

Draft paper for discussion: A review of the experiences of selected coral reef countries in addressing Aichi Biodiversity Target 10

Issue: On the basis of a draft report developing lessons learned from experiences in addressing Aichi Target 10, consider how ICRI may wish to contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework process agreed by CBD COP 14. At this stage the document is presented informally and subject to review.

Action requested

1. The ICRI General Meeting is requested to:
 - a. consider the attached draft report for discussion on how ICRI should engage on the development of now global target on corals reefs within the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in particular taking note sections 4 (Lessons learned), 5 (elements to take forward) and 6 (Recommendations); and
 - b. agree on the establishment of an *ad hoc* committee on this issue.

Background

2. The ICRI Secretariat issued a contract to review experiences of selected coral reef countries in addressing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi Biodiversity Target 10, including the implementation of Priority Action for Target 10 and to draw out lessons learned to inform the post 2020 process. The review builds on work undertaken by the Secretariat of the CBD (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/INF/7/Rev.1).
3. The Terms of Reference for the report called for review of published assessments and other documentation and consultation with representatives from fifteen identified coral reef countries (based on coral reef area): Indonesia, Australia, Philippines, France, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Marshall Islands, India, Solomon Islands, United Kingdom, Micronesia, Vanuatu and Egypt.
4. The report was prepared between 15 October and 26 November. Of more than 70 stakeholders contacted, approximately one-third responded. The report contains input from the following stakeholders received by 22 November 2018:
 - National contributions: Australia, the Philippines, France, Maldives, United Kingdom and Egypt.
 - Other assistance and contributions were received from: SPREP, SACEP, OSPAR CORDIO, the GCRMN network, UN Environment Coral Reef Unit, the University of Guam (relating to FSM) WCMC, TNC and WWF.
5. The relatively low response rate was attributed to the short period of time for consultations and the fact that this work coincided with the COP 14 preparations and meeting; preparations for the 6th round of National Reporting to the CBD; and response to the CBD notification requesting information of the Priority Actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity target 10 for coral reefs and other closely associated ecosystems.
6. The report is structured as follows:

Section 2 provides brief information on the results in terms of the material identified and interviews held.

Section 3 presents the analysis of the reviewed documentation and consultation with stakeholders, drawing together conclusions from these different sources of information.

Section 4 considers the lessons learned from the implementation of AT10.

Section 5 draws out possible elements that may be useful in considering how coral reefs may be best addressed in a post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Recommendations to ICRI are presented in section 6 and the bibliography in section 7. Annexes provide information on the methods and limitations; an overview of stakeholders consulted for this report and highlights of emerging innovations, concepts and initiatives that could be of relevance to consider in further discussions. The synthesized contributions of stakeholder contributions are presented as an Appendix to this report. Please note that the contributions do not constitute a statement of policy, decision or position on behalf of any of the countries or organizations.

7. The headline recommendations to ICRI resulting from section 6 of the review are:

- a. To establish an *ad hoc* committee to develop a global target for coral reefs in the context of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- b. To articulate a plan of action to engage in the CBD process to develop recommendation for a coral target post-2020, consistent with the timeline and processes established by the CBD;
- c. To ensure alignment with other processes, including Agenda 2030, and build on existing regional and global coordination structures; and
- d. Make use of recent innovations in global monitoring and mapping to develop a quantifiable, actionable target and measure progress against the target.