

Ahsanal Kasasiah **Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia**

Mr. Chairman, His Excellency, Mr. Remengesau Jr., President of Palau, Ministers, Distinguished participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Six governments in the Indo Pacific region, including the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, Malaysia, Philippines and Indonesia have come together to develop a comprehensive action plan to conserve the most diverse reefs on earth. I am very happy to see some of our CT delegations attending this important event.

Inspired by the invitation from the President of Palau to join GLISPA at COP-8 in Brazil, The President of Indonesia, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, called for a Coral Triangle Challenge. This was later launched as the Coral Triangle Initiative – coral reefs, fisheries and food security at APEC in Sydney and at COP-13 UNFCCC in Bali last year. The initiative was endorsed by leaders at APEC and ASEAN summits.

We greatly appreciate the early financial commitment and support from GEF, ADB, US, Australia, Lifeweb, WWF, CI and TNC.

On behalf of the Coral Triangle Secretariat based at the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries in Indonesia, I am pleased to report to you the results of the First Meeting of the CTI Coordination Committee held in Jakarta last week with 6 CT government delegations, NGO experts and donors.

The “Jakarta Draft” of the CTI Plan of Action serves as the first substantive draft of the Plan of Action; it includes an initial set of conservation commitments by the governments. Around the five over-arching goals:

- “Priority seascapes” designated and effectively managed
- Ecosystem approach to management of fisheries (EAFM) and other marine resources fully applied
- Marine protected areas (MPAs) established and effectively managed
- Climate change adaptation measures achieved
- Threatened species status improving

The CTI Coordination Committee (CCC) agreed that the Discussion Drafts covering options for Objectives and High-Level Strategies under each of the five goals provided a very useful starting point for determining the contents of the CTI Plan of Action.

The Decision Document containing a table with the full suite of meetings and activities in the adjusted Roadmap. Some of the key changes worth highlighting include the following:

- Outreach to other countries by CTI Secretariat (possibly with CTI Coordination Team members/experts) (June – August). This would entail visits to some or all countries.
- CCC2 meeting (late July/early August; Solomon Islands): Review and provide substantive comments on a complete draft of the Plan of Action.
- CCC3 meeting (September 22-25; Manila; back-to-back with SOM2): Finalize complete draft of the Plan of Action for consideration at SOM2.
- SOM2 (September 26-27; Manila): Agree full draft of Plan of Action for consideration at Ministerial Meeting
- Ministerial meeting (December 4-6; PNG). Approve Plan of Action and other aspects of Coral Triangle Summit.

Next steps

A follow-up document to this report, with more analysis of the results and suggestions for next steps. For now, some of the key issues to be thinking about and sharing ideas on include:

- “Two-way alignment of Action Plans”: to help catalyze structured meetings and consultations in each country that aim to stimulate a “two-way alignment” of actions plans: (i) alignment of the current Regional Draft Plan of Action with country-level activities, plans and priorities; and (ii) alignment of these country-level activities, plans and priorities with regional needs and the Regional Plan of Action.
- Institutionalize CTI and stakeholder engagement processes. In some countries, there is still a need for cabinet endorsements, ministerial decrees, and other measures to endorse the CTI as national policy. In addition, in some countries, there is still a need to establish and operationalise some type of CTI Working Group, supported by a coordinator in each country.
- Coral Triangle Summit. Signed letters from President Yudhoyono to the other CT leaders to invite the other leaders to a CT Summit in Manado during or just before the World Oceans Conference (13 -1 6 May 2009).

Mr. Chairman,

This is what I could report on behalf of CTI Secretariat Indonesia, we hope that this will give us update on CTI progress and momentum, the commitment from government, donors, and NGOs, its action plan and roadmap to the CT Summit in Manado, Indonesia during World Oceans Conference on 13 – 16 May 2009.

Thank you.