

MANILA RESOLUTION

ON THE CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

Signed on 23 October 2008 by the Governments of:

Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor Leste ACKNOWLEDGING that the Coral Triangle Region represents the center of marine biological diversity on the planet, and one of humanity's greatest common heritage treasures;

RECOGNIZING that our six countries (CT6)¹ together account for 5.4 per cent of the world's population, and are home to a remarkable diversity of cultures and ethnic groups highly dependent on marine and coastal resources;

BEING AWARE OF the critical role that these marine and coastal resources play in ensuring the sustainable development, incomes, livelihoods, and food security of our populations, particularly those living in coastal areas;

CONSIDERING that the coastal and marine resources orf the Coral Triangle Region are already experiencing significant degradation, and are facing increasing threats due primarily to rapidly growing populations, pollution, unsustainable coastal development, overfishing and unsustainable fishing practices, and climate change;

CALLING ATTENTION TO the urgent need to address these threats through multilateral collaboration designed to achieve a new trajectory in the future that ensures the conservation and sustainable use of our precious marine and coastal resources for this and future generations;

CONFIRMING that our six countries have recently initiated a bold, new response to address these threats – the *Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF)* – and that significant progress has been made in recent months, under this Initiative, to develop a joint Regional Plan of Action, to engage broad stakeholder involvement within all of our countries, and to mobilize major support by external partners; and

WELCOMING the particularly significant important progress made at the 2nd Senior Officials Meeting at which our six governments agreed a set of key decisions;

¹ Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor Leste

Resolves to:

- ADOPT the Manila Draft of the Regional CTI-CFF Plan of Action, as a framework for the specific actions needed to conserve and sustainably manage our marine and coastal resources;
- 2. **COLLABORATE** closely in the coming months to finalize the Regional Plan of Action, for consideration by our ministers at their meeting in February 2008;
- 3. **ENDORSE** plans to hold a ministerial meeting on 19 February 2008 (in Madang, Papua New Guinea), at which our ministers will approve a final version of the Regional Plan of Action for consideration by our Heads of Government at a Summit, and adopt a joint ministerial statement agreeing on key elements of the Summit;

plans to hold a CTI Summit on 15 May 2008 (in Indonesia), at which our leaders will formally adopt a Leader Declaration, adopt the Regional Plan of Action, and announce major new programs in each country that exemplify implementation of the Plan of Action;

the overall goals and preparatory steps outlined in Annex I, designed to help ensure the success of the Ministerial Meeting and Summit;

- 4. **WELCOME** the CTI Support Programs recently approved and under development by the Global Environment Facility, Asian Development Bank, U.S. government, Australian government, German government, international NGOs, and others, and welcome further announcements by major partners at the upcoming Ministerial Meeting and Summit;
- 5. **EMPHASIZE** the importance of these and other CTI Support Programs to be developed as true partnerships, responsive to the practical needs of our governments in the context of implementation of the Regional CTI-CFF Plan of Action and national plans of action.

The undersigned representatives have signed this Resolution in Manila, Philippines, on this 23th day of October 2008.

INDONESIA MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PHILIPPINES

SOLOMON ISLANDS

TIMOR LESTE

ANNEX I

Overall goals and preparatory steps to help ensure the success of the Ministerial Meeting and Summit

	Goals	Preparatory Steps
Ministerial Meeting	Goal #1: Plan of Action To review and endorse the Regional CTI Plan of Action	Invitations by October 2008
	Goal #2: Ministerial Statement To review and endorse a Ministerial Statement	Ministerial Statement → November 2008 (first draft), December 2008
	Goal #3: Leaders Declaration To review and endorse a	(second draft)
	document entitled: Preliminary Elements of a Leaders Declaration	Ministerial Planning Meeting → January 2009
	Goal #4: Summit Announcements To review and endorse guidelines for Summit Announcements by leaders	• <u>SOM3</u> → February 17 – 18, 2009
	(Note: Each leader would announce at least one concrete new program or initiative that exemplifies implementation of the Plan of Action in their country.)	 Ministerial Meeting → February 19, 2009
	Goal #5: CTI Partnership To help launch a new CTI Partnership (CTIP) of	
	institutions, NGOs and other major partners to collaborate	
120	around support for the Plan of Action.	

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Overall goals and preparatory steps to help ensure the success of the Ministerial Meeting and Summit

	Goals	Preparatory Steps
Summit	Goal #1: Leaders Declaration To formally adopt a Leaders Declaration	• Invitations -> December 2008
	Goal #2: Plan of Action To formally adopt the Regional CTI Plan of Action	• <u>Leaders Declaration</u> → <u>January 2009 (first draft)</u>
	(possibly as an annex to the Leaders Declaration)	Summit Planning Meeting 1→ March 2009
	Goal #3: CT6 government announcements To present a set of announcements, in which each leader would outline at least one concrete new program or initiative that exemplifies implementation of the Plan of Action in their country.	 Summit Planning Meeting 2 → May 14 – 15, 2009 CTI Ministers Meeting -> May 14, 2009 (Day before Summit)
	Goal #4: Partner announcements To host a special event at which major partners would announce new support programs for the Plan of Action.	• <u>CTI Summit -> May 15,</u> 2009