



**Recommendation for the Pacific region
Adopted during the 25th ICRI General Meeting
8-12 November 2010, Apia, Samoa**

Adopted by the participants on November 12th, at the 25th ICRI General Meeting (Apia, Samoa)

For comments by December 24th, 2010

Noting the proposed resolution of the 65th United Nations General Assembly on the protection of Coral Reefs for Sustainable Livelihoods and Development;

Acknowledging that the Pacific islands depend on the health of coral reefs and related ecosystems as they are a primary source of food, and income; and are part of their culture;

Concerned by the continuing negative effects and the available projections of land based pollution and run off, inappropriate coastal development, overfishing, destructive fishing practices, and marine invasive alien species;

Aware of the additional pressure from the potential impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on the health of coral reefs and related ecosystems, including through sea-level rise, increase in the severity and incidence of coral bleaching, rising sea surface temperature and higher storm intensity;

Recognizing the important role of international and regional organizations, initiatives and networks;

Recognizing the initiatives implemented in other part of the world, and in particular the ICRI East Asia Initiative on Marine Protected Area Network supported by Japan;

Noting the conclusions of the ICRI Pacific day;

The General Meeting of the International Coral Reef Initiative:

Recognizes the role and the importance of relevant traditional and local knowledge in the development of management plans and actions;

Recognizes the importance of the involvement of communities in ecosystem based management;



Recognizes the need to assist with developing legislation and regional agreements to address marine invasive species and build capacity to assess and implement management strategies, which could be supported by effective enforcement;

Recognizes the need for a better regional cooperation amongst all the relevant stakeholders;

ICRI members are encouraged to:

1. **Consider** the actions, information and proposals noted in report of the meeting;
2. **Promote** the capacity building, and awareness of local communities on options offered for sustainable coastal and marine management;
3. **Encourage** implementation of marine research to increase knowledge, inform spatial planning and enhance management decision making;
4. **Increase** information sharing on climate change and its impacts on coral reefs in the Pacific region;
5. **Encourage** the development of regional initiative based on the lessons learned from the East Asia Initiative on Marine Protected Area Network.

Actions to be undertaken about by the ICRI Secretariat and ICRI members:

- Document and share Pacific success stories about the role of traditional management in marine and coastal conservation.
- Based on the existing guides, develop practical communication tool to inform local communities and policy makers about seawall construction, its impacts and potential alternatives.
- Consider practical options to enhance and strengthen regional cooperation and existing networks, initiatives in the Pacific region, about coral reef and its importance.