32nd ICRI General Meeting
United Nations Office at Nairobi

Coral and Mangrove Status Reporting in the Coasts of Myanmar
ICRI Membership Application

Dr. Toe Aung, Assistant Director
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

December 7th – 9th, 2017
Outlines of the Presentation

1) Background Information
2) Coral and Mangrove Status in Myanmar
3) Major impacts on Coastal Resources
4) International Commitments, and Conservation and Management Efforts
5) ICRI Membership and Way Forward to Coral and Mangrove Conservation
Myanmar Coasts and its Natural Resources

- The largest continental country in Southeast Asia (676,577 sqkm)
- One-fifth of Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem
- Approximately 230,000 sq. km continental shelf, and 486,000 sq km EEZ
- 2832 km coast line
- Mergui Archipelago - one of the most world’s remote and untouch, made up of over 804 islands
- Mangroves, coral reefs and sea grasses
Coral Reefs and its associated ecosystems

- Habitat Area of Coral Reefs about 187,000 ha (BOBLME, 2012)
- 287 Coral Reef Species (NBSAP 2015) up to 512 species by Master and Ph.D studies (NSAP, 2016)
Coral Reefs and its associated ecosystems, mangroves

Ranked as seventh largest extent of mangroves worldwide

- 502,911 hectares/1,242,190 acres
  (World Mangrove Atlas 2010)

- 34 true mangrove species
  (Mangrove guidebook for Southeast Asia, 2006; The World’s mangroves, 2007; World mangroves atlas, 2010)
National Strategy and Action Plan for Coastal and Marine Resources (2016)

- Coastal Land Use Change
- Overexploitation for Fuelwood and Charcoal Production
- Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing
- Climate Change and Natural Disaster
IUU Fishing

- Weak Capacity
- Limited Resources
- Sectorial Institutions
- Weak Law Enforcement
- Awareness Needs at all levels
Natural Disasters: Cyclone Nargis, 2008

Radius of storm track
250 miles

Maximum wind speed
(150 mph)

Fatalities
at least 134,000 (dead or missing)

Source: TCG report
Thousands of People saved by Mangrove National Park During Cyclone Nargis 2008 in Myanmar

Photo: WIF

Mangroves Park as Natural Infrastructure

Windward Side 65%
Inside 0%
Leeward side 4%

Background
Key coastal resources
Issues and challenges
Commitments and efforts
Why ICRI membership?
Myanmar policies on Marine Resources

NDC and SDGs, Paris Climate Agreement
Reserved Forests/Protected Public Forests 30% and Protected area systems 10% of national total land area

NBSAP Aichi Target 6, 10 and 11
- 15% of Myanmar's coral reef
- 10% of marine and coastal areas
- LMMA and MPA

NSAP for MFF
- Environmental Profiling
- Capacity Building
- ICM Development
- Civil Society Engagement
- MPA Management
Conservation and Protection Status

- Since 1896, a total of (22) Mangrove Reserved Forests approximately (628,172.21 acres)
- One MPA and three wildlife sanctuaries in the coasts of Myanmar

- (8) PPFs with 53,528 acres of mangroves notified in Tanintharyi Coastal Region since 2011 and More (22) PPFs areas with 140,262 acres are in progress!
- Out of (8) MPAs in plan, (3) are to be proposed soon including coral, mangroves, sea grass, and mudflats
A milestone approach to marine and coastal conservation; National/High-level Platform

- Led by Vice President, NCRMC National Coastal Resources Management Committee (30th November, 2016)
- The first ever highest level coordination mechanisms

Vice President
(19) Member National Platform

- Two ministers from Forestry and Fishery Sectors
- Six Chief Ministers from Coastal States and Regions
- (7) Permanent Secretaries from relevant ministries
- Navy Official for Coastal Guard
- Two DGs from Forestry and Fishery
ICRI membership and Way Forward

The Minister for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in Myanmar has expressed his high interest to become a member of ICRI on 30th October 2017
- To gain knowledge, technology, and information on sustainable management of coral reefs and its related ecosystems, especially mangroves
- To share management experiences, best practices and update information with member countries
- To meet global conservation standards and commitments

For the effective conservation of coral reefs and mangroves, its associated ecosystems through building capacity, raising awareness, strengthening international collaboration and initiating integrated approach!
Thank you very much for your kind attention!

Special thanks to Embassy of France, ICRI and UNEP, and Relevant authorities in Kenya!

If there are any questions:  
Dr. Toe Aung  
Assistant Director, Mangrove Conservation Unit  
Forest Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar  
Email: toeaung02@gmail.com, Facebook: Kyar Pauk  
Tel: +9567 405398, + 959 4004 95597  
Fax: +9567 405398