Decision on Coral Bleaching and Marine Protected Areas: Monitoring, Management and MPA design

Adopted during the ICRI Coordination and Planning Committee (CPC) Meeting 29-30 November 2001, Maputo (Mozambique)

Recognising the need to understand what practical actions can be taken to mitigate the impacts of coral bleaching on coral reef biodiversity

Recognising the need to use targeted monitoring to better understand how climate change impacts coral reefs

Noting that existing monitoring, management and research activities are capturing much important information on the response of reefs to climate change and the role of different management interventions

ICRI CPC therefore

Endorses The NGO led activity initiated by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to establish some science-based principals to guide management of current MPAs to mitigate the impacts of coral bleaching and optimize conditions for reef recovery

Endorses Holding a dedicated session at ITMEMS 2 on monitoring and management tools to understand and mitigate coral bleaching impact on coral reefs.

Encourages Members of the TNC/WWF initiative to work with ICRI members to draw on the learning and opportunities for collection of relevant data presented by ongoing ICRI initiatives.

Encourages Members of the TNC/WWF initiative to work with ICRI members to make the results and lessons learned generally available through the production of relevant materials such as guidelines on monitoring methods for bleaching.