Report of the 5th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop

Presented by Japan and Vietnam

Background
1. At the previous Phuket ICRI GM in April 2009, Japan have reported the outcomes from the International Coral Reef Marine Protected Area Network Meeting / 4th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop (November 2008, Tokyo, Japan). The participants at this workshop have identified priority gaps in achieving the MPA global target and agreed on several actions to take until 2010 to fill these gaps, which were subsequently compiled and agreed by the workshop participants as the "Provisional Plan 2009-2010".

2. One of the suggested activities in the Provisional Plan 2009-2010 was to organize follow-up workshops in 2009 and 2010, respectively, to ensure tangible follow-ups and continuity of the discussion and policy development in the region, and the government of Vietnam have confirmed to host the 2009 workshop. Thus, the Governments of Japan and Vietnam, in collaboration with the ICRI Secretariat, have co-organized the 5th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop at the Hoi An Hotel, Hoi An City, Vietnam from 8th to 10th December 2009.

3. The objectives of the 2009 workshop were to:
   i) Follow-up the implementation of the Provisional Plan 2009-2010;
   ii) Review and discuss on the draft ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy on MPA Networks; and
   iii) Provide opportunities to share latest achievements and experiences to enhance collaboration and networking.

4. The workshop was co-chaired by Mr. Yoshihiro Natori of the United Nations University, and Dr. Vo Si Tuan of the Institute of Oceanography, Vietnam. It was convened by total of 60 participants, including 7 East Asian countries, 26 organizations from abroad, and 13 organizations from Vietnam.

5. All the speeches, presentations, posters and outputs from the breakout sessions have been made available at Agenda and documents page on ICRIForum. The Summary Record of the workshop is currently being prepared by the organizer and will also be posted at ICRIForum's Summary and outcomes page, shortly.

6. The major outcomes from the workshop were the followings:
   i) Draft contents of the ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy on MPA Networks: The workshop have reviewed the draft Regional Strategy and identified some potential suggested activities through the breakout discussion sessions. These inputs from the workshop will be compiled and reflected to the updated draft by the ICRI East Asia MPA Network Working Group (hereafter, working group), and submitted to the 6th ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy for finalization. The pre-workshop draft version is available at Agenda #4-3-1 on the Agenda and documents page.

   ii) Updated work plan to further implement the Provisional Plan 2009-2010: The work
plan for each action items in the Provisional Plan, i.e., timeframe, action items, and responsibilities of the actions, were discussed and agreed by the workshop. The working group will continue to implement these action items, and progress will be reported to the 6th ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy. The tentative work plan presented at the workshop is available at Agenda #15-1 on the Agenda and documents page.

iii) Provisional plan for the 6th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop in 2010: The next workshop have been determined as to be held in Phuket, Thailand from 26th to 28th June 2010 (tentative date) back to back with the 2nd Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium (20th to 24th June 2010). The workshop will be co-hosted by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, and Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Thailand, in collaboration with the ICRI Secretariat. The workshop have generally agreed on the objectives and agenda of the workshop. The information about the APCRS-2 and tentative agenda, etc. are available at Agenda #16 on the Agenda and documents page.

Action Requested
ICRI members are requested to:

7. Note the above outcomes from the workshop;

8. Consider participation and assistance to the 6th ICRI East Asia Regional Workshop; and

9. Consider joining in the ICRI East Asia MPA Network Working Group (Google Group).