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

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13-15 November 1991

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

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 Ninth meeting of COBSEA in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13-15 November 1991.
3. All countries participating in the East Asian Seas action plan, together with representatives of the Governments of Brunei Darussalam and Vietnam, were invited to the meeting.
4. The United Nations, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNU, ESCAP, UNCHS, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO, IMO, UNIDO, IAEA, IOC, CCOP, ASEAMS, EWC, IUCN, ASCOPE, SEAFDEC, IIED, NECOR, ADB, and Greenpeace¹ were invited to send observers to the meeting.
5. The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn City Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13-15 November 1991.
6. This document is the report of the meeting. The complete list of participants and observers is presented in Annex I to this report.

Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting

7. Mr. Kong How Kooi, Acting Secretary-General, Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment, on behalf of the Government of Malaysia welcomed the participants to the meeting. In his opening speech he hoped the meeting would provide a forum for a productive exchange of views and experience, ensuring the successful re-examination of COBSEA's role for the discharge of its activities.
8. Mr. Peter C. Schröder, Director of the Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre (OCA/PAC) of UNEP, on behalf of the Executive Director of UNEP, and the Interim Co-ordinator of COBSEA opened the meeting. He welcomed the participants and, on behalf of the secretariat, briefly reviewed the relevant events preceding the meeting since the last meeting of COBSEA (Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 14-16 June 1989). He specifically referred to the sixteenth meeting of the Governing Council of UNEP and the fact that the Oceans Programme was adopted as one of the six major areas of concentrated activities of UNEP. He also specifically referred to his mission to all the countries participating in the East Asian Seas action plan as well as Brunei Darussalam which took place prior to the present meeting and the useful consultation he had with the national focal points. He stressed that based on UNEP's experience in other regions a cost-effective

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 Settlement (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); Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP); Association of Southeast Asian Marine Scientists (ASEAMS); East West Centre (EWC); International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN); ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE); South-East Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC); International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED); Norwegian Engineering Committee on Oceanic Resources (NECOR); and Asian Development Bank (ADB).

and efficient management of the action plan could be achieved by the establishment of a Regional Co-ordinating Unit and hoped the participants would advise the secretariat on this particular issue.

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, would 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 the ASEAN Expert Group on the Environment (AEGE) that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur of the Ninth meeting of COBSEA were designated on the same rotating basis. However, in the absence of a representative from the Government of the Philippines the following were elected by acclamation:

Chairman	:	Mr. Kong How Kooi (Malaysia)
Vice-Chairman	:	Mr. Lim Chuan Poh (Singapore)
Rapporteur	:	Dr. Sittiporn Kajornatiyudh (Thailand)

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

12. The meeting was conducted in English.

Agenda item 3. Adoption of the agenda

13. The provisional agenda [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/1] was introduced by the secretariat with reference to the provisional list of documents [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/INF.1]. The meeting considered the proposed agenda and adopted it without any modification. The adopted agenda, as well as the final list of documents, are presented as Annexes II and III to this report.

Agenda item 4. Report of the former Interim Co-ordinator of AEGE

14. Mr. Lim Chuan Poh, as the former Interim Co-ordinator of AEGE, in presenting his report [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/3] referred to the formation of the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN). He also briefly mentioned the first two meetings of the ASOEN and the decisions that were relevant to the activities of the COBSEA. Amongst other issues reported by the Interim Co-ordinator were the Fourth Meeting of the Experts on the East Asian Seas action plan and the visit to the ASEAN countries of the Director of OCA/PAC prior to the present meeting of the COBSEA.

Agenda item 5. Report of the Executive Director

15. The representative of the Executive Director presented the Executive Director's report to the Ninth meeting of COBSEA [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/4], reviewing the progress of the implementation of the action plan since the Eighth meeting of COBSEA. With reference to the decisions of the Eighth meeting of the COBSEA and in particular the workplan and the budget adopted at that meeting [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.2/10, Table 1] the meeting was informed of the development and the present status of (a) the ongoing or recently completed

COBSEA approved projects, (b) the project proposals on the "establishment and management of a marine data base and information exchange system in the East Asian Seas region (EAS-20)", the "oil pollution control in the East Asian Seas region (EAS-23)", the "quality assurance for non-oil pollution monitoring (EAS-24)", and the "development of management plans for the endangered coastal and marine living resources in East Asia-Phase II (EAS-25)", and (c) the additional activities of UNEP and other international organizations towards further development of the East Asian Seas action plan which were carried out at no extra cost to the East Asian Seas Trust Fund. Among the latter, mention was made of UNEP's support to (a) the Association of the Southeast Marine Scientists (ASEAMS), (b) the Task Team for the preparation of the regional report on the ecological and socio-economic implications of the expected climate change, (c) the Fourth meeting of Experts on the East Asian Seas Action Plan, (d) the Meeting of Technical and Legal Experts on the Legal Framework of the Action Plan for the East Asian Seas Region, and (e) participation of experts from the countries of the region in various international and regional meetings.

16. The representative of the Executive Director, with reference to the more detailed insight made available by the endeavours of ASEAMS, Fourth Meeting of Experts and the findings of the Task Teams on climatic changes, provided the meeting with a summary of the findings of the experts from the region on marine and coastal environmental problems of the East Asian Seas as well as the major causes of these problems.

17. With reference to the document the Progress Reports on 1989 - 1991 Programme Activities [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/5], the representative of the Executive Director reviewed the progress of the ongoing and recently completed COBSEA approved projects. It was brought to the attention of the meeting that there has been continuous improvement on project progress and financial reporting by the project co-ordinators, and UNEP hoped that this momentum would not be lost with regards to the future project implementations.

Agenda item 6. Review of 1989-1991 programme activities

(a) Ongoing East Asian Seas projects

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

19. FP/ES/5102-82-19 (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: A consultancy mission to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand was conducted on 22 April - 3 May 1989 in order to coordinate preparation of technical reports on environmental monitoring of Malaysian waters and the Gulf of Thailand, to assess progress of the project's implementation and to confer with participating institutions on future project activities. In the four participating countries, workshops on the analysis of trace metals in marine samples were conducted. This project has been completed and its terminal report was submitted at the Ninth meeting of COBSEA.

20. FP/ES/5102-87-03 (EAS-19): Development of management plans for endangered coastal and marine living resources in East Asia - training phase: Training manuals on the management of marine parks were completed by two consultants from James Cook University and the Queensland Department of Conservation and Environment respectively, and delivered to the implementing organization on 20 September 1989. A set of the training materials was sent to UNEP by the coordinator for clearance. However, the despatch was lost in the mail and the second set of materials reached UNEP only on 3 April 1990. The first regional meeting of senior marine park managers from the East Asian Seas countries was held in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia on 23 October - 3 November 1989. Participants and observers at the meeting were from Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines. The second regional meeting of senior marine park managers to evaluate the project was convened on 11 - 14 March 1991 in Malaysia. Participants and observers at the meeting were from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.

21. FP/ES/5102-87-09 (EAS-21): Assessment of land-based urban, industrial and agricultural sources of pollution, their environmental impact and development of recommendations for possible control measures: A

regional seminar to review the national reports and the draft regional report on the land-based sources of pollution in the East Asian Seas region was held in Singapore on 25-27 January 1989. In the seminar, there were four participants each from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, and eight from Singapore. A questionnaire on the content and benefits of the seminar was sent to the participants. The compilation and analysis of the completed questionnaires was received by UNEP on 25 October 1989. The project is completed, and the terminal report was received by UNEP from the implementing organization on 3 December 1990.

22. The Chairman invited the meeting to review and evaluate the results of each project on the basis of the oral presentations of the project co-ordinators, the relevant parts of the Executive Director's report [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/4] and the document on progress reports on 1989-1991 programme activities [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/5]. The meeting was also reminded that on the basis of discussion they could provide guidance and recommendations that could improve the implementation of the ongoing projects or the use of their outputs.

23. After seeking further elaboration and information from the project co-ordinators and the secretariat, the meeting made the following observation and recommendations: (a) with regards to the report of the project on the "development of management plans for endangered coastal and marine living resources in East Asia: Training phase (EAS-19) UNEP was requested to explore the possibilities of funding the publication of the project's "training manuals" together with the development of good audiovisual materials to supplement the training manual, and their wide distribution, including potential resources that might be made available by other international organizations or donor agencies, and (b) any publication of the report of the project on the "assessment of land-based urban, industrial, and agricultural sources of pollution, their environmental impact and development of recommendations for possible control measures" (EAS-21) should be contingent to the clearance of the report by the national focal points of the East Asian Seas Action Plan.

(b) Association of Southeast Asian Marine Scientists (ASEAMS)

24. The Chairman of the Association of Southeast Asian Marine Scientists (ASEAMS) presented a report [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/6] on the activities of the Association since the last meeting of COBSEA and reviewed its status.

25. The meeting was invited to take note of the progress and the activities of ASEAMS, recommending ways and means of further improving the effective co-operation between ASEAMS, the national focal points of the Action Plan and UNEP on activities carried out within the framework of the East Asian Seas Action Plan.

26. The meeting encouraged the ASEAMS to continue reporting on the scientific aspects of the COBSEA approved projects in the Association's newsletter, "LAUT".

(c) Implications of expected climatic changes in the East Asian Seas region

27. The secretariat informed the meeting that preparation of studies on the possible ecological and socio-economic implications of expected climatic changes had been initiated by UNEP as part of the Regional Seas Programme.

28. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Co-ordinator of the Task Team on the implication of the expected climatic change in the East Asian Seas region presented a progress report on the implications of the expected climatic changes in the East Asian Seas region [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/7]. In his presentation he made reference to the deliberations of the joint meeting of the Co-ordinators of the Task Teams on implications of climatic changes, held in Singapore during 12-16 November 1990.

29. The meeting was invited to take note of the report and make suggestions on how to make the information contained in the report widely known in the region, and how to proceed with policy guidelines to respond to the expected consequences of climatic change in the region.

30. The meeting after obtaining additional clarification from the Co-ordinator of the Task Team requested UNEP to ensure that this report, once published, should reach the decision and policy makers of the East Asian Seas countries.

(d) Evaluation of the EAS-19 project and other EAS projects

31. The secretariat introduced the evaluation of the EAS-19 project prepared by the Department of Fisheries, Government of Malaysia [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/5].

32. The meeting discussed the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation report and took note of the major findings of the report that included:

- (i) Project EAS-19 has, in the main, met its objectives and achieved its planned outputs;
- (ii) While serving a very useful purpose at the initial planning stages of a project, country Focal Points need not function as conduits for communications, etc., once a project has become operational. They could, however, facilitate communications where appropriate;
- (iii) The Training Manual is basically sound and once it has undergone revision of the material presented, the addition of new material and some presentational changes, it should be considered for publication as a guide to those training marine park managers and rangers. This is probably best done by the original consultants with the assistance of an editorial expert;
- (iv) There is a need for good audiovisual material to supplement the Training Manual. This requires specialist attention and is recommended to funding agencies for consideration as a separate consultancy;
- (v) It is recommended that UNEP investigate the potential application of the Training Manual and audiovisual aids package to countries beyond the EAS Region; and
- (vi) The project has stimulated a good measure of regional rapport among those responsible for marine park management and the ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment (ASOEN) may wish to consider the setting up of a regional body for those involved in marine park management, modelled on and run in parallel with ASEAMS.

Agenda item 7. Financial report for the period 1989-1991

33. The secretariat with reference to the relevant sections of the Executive Director's report (UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/4, paragraphs 27-37) reviewed the financial arrangements in relation to the support of the action plan during the 1989-1991 period. This included detailed examination of the status of the East Asian Seas Trust Fund and the financial contribution from UNEP's Environment Fund as well as other sources of support to the implementation of the action plan, including the in kind contributions to the COBSEA approved projects by the Governments of the region.

34. In reviewing the financial report of the East Asian Seas action plan, the secretariat presented a breakdown of the participating governments' pledges and payments received during the 1982 - 1990 period, together with the expenditure and commitments for the 1982 - 1991 period. The amended figures are shown in Annex IV of this report.

35. The meeting, while taking note of the financial report for the period of 1989-1991, sought further clarification from the secretariat. Furthermore, UNEP was requested to provide detailed information on the expenditures and commitments of the East Asian Seas Trust Fund as well as the Environment Fund of UNEP for the activities in support of the implementation of the action plan. This clarification was requested in connection with the general information outlined in the Table 4 of the Executive Director's report [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/4]. The secretariat undertook to submit this information to the national focal points of the East Asian Seas action plan within the next six months.

36. With regards to the level of the country pledges towards the East Asian Seas Trust Fund, the meeting decided that for 1992 they would remain the same.

Agenda item 8. Reappraisal and revision of the East Asian Seas Action Plan

(a) Report on the mission on the reappraisal and revision of the East Asian Seas Action Plan

37. The secretariat, with reference to the document on the reappraisal and revision of the East Asian Seas action plan (report of the high level consultants) [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/8], introduced this agenda item. The meeting's attention was drawn to the salient points and recommendations of this report.

38. The meeting took note of this document, recalling that the report was reviewed in detail at the first ASOEN meeting (19 June 1990, Kuala Lumpur), with a number of its recommendations already noted and being implemented. The meeting also recalled the relevant decision of the second ASOEN meeting (17-19 June 1991, Singapore) concerning the fact that there was no need to discuss the issue of COBSEA activities under the mandate of ASOEN. It was reiterated that COBSEA's role within ASEAN was to coordinate COBSEA approved projects funded by the East Asian Seas Trust Fund and/or Environment Fund of UNEP. However, the meeting stressed that COBSEA also has a major part to play within the wider East Asian Seas region. In view of this, the participants urged UNEP to step up its efforts in inviting other countries to join the East Asian Seas Action Plan and report the result of these activities to the next meeting of COBSEA.

39. On the basis of the above and the recognition of the fact that (a) ASOEN had established the Working Group on ASEAN Seas and Marine Environment (WGASME) in order to oversee activities related to the marine environment within the ASEAN seas, (b) ASEAN COST, through its Sub-committee on Marine Sciences, continued to undertake activities on marine sciences within the ASEAN seas region, and (c) countries outside the ASEAN region, but within the East Asian Seas, would participate in future COBSEA activities, the meeting felt it was imperative that COBSEA strengthens its coordinating capabilities in the East Asian Seas region.

40. The meeting agreed in principle that a Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) be formed and the proposed RCU will initially be an interim body to be temporary located in UNEP Headquarters under the supervision of OCA/PAC, with the following broad Terms of Reference:

- (a) facilitate the development and coordination of activities under the East Asian Seas action plan at national, sub-regional, regional, and international levels in concert with other regional and international organizations;
- (b) act as a supervisory body in the implementation and assessment of projects and activities carried out under the purview of the COBSEA; and
- (c) serve as a focus for the collection and dissemination of information amongst member countries and between the East Asian seas region and other regional seas and relevant international organizations.

41. Based on the above-mentioned broad Terms of Reference the meeting requested UNEP to prepare a full report containing detailed Terms of Reference and proposals, including financial commitments, for the

establishment of the RCU and circulate it to the national focal points of the East Asian Seas action plan for comments and endorsement before 31 January 1992.

42. In view of the expanded role of COBSEA and the possible participation of other countries of the region in the East Asian Seas programme the meeting requested the Executive Director of UNEP to arrange the preparation of a detailed report on UNEP's perception of the future role of COBSEA and its future mode of operation. Furthermore, the report should deal with proposals on the nature and the type of the projects and activities that could best contribute towards the development of the East Asian Seas Action Plan. The report was expected to be sent to the national Focal Points of the East Asian Seas action plan for comments by 31 March 1992.

(b) Report of the meeting of legal and technical experts on the East Asian Seas Action Plan

43. The secretariat provided the meeting with information on the background and events leading to the convening of the meeting of legal and technical experts on the legal framework of the action plan for the East Asian Seas. Furthermore, with reference to the report of this meeting [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/9], the relevant findings and the record of the deliberations were reviewed.

44. The Chairman invited the meeting to take note of the report of the meeting and advise the secretariat on the next course of action.

45. After seeking further elaboration from the secretariat the meeting decided that the priority for the region lies in increasing capacity building and strengthening means for implementation of the existing international conventions on marine environment protection. The secretariat noted the decision of the meeting and agreed to explore ways and means to assist the COBSEA member countries to overcome the problem.

46. In view of this the meeting decided to hold in abeyance the adoption of a recommendation for further development in connection with the regional legal framework for the East Asian Seas action plan.

(c) Report of the Findings of Six States Mission by Director, OCA/PAC

47. The secretariat informed the meeting of the report of the Findings of Six States Mission by the Director of Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre (OCA/PAC).

48. The meeting, while noting the major findings and recommendations of this mission, expressed its appreciation of this initiative.

Agenda item 9. Workplan and budget for the biennium 1992-1993

49. The secretariat introduced the Executive Director's recommendations and proposals for the 1992 - 1993 workplan and budget [UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/4, Annex II] and the Chairman invited the meeting to decide on its workplan and budget.

50. The meeting on the basis of the Executive Director's proposals and the estimation of available resources, adopted a workplan and budget for 1992 - 1993 as shown in Table 1 of this report.

51. With regards to activity (c) the secretariat undertook to investigate and report to the Indonesian national focal point the reasons for the delay in the finalization of the documentation for this project.

52. With regards to the first component of the activity (d) the meeting discussed concern expressed by some countries that the project should be regional in nature in accordance with the objective of COBSEA. The meeting subsequently agreed that the project could proceed with the understanding that further work should

be done in the future to extend the application beyond the Gulf of Thailand, eg. South China Sea and Straits of Malacca.

53. With regards to second component of the activity (d) the Indonesian delegation agreed to revise the proposal in the light of IOC's comments and resubmit the project proposal. The secretariat undertook to inform the Indonesian national focal point on the present status of this proposal as soon as possible. In addition the meeting agreed the first and second components of activity (d) could be implemented under separate Memorandum of Agreements (MOU) of the "umbrella project".

54. With regards to the third component of the activity (d) the representative of IMO informed the meeting that his organisation was also implementing similar activities in this region and, therefore, the third component of activity (d) could be incorporated and submitted to IMO for consideration. In view of this the meeting agreed that in order to avoid duplication of work to delete the last component of the project and request IMO to give due consideration to the objective of the project and COBSEA requirements. The Indonesian delegation informed the meeting that it will submit, through OCA/PAC to international organizations a list of priority project proposals, specific to Indonesia but with strong regional implications, bearing in mind to avoid any duplication in activities.

55. The meeting in general way considered the activity (g) but agreed to keep activity (g) in abeyance, pending the review on the future role of COBSEA and the nature and the types of its projects and activities has been prepared and circulated for comments. Activity (g) will be circulated for ad referendum approval following this.

56. The meeting noted with concern the stagnation of the East Asian Seas action plan activities since the Eighth meeting of the COBSEA (Bandar Seri Begawan, 14-16 June 1989). They requested the Executive Director of UNEP to make the necessary arrangements for the appointment of a full time programme officer to handle the day-to-day running and coordination of the activities of the action plan. This was felt to be of paramount importance in view of the decision by the Ninth COBSEA meeting to establish an RCU. At the same time the meeting expressed their appreciation of the secondment to OCA/PAC of a Junior Programme Officer to fill the gap in the interim period.

Agenda item 10. Extension of the East Asian Seas Trust Fund

57. The meeting requested the Executive Director to make arrangements for the extension of the East Asian Seas Trust Fund through December 1993 and continue to provide the secretariat functions for the action plan which included the overall technical coordination and supervision of the implementation of its projects and the continuation of the management of the Trust fund during 1992 - 1993.

Agenda item 11. Other business

58. The Chairman invited the meeting to raise any other issues relevant to the future development of the Action Plan.

59. The representative of ASEAN-Canada Cooperative Marine Science informed the meeting that following the completion of Phase I of the activities of this programme, the second phase is now beginning. He went on to outline the essential elements and activities of the present phase which could be of interest to COBSEA, viz.: (a) environmental criteria (EC) technical study, (b) pollution monitoring and base-line (PMB) technical study, (c) red tide (RT) technical study, and (d) institutional training, workshops, and seminars.

60. The representative of IMO introduced the global programme for the protection of the marine environment and gave an indication of the scope and the objectives of this programme as well as the relevant activities in the ASEAN and the Bay of Bengal regions. Those activities covered the following: (a) advice of services to the member states of IMO and the oil industries, (b) regional seminars in the ASEAN region on oil spill response,

(c) national seminars in Malaysia on casualty management and a national seminar in the Philippines on MARPOL 73/75 and the OPRC Conventions, (d) identification of resource persons and institutions in the region which could be utilised for the implementation of the programme activities, (e) information services on IMO matters and activities, and (f) supply of activity related materials and publications on request. The IMO Global Programme has been in operation in this region for two years. The duration of the programme is for the period 1990-1993 and is presently undergoing an evaluation to determine the need for its extension for a further three years.

61. The representative of IOC informed the meeting of his organization's actions in relation to three EAS projects. He reiterated his organization's willingness to cooperate fully on the agreed undertakings in the implementation of these projects. He also informed the meeting that IOC/WESTPAC was undertaking nine projects in the region of which four were seen as being of particular relevance to the East Asian Seas action plan. Two of these projects were presented for the consideration of COBSEA for possible adoption, viz "continental shelf circulation" and "assessment of region's inputs to the sea".

62. The representative from ESCAP highlighted the various activities undertaken by his organization in the area of marine environment, in particular the development of guidelines for coastal environmental management plans (CEMP), testing the guidelines by the development of CEMP for the Philippines. He also informed the meeting of the recommendation of the ministerial-level conference on environment and development in Asia and the Pacific (October 1990), for the establishment of a regional environment fund and his Commission's resolution on the subject. He stressed that the establishment of the regional environment fund would contribute greatly in launching effective programmes for environmental amelioration in the region.

63. The representative of WMO informed the meeting that WMO is committed to working closely with other relevant United Nations organizations in the area of marine sciences, particularly in relation to marine meteorology and related oceanography. Cooperation at the international level between WMO, IOC, and UNEP has paved the way for closer collaboration between national meteorological and oceanographic institutions. As an example he pointed to the case in which Malaysian Meteorological Service has participated actively in several of COBSEA activities and contributed significantly to these activities. He stressed that WMO realizes the importance of the East Asian Seas region with regards to the regional environment and climate issues. Accordingly it has initiated action to intensify its activities in the area of marine meteorology. The main objectives of the WMO programme are to enhance the capabilities of National Meteorological Services in the region in order to provide marine meteorological services in support of various activities, to monitor regional climate, and to provide input to address environmental issues.

Agenda item 12. Adoption of the report

64. 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 13. Closure of the meeting

65. The meeting was closed by the representative of the Executive Director and by the Chairman. In their closing remarks, both officials expressed their thanks to the Government of Malaysia for the hospitality and the efficient and constructive way the meeting was hosted.

Annex I

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UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG. 3/11
Annex I
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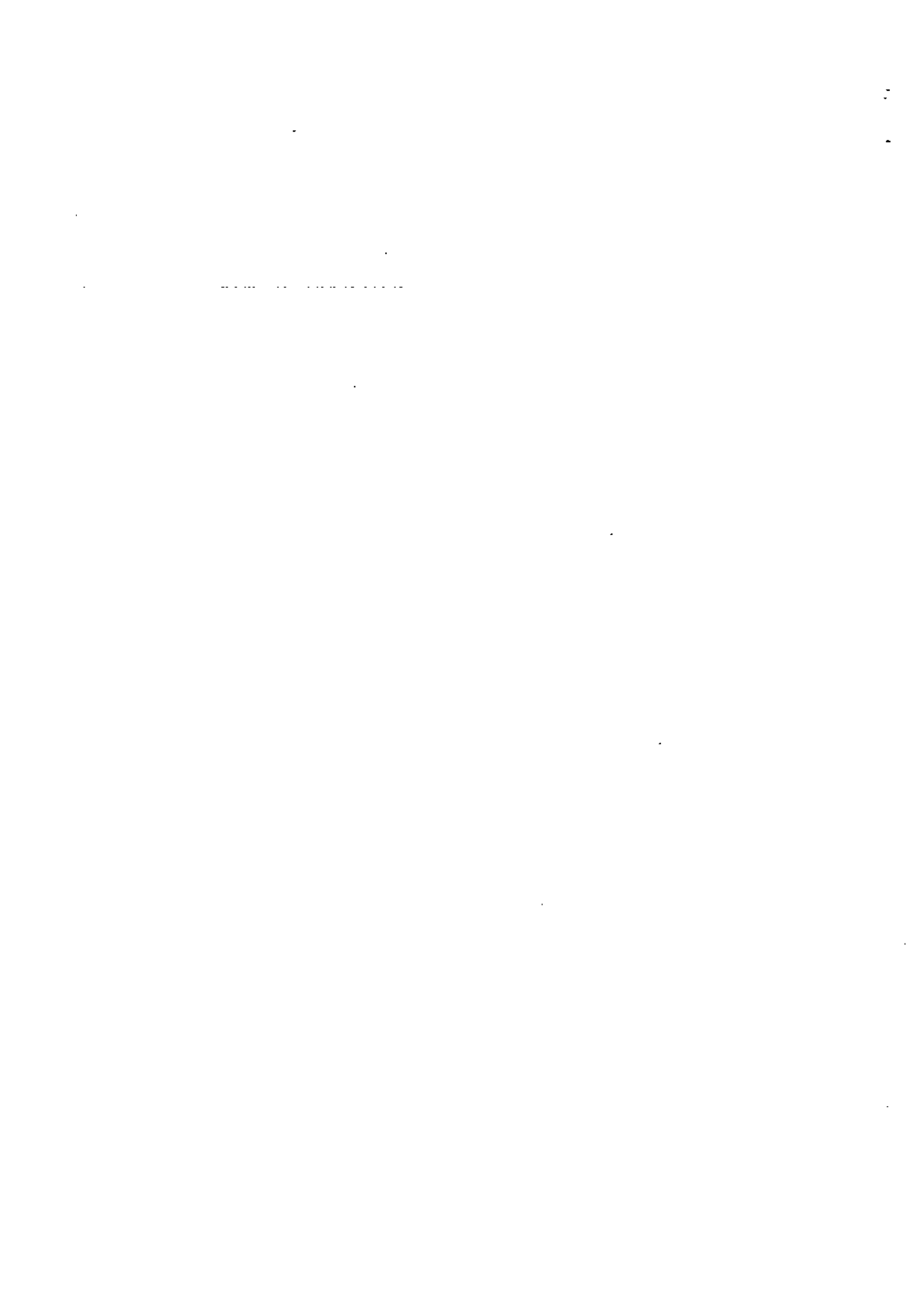
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Annex II

AGENDA

- Opening of the meeting
- Organization of the meeting
 - Designation of officers
 - Organization of work
- Adoption of the agenda
- Report of the Interim Co-ordinator
- Report of the Executive Director
- Review of 1989-1991 programme activities
 - Ongoing East Asian Seas projects
 - Association of Southeast Asian Marine Scientists (ASEAMS)
 - Implications of expected climatic changes in the East Asian Seas region
 - Evaluation of the EAS-19 project and other EAS projects
- Financial report for the period 1989-1991
- Reappraisal and revision of the East Asian Seas Action Plan
 - Report on the mission on the reappraisal and revision of the East Asian Seas Action Plan
 - Report of the meeting of legal and technical experts on the East Asian Seas Action Plan
 - Report of the Findings of Six States Mission by Director, OCA/PAC
- Workplan and budget for the biennium 1992-1993
- Extension of the East Asian Seas Trust Fund
- Other business
- Adoption of the report
- Closure of the meeting

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Working documents

UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/1	Provisional agenda.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/2	Annotated provisional agenda.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/3	Report of the Interim Co-ordinator and Report of the Findings of Six States mission by Director, OCA/PAC.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/4	Report of the Executive Director.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/5	Progress reports on the 1989-1991 programme activities.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/6	Report of the Chairman of the Association of Southeast Asian Marine Scientists (ASEAMS).
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/7	Report of the work of the Task Team on the Implications of Climate Change on the East Asian Seas.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/8	Reappraisal and revision of the East Asian Seas Action Plan (report of the high level consultants).
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/9	Report of the meeting of the legal and technical experts to review the proposed legal framework of the action plan for the East Asian Seas region.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/10	Project proposals submitted by national focal points and other regional institutions for the consideration of the Ninth meeting of COBSEA.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/11	Report of the Ninth meeting of the Co-ordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia.

Information documents

UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/INF.1	Provisional list of documents.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/INF.2	Provisional list of participants.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/INF.3	Report of the Second Meeting of the Task Team on Implications of climatic changes in the East Asian Seas region.
UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.2/INF.4	Terms of reference of the Interim Co-ordinator.

- UNEP(OCA)/EAS WG.4/6 Report of the Fourth meeting of experts on the East Asian Seas Action Plan (Quezon City, Philippines, 6-9 December 1990).
- UNEP 1987 The East Asian Seas Action Plan: evaluation of its development and achievements. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 86.
- ASEAMS/UNEP 1990 Proceedings of the First ASEAMS Symposium on Southeast Asian Marine Science and Environmental Protection. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 116.
- ASEAMS 1989 Report of the First General Assembly and Symposium, Quezon City, 6-7 February 1989.
- Gomez et al. 1990 State of the marine environment in the East Asian Seas region. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 126.
- Reference documents
- ASEAMS 1989-1990 Issues 2-4 (1989), 1-2, 3 and 4 (1990) of LAUT newsletter of ASEAMS.
- UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.2/4 Report of the Executive Director of UNEP on the implementation of the East Asian Seas Action Plan in 1988-1989.
- UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.2/10 Report of the Eighth meeting of the Co-ordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 14-16 June 1989.
- UNEP/IG.38/5/Rev.1 Proposed Terms of Reference of the Regional Co-ordinating Unit for the Caribbean Action Plan and Requirements for its Establishment and Operation in Jamaica.

Annex IV

Status of pledges and received payments to the East Asian Seas Trust Fund
(in US \$ as at 31 October 1991)*

State	Indonesia	Malaysia	Philippines	Singapore	Thailand	TOTAL
1982						
Pledged	30,000	17,000	19,000	1,000	19,000	86,000
Received	30,000	17,000	19,000	1,000	19,000	86,000
1983						
Pledged	30,000	17,000	19,000	1,000	19,000	86,000
Received	30,000	17,000	-	1,000	19,000	67,000
1984						
Pledged	33,000	17,000	19,000	1,000	19,000	89,000
Received	33,000	-	19,000	1,000	-	53,000
1985						
Pledged	33,000	18,700	19,000	1,000	20,900	92,600
Received	33,000	35,700	-	1,000	39,900	109,600
1986						
Pledged	33,000	18,700	20,900	1,100	20,900	94,600
Received	33,000	18,700	39,900	1,300	-	92,900
1987						
Pledged	33,000	18,700	20,900	1,100	19,000	92,700
Received	-	18,700	20,900	1,100	17,100	57,800
1988						
Pledged	33,000	18,700	20,900	1,100	19,000	92,700
Received	66,000	-	-	1,100	19,000	86,100
1989						
Pledged	33,000	18,700	20,900	1,100	20,900	94,600
Received	33,000	37,400	19,933	1,100	24,700	116,133
1990						
Pledged	33,000	18,700	20,900	1,100	20,900	94,600
Received	33,000	18,700	9,098	2,200	20,900	83,898
1991						
Pledged	33,000	18,700	20,900	1,100	20,900	94,600
Received	66,000	-	-	2,200	-	68,200
TOTAL						
Pledged	324,000	181,900	201,400	10,600	199,500	917,400
Received	357,000	163,200	127,831	13,000	159,600	820,631

* As a change to previous tables of the status of the East Asian Seas Trust Fund, this table shows the actual year the contributions have been received by UNEP. Previously contributions were reflected under the year against which they were credited irrespective of when they were received.

TABLE 1

Workplan and budget in the biennium 1992-1993, including proposals received from EAS Focal Points, from the meeting of experts convened in the framework of the Action Plan, from International, Intergovernmental, regional and national organizations, as well as from the secretariat.

(The level of support which may be forthcoming from the Environment Fund of UNEP according to this proposal is subject to the availability of resources in the Environment Fund and to the agreement of COBSEA to allocate adequate matching funds through the EAS Trust Fund. Budget is indicated in thousands of US \$. Resources already committed through signed project documents are not indicated in this annex. TF = Trust Fund; EF = Environment Fund (UNEP). Counterpart contributions of co-operating agencies and supporting organizations are indicated in the "Note", whenever applicable).

Activity	Timetable	Budget* Responsibility	1992		1993		Note
			TF	EF	TF	EF	
(a) General support for the implementation and co-ordination of the Action Plan including establishment of EAS-RCU and support to COBSEA meeting	Continuing	UNEP, under the guidance of COBSEA	30	85	70	100	
(b) EAS-16: Assessment of concentration levels and trends of non-oil pollutants and their effects on the marine environment of the East Asian Seas region	Extended to April 1990	Environmental Management Bureau, Government of the Philippines, in co-operation with national institutions of the region	-	-	-	-	Activities have been completed. Terminal report was received during the 8th COBSEA meeting
(c) EAS-20: Establishment and management of a marine data base and information exchange system in the East Asian Seas region	Originally planned for implementation in 1989-1990, rescheduled for 1992-1993	Office of State Minister for Pollution and the Environment Government of Indonesia, with co-operation of national institutions of the region and relevant international organizations	10	20	30	-	See paragraph 51 of the report
(d) EAS-23: Oil pollution control in the East Asian Seas region: "umbrella" project, consisting of the following components: (1) Oceanographic development of oil spill trajectory models; (2) Survey and monitoring of oil pollution in the EAS region (Phase I - tarball monitoring);	Originally planned for implementation in 1989-1990, rescheduled for 1992-1993	Component (1): National Environment Board, Government of Thailand; Component (2 and 3): Office of State Minister for Population and the Environment, Government of Indonesia; In co-operation with IOC, IMO, ASCOPE/NECOR/CCOP and national institutions of the region	70	10	-	-	See paragraph 52-54 of this report

Activity	Timetable	Budget* Responsibility	1992		1993		Note
			TF	EF	TF	EF	
(e) EAS-24: Quality assurance for non-oil pollution monitoring	Originally proposed for implementation in 1989-1990, rescheduled for 1992-1993	Environmental Management Bureau, Government of the Philippines, in co-operation with national institutions of the region, IOC and other relevant international organizations	50	10	-	-	Approved for implementation at the 8th COBSEA meeting. While recognizing the importance of this project, the secretariat is of the opinion that such a programme should be an integral part of a monitoring programme and not a separate activity. Therefore UNEP is ready to support financially the proposed quality assurance programme only in the framework of a region-wide monitoring system.
(f) EAS-25: Development of management plans for endangered coastal and marine living resources in East Asia (Phase I)	Proposed for implementation in 1992-1993	Department of Fisheries, Government of Malaysia, in co-operation with national institutions of the region	30	10	-	-	Approved for implementation at the 8th COBSEA meeting. Project document to be revised and finalized with the assistance from UNEP (January/February 1992).
(g) Workshop on the biological effects of pollutants	Proposed for implementation in 1992	Phuket Marine Biological Centre, Government of Thailand, in co-operation with national institutions of the region and UNEP	20	40	-	-	See paragraph 55 of this report. Project to be held in abeyance until UNEP's paper referred to in paragraph 42 on the future role of COBSEA has been circulated and the final decision is made by referendum.
(h) Support to the Association of Southeast Asian Marine Scientists (ASEAMS), including support to meetings of experts	Continuing until December 1993	UNEP	-	10	-	10	For background see paragraphs 24-26.
(i) Support to the Task Team on the potential impact of climatic changes	Continuing until 1993	UNEP	-	-	-	10	

Activity	Timetable	Budget* Responsibility	1992		1993		Note
			TF	EF	TF	EF	
(j) Fifth meeting of experts on the EAS Action Plan: (1) to review and evaluate the scientific results of projects carried out in the framework of the Action Plan; (2) to review and evaluate the project proposals which may contribute to the objectives of the Action Plan; (3) to advise COBSEA and UNEP on environmental problems which may be addressed through the Action Plan	Planned for February/March 1993	UNEP in consultation with EAS Focal Points and the Chairman of ASEAMS	-	-	-	20	For background see paragraphs 22-26 of document UNEP(OCA)/EAS IG.3/4.
(k) Tenth meeting of COBSEA to review the implementation of the Action Plan and to decide on the workplan and budget for the biennium 1994-1995	Planned for April 1993	UNEP	-	-	-	-	Costs to UNEP covered through activity (a)
A Total Proposed New Commitments			210	185	100	140	
B Programme Support Costs			27.3	-	13	-	
C Total Proposed New Expenditures and commitments (A+B)			237.3	185	113	140	

* If the decision to establish the EAS/RCU is taken an increased support from the Environment Fund may be anticipated. This will, however, entail an equivalent decrease in the support to the implementation of the action plan.