosa*) are located in close proximity to a centre of population the unit farm gate price is higher than when an equivalent sized resource is located farther away. He noted that the first major challenge was developing a procedure for standardising national values.

9.3 Dr. Pernetta informed the group that in order to address this problem of wide variation in prices within one country the Regional Task Force decided to weight the data from each location and determine a "Weighted Mean National Value" that reflected both the prices for the same resource at each location and the "stock" of that resource at the same location. He explained that the price at location A was multiplied by the stock (or area where the stock could not be estimated) in area A, and this value was added to other values determined for locations B, C etc. This summation is then divided by the total stock for which prices were available thus providing the Weighted Mean National Value. This results in a value that reflects the totality of the stock rather than being a simple arithmetic average of all values. Full details of this method are contained in the various reports of the regional task force.

9.4 Dr. Pernetta explained to the meeting that the determination of regionally weighted mean values was undertaken in a similar manner using data and information concerning the total stock (or area) in each country and the Weighted Mean National Values. Thus the weighted mean national value was multiplied by the stock for each country and the resultant values summed; then divided by the total stock (or area) of the habitat bordering the South China Sea.

9.5 The group then proceeded to review the Weighted Mean National and Regional Values calculated for the goods and services of mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, and wetlands. It was noted that there are many goods and services in all habitats for which values are missing. Dr. Pernetta explained that the absence of values in a particular table might reflect one of two circumstances: first, and most commonly, no data for farm gate prices and hence no value could be found for that resource in the country concerned; and secondly that, the particular resource is not used in the country concerned.

9.6 Dr. Pernetta outlined several examples of cases where a particular resource is not used in a given country. The first was that of sipunculid worms which are highly prized in China and also eaten to a lesser extent in the Philippines but which are not consumed in the other countries of the region. He noted that consequently there were no market values from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam reflecting the fact that these worms are not eaten and do not enter the market in these countries. He explained that since Sipunculid worms are however found in all mangrove areas in all countries, the contribution of the weighted mean regional value for sipunculid worms to the total economic value of mangrove production in the region is much smaller than if a benefits transfer method of determining value were used to value the entire South China Sea stock of sipunculid worms.

9.7 In the case of mangrove "fruit" or propagules, Dr. Pernetta explained that the value from China represents the price of *Avicennia marina* propagules, which are used in soup and other dishes in southern China and are apparently not eaten elsewhere in the region. He noted that propagules of other species are processed as sweets and eaten in Thailand but no farm gate price is available from that country.

9.8 Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that the data set was not ideal, and that the RTF-E had held two meetings during the first quarter of 2007 and spent much time during the inter-sessional period cleaning the data set and rechecking the accuracy of the data used, against original data sources. He noted that many data sets were excluded from the final data set for several reasons, including *inter alia*: value information that was not linked to information regarding the area of the site in which the good was harvested; inappropriate valuation methods used to derive the values; and the fact that some data sets could not be checked against original sources.

9.9 Regarding the calculation of weighted mean national and regional values, Dr. Gong asked if mangrove areas protected in National Parks were included in the total area of mangroves used to calculate weighted national and regional values. The Project Director noted that they were.

9.10 There followed a lengthy discussion regarding the estimated values for several mangrove goods. Dr. Gong noted that the timber value data for China appeared to be production/year, whilst the Indonesian values appeared to be for standing stock. Dr. Gong asked how this was reconciled in the calculation of regional Total Economic Value, and Dr. Pernetta responded by explaining that in the calculation of the weighted mean national and regional values the Indonesian data was divided by 30 years to give an estimate of the value of the annual production.

9.11 Dr. Pernetta reminded members that during the course of 2006 they had identified the actions required at the regional level to ensure co-ordination of national level actions and the exchange of expertise and experience in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme. He noted that these costs had been estimated based upon experiences with the implementation of the South China Sea Project and did not include the costs of actions detailed in the supporting national action plans. If the targets of the SAP are in fact achieved then various economic benefits might be expected, to be gained in terms of the avoidance of economic losses consequent upon the loss and degradation of coastal habitats.

9.12 Dr. Pernetta informed the meeting that the RTF-E had used the economic value data and the costs of proposed regional actions under the SAP to derive cost-benefit ratios for each of the 4 habitat sub-components of the SAP. He noted that the value of the annual production of goods and services by mangrove habitats bordering the South China Sea has been estimated as US\$2,872.25 per hectare, giving a total value of US\$5,196,296,711 per annum.

9.13 There followed a lengthy discussion regarding the costs of implementation of national activities. It was noted that the Task Force on Economic Valuation was of the opinion that national level management costs might be expected to reach between 15 and 20% of the total and that correspondingly regional management and administrative costs might be expected to reach a maximum of 1% of the total value of the interventions. It was noted that if this were the case then it was possible to extrapolate that the costs of national level actions might reach as much US\$300 million if the targets of the regional SAP are to be met.

10. PREPARATION FOR THE THIRD REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE AND MAYOR'S ROUND TABLE

10.1 The Chairperson invited the Secretary, Mr. Paterson to introduce this agenda item. Mr. Paterson advised the meeting that the 3rd Regional Scientific Conference will be convened from 14th to 16th November 2007, and that the 3rd Mayors Round Table will be convened in conjunction with it. Mr. Paterson noted that the group might wish to consider topics related to mangroves in the demonstration sites that were worthy of presentation during the Mayor's Forum, and topics related to mangroves in the South China Sea representing outcomes of the project that could be presented during the 3rd Regional Scientific Conference.

10.2 There were a series of suggestions from the members from Thailand, Indonesia, and Cambodia that, topics for presentation during the Mayors' round table should include the production of goods from mangrove areas and community participation in management of the demonstration sites. Despite these items being discussed at length, no agreement was reached regarding the suitability of these topics for this forum.

10.3 Dr. Fan suggested that consideration could be given to the establishment of a sister city relationships between Fangchenggang and Batu Ampar. He noted that initiatives such as these were strongly supported by the Chinese government, and it may provide a mechanism for the sharing of information and experiences in the longer-term.

10.4 Mr. Koh suggested that where possible Mayors and Governors should be given opportunities to contribute presentations to the forum, covering their collective experiences as government officials in the management of coastal habitats and resources. Dr. Pernetta noted that the first two Mayors' Round Table meetings were successful in terms of the sharing of experiences between participants. It was agreed that members would communicate during the inter-sessional period to plan and finalise mangrove component inputs to these events.

10.5 Dr. Gong suggested that it would be useful during the Scientific Conference to evaluate the extent to which the project had achieved the goal of reversing environmental degradation trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand. Dr. Pernetta felt that this was a valuable suggestion but that it would be very difficult to provide evidence of how the project had resulted in a change in environmental state. He did feel however that it would be possible to produce an evaluation of the extent to which the concrete objectives of the project had been met; the extent to which outputs and outcomes had been achieved; and what additional unplanned outputs and outcomes had eventuated. In this context he noted that the project had made a number of very significant intellectual contributions that were of much wider applicability than merely in the context of the South China Sea marine basin.

11. WORK PLAN AND ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON MANGROVES

11.1 Work Plan for 2007 – 2008

11.1.1 Mr. Paterson, Secretary to the meeting presented document UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/9 "*Draft Work Plan and Timetable for the Regional Working Group on Mangroves 2007 to December 2008*". The draft work plan was projected and amended by the members in the light of decisions made under earlier agenda items and in order to reflect the commitments of individual members with respect to overdue outputs from the national level.

11.1.2 The amended work plan was finalised and approved as it appears in Annex 4 of this report.

11.2 Maintenance of the Network and Project Benefits after June 2008

11.2.1 The Chairperson invited members to raise for discussion any plans that might be in hand to continue the work of the regional working group on mangroves beyond June 2008 at both national and regional levels in order to sustain any tangible benefits arising from the project. Dr. Pernetta made reference to his previous intervention under agenda item 8.2 and noted that it would be vital that members respond to requests for information by return if the proposed deadline of 15th May for the "PIF" for mangroves was to be met.

11.2.2 Dr. Fan informed the meeting that he had held discussions with various government authorities in China regarding potential support to a forum in the Beibu Gulf and that it might be possible to gain Chinese Government support to convene *ad hoc* meetings in China of a group of regional experts on mangroves.

12. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON MANGROVES

12.1 The Chairperson reminded members that meetings of the RWG-M have been held successively in: Phuket, Thailand, 2002; Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, 2002; Bali, Indonesia, 2003; Beihai, China, 2003; Trat Province, Thailand, 2004; Busuanga, Philippines, 2005; Pontianak, Indonesia, 2006, and now Pnam Krasop, Cambodia. He noted that members should also be aware that the next meeting would likely be the last of the group under the current project.

12.2 Dr. Fan invited the group to convene the ninth meeting in Beihai, China. There followed a discussion of suitable dates with respect to the hot season in China and it was agreed that the meeting would be convened from 31st March to the 3rd April 2008.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Members recalled that during the sixth and seventh meetings, the working group had discussed the production of a mangrove cookbook, and that Mr. Santoso had provided copies of a draft cook book in Indonesia to members during the last meeting. There followed a discussion of what should be covered in the cookbook whether it should include animals as well as plants and the extent to which it should attempt to be comprehensive.

13.2 It was agreed that the cook book should focus on typical and where possible unusual mangrove foods, both plant and animal, such as for example the use of "*pickled*" sesarmid crabs in making "Som Tam", the cooking of sipunculid worms and other products such as Nypa sugar and alcohol. It was agreed that individual members would provide recipes, and photographs, lists of ingredients for dishes containing mangrove products, and that materials including photographs would be loaded to the project web-site to avoid overloading e-mail inboxes. It was agreed that Dr. Fan would provide inputs relating to sipunculid worms, Dr. Sonjai would provide inputs with respect to the use of sesarmid crabs in Trat and that Mr. Santoso would take responsibility for co-ordinating the inputs.

13.3 The Chairperson then invited members of the Regional Working Group to raise any further matters needing consideration at this time. No additional items were raised by members for consideration of the meeting.

14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

14.1 Mr. Koh, the Rapporteur presented the draft report of the meeting, prepared by the secretariat during the meeting. The report was considered, amended and adopted as it appears in this document.

15. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

15.1 The Chairperson thanked the PCU for their support to the conduct of the meeting and Mr. Vongwattana for the excellent administrative arrangements for the field trip and invited members to make any final comments and/or remarks prior to calling for a formal motion to close the meeting. Following an exchange of courtesies the Chairperson closed the meeting at 1620 on the afternoon of 22nd April 2007.

ANNEX 1

List of Participants

Focal Points

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ANNEX 2

List of Documents

Discussion documents

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/1 | Agenda. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/2 | Annotated Agenda. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/3 | Report of the Meeting. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/4 | Status of the Administrative Reports for 2006: Progress Reports, Expenditure Reports and Audit Reports. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/5 | Status of the Substantive Outputs from the Specialised Executing Agencies for the Mangrove Sub-component of the UNEP/GEF South China Sea Project. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Fang | Report of the Progress in the Implementation; Evaluation; and Completion of the Fangchenggang Demonstration Site. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Trad | Report of the Progress in the Implementation; Evaluation; and Completion of the Trad Demonstration Site. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Peang | Report of the Progress in the Implementation; Evaluation; and Completion of the Peang Krasop Demonstration Site. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Batu | Report of the Progress in the Implementation; Evaluation; and Completion of the Batu Ampar Demonstration Site. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Bala | Report of the Progress in the Proposal Finalisation and Implementation of the Xuan Thuy/Balat Estuary Demonstration Site. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/6-Busu | Report of the Progress in Finalising the Medium Sized Project Document for the Busuanga Demonstration Site. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/7 | Revised Draft Strategic Action Programme (draft 1). |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/8 | Total Economic Values of mangrove habitats and cost-effectiveness of the actions proposed in the Strategic Action Programme. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/9 | Draft Work Plan and Timetable for the Regional Working Group on Mangroves 2007 to 2008. |

Information documents

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/Inf.1 | List of Participants. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/Inf.2 | List of Documents. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.8/Inf.3 | Programme. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-E.6/3 | Sixth Meeting of the Regional Task Force on Economic Valuation for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Batam, Indonesia, 22 – 25 January 2007 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-E.6/3. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-E.7/3 | Seventh Meeting of the Regional Task Force on Economic Valuation for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Beihai, China 12 – 15 March 2007 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-E.7/3. |
| UNEP/GEF/SCS/PSC.6/3 | Sixth Meeting of the Project Steering Committee for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Siem Reap, Cambodia, 20 – 22 November 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/ PSC.6/3. |

- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RSTC.7/3 Seventh Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Siem Reap, Cambodia, 14 – 17 November 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RSTC.7/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-F.8/3 Eighth Meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Fisheries Component for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Belitung, Indonesia, 1 – 4 November 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-F.8/3.

The following documents are supplied in published form.

- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-L.5/3 Fifth Meeting of the Regional Task Force on Legal Matters for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Batam, Indonesia, 18 – 21 September 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-L.5/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.7/3 Seventh Meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Mangroves Sub-component for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Pontianak, Batu Ampar, Indonesia, 4 – 8 September 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-M.7/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-E.5/3 Fifth Meeting of the Regional Task Force on Economic Valuation for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Kota Kinabaru, Malaysia, 21 – 24 August 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RTF-E.5/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-LbP.7/3 Seventh Meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Land-based Pollution Component for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Sihanoukville, Cambodia, 7 – 10 August 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-LbP.7/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-SG.7/3 Seventh Meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Seagrass Sub-component for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Beihai, China, 24 – 27 July 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-SG.7/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-CR.7/3 Seventh Meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Coral Reefs Sub-component for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Kudat, Malaysia, 10 – 13 July 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-CR.7/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-W.7/3 Seventh Meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Wetland Sub-component for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Manila, Philippines, 19 – 21 June 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-W.7/3.
- UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-F.7/3 Seventh Meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Fisheries Component for the UNEP/GEF Project "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand". Report of the Meeting. Bangkok, Thailand, 16 – 18 May 2006 UNEP/GEF/SCS/RWG-F.7/3.

Documents received during the meeting

- Cambodia:** Correspondence Letter from Mr. Koch Savath: Budget Revision for the UNEP/GEF Project: "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand".
- Correspondence Letter from Mr. Koch Savath: The 8th Meeting of Regional Working Group for the Wetland Sub-component of the UNEP/GEF Project: "Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand", Shantou, China 8th-11th May 2007.
- Mangroves in Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia, 2006, 4 copies.
- Technical Manual on Technical of Mangrove Planting and Seed Germination Experience of Communities in Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary in Koh Kong Province, Cambodia, 2006, 4 copies.
- Report on Review of Technique/Method in Mangrove Planting, Cambodia, 2006, 4 copies.
- Monitoring and Evaluation on Mangroves Management Efforts in Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary, Koh Kong, Cambodia, 2006, 4 copies.
- Report on Socio-Economics in Peam Krasop Wildlife Sanctuary, Cambodia, 2006, 4 copies.
- Published Material (Brochure), 3 copies in Cambodian Language.
- Published Material (Poster), 3 copies in Cambodian Language.
- Indonesia:** Report Phase I, Legal Matter and Local Regulation, 5 Publications and 1 CD.
- Report Phase I, Assessment of Current Use and Economic Values and Development of the Business Plan, 5 Publications and 1 CD.
- Report Phase I, Field Survey of Habitat and Landuse, 5 Publications and 1 CD.
- Report Phase I, Flora Fauna Inventory, 5 Publications and 1 CD.
- Report Phase I, Awareness Material, 5 Publications and 1 CD.
- Summary of the Activities and Output Demosite Mangrove Batu Ampar (period of July-December 2006), 5 copies.
- Batu Ampar Demosite Progress Report Activities, December 2006, 3 copies.
- Publication Materials, Calendar 2007, 9 copies.
- Six Monthly Project Expenditure (July – December 2006), 2 copies.
- Cash Advance Request (period ending 30 June 2007), 2 copies.
- Philippines:** Six Monthly Report (January – June 2005).
- Six Monthly Report (July – December 2005).
- Six Monthly Report (January – June 2006).
- Six Monthly Report (July – December 2006).
- Country Report on Mangroves: Philippines, DENR 2007, 2 copies and electronic file.
- Re-echo Seminar of the 14-day Training on Mangroves in Matang, Malaysia, electronic file.

ANNEX 3

Agenda

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**
 - 1.1 Welcome Address on behalf of UNEP**
 - 1.2 Opening Statement by the Representative of Koh Kong Provincial Government**
 - 1.3 Introduction of Participants**
- 2. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING**
 - 2.1 Election of Officers**
 - 2.2 Documentation and Administrative Arrangements**
- 3. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA**
- 4. STATUS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS FOR 2006: PROGRESS REPORTS; EXPENDITURE REPORTS; AND AUDIT REPORTS**
- 5. STATUS OF THE SUBSTANTIVE OUTPUTS**
 - 5.1 Publication of National Reports in National Languages and English**
 - 5.2 Status of Finalisation, Adoption and Implementation of the National Action Plans**
 - 5.3 Update of the Regional GIS Database and Meta-database and Use of the Project Website**
- 6. REVIEW OF THE MANGROVE TRAINING COURSE**
 - 6.1 Review of Materials produced for use in the Training Course**
 - 6.2 Organisation of, and support to the National Echo-seminars**
- 7. PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION; EVALUATION; AND COMPLETION OF THE DEMONSTRATION SITE ACTIVITIES**
 - 7.1 Fangchenggang, China**
 - 7.2 Trat Province, Thailand**
 - 7.3 Peam Krasop, Cambodia**
 - 7.4 Batu Ampar, Indonesia**
 - 7.5 Xuan Thuy/Balat Estuary, Viet Nam**
 - 7.6 Busuanga, Philippines**
- 8. FINALISATION OF THE REGIONAL STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME (SAP)**
 - 8.1 Finalisation of Inputs from the Regional Working Group on Mangroves to the Revised SAP**
 - 8.2 National Workshop to consider the Revised SAP**
- 9. CONSIDERATION OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC VALUES AND TOTAL ECONOMIC VALUES FOR MANGROVES DETERMINED BY THE REGIONAL TASK FORCE ON ECONOMIC VALUATION**
- 10. PREPARATION FOR THE THIRD REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE AND MAYOR'S ROUND TABLE**
- 11. WORK PLAN AND ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON MANGROVES**
 - 11.1 Work Plan for 2007 - 2008**
 - 11.2 Maintenance of the Network and Project Benefits after June 2008**
- 12. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON MANGROVES**
- 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- 14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING**
- 15. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

ANNEX 4

Work Plan (2007 - 2008) and Schedule of Meetings for 2008

Since its first meeting, the Regional Working Group on Mangroves (RWG-M) has undertaken a series of regional activities that reflect in a large part, progress in execution of agreed activities at the national level. During each of the preceding seven meetings of the RWG-M members have individually and collectively agreed to a series of deadlines for completion of activities and production of outputs as agreed under the original Memoranda of Understanding.

It had originally been planned that the eighth meeting of the working groups would be the last but in light of the extension of activities to the first half of 2008 it was envisaged that a 9th and final meeting would be convened next year. It is critical that focal points give urgent attention to:

- finalisation and adoption of the National Action Plans, and
- outstanding National Reports/Reviews of Mangroves.

During the eighth meeting of the RWG-M the concerned focal points programmed activities that will ensure the final delivery of these overdue outputs within a reasonable timeframe. The group also planned activities in relation to:

- Implementation of the mangrove demonstration sites (Peam Krasop, Fangchenggang, Batu Ampar, Trat Province);
- Contribution at the national and regional level to the finalisation of the regional Strategic Action Programme, and
- Provision of support to the national “echo” seminars as part of the training programme, and
- Updating of the project website and contributions to the e-forum discussion.

Work Plan for 2007-2008

Table 1 presents a preliminary timetable for the completion of the programmed activities, whilst Tables 2 presents the schedule of meetings for the year 2008.

Table 1 Framework Work Plan and Timetable for the Mangrove Sub-Component to 31st December 2007

| Quarter | 2007 | | | | 2008 | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Month | J F M | A M J | J A S | O N D | J F M | A M J | J A S | O N D |
| National Mangrove Committee Meetings | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| National Technical Working Group Meetings | | X | | X | | X | | X |
| RWG-M Meetings | | X | | | | | X | |
| Provide information to RWG-M and RSTC | | | | | | | | |
| Maintain national meta-database | | | | | | | | |
| Publication of National Reports in local languages (Philippines outstanding) | | | Phi | | | | | |
| Complete second draft and final draft of NAP | | | | | | | | |
| Cambodia, Viet Nam | | | X | | | | | |
| China (5/07) | | X | | | | | | |
| Thailand (9/07), Philippines (9/07) | | | X | X | | | | |
| Indonesia (5/07) | | | X | | | | | |
| Adoption of NAP (contributing to SAP targets) All countries | | | | | | | | |
| China (ADOPTED) | | | X | | | | | |
| Cambodia | | 12/07 | X | | | | | |
| Indonesia (ADOPTED) | | | X | | | | | |
| Philippines (08/07) | | | X | | | | | |
| Thailand (10/07) | | | | X | | | | |
| Viet Nam | | | X | | | | | |
| Finalisation of SAP | | | | | | | | |
| Revised SAP inputs from RWG-M | | | | | | | | |
| SEAs provide data on economic valuation from the demonstration sites (Cam, Chi, Ind, Phi, Tha, Vie) | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Inputs from members to the PCU for the 2 nd draft | | X | | | | | | |
| Finalisation of the second draft SAP for Mangroves | | X | | | | | | |
| Update data to regional GIS Database | | X | | | | | | |
| Update and Correction of Meta-database (for inaccuracies) | | X | | | | | | |
| Provision of support to national "echo" seminars | | | | | | | | |
| Implementation of demonstration sites | | | | | | | | |
| Stimulate Mangrove E-Forum Discussion | | | | | | | | |
| Send/Up-load of substantive reports of demonstration sites to SCS website (Cam, Chi, Ind, Phi, Tha, Vie) | | | | | | | | |
| SEAs send the presentations to the PCU for RSC-3 | | | x | | | | | |

Schedule of Meetings for 2008. (RWG = Regional Working Group; -M = Mangroves; -CR = Coral Reefs; -SG = Seagrass; -W = Wetlands; -F = Fisheries; LbP = Land-based Pollution; RTF-E = Regional Task Force on Economic Valuation; RTF-L = Regional Task Force on Legal Matters; RSTC = Regional Scientific and Technical Committee; PSC = Project Steering Committee; RSC = Regional Scientific Conference; MR = Mayor Roundtable) (H = United Nations Holidays)

| | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---------|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| January | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RTF-E-8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| April | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| | | | | RWG-M-9 | | | | | | H | | | | | | | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| June | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| July | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| August | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| September | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| October | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| November | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |