

Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF)

ANNEX 7: Decision Document on:

Establishment of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat

7th CTI-CFF Senior Officials Meeting (SOM7) 25 – 27 October 2011 Jakarta, Indonesia

Adopted 27 October 2011

By the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste

Session #4 Day 1, 2 and 3, 25 - 27 October 2011

Agreement on the Establishment of the Regional Secretariat

The full draft of the Agreement on the establishment of CTI Regional Secretariat and its associated documents, namely Rules of Procedure, Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations, was firstly discussed during the Coordination Mechanism Working Group Meeting on the 8 – 10 November 2010. The results were then deliberated in the 6th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM6) on 10 – 11 November 2010 in Manado, Indonesia. The Meeting, which was chaired by the Philippines, accepted the documents with some notes. The Meeting agreed that any outstanding issues will be further consulted by the CT6 countries during inter-session and would be resolved in SOM7.

Based on the SOM6 results, the Coordination Mechanism Working Group (CMWG) conducted a meeting in Bandung, Indonesia on 13 - 15 July 2011 : 1) to secure consensus on the outstanding issues regarding the legal agreements; and 2) to agree on the Transition Plan and the Agreement on the Transition Period Arrangements. Results and consensus reached in the CMWG meeting were discussed during the SOM7 in Session #4, which was conducted Tuesday through Wednesday, 25 - 26 October 2011.

The 7th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM7) session, chaired by Malaysia, reviewed the recommendations from the Coordination Mechanism Working Group (CMWG) on the CTI-CFF Charter which consists of the Agreement on the Establishment of the Regional Secretariat of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security; Rules of Procedure, Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations.

On Thursday, 27 October 2011, the SOM7 finally reached agreement and consensus pertaining to the overall documents on the Establishment of the Regional Secretariat. Highlights of the agreement are:

- 1. The permanent Regional Secretariat, as earlier defined, will be established in Indonesia
- 2. The Agreement will enter into force upon receipt of four instruments of acceptance/approval or ratification from the CT6 in order to avoid possible delays related to national internal approval processes
- 3. There are Special Provisions for any CT6 who had not yet ratified the Agreement when it entered into force, allowing for the same privileges
- 4. The cost of the Secretariat's day-to-day operational budget will be borne by the CT6 and the budget for operations approved by the Council of Ministers (SOM?).

Contributions to the total budget will be determined as follows: 60% divided equally among the parties and 40% divided according to the relative size of their GDP.

SOM7 considered certain issues such as:

- The size of the budget of the Secretariat is proposed to reflect the realities of the CT6 members' economic condition
- As much as possible, the size of the Secretariat should be small yet effective and efficient
- Detailed Rules of Procedure and Staff Regulations as submitted with the Agreement

A final outcome of SOM7 was resolution to all previously pending issues, and approval of a final text.

SOM7 also deliberated on the Roadmap to a permanent Regional Secretariat. The Roadmap highlights include:

- Detailed activities and milestones from MM3 to 12 months thereafter
- Entry into force of the Agreement expected in 12 months
- Permanent Regional Secretariat in place by 2013

DECISION: The Meeting agreed to recommend to the CTI Council of Ministers:

 Adoption of the legal documents on the Agreement on Establishment of the Regional Secretariat of the CTI-CFF (and associated Rules & Regulations) by the Governments of the CT6

Detailed legal documents of the Agreement on the Establishment are in Attachment 7-1 through Attachment 7-4 of this summary.