

CTI-CFF Ministerial Meeting

Session 6. Statement by Partners

November 29, 2022

12.00-12.15pm Manado time

Thank you, Mr. Chair, distinguished guests. It is an honor to be with you all today.

- Today I am presenting these summary points on behalf of the CTI-CFF Strategic Partners: the Partners which are donors, including USAID, ADB, DFAT, GEF, as well as NGO and CSO partners including the CTC, WWF, TNC, CI, and WCS.
- On behalf of the Strategic Partners, we would like to express our gratitude for the continued collaboration with CTI-CFF, and the Regional Secretariat, and we look forward to working with you all over the coming months and years.
- First, we would like to congratulate the Regional Secretariat and Dr. Kushairi on the significant work done to increase transparency, confidence, and trust amongst the CT6 members and Strategic Partners in the Regional Secretariat and institution overall.
- We would also like to congratulate the CT6 on your hard work and progress on the finalization and endorsement of the RPOA 2.0.

We are here because we all appreciate the global significance of the Coral Triangle and the urgency with which we need to protect its biodiversity and safeguard the millions of people who depend on it.

- We believe a regional approach is the most effective, and indeed the only way, to address the many large-scale threats to the Coral Triangle, in terms of biodiversity loss, climate change and overfishing, to name a few. Therefore, we recognize CTI-CFF's vital role in addressing threats and achieving strong, sustainable, and balanced growth in the Coral Triangle region.
- We appreciate that increasing international attention is being placed upon nature and climate and that CTI-CFF could greatly capitalize on this momentum.

- We recognize an all-inclusive approach is required to achieve CTI-CFF's goals and fully support the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) policy that has been adopted by all CT6 countries.

Towards helping with a shared vision for CTI-CFF and the RPOA 2.0, we, the Strategic Partners, would like to provide the following thoughts, which we hope you find them of value:

The Strategic Partners would like to reaffirm our commitment to partnering with CTI-CFF to implement three initiatives, which we believe are key to success for RPOA 2.0.

- We thank CTI-CFF for the ongoing partnership and commitment in the three partners' initiatives, on International Policy Engagement, Capacity Building, and the Regional Conservation Trust Fund. We would like to especially thank the Regional Secretariat for the hybrid meeting with the strategic partners held in Bali on May 10-12, 2022. The outcomes further deepened collaborative activities in the context of RPOA2.0
- We would like to emphasize the interconnectedness of these three initiatives and the need for all three initiatives to move forward in tandem.
- Therefore, we deeply appreciate the suggestions and feedback that the CT6 has provided which will allow us to advance, and ideally, accelerate the implementation of all three initiatives at the same time.
- Throughout next year, we look forward to closely working with the Regional Secretariat and CT6 in delivering tangible results such as safeguarding the CT6 natural resources, securing funding to finance the achievements of CTI-CFF, and delivering on the RPOA 2.0.

We also recognize the need to set ambitious goals for CTI-CFF to solidify our commitment to sustainable fisheries in the region.

- We strongly encourage the Regional Secretariat to be ambitious, intentional, and inspiring to mobilize renewed interest in the CTI-CFF, both within the CT6 and more broadly, including amongst potential donors to the initiative.
- We believe that the implementation of the CBD post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, including the target to effectively protect 30% of coastal and marine waters, could be achieved in the CT region by 2030 to underpin a healthy and sustainable blue economy.

- We appreciate that tight coordination among the CT6 is essential for success and that accelerated decision-making will provide the foundation for effective implementation.

We are committed to providing support to CTI-CFF and Regional Secretariat in various ways.

- To increase the CTI-CFF's visibility, the Strategic Partners will continue to coordinate among our organizations and networks to help provide opportunity for the CTI-CFF to be at the forefront of the global agenda and to address the global biodiversity, climate, and health crises.
- We are excited to continue our support in relevant working groups throughout next year. We also welcome the opportunity to discuss in more detail how the Strategic Partners can support the Regional Secretariat and CT6 within each working group.
- We would like to continue to strengthen the Regional Secretariat and would like to encourage the Regional Secretariat to take advantage of available financial and technical support at a suitable time.
 - Together, we hope to strengthen regional cooperation to advance our shared objectives for sustainable development, sound fisheries management, and ocean conservation.

We would like to emphasize that Strategic Partners are thankful for the partnership. We remain committed to the CTI-CFF and will continue to be available to support CTI-CFF build on its past successes

- On behalf of all Strategic Partners, we would like to thank you again for the opportunity to participate in another successful Ministerial Meeting.
- We look forward to working hand-in-hand in the coming years. Thank you.