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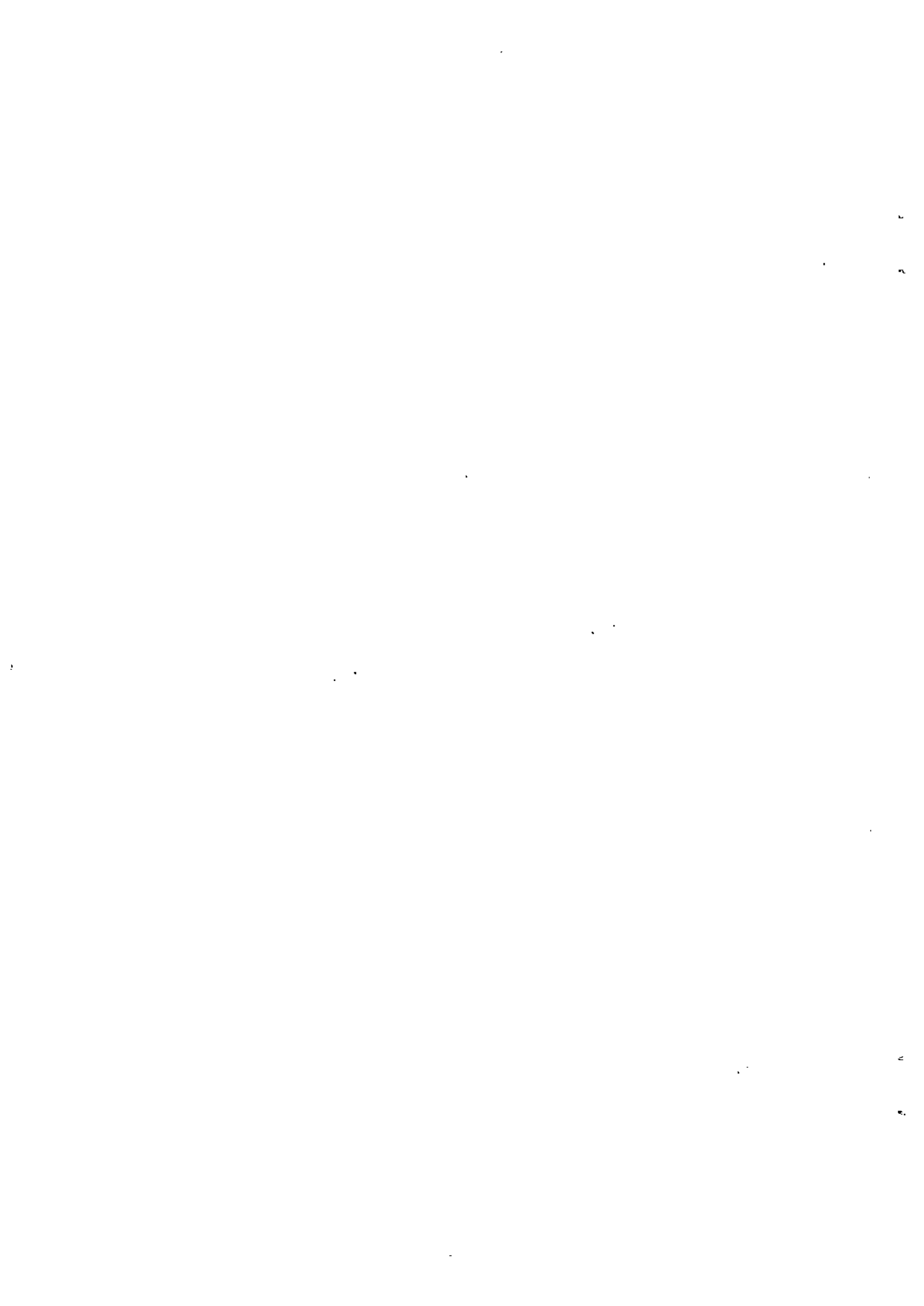
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Sixth Meeting of the Co-ordinating
Body for the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)
on the East Asian Seas Action Plan

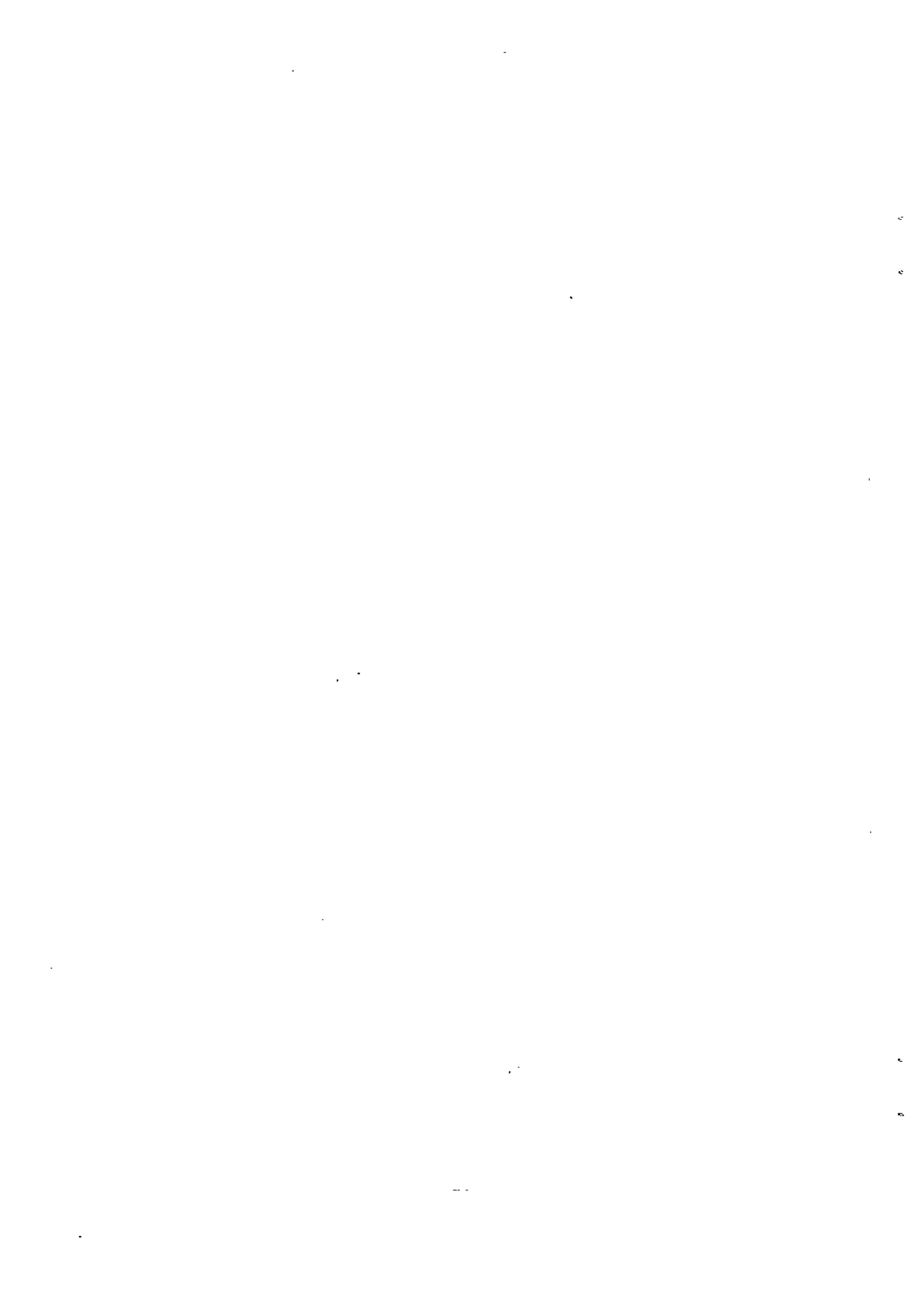
Bangkok, 27-29 April 1987

REPORT OF THE
SIXTH MEETING OF THE CO-ORDINATING BODY
ON THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA



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INTRODUCTION

1. The Intergovernmental Meeting on the East Asian Seas Action Plan, held in Bangkok, 9-11 December 1981, established the Co-ordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), to serve as the overall authority to determine the contents of the Action Plan, to review its progress and approve its programme of implementation through periodic meetings of governments.
2. The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in accordance with this decision, convened the sixth meeting of COBSEA in Bangkok, 27-29 April 1987.
3. Representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand attended the meeting. Additionally, two representatives from Brunei Darussalam also attended the meeting in an observer capacity.
4. The United Nations, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNU, ESCAP, UNCHS, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO, IMO, UNIDO, IAEA, IOC, IUCN, SPREP, ASCOPE, SEAFDEC ^{1/} were invited to send their observers to the meeting.
5. The meeting was held at Impala Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand, 27-29 April 1987.
6. This document is the report of the meeting. The complete list of the participants is presented in annex I to this report.

Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting

7. Mr. Reza Amini, Programme Officer of Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre (OCA/PAC) of UNEP, on behalf of the Executive Director of UNEP opened the meeting. He welcomed the participants, briefly reviewed the relevant events preceding the meeting and invited the participants to examine and revise, where appropriate, the documents prepared for the meeting. He reiterated UNEP's commitment to support of the East Asian Seas Action Plan in the context of its Regional Seas Programme and re-emphasized that if requested by COBSEA his organization would be ready to continue providing the management of the Trust Fund, the secretariat functions for the Action Plan and the technical co-ordination for the East Asian Seas projects endorsed by COBSEA. He also briefly underlined the significance of this COBSEA meeting in view of the recommendations put before it as a result of the in-depth evaluation of the Action Plan and the deliberations of the meeting of experts on the East Asian Seas action plan (Bangkok, 8-12 December 1986).
8. Mr. Nay Htun, Director of UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) also addressed the participants and reiterated ROAP's readiness to assist the countries of the region in the implementation of the East Asian Seas action plan.

^{1/} United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations University (UNU); Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS); International Labour Organization (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Health Organization (WHO); World Meteorological Organization (WMO); International Maritime Organization (IMO); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC); International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN); South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP); ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE); South-East Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC).

Agenda item 2. Organization of the meeting

9. The secretariat reminded the meeting and proposed that, in the absence of any objections, as agreed by the first meeting of COBSEA (UNEP/IG.37/10), the rules of procedure of UNEP Governing Council, as applicable to the meetings convened by the Executive Director, will be applied mutatis mutandis for this meeting. The meeting accepted the proposal.

10. In accordance with the agreement reached in the first meeting of COBSEA (UNEP/IG.37/10 paragraph 8), in order to be consistent with the procedures used by ASEAN Expert Group on the Environment, that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur of COBSEA would be designated on the same rotating basis, the following were elected by acclamation:

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Chairman: | Mr. Pravit RUYABHORN (Thailand) |
| Vice-Chairman: | Mr. Herman HAERUMAN (Indonesia) |
| Rapporteur: | Mr. Abu Bakar JAAFAR (Malaysia) |
| Interim Co-ordinator: | Mr. Johannes ALEJANDRINO (Philippines) |

11. The secretariat proposed and the meeting agreed to carry out its work in plenary sessions with support of ad hoc working groups which may be established during the meeting.

12. The meeting was conducted in English.

Agenda item 3. Adoption of the agenda

13. The provisional agenda (UNEP/IG.77/1) was introduced by the secretariat with reference to the provisional list of documents (UNEP/IG.77/INF.1). The meeting considered the proposed agenda and adopted it. The adopted agenda as well as the final list of documents are presented as annex II and annex III to this report.

Agenda item 4. Report of the Interim Co-ordinator

14. In the absence of Mr. A. Maheswaran the past Interim Co-ordinator, who had retired earlier this year, Mr. Abu Bakar Jaafar presented the Interim Co-ordinator's report (UNEP/IG.77/3). With reference to the decisions of the fifth meeting of COBSEA he reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Action Plan, touching on the importance of the meeting of experts on the East Asian Seas Action Plan (Bangkok, 8-12 December 1986) and considered the prioritization of East Asian Seas projects as an important outcome of this meeting which would help the deliberations of the sixth meeting of COBSEA.

15. He informed the meeting that despite the difficulties encountered by UNEP in the disbursement of the agreed funds for the publication of a quarterly newsletter (UNEP/IG.65/12, paragraph 46), through the ASEAN Environmental Newsletter, as of July 1986, a special section has been devoted to the COBSEA news and the January - March issue of the newsletter would also contain a COBSEA section. Since the Malaysian term as the Interim Co-ordinator terminates by the sixth meeting of COBSEA, he expressed the hope that the subject of the newsletter in its present format would be discussed by the meeting and difficulties in the transfer of funds would be resolved by UNEP.

Agenda item 5. Report of the Executive Director

16. The secretariat introduced the report of the Executive Director (UNEP/IG.77/4) reviewing the progress of the implementation of the Action Plan since the fifth meeting of COBSEA, with special reference to the administrative and financial aspects, including the status of the East Asian Seas

Trust Fund. The major issues arising from the evaluation of the Action Plan and also the meeting of experts on the East Asian Seas Action Plan which was convened by the Executive Director (Bangkok, 8-12 December 1986) were presented. However, it was pointed out that due to their special significance the financial report for 1986-1987, the details of the evaluation exercise together with the recommendations of the Executive Director in connection with the long-term strategy as well as the workplan and budget for the Action Plan would be introduced in further detail under agenda items 7, 8, 10 and 11 respectively.

17. While reviewing the progress of the ongoing projects and the relevant co-ordinating activities, the secretariat brought to the meeting's attention document UNEP/IG.77/5 and stressed on the administrative and financial problems arising from the delays in receiving half-yearly progress reports and quarterly financial statements from the project co-ordinators as envisaged in the project documents.

Agenda item 6. Review of 1986-1987 programme activities

18. Under this agenda item the progress in the implementation of the six ongoing East Asian Seas projects were individually presented to the meeting by the project co-ordinators or their representatives.

19. Project FP/ES/5102-82-15 (EAS-12): The progress of the project based on the revised protocol for testing ten oil dispersants was reported and it was pointed out that the lead laboratory had completed toxicity tests on six dispersants using Tilapia nilotica as the test organism. As there was no feed-back from other participating laboratories in the region it was felt that further extension of the project might be necessary and accordingly a budget estimate of US\$54,000 was suggested.

20. Project FP/ES/5102-82-16 (EAS-13): For this project it was reported that of the five studies envisaged under the project four were presently being carried out by marine institutions while the fifth, a study on the effects of cyanide by the Natural Resources Development Centre (Philippines) was still pending. The second phase of the project, scheduled for July 1986 - June 1987, has been delayed due to the late receipt of revised project document and the resultant delay in the transmission of funds. It was also pointed out that second phase studies were to be conducted only in the Philippines as no other participating countries submitted study proposals at the fifth meeting of COBSEA. The project co-ordinator requested an extension of the project to September/October 1987 without any additional funds.

21. Project FP/ES/5102-82-17 (EAS-14): It was reported that data collected in the course of the project was being reviewed. Two new current meters had been purchased and the three defective meters were repaired and tested. A delay in the recruitment of the expatriate expert and the postponement of the field survey exercise were attributed to the late receipt of the project document and funding. However, it is now planned to recruit an expert from the region and carry out the field survey by mid-May 1987. Accordingly a request for the extension of the project was made.

22. Project FP/ES/5102-82-18 (EAS-15): On the first component of this project, survey and monitoring of oil pollution, it was reported that a joint survey in the Straits of Malacca was carried out from 21-27 August 1986, involving participants from all COBSEA countries and observers from PERTAMINA (Indonesian National Oil Company) and the Batam Development Authority. On the second component of the project, development of national co-ordinating mechanisms for the management and exchange of a regional data exchange system, it was stated that a consultative meeting on information and data exchange on the Seas of East Asia (Bali, 17-19 March 1986) was

held (results reported to the fifth COBSEA meeting) and a related UNESCO workshop on the development of marine environment database was also convened (Jakarta, November 1986). Outputs of the first meeting in the form of a "Joint list of publication of the reports on the marine environment" and a "Directory of marine scientists in the East Asian Seas region" and other data were being finalized.

23. Project FP/ES/5102-02-19 (EAS-16): It was reported that the intercalibration exercise on trace metal analysis on marine sediment samples from ILMR/IAEA (SD-NI/TM) were completed with results returned from ten participating laboratories out of the twelve which were supplied with the sample. Laboratories in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand had participated in the exercise. The consultant's report was now under preparation. Furthermore, six participants from the region attended the UNEP/IOC organochlorine intercalibration workshop (Port Moresby, 23 June - 4 July 1986). Mussel tissue samples from ILMR/IAEA have been distributed through the national focal points to the participating laboratories for organochlorine intercalibration purposes and up to the end of March 1987 seven laboratories had acknowledged receipt of the samples and their readiness to participate in the exercise. Finally, it was reported that the project team on "The study of the effects of non-oil pollutants on selected marine organisms" submitted the initial literature review on the project covering basic information gathered on lethal toxicity concentrations of trace metals to marine organisms (algae, invertebrates and fish) and on bioassay methodologies. An extension to the project was requested.

24. Project FP/ES/5102-85-06 (EAS-17): It was reported that with the exception of the identification of susceptible areas to the oil pollution (Straits of Malacca and Singapore, Lombok-Makasar Straits, Celebes Sea, etc.) no substantive project activity has taken place. However, a workshop was planned to be held shortly for the countries of the region.

Agenda item 7. Financial report for the period 1986-1987

25. The secretariat presented the status of the Trust Fund on the basis of the pledges and payments received and once again stressed that with the exception of the ten percent increase, announced during the third COBSEA meeting, the level of the Trust Fund has for all practical purposes remained the same. The meeting was also reminded that at the fifth meeting of COBSEA it was decided to agree on the level of the pledges for 1987 during the sixth meeting of COBSEA.

26. The secretariat also reported on the amount of support to the action plan through the resources of the Environment Fund of UNEP; and on the basis of contributions from the Trust Fund, Environment Fund and counterpart contribution, analysed in detail the expenditure and commitments to the projects which are relevant to the implementation phase of the action plan.

27. On the basis of the analysis of the Trust Fund and the Environment Fund contributions the secretariat pointed out that the 1986-1987 support to the action plan from the Environment Fund is approximately twice the support from the Trust Fund. This is despite the provision in the action plan that with a gradual decrease in support from the Environment Fund the action plan would eventually become totally supported by the Trust Fund.

28. Following the presentation of the financial report (1986-1987) the secretariat replied to the various questions raised on this issue and particularly drew the attention of the meeting to the financial rules and restrictions covering UNEP's Environment Fund within the context of the activities affecting the East Asian Seas region.

29. In this context the delegation from Thailand noted that due to their inability to disburse all their Environment Fund resources in 1985 their budget on project FP/ES/5102-02-17 had been reduced by \$22,418. In view of the importance of the project and the observation by the Thai delegation that reduced resources would lead to a cut-down in the planned project activities, the meeting requested UNEP to consider, on an exceptional basis, the possibilities of reallocating the lost fund to the project.

30. Furthermore, it was agreed that the UNEP Fund Management Officer present at the meeting would seek the advice of the appropriate authority at UNEP Headquarters on action to be taken by COBSEA implementing organizations in cases where delays in project activities would have implications on the following year's budget and other diverse fund questions. Accordingly, a letter containing guidelines and deadlines for the submission of the required financial information and request for approval for rephasing of funds would be sent to the national focal points on the procedures to be followed.

Agenda item 8. Evaluation of the development and achievements of the East Asian Seas Action Plan

31. The secretariat introduced the document UNEP/IG.77/INF.4, entitled the East Asian Seas Action Plan: Evaluation of its development and achievements (1976-1986), which was produced on the basis of the recommendation and the request of the fifth meeting of COBSEA (UNEP/IG.65/12, paragraph 43).

32. In presenting the evaluation document reference was made to the rationale behind its preparation and the fact that this was the first of UNEP's "evaluations" with two more, covering the South Pacific and the Mediterranean regions, under preparation. The meeting was reminded that this document was prepared with the assistance of the national focal points and the experts from the region.

33. The secretariat particularly emphasized the sections of the evaluation document on achievements, encountered difficulties and the analysis of individual projects. While presenting the document's major findings, repeated references were made to the recommendations of the meeting of experts on the East Asian Seas Action Plan (UNEP/WG.154/6) as well as the conclusions reached by the Executive Director on the basis of these documents (UNEP/IF.77/4, paragraphs 41-61).

Agenda item 9. State of the marine environment in the East Asian Seas region

34. The secretariat presented the background information on the preparation of the regional overview on the state of the marine environment for East Asian Seas within the overall context of the Group of Experts on Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESAMP) global review on the state of the marine environment (UNEP/IG.154/INF.3).

35. Mr. Edgardo Gomez, the Rapporteur of the Task Team in charge of the preparation of the regional overview for the East Asian Seas, presented the main elements of the draft overview (UNEP/IG.77/INF.3). He also outlined the deliberations of the GESAMP Working Group No. 26 on the state of the marine environment meeting (London, 19-23 January 1987) and the main purpose of the planned meeting of Task Teams on regional reports for South Asian Seas and East Asian Seas (Bangkok, 18-20 May 1987) in relation to the preparation of the final versions of the regional overviews.

Agenda item 10. Long-term strategy (1987-1996) for the East Asian Seas region Action Plan

36. The secretariat introduced the Executive Director's proposals and recommendations for a long-term strategy (1987-1996), that could be followed in the future development of the Action Plan (UNEP/IG.77/4, paragraph 57-62).

37. In presenting this agenda item once again the significance and the value of the evaluation document and the proposals of the meeting of experts on East Asian Seas Action Plan (UNEP/IG.77/INF.3 and UNEP/WG.154/6) in relation to the formulation of a long-term strategy

(1987-1996) for the further implementation of the region's Action Plan were stressed. It was also pointed out that the Executive Director's recommendations for the long-term strategy also draws considerably on UNEP's experience in the other eight regions covered by the Regional Seas Programmes.

38. In the ensuing discussions on the proposed long-term strategy (UNEP/IG.77/4, paragraph 61 (a)-(o)), the meeting decided on the following:

- (i) in relation to paragraph 61 (j) of UNEP/IG.77/4 it was felt that the technical advice of national experts sought as and when required would sufficiently meet the needs of the focal points on the implementation of the Action Plan. However, the encouragement of involvement of regional experts within an NGO framework is desirable as an element of the long-term strategy;
- (ii) in relation to paragraph 61 (k) of UNEP/IG.77/4 it was decided that at present there was no urgency for a convention and protocol(s) for the East Asian Seas Action Plan. However, UNEP's offer to convene a meeting of legal experts to examine a draft convention and protocol(s) for the region should be put to the seventh meeting of COBSEA for consideration; and
- (iii) in relation to paragraph 61 (n) of UNEP/IG.77/4 it was pointed out that formation of a national committee in many countries of the region would be a cumbersome process and would probably hinder rather than support the implementation of the action plan. Furthermore, in a number of countries similar bodies were already in operation. Therefore, the meeting decided to leave it to the individual countries to explore the national possibilities and to use or establish a relevant "co-ordinating mechanism" to meet the needs of this particular aspect of the long-term strategy.

39. The meeting after considering the Executive Director's proposals decided to formulate and adopt the following as COBSEA's long-term strategy for the period 1987-1996:

- (a) The development and protection of the marine environment and the coastal areas for the promotion of the health and well-being of the present and future generations remains the principal objective of the action plan;
- (b) The action plan should provide a framework for an environmentally sound and comprehensive approach to coastal area development appropriate to the needs of the region;
- (c) Projects being implemented within the framework of the action plan will concentrate on the most important issues identified by the Governments of the region as requiring solution through regional co-operation;
- (d) Pollution from petroleum hydrocarbons and the disposal of urban, industrial and agricultural wastes were identified as the most imminent threat to the marine and coastal environment of the East Asian Seas region. Therefore, the action plan will concentrate on activities leading to concrete measures contributing to the control of these pollutants;
- (e) A regional assessment of the major sources of urban, industrial, agricultural and oil pollution will be undertaken, including the identification of their present environmental impact. In parallel with the preparation of this assessment, recommendations for possible control measures will be formulated, in particular those requiring a regionally co-ordinated approach;

- (f) A regionally applicable methodology for the assessment of environmental risk from major potential pollutants, including suitable environmental impact assessment procedures, will be developed and applied as part of the environmentally sound and comprehensive approach to coastal area development appropriate to the needs of the region;
- (g) A region-wide monitoring system will be initiated to provide, on a continuous basis, regionally comparable information on the levels and trends of marine pollution and to serve as an early warning system for changes which may require action on national or regional level;
- (h) Management plans for the protection, rehabilitation and utilization of endangered coastal and marine living resources (mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds, etc.) will be formulated and applied;
- (i) Activities described in (e)-(h) above will be implemented by national institutions of the States participating in the action plan with intensive involvement of scientists, technicians, administrators and other appropriate experts from the East Asian Seas region. The international, intergovernmental and regional organizations will play an active role in these activities, contributing their expertise and experience in the management of large-scale multidisciplinary intercountry programmes;
- (j) In order to intensify the involvement of regional experts in the implementation of the Action Plan and to benefit from their independent technical advice, a professional NGO should be encouraged to develop capabilities and opportunities and to participate in the activities relevant to the Action Plan;
- (k) The feasibility of the development and adoption of a suitable legal framework (a convention and relevant protocol (s)) for the Action Plan will be explored;
- (l) A system for management (collection, verification, quality control, evaluation, distribution, etc.) of data generated by or relevant to the action plan will be established and operated as part of the action plan;
- (m) A widely-distributed newsletter will be regularly issued in order to improve the communication between scientists, resource managers, development experts, policy-makers and the general public on matters relevant to the action plan;
- (n) In each of the States participating in the action plan co-ordinating mechanisms for the East Asian Seas action plan will be established under the chairmanship of the respective national focal point in order to ensure timely and effective implementation of Action Plan's projects; and
- (o) UNEP will continue supporting the action plan as part of the UNEP-sponsored Regional Seas Programme. Within the decisions of periodic intergovernmental meetings of the States participating in the action plan (COBSEA) and under the policy guidance of these meetings, UNEP will continue to be responsible for the overall technical co-ordination of the agreed project activities and for the management of the Trust Fund as the action plan's secretariat.

40. The IOC observer drew the attention of the meeting to a series of activities sponsored by IOC in the region (e.g. training workshops, reviews, intercomparison and intercalibration exercises, use of marine organisms in monitoring) with considerable direct financial support from IOC. These activities are organized together with national institutions, in many cases in co-operation with other specialized agencies.

41. The IOC observer further drew attention to the structure of the IOC's marine pollution research and monitoring programme (GIPME and its MARPOLMON) with groups of experts on methods, standards and intercalibration, and on biological effects of pollutants, now co-sponsored by UNEP and other agencies, which involved several experts from the region in their work on global and regional problems. The activities include development of methods, manuals, quality assurance procedures, training and mutual assistance. The involvement of the regional experts results in global contacts and perspectives, associations with other regions and their experiences, all with beneficial inputs for the work on developing the local and regional projects at home. An example has been the development of regional monitoring networks which have gradually evolved in other parts of the world on the basis of identified regional problems.

42. In addition to past linkages with projects dealing particularly with the analysis of various contaminants (e.g. trace metals and hydrocarbons) the IOC observer stressed the importance of exchange of information between various programmes as well as maximum level of co-ordination and collaboration in order to achieve mutual benefits and avoid duplication of efforts. He reiterated the willingness and interest of IOC to share experiences and results with COBSEA, involve participants as appropriate in relevant IOC projects, and give assistance to COBSEA projects within the IOC sphere of competence. The full-range regional programme of the IOC, including ocean sciences, data exchange, and observation systems is periodically examined within the context of the Regional Committee for Western Pacific. The meeting welcomed the information and IOC's offer of assistance towards the implementation of the Action Plan.

43. The UNESCO observer with reference to the long-term strategy for the East Asian Seas region, as well as the priorities established by the meeting of experts (Bangkok, 8-12 December 1986) gave a brief account of UNESCO's activities in the region which falls within the principal objectives of the Action Plan. He placed special emphasis on the report of the workshop on marine science microcomputer database development (Jakarta, 17-19 November 1986) and its relevance to the region and indicated the willingness of UNESCO to assist in the development of a regional marine science database using the data dictionary concept in collaboration with IOC.

44. The secretariat referred to the telex of International Maritime Organization which was released to the meeting as UNEP/IG.77/INF.5 stressing UNEP's concurrence and strong support to IMO's view on a consolidated regional programme to deal with oil pollution problems.

45. The meeting noted with appreciation IMO's offer to provide technical support for preparation of an overview of all existing regional arrangements and capabilities and to support the proposed organization of a meeting of experts on the subject.

46. The Malaysian delegate referred to the text of the telex from IUCN, released to the meeting as (UNEP/IG.77/INF.12), which was received by the Malaysian Interim Co-ordinator and the meeting acknowledged with appreciation IUCN's offer of support to the implementation of the Action Plan.

47. The observer from the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) in connection with a consolidated approach to oil pollution problems of the region referred to ASCOPE's strong interest in the regions's Action Plan and stressed the dangers of duplication of efforts. He recommended that COBSEA should seriously consider tapping available resources of the petroleum industry in the region through ASCOPE. He also offered ASCOPE's support to a meeting of experts as proposed in the Executive Director's workplan and budget (UNEP/IG.77/4, annex IV project proposal (o)).

Agenda item 11. Workplan and budget for biennium 1987-1988

48. The secretariat presented the proposal for the workplan and budget for the biennium 1987-1988 (UNEP/IG.77/4). It was brought to the meeting's attention that the proposal was based on the recommended long-term strategy (agenda item 10), the present status of the action plan and the recommendations of the meeting of experts on the East Asian Seas action plan (UNEP/WG.154/6).

49. In view of the limited resources available and in order to facilitate the meeting's decisions on selection from the proposed workplan priority projects, the secretariat provided the following estimate of funding for 1987-1988:

| | <u>EAS Trust Fund</u> (in US\$) | <u>Env. Fund</u> (in US\$) |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cash available ^{1/} | 38,116 | - |
| 1986 Outstanding contributions ^{2/} | 58,600 | - |
| 1987 Projected contributions | <u>94,600</u> | <u>189,200</u> |
| | 191,316 | 189,200 |
| Less programme support costs | <u>24,871</u> | - |
| | 166,445 | 189,200 |
| 1988 projected contributions | <u>82,300^{3/}</u> | <u>189,200</u> |
| | 248,745 | 378,400 |
| Total projected contributions for 1987-1988 | | 627,145 |
| ===== | | |

50. The secretariat stressed the fact that the projected contribution from the Environment Fund was subject to the approval of UNEP headquarters and its level contingent upon availability of matching funds from the East Asian Seas Trust Fund.

51. On the basis of estimated contributions available for 1987-1988 the meeting agreed on the workplan and budget shown in Table 1, holding a "reserve" of US\$ 101,145 until the seventh meeting of COBSEA:

^{1/} See UNEP/IG.77/4 page 8
^{2/} See UNEP/IG.77/4 page 7
^{3/} 13 per cent programme support costs deducted

Table 1. Workplan and Timetable 1987-1988

(The level of support which will be forthcoming from UNEP according to this proposal is subject to the availability of resources in the Environment Fund and to the availability of adequate matching funds through the EAS Trust Fund)

| Activity | Timetable | Responsibility | Budget (1) | | | |
|--|---|---|------------|----|------|----|
| | | | 1987 | | 1988 | |
| | | | TF | EF | TF | EF |
| (a) EAS 12: Co-operative research on oil and and oil-dispersant toxicity in the East Asian Seas region. Project to be terminated and followed up by proposed activity (1). | Continuing until December 1987 (with budget allocated in revision 5 of project) | Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment, Government of Malaysia, in co-operation with national institutions of the region | - | - | - | - |
| (b) EAS-13: Study of coral resources and the effects of pollutants and other destructive factors on coral communities and related fisheries in the East Asian Seas region. Project to be terminated and followed up by proposed activity (h). | Continuing until October 1987 (with budget allocated in revision 5 of project) | Natural Resources Management Centre, Government of the Philippines, in co-operation with national institutions of the region | - | - | - | - |
| (c) EAS-14: Study of the maritime meteorological phenomena and oceanographic features of the East Asian Seas region. Project to be extended until December 1988, and reformulated so that it includes the (1) development and testing of predictive models for physical transport processes in selected deep sea areas and (2) indication on how and by whom can or will such models be used in the context of the action plan (based on proposal 2 in annex IV of UNEP/WG.154/6). | Continuing until December 1988 | National Environment Board, Government of Thailand, in co-operation with national institutions of the region | 30 | 10 | 30 | 10 |

(1) Budget indicated in thousands of US \$. Resources already committed (see table 2) are not indicated in this annex. TF = Trust Fund; EF = Environment Fund (UNEP). Counterpart contributions of co-operating agencies and supporting organizations to be determined.

| Activity | Timetable | Responsibility | Budget | | | |
|--|--|--|--------|----|------|----|
| | | | 1987 | | 1988 | |
| | | | TF | EF | TF | EF |
| (d) EAS-15: Survey and monitoring of oil pollution and development of national co-ordinating mechanisms for the management and establishment of a regional data exchange system. Project to be terminated and followed up by proposed activities (i) and (1). | Continuing until October 1987 (with budget allocated in revision 5 of project) | Office of the State Minister for Population and the Environment, Government of Indonesia, in co-operation with national institutions of the region | - | - | - | - |
| (e) EAS-16: Assessment of concentration levels and trends of non-oil pollutants and their effects on the marine environment in the East Asian Seas region. Project to be extended until December 1988 taking into account proposal 5 in annex IV of UNEP/WG.154/6. | Continuing until December 1988 | National Environment Protection Council, Government of the Philippines, in co-operation with national institutions of the region | 28 | 42 | 35 | 35 |
| (f) EAS-17: Implementation of a technical and scientific support programme for oil spill contingency planning. Project to be terminated and followed up by proposed activity (1). | Continuing until October 1987 (with budget allocated in revision 5 of project) | Office of the State Minister for Population and the Environment, Government of Indonesia, in co-operation with national institutions of the region | - | - | - | - |
| (g) Meeting of the Task Team on the regional overview on the state of the marine environment. | May 1987 | FAO and the Rapporteur of the Task Team, in consultation with UNEP | - | 6 | - | - |
| (h) Development of management plans for endangered coastal and marine living resources, training of personnel for the implementation of these plans and rehabilitation of damaged ecosystems (based on proposals 1.2, 1.1 and 7 in annex IV of UNEP/WG.154/6 - the budget allocated for 1987-1988 is to cover component 1.2 only). | July 1987 - December 1988 | Fisheries Department, Kuala Lumpur, in co-operation with national institutions of the region and the relevant international organizations | 4 | 9 | 25 | 50 |

| Activity | Timetable | Responsibility | Budget | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--------|----|------|----|
| | | | 1987 | | 1988 | |
| | | | TF | EF | TF | EF |
| (i) Establishment and management of marine data base and information system, (based on proposal submitted by Indonesia). | October 1987 - December 1988 | Office of the State Minister for Population and Environment, Indonesia, in co-operation with national institutions of the region and the relevant international organizations | 10 | 40 | 10 | 30 |
| (j) Assessment of land-based urban, industrial and agricultural sources of pollution, their environmental impact and development of recommendations for possible control measures (based on proposal 10 in annex IV of UNEP/WG.154/6). | July 1987 - December 1988 | Ministry of Environment, Singapore, in co-operation with national institutions of the region and relevant international organizations | 10 | 42 | 10 | 10 |
| (k) Formulation of coastal management plan for the East Asian Seas region (for Malaysia initially) (based on proposal 11 in annex IV of UNEP/WG.154/6). | July 1987 - December 1988 | ESCAP, in co-operation with the Department of Environment, Government of Malaysia | - | - | - | - |
| (l) Meeting of experts on control of oil pollution (1) to determine the state of knowledge on the extent and sources of oil pollution in the region; (2) to review the existing and ongoing research, management and legislative activities relevant to the control of oil pollution; and (3) to advise COBSEA on activities to be undertaken in the framework of the action plan in order to impose effective control on oil pollution in the region (for more details see UNEP/WG.154/6, paragraphs 32f and 35 as well as proposal 6 in annex IV of UNEP/WG.154/6). Recommendations of the meeting expected to result, with approval of seventh meeting of COBSEA in activity(s) co-ordinated by Indonesia | September 1987 | UNEP in consultation with EAS focal points and in co-operation with the Office of the State Minister for Population and the Environment, Indonesia, and the relevant international and regional organizations (IMO, IOC, IUCN, ASEAN, ASCOPE and others) | - | 25 | - | - |

| Activity | Timetable | Responsibility | Budget | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------|------|-----|-----|
| | | | 1987 | 1988 | | |
| | | | TF | EF | TF | EF |
| (m) Completion of the regional overview on the state of the marine environment. | December 1987 | FAO and the Rapporteur of the Task Team, in co-operation with UNEP | - | 5 | - | - |
| (n) Seventh meeting of COBSEA to review the progress in the implementation of the action plan and to decide on the workplan and budget for the biennium 1988-1989. | April 1988 (Indonesia) | UNEP in consultation with the Interim Co-ordinator of COBSEA | - | - | - | - |
| (o) Support of the secretariat (UNEP) to the implementation of the action plan | Continuing | UNEP, under the guidance of COBSEA and in consultation with the Interim Co-ordinator | - | - | - | 20 |
| TOTAL | | | 82 | 179 | 110 | 155 |

Agenda item 12. Extension of the East Asian Seas Trust Fund

52. The secretariat reminded the meeting that since the establishment of the Trust Fund in 1982 and despite the ten per cent increase decided at the third meeting of COBSEA, the level of the Trust Fund has for all practical purposes remained the same and COBSEA should seriously consider increasing its level by a substantial amount to meet the priorities of the Action Plan. Furthermore, it was pointed out that the Trust Fund as it presently stands expires on 31 December 1987.

53. The meeting decided to request the Executive Director of UNEP to make the necessary arrangements for the extension of the Trust Fund for a further period of two years.

54. The meeting also decided to request the Executive Director of UNEP to continue the management of the Trust Fund, provide secretariat support to the Action Plan and the technical co-ordination of COBSEA endorsed projects.

55. The meeting noting that the relevant Government authorities require consultation well in advance, decided to take the necessary steps between now and the next meeting of COBSEA, so as to be in a position to decide on the level of their pledges to the Trust Fund at the seventh meeting of COBSEA.

56. The meeting noted that the 1986 Trust Fund contributions reflect a 10 per cent increase by all COBSEA member countries and that the 1987 pledges will also be at this level.

Agenda item 13. Other business

57. The Chairman invited the meeting to raise any other issues of relevance to the further development of the Action Plan in particular or to the meeting in general.

58. The secretariat referred to the circular letter No. OCA 16/1987 of the Director of OCA/PAC and requested the national focal points to bring it to the attention of their relevant national authorities. It was pointed out that tourism is one of the subjects of concern for the Action Plan and the World Tourism Organization's sponsored "interdisciplinary study cycle on tourism" could be of value to the implementation of the Action Plan.

59. The secretariat also referred to the report of the scientific meeting to review the Indian Ocean sanctuary (Seychelles, 27-28 February 1987) released as UNEP/IG.77/INF.4, and reminded the meeting of the project proposal on marine mammals which the fifth meeting of COBSEA had placed in "category III" project proposals (UNEP/IG.65/12, annex VI).

60. The meeting decided to request UNEP to provide further information on their activities on marine mammals and their relevance within the context of the East Asian Seas Action Plan. The meeting also decided that the project proposal on marine mammals should then be reconsidered at the seventh meeting of COBSEA in the light of this information.

Agenda item 14. Adoption of the report

61. The Rapporteur presented the draft report and its annexes to the meeting and they were adopted, with slight amendments, as they appear in this document.

Agenda item 15. Closure of the meeting

62. The meeting was closed by the representative of the Executive Director and by the Chairman of the meeting. In their closing remarks they expressed satisfaction with the results of the meeting and expressed their thanks to the Government of Thailand for all their assistance in the efficient and constructive way they hosted the meeting.

Annex I

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