



CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE

ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

**Annex –16
Decision Document on:**

**Other Matters
World Coral Reef Conference**

The 9th CTI-CFF SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (SOM9)

**26 - 27 NOVEMBER 2013
MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

**Adopted on 27th November 2013
by the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea,
The Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste**

I. Background

Following up on a consensus statement in the 12th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS) in Cairns, Australia, the World Coral Reef Conference (WCRC) 2014 in Manado, Indonesia is aiming to serve as a tool for policy makers to respond to the current condition of coral reefs, and to bridge gaps in environmental protection and sustainable use of coral reef resources.

WCRC has the following objectives:

- Implement inventory, compilation, synchronization and establishment of policies and concrete actions in the management and utilization of coral reef resources;
- Collect and formulate shared values, perception and purpose in the preservation and maintenance of coral reef ecosystems as a world heritage;
- Inform and adopt best practices, methods, approaches, knowledge, science and latest technology applied for coral reef resources utilization;
- Serve as a venue for sharing knowledge and experiences in local coral reef ecosystems management.

The WCRC 2014 is included in the CTI-CFF 2014-16 Roadmap and Calendar of Activities as an important event that the CT6 are encouraged to participate in.

II. Decision

Considering the presentation made by the Indonesian delegation and discussions during the session on *Other Matters* at SOM9, the Senior Officials hereby:

1. Call on the Development Partners to actively participate in the WCRC;
2. Endorse the Special SOM, MM5 and other related events, such that CTI Women's Leadership Forum and the launching of the CTMPAS, among others, that will be held as sidebar events at World Coral Reef Conference;
3. Endorse CTI-CFF as a sponsor of the event;
4. Endorse CTI-CFF to present at WCRC;
5. Task IRS to work closely with the WCRC organizing committee to clarify actual dates and prepare specific agenda as may be required.



CTI-CFF Joint Communiqué in Light of Typhoon Haiyan

The countries of the Coral Triangle,

Having met at Manila from 26 to 27 November 2013 for the 9th Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Senior Officials' Meeting,

Working together to secure critical ecosystem services for climate change adaptation, food security, and marine biodiversity for the development of coastal communities and environmental protection,

Recalling Climate Change Adaptation as one of the five pillars in the Regional Plan of Action of the CTI-CFF Goals and Commitments,

Recognizing that climate change represents a serious and potentially irreversible threat to human society and natural ecosystems and therefore requires to be urgently addressed by all countries,

Recognizing further the serious concern that the warming of the climate system is unequivocal and in the past half century, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia, as indicated by the findings contained in the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Stressing that enhanced action and international cooperation on adaptation is urgently required to enable and support the implementation of adaptation actions aimed at reducing vulnerability and building resilience in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change,

Understanding that safeguarding the environment is a climate change adaptation measure in itself, and that our actions now will decide the future for all our children and our planet,

Standing in solidarity with all coastal communities of the world, urban and rural alike, that face a future of intensifying weather and vulnerable to storm surges, and rising sea levels and temperatures, as has been weathered by the Filipino people in the onslaught and the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan,

Declare that:

We shall drive national efforts in the assessment of the vulnerabilities of our coastal areas, the stocktaking of the natural protection provided by our natural resources and the identification of the gaps remaining in our coastal defences

We shall inform and shape national and regional policies for sustainable planning in coastal developments, with the proper safeguards for climate change adaptation, for the reinforcement of the natural protection provided by the environment, and for building local

capacity of communities to develop appropriate and representative strategies in protecting and sustaining the Coral Triangle.

We shall continue to develop and implement regional and national programs for climate change adaptation suitable to our countries' needs and with an ecosystem-based adaptation approach, as embodied in the Region-wide Early Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation, while benchmarking and sharing best practices among the Initiative and other coastal nations, being fully aware that the conservation of the Coral Triangle calls for a collaborative, trans-geopolitical effort bounded not by national borders but by the vibrant ecosystems that our nations collectively share, in recognition of the challenges posed by a climate-defined future.

We shall work towards the completion of a regional network of operational National Centers of Excellence on Climate Change Adaptation for a comprehensive understanding of and country-specific adaptation to the effects of climate change for the conservation of natural resources and the sustainable economic development of coastal communities.

We call on other coastal nations, and all nations of the world, to make similar preparations and implement appropriate measures in addressing climate change to build climate resilient communities.

We urge developed countries to fulfil their commitments in providing finance, technology transfer and development, and capacity building, to allow developing countries particularly vulnerable to climate change to adapt to climate change and effectively address, and to lead efforts in developing and implementing robust environmental standards in support of a global green economy, and we urge developing countries to place ecologically sustainable safeguards in attaining economic development.

We enjoin all nations to urgently and immediately work towards the deep reduction in global greenhouse gas emissions required to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels to prevent dangerous runaway climate change that will mean more catastrophic and intense extreme climate events, and pursue with resolve a fair, ambitious, and effective global climate agreement by 2015.