

Xavier Sticker
Chair
Francis Staub
Coordinator

Secretariat of the International Coral Reef Initiative
Paris, France

Email: fstaub@icriforum.org

Arendal, 25th of October 2016

Subject: Application for membership

Dear Mr. Sticker,
Dear Mr. Staub,

GRID-Arendal is a centre collaborating with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), supporting informed decision making and awareness-raising. Our mission is to create environmental knowledge enabling positive change. This is achieved by organizing and transforming available environmental data into credible, science-based information products, delivered through innovative communication tools and capacity-building services targeting relevant stakeholders.

GRID-Arendal has worked to support the conservation and sustainable use of coral reef ecosystems in a wide variety of ways, addressing each of ICRI's three objectives to

- Encourage the adoption of best practice in sustainable management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems;
- Build capacity;
- Raise awareness at all levels on the plight of coral reefs around the world.

Examples of GRID-Arendal's work to support ICRI's objectives include the recent UNEP publication on 'Mesophotic Coral Ecosystems - A lifeboat for coral reefs?', our support to the Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership, a training series on Integrating Ecosystem Services into marine and coastal Planning, the portfolio of coral reef related 'Blue Solutions' on the Panorama platform.

We hope that through becoming a Member of the International Coral Reef Initiative, GRID-Arendal can strengthen its partnerships with the community of ICRI Members, and further support ICRI's activities and objectives.

Sincerely,



Peter Harris
Managing Director