



**UNDP/GEF PROJECT ENTITLED “REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL STRESS IN THE
YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM”**

UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/3
Date: 17 December 2005
English only

**Second Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel
for the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project**
Kunming, China, 15-17 December 2005

Report of the Meeting

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

1.1 Welcome addresses

- 1.1.1 Ms. Hyun-Shin LEE, Programme Manager for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Republic of Korea Country Office, welcomed all participants to the Meeting, and described the important work that awaited the members of the Second Regional Scientific and Technical Panel (RSTP) Meeting over the next few days. Ms. Lee thanked the experts of the Regional Working Groups (RWG), the National Project Co-ordinators (NPCs), and the Project Management Office (PMO) for their hard work in the implementation of the Project.
- 1.1.2 On behalf of the Government of China, Mr. Haiqing LI gave a welcome address, specially welcoming the participants from Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Mr. Li noted that the Project was moving towards its development into a fully-fledged regional project with the participation of DPRK as observers to this meeting.
- 1.1.3 On behalf of the Government of Republic of Korea (ROK), Mr. Dong-Sik WOO thanked the PMO and State Oceanic Administration (SOA) for arranging the meeting, and was happy to see the smooth implementation of project activities, and to meet the project participants again.
- 1.1.4 On behalf of the State Hydrometeorological Administration (SHMA), DPRK, Mr. Hyon Chol JANG, committed by Mr. Jong Chol RI, thanked the PMO for inviting his delegation to join the Meeting, and SOA for the generous assistance in making necessary arrangements for the participation by his country.

1.2 Introduction of the members

- 1.2.1 Participants introduced themselves, the organisations that each represent, and their roles in the Project. A list of participants is included as [Annex I](#) to this report.

2. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING

2.1 Election of Officers

- 2.1.1 Mr. Hyung-Tack HUH, the NPC from ROK, nominated Mr. Haiqing LI, NPC from China to be the Chairperson. Participants agreed to the nomination, and Mr. Li was duly elected as Chairperson. Mr. Wenxi ZHU nominated Mr. Huh as Vice-Chairperson. The Meeting agreed, and Mr. Huh was duly elected as Vice-Chairperson.
- 2.1.2 The PMO served as Secretariat to the Meeting.

2.2 Documentation Available to the Meeting

- 2.2.1 The Chairperson invited the PMO to introduce the documents prepared by the PMO.
- 2.2.2 Ms. Connie CHIANG explained the 'Working and Information Documents' that need consideration by the Meeting. Ms. Chiang mentioned that some of the documents were not able to be finalised (e.g. UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP2.6 and 2/7d-e) due to the late

receipt of the contributions from the authors of these papers prior to the finalisation and printing of documents before the meeting.

2.3 Organisation of Work

2.3.1 Ms. Chiang introduced the proposed working programme for the Meeting, and provided information about the organisation of the Meeting.

2.3.2 **The Meeting agreed on the working programme proposed by the PMO.** The Meeting was organised in plenary and sessional working groups were formed for specific issues.

2.3.3 The Meeting was conducted in English.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

3.1 The Chairperson invited participants to consider the Provisional Agenda (UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/1) and Provisional Annotated Agenda (UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/2), and to propose any amendments.

3.2 The Members adopted the agenda, without modification, which is attached as [Annex II](#) to this report.

4. PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

4.1 Implementation of Project Activities

4.1 Referring to Document UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/4, Mr. Yihang JIANG presented the Project Manager's report that included the following topics:

- the Project's inception history;
- establishment of the PMO;
- preparation and approval of the Implementation Plan;
- planning for the co-operative study cruises;
- regional co-operations and involvement of additional countries and organisations in this Project;
- public awareness and participation;
- expenditure report for 2005;
- challenges to implementation; and
- recommendations to improve implementation.

4.2 Following the presentation of the implementation progress of the project, Mr. Jiang invited members to consider four issues:

- (1) Instead of using the standard UN daily subsistence rates (DSA) when hosting regional meetings, it was proposed that the PMO should explore possibilities for cost-saving arrangements when organising the meetings;
- (2) The governments of the participating countries should consider the level of overhead costs for the contracts issued under the Project, and make clear

indications on the use of co-financing resources from the governments to the Project;

(3) The National Project Co-ordinators and the focal ministries for project implementation should make every possible effort to maintain stable membership in the RWGs; and

(4) The focal ministries for project implementation should assist the project experts and PMO staff in arranging multiple entry visas for the official business trips.

4.3 Representatives of China and ROK confirmed that they would address, at national level, the four additional items that Mr. Jiang mentioned during the conclusion of his report. **The meeting agreed to the proposal made by the Project Manager in using cost effective ways to organise regional workshops and meetings.**

4.4 The NPCs also agreed to explore all possible ways to maintain stable membership in the RWGs. With regard to the arrangement of a multiple entry visa, the NPCs agreed to discuss this issue with the relevant ministry, and to explore the possibility to issue the visas as required.

4.5 Mr. Jiang informed the Meeting of his discussions with Hisense, an electronics company in China that is interested in engaging in public awareness activities with the Project. It is anticipated that Hisense's participation would not only provide co-financing for public awareness activities, but also be a first step towards involving the private sector in the Project. The meeting noted the importance of involving the private sector into future Project activities.

4.6 Mr. Wenxi ZHU suggested that in order to better understand the UN operational procedures and rules, it would be helpful if the relevant rules and procedures could be introduced to the contractors of the project. He indicated that the participation of local governments in project activities would require more budget to support these activities in future years.

4.7 The representative from SHMA, DPRK clarified the background of the arrangement of the Project Manager's visit to his country, and explained the responsibilities of SHMA. The representative from SHMA, DPRK proposed some modifications of the text in the report. The meeting noted and agreed on the modifications proposed by the representative from SHMA, DPRK.

4.8 The Meeting expressed satisfaction on the implementation of project activities in the first year of the project.

4.9 The Meeting adopted the Project Manager's report with the above mentioned corrections and clarifications. The report will be submitted to the forthcoming Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting, and will be published as an annex to the PSC Meeting report.

4.2 Financial Report

4.3 Report on the Project Management Office (PMO)

4.4 Co-operation with other Organisations and Projects

These three topics were reported and discussed in Agenda 4.1.

4.5 Public Awareness and Participation

4.5.1 Mr. Isao ENDO informed the Meeting on the development of the “Strategy for Public Awareness and Participation” (Document UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/5), and explained the salient points of the strategy. He stated that the development of the strategy is an evolving process, and would be revised according to the needs of target groups and programme objectives of the implementing partners.

4.5.2 Project partners were invited to give short statements about the work of their organisations, and all expressed their willingness and happiness to participate in this Project’s public awareness and participation activities. Participants raised some questions on the geographic scope and challenges for implementing the strategy, and also gave some suggestions for implementation.

4.5.3 The discussions concluded that:

- Due to the limited resources to address the large variety of target groups, the partners would pool its resources together. The different strengths among its members will help to target the different groups.
- In addition to the strategy, the messages must be broadcast to wider areas, as it is important to keep all stakeholders informed. All possible channels such as websites and newsletters should be used.
- Following the invitation of the expert from ROK, the PMO confirmed that it could present the project to the Ocean Forum of the National Assembly in ROK, although the presentation would have to be correctly packaged for this particular audience.
- With regard to the scope of the activities proposed in the strategy, it was agreed that the activities would focus on the Yellow Sea, but is not limited to this area. Experiences from this Project could be adapted for use in other areas.

4.5.4 **The Meeting agreed with the proposed strategy, with the understanding that it will be improved whenever deemed necessary. The PMO agreed to present to the Partnership Workshop, an updated version of the strategy, incorporating the above suggestions.**

5. REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT CO-ORDINATORS

5.1 The NPCs from China and ROK presented their reports on the implementation of Project activities at the national level covering:

- The work of the Inter-ministerial Co-ordinating Committee for reviewing and planning national and regional activities;
- National working group meetings;
- Preparation of the data and information collection proposals;
- Participation in regional meetings;
- Planning for the co-operative study cruises and status of approval; and
- Challenges to and recommendations for implementation.

In addition, Mr. Haiqing LI highlighted three activities undertaken by China: (1) assistance in the communications and visit to DPRK by the Project Manager; (2)

activities undertaken in the involvement of local governments; and (3) public awareness messages disseminated through various mass media.

- 5.2 On behalf of the SHMA, DPRK, Mr. Jang expressed his gratitude to SOA and PMO for inviting DPRK to join the Project. Members noted that DPRK delegation's participation in the Project illustrated their willingness to collaborate with regional partners, and contribute to the success of the project and Yellow Sea's environment.
- 5.3 The Meeting recognised that successful implementation of public awareness and participation will require contributions from all parties involved in the Project.
- 5.4 The Meeting noted with appreciation the reports of the National Project Co-ordinators, and reiterated the importance of national co-ordination of all relevant ministries and institutions.

6. REPORT FROM CHAIRPERSONS OF THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS

- 6.1 The RWG Chairpersons were invited to give presentations on the outcomes from their respective RWG Meetings, and implementation of project activities in their respective components. The Chairpersons mentioned:
 - Main objectives and outputs from the second round of RWG meetings;
 - Data and information collected to date;
 - Revised causal chain analysis;
 - Status of on-going activities;
 - New activities that were proposed;
 - Planning for co-operative study cruises; and
 - Challenges and suggested solutions for implementation.

Discussions following each Chairperson's report are summarised below.

Fisheries

- 6.2 Mr. Xianshi JIN informed the Meeting that data and information from 1986 onwards will be presented, as this date was the starting date for which available data from China and ROK can be compared. He also reiterated the focal area of this component in the first year is to find the status and trends of fisheries, including mariculture.
- 6.3 Mr. Andy CORNISH, from Yellow Sea Eco-region Planning Programme (YSEPP), expressed concern that the 1986 data would be used as a baseline for the Yellow Sea, as the ecosystem was probably already heavily impacted by then.
- 6.4 In response to the question raised by the Chairperson of the Ecosystem Component on carrying capacity estimation, Mr. Jin confirmed that the outputs of the ecosystem group will be used as inputs for calculating carrying capacity for fisheries.
- 6.5 Mr. Cornish invited the RWG-Fisheries (RWG-F) to consider including "spawning aggregation" data to the "Reproduction and Spawning Characteristics, by Species" Table."

Biodiversity

- 6.6 Mr. Yoon LEE presented the report for the biodiversity component. He informed the meeting of the discussion and outcomes of the second meeting of the RWG-Biodiversity (RWG-B) and current status of implementation of agreed project activities. He informed the meeting that co-operation with the YSEPP project has provided a lot of benefits to the Biodiversity Component.
- 6.7 Many topics were discussed, including the definition of “seabird” as used in the context of the Biodiversity Component of the co-operative study cruise, and how to complement the work of YSEPP.
- 6.8 It was concluded that:
- The data and information collected by this component are additional information to YSEPP’s results.
 - The Meeting discussed the issue of gene pool analysis, and recognised that as there is limited knowledge to scope the project activity on gene pool analysis, a regional meeting, organised together with the next RWG-B, would be necessary.
 - The proposed regional training workshop on governance analysis would no longer be needed since the RWG-Investment had agreed to be responsible for conducting an integrated governance analysis.
 - **The Chairperson of RWG-B agreed that he would co-ordinate with group members and the PMO to finalise a new date and venue for the next RWG-B Meeting, as the currently agreed dates are too early to review the draft of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis. The Chairperson also agreed to be flexible in the venue, and to relocate the meeting to a venue with easier flight access for all members.**
- 6.9 **The Meeting discussed and agreed that close co-operation with YSEPP should be continued, in particular for identified critical habitats.** It is important to validate the outcomes of YSEPP, and based on the improved knowledge, implement demonstration activities in protection and conservation of the critical habitats.
- 6.10 With regard to the participation of the biodiversity group in the co-operative study cruise, the Meeting agreed to form a sessional working group, composed by the Chairpersons of the Fisheries and Biodiversity Components.
- 6.11 Mr. Yoon LEE reported to the plenary session on the results of the discussion and agreements of the sessional working group. The solution was that there will be a reduction in one crew member to provide the berth for the second biodiversity expert. **The Meeting agreed with this arrangement.**

Ecosystem

- 6.12 Mr. Sinjae YOO presented a report on the implementation and outcomes of the Ecosystem Component since the last the RSTP meeting. He also showed the proposed additional samples to be collected on the spring co-operative study cruise, namely benthos and sediment core, and gave the rationale for including these two items. Participants expressed concern that the budget may not be enough for these additional samples, and that the ship time may be inadequate to collect a reliable number of samples. The Ecosystem Group will further discuss amongst the RWG-

Ecosystem (RWG-E) members, the number of samples to be collected, and propose a revised budget to the PMO before the spring survey.

- 6.13 Mr. Yoo explained that the calibration exercises for this component would be carried out during the winter co-operative study cruise, aiming to resolve various sources of error. To this end, intercalibration and intercomparison between sample treatment and analysis was necessary, and that scientists on the co-operative study cruises should be allowed to take as many samples as possible back to ROK and China for regular analyses and comparisons.
- 6.14 Mr. Yoo made a request to RWG-F to co-ordinate carrying capacity assessment activities of RWG-F and RWG-E.
- 6.15 The Project Manager informed the Meeting that the Chairperson of the RWG-E took proactive action in co-ordinating the necessary preparations before the 2nd RWG-E Meeting, which contributed to the successful organisation of the meeting. He hoped that all the other chairpersons would take similar actions to co-ordinate efforts of all the members to prepare for the meetings well in advance.

Pollution

- 6.16 Mr. Quan WEN informed the meeting that the China data and information collection team is continuing to apply for permission to access some marine environment monitoring data. The situation is the same for the ROK team. In the meantime, in order to present the status and trends of pollution in the Yellow Sea, the RWG-Pollution had come to agreement to use necessary data products in the data and information collection and regional syntheses reports.
- 6.17 Participants noted the importance of including a marine litter survey during the co-operative study cruises, as the data would provide some information, and could be used to alert the relevant policy makers about this issue. **Mr. Wen and Mr. Alexander TKALIN agreed to discuss further on how to collaborate with NOWPAP's current marine litter project.**
- 6.18 The Meeting noted the opportunities for training and capacity building, and invited DPRK to consider their potential participation in these activities. The representative from SHMA, DPRK stated that experts from his country would be interested in participating in the training programmes to be organised under this component, as marine pollution is an important issue for research work.
- 6.19 **The Meeting agreed that the PMO should send necessary information on training and capacity building to DPRK, and make necessary arrangements for the participation of the experts from DPRK.**

Investment

- 6.20 Mr. Mingyuan ZHU presented the report for the Investment Component, including public awareness and participation, regional and national co-operation and co-ordination, establishment of the regional GIS database, governance analysis, and environmental valuation.
- 6.21 In addition to the Chairperson's report, Mr. Endo introduced the draft execution plan for governance analysis, highlighting the key points and the three analytical works to

be carried out. Mr. Endo also explained the implementation mechanism for this activity. **The Meeting agreed with the proposed execution plan, and the activity is expected to begin in January 2006.**

- 6.22 During the discussion on data information management, the PMO explained that the technical specifications of the database to be hosted by the China-Korea Joint Ocean Research Center was included in one of the working documents of the 2nd RWG-Investment Meeting, and was also available through the PMO and Project website.
- 6.23 Participants were reminded that necessary arrangements should be considered to co-operate and co-ordinate with the existing data centres and databases, for more effective use of all the available valuable marine environment data.
- 6.24 The PMO mentioned that the First Institute of Oceanography's contribution of software greatly reduces the costs to establish the Project databases, and there is little implication to the current budget for needing additional funds.
- 6.25 Following the discussions and clarifications, the Meeting expressed its appreciation to the efforts and contributions made by the Chairpersons of the RWGs. The Meeting noted the information provided in the Chairpersons' reports.

7 PROPOSED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2006 AND ONWARDS

7.1 Proposed Project Activities

- 7.1.1 In order to facilitate better understanding by the members when discussing the proposed programme and budget, Ms. Chiang presented a list of new activities recommended by the RWGs during their second meeting, and asked members to keep these activities in mind when considering the workplan and budget for 2006 and onwards.
- 7.1.2 Referring to the implementation of the intern programme, Mr. Jiang explained that during 2005, nominations of potential interns were received by the PMO. However due to various reasons, the nominated interns were not able to join the PMO. The Project Manger proposed that the internship programme should be advertised through the Project website to increase the transparency of project operation, and to provide chances to a wider range of young scientists and government officers. After receiving applications, PMO will select interns together with the NPCs.
- 7.1.3 **The Meeting agreed with the proposal made by the PMO.**
- 7.1.4 Participants raised some questions on the implementation mechanism for the Small Grants Projects which the PMO duly answered.
- 7.1.5 Based on the discussions at the First Meeting of the RSTP, the Project Manger briefly introduced the proposed Small Grant Projects, for wider involvement of all stakeholders, in particular the NGOs, into the project. It was noted that:
- (i) The Small Grant Projects would have a budget allocation of up to US\$ 10,000 per project. The total budget allocation for 2006 and 2007 is USD 100,000.
 - (ii) The topic of the Small Grant Projects will be determined each year in consultation with regional experts involved in the Project.

(iii) All the applications will be reviewed by independent experts for final selection.

7.1.6 **Following the PMO's clarifications, the Meeting agreed that this is an important and useful activity and should be implemented.**

7.1.7 There was extensive discussion on gene pool analysis, and how it would contribute to the Project's objectives. **The RWG-Biodiversity Chairperson agreed to submit a proposal to the PMO, detailing the programme of the proposed one-day meeting to be held in conjunction with the 3rd RWG-B meeting.**

Co-operative Study Cruises

7.1.8 The National Project Co-ordinator from China informed the meeting that due to late submission of the application for the co-operative study cruise, the approval process within the country has not been completed yet. The expert from ROK informed the meeting that with all necessary cruise information collected by the NPC for ROK, and submission of application, the approval of the cruise could be obtained within one week.

7.1.9 The meeting briefly discussed the current situation of the approval for the co-operative study cruise and the implications to the implementation of project activities, and decided to form a sessional working group to discuss alternative options for this activity.

7.1.10 With the understanding that the approval procedure from China requires a maximum of six month's time, the sessional working group discussed the possible options, and reported to the plenary session that:

- As it was unlikely that the approval would be received in time for the winter cruise, **it was agreed that the winter cruise will be postponed.**
- If the approval can be received within the 6 month regulation in time for the spring survey, then the spring cruise will be carried out first, and the winter cruise will be postponed to December 2006 or January 2007.
- However, if the approval is received in January, then the winter cruise will start on 10th February 2006.

7.1.11 Additionally, if the approval is received from China, but requires modification to the activity, then ROK would have to engage in discussions at national level, to consider the changes and associated implications to the overall Project objectives.

7.1.12 Another sessional working group had two meetings on 16 and 17 December, upon the request of ROK on the issue of calculating the balance of observation stations, to discuss the issue of observation stations for the spring cruise. The discussions were carried out in frank and friendly manners. **Participants fully exchanged views regarding the spring cruise, and agreed that:**

- (i) **due to the shortage of ship time for the cruise it was agreed by the sessional working group that the 3 stations on the south end of the survey area located in the East China Sea should be removed from the survey plan for the spring cruise; and**
- (ii) **regarding the observation stations in the northern part of the Yellow Sea,**

the experts from China understood that for better understanding of the environment status in the Yellow Sea, the stations should be kept as many as possible if the situation allowed. However, further investigation on the detailed positions of these stations is needed. The result of the investigation will be informed to the members of the Panel through the PMO. If necessary, further discussions and negotiation could be organised in the 2nd Technical Meeting of the Co-operative Study Cruise.

7.1.13 The expert from ROK indicated that the current method of calculating the balance of the observation stations would not be appropriate to better reflect requirements to understand marine environment in the Yellow Sea, and suggested this method should not be used in the future.

7.1.14 **The Meeting agreed with the suggestion made by the expert of ROK, and reconfirmed that based on the co-operative spirit and better understanding of the Yellow Sea ecosystem, more appropriate and effective approaches should be introduced for the implementation of project activities.**

Environmental Valuation

7.1.15 Mr. Endo gave a presentation to explain the proposed method to carry out environmental valuation (Document UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/9). The tasks will include various studies, but first focus on mariculture and tourism to identify the functional regional procedure and/or process for undertaking environmental valuation. Other target issues would follow the identified procedure and/or process, such as commercially important fisheries or harmful algal blooms. Mr. Endo informed the meeting of the relevant discussions and agreements of the 2nd RWG-Investment Meeting.

7.1.16 **The Meeting emphasised the importance of this activity, and agreed on the proposed framework as the basis to carry out this work. The Meeting further agreed that since there was no budget allocation for this activity, necessary funding should be provided.**

Preparation of TDA

7.1.17 The Project Manger informed the meeting of the proposed procedures and timelines for the preparation of the TDA, and informed the meeting that according to the agreed workplan, this task should completed by the end of 2006. He invited all the members to assist PMO in identifying suitable experts who could assist the Project for this task.

7.1.18 The Meeting noted the information provided by the Project Manager, and confirmed that the procedure and timelines should be kept.

Data Sharing and Management

7.1.19 Referring to Document UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/11, Mr. Jiang reminded the participants that this document was prepared as a request from the 1st RSTP Meeting. He briefly introduced the document that indicated:

- There were a number of international and regional agreements in data sharing and management, in which the participating countries are already involved. These agreements should be considered by the Project in data sharing and management; and
- The data and information generated within the project, including the cruise data, should be equally shared in principle by the participating countries.

7.1.20 Participants requested that the statement reflecting the agreement from the 1st RSTP Meeting, that the databases will be provided to governments of China and ROK after the Project, be included in the proposed data policy paper.

7.1.21 The Meeting adopted the proposal with the understanding that the above statement will be included.

Parliamentary Seminar

7.1.22 Mr. Jiang introduced this agenda item by referring to Document UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/12, and reported on the progress of discussion with ROK and China parliament members. "China Ocean News" has offered to assist with organising and publicising the event. Mr. Jiang informed the Meeting that further consultations are required to finalise the dates for this activity.

7.1.23 The Meeting emphasised that this is an important and useful activity, and encouraged the PMO to continue the preparation and organisation, as planned.

7.1.24 Questions from participants on the arrangements of the seminar were duly answered by the PMO, and the Meeting also welcomed the offer from World Wide Fund for Nature to present their work at the seminar.

7.1.25 Members agreed to implement this activity, and adopted the proposed seminar programme.

7.2 Proposed Project Budget for 2006 and Onwards

7.2.1 Mr. Jiang presented Document UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/13, the revised Project budget, noting the factors that were considered when the PMO revised the budget.

7.2.2 After clarification of a few questions raised by the members, the Meeting agreed with, and adopted the proposed revised budget, with the understanding that the final decision should be made by the Project Steering Committee.

7.3 Proposed Workplan for 2006

7.3.1 The PMO presented the proposed project workplan (Document UNDP/GEF/YS/RSP.2/14). Only one correction was made to the Fisheries Component's workplan, where the activity for a consultant to prepare regional survey guidelines was deleted.

7.3.2 Members agreed with, and adopted the workplan with the above correction.

8 REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS (RWGs), NATIONAL PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR (NPC), AND INTER-MINISTERIAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (IMCC)

8.1 Members reviewed the draft terms of reference and made changes to the IMCC TOR that is attached as [Annex III](#) to this report.

8.2 The Meeting adopted the three TORs, and agreed to submit them to the PSC for approval.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Mr. Andy CORNISH noted that YSEPP expected to have the reports from their biodiversity analyses ready for release to YSLME in March 2006. He also asked Mr. Haiqing Li for an opportunity to present the results directly to Mr. Li and SOA colleagues. Mr. Li asked for a written request.

10 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT RSTP MEETING

10.1 The Third RSTP Meeting will be held in Jeju, ROK, from 16th to 18th November 2006.

11 ADOPTION OF THE MEETING REPORT

11.1 The Chairperson led the discussion of the draft meeting report prepared by the Secretariat. The report was reviewed, amended, and adopted by the Meeting.

12 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

12.1 In closing the Meeting, the Chairperson stated that substantial implementation progress had been made since the inception of the Project. He noted that the results presented are very encouraging for the future path of the project, and the results from the co-operative study cruise discussions showed a continuing co-operative spirit between China and ROK. Finally, the Chairperson expressed his thanks to all participants for attending the Meeting and engaging in the discussions that contributed to the success of the Meeting.

12.2 On behalf of UNDP, Ms. Hyun-Shin Lee expressed her satisfaction that the Project participants continued to show their enthusiasm and sense of ownership for the Project. Ms. Lee thanked the Chairperson for his excellent leadership in guiding the Meeting to achieve all its objectives.

12.3 The Project Manager thanked all participants for their contributions.

12.4 The Meeting closed on 17th December 2005.

Annex I

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Annex II

Agenda

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**
 - 1.1 Welcome addresses
 - 1.2 Introduction of the members
- 2. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING**
 - 2.1 Election of Officers
 - 2.2 Documentation Available to the Meeting
 - 2.3 Organisation of Work
- 3. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA**
- 4. PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES**
 - 4.1 Implementation of Project Activities
 - 4.2 Financial Report
 - 4.3 Report on the Project Management Office (PMO)
 - 4.4 Co-operation with other Organisations and Projects
 - 4.5 Public Awareness and Participation
- 5. REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT CO-ORDINATORS**
- 6. REPORT FROM CHAIRPERSONS OF THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS (RWGS)**
 - 6.1 Fisheries
 - 6.2 Biodiversity
 - 6.3 Ecosystem
 - 6.4 Pollution
 - 6.5 Investment
- 7. PROPOSED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2006 AND ONWARDS**
 - 7.1 Proposed Project Activities
 - 7.2 Proposed Project Budget for 2006 and Onwards
 - 7.3 Proposed Workplan for 2006
- 8. REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS, NATIONAL PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR (NPC), AND INTER-MINISTERIAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (IMCC)**
- 9. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 10. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT RSTP MEETING**
- 11. ADOPTION OF THE MEETING REPORT**
- 12. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

Annex III

Revised Terms of Reference for the Inter-ministerial Co-ordinating Committee (IMCC)

Background: In order to achieve the project overall goals and objective, each participating country shall, in accordance with the approved Project Document of the UNDP/GEF Project entitled, "*Reducing Environmental Stress in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (YSLME)*," establish an Inter-ministerial Co-ordinating Committee (IMCC) with overall responsibility to co-ordinate relevant project activities of national ministries and institutions; to ensure timely provision of national inputs to the regional working groups for the respective project components; and to ensure national level agreement with the interventions and actions under the Strategic Action Programme (SAP). After discussion within the Project, it was agreed the name of "Inter-ministerial Co-ordinating Function" should be changed to "Inter-ministerial Co-ordinating Committee (IMCC)."

Membership: The IMCC shall consist of high level representatives from all the relevant ministries within the countries who have responsibilities in protecting the marine environment and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources in the Yellow Sea, as necessary. The IMCC shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the Committee.

The Chairperson of the IMCC will be the member of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) representing the Government of the participating country, and will attend the annual meetings of the PSC.

Secretariat

The National Project Co-ordinator (NPC) shall act as Secretary to the IMCC, and shall prepare meeting reports for every IMCC meeting. The reports should be circulated to all members of the IMCC, and copied to the Project Management Office (PMO).

Meetings

The Chairperson shall convene regular meetings of the IMCC. A special meeting shall be convened before the annual meeting of the Project Steering Committee.

Tasks:

The IMCC shall:

- Provide direction and guidance to the National Working Groups for the project components in implementing the project activities at national levels, as approved by the Project Steering Committee, and in accordance with the requirements and format agreed by the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel and the Regional Working Groups;
- Ensure necessary co-operation and co-ordination of implementation of project activities at the national level amongst and between the participating institutions;
- Co-ordinate and prepare, on behalf of the Government, national positions on policy issues to be considered by the Project Steering Committee;

- Co-ordinate and facilitate national contributions to, and approval of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and SAP and preparation of National Yellow Sea Action Plans (NYSAP);
- Review and evaluate the progress of implementing project activities at national level, and provide guidance for improvement when necessary; and
- Through the NPC, report the progress of project implementation at the national level, to the RSTP Meetings.