

Decision in support of APEC Strategy on Destructive Fishing

*Adopted during the ICRI Coordination and Planning Committee (CPC) Meeting
5-6 April 2001, Cebu City (Philippines)*

Noting the significant and harmful impact of destructive fishing practices on coral reef ecosystems;

Recalling the “Resolution on Trade in Coral and Coral Reef Species” (October, 1999), “Recommendation on ICRI Principles for the Marine Ornamental Trade” (May, 2000), and “Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries” (October, 2000) adopted at previous meetings;

Taking note of the recommendations for action resulting from two workshops on destructive fishing practices convened by the APEC under APEC’s Fisheries Working Group and Marine Resources Conservation Working Group,

Further noting the finding of the APEC Oceans Conference stating that APEC member countries should stop destructive fishing practices;

Calling attention to the draft outline of an APEC strategy to undertake cooperative action to: address destructive fishing practices in the region; to set management standards and guidelines for export and import; to encourage sharing of experience and sharing of data and information;

Noting that this draft is currently being reviewed by APEC members and will be presented for discussion and adoption at the joint working group meetings in May 2001, in Hong Kong;

The International Coral Reef Initiative Coordination and Planning Committee:

Strongly urges ICRI partners who are members of APEC to support the work of the APEC Fisheries and Marine Resources Conservation Working Groups, and to adopt the APEC Strategy on Destructive Fishing at their May 2001 meeting in Hong Kong.