

ICRI Secretariat informal report on the *Ad Hoc Committees*

Over the last years, several ICRI *Ad Hoc Committees* have been created in order to assist the ICRI secretariat in implementing the ICRI Call to Action or to work on emerging issues. However, for some of these *Ad Hoc* committees, the status is currently unknown. The current secretariat would like resolve these issues and did a very short review of all these committees. The suggestions below are suggestions from the ICRI Secretariat and will be discussed at the ICRI General Meeting

The Article 11 of the ICRI Organization and management procedures describes the role and functions of the *Ad Hoc Committees*.

Article 11 - *Ad Hoc Committees*:

Ad hoc committees may be established to carry out work on specific topics, prepare reports or advise on specific issues. Committees are open to all members and observers may be invited to join. The Committee shall elect a Chair from the members represented in the Committee. Committees will provide reports to the Host secretariat or DAR who will make them available to the General Meeting. The Terms of Reference of the ad hoc committees will be approved by the ICRI membership and shall include the duration of the ad hoc committee.

Since January 2008, 10 ICRI Ad Hoc Committees have been created, and one was closed.

- ***Ad Hoc committee on the Caribbean Regional Response to Lionfish Invasion***

Purpose: Facilitate a coordinated response to the Lionfish invasion in the Caribbean region, by establishing a regional strategy focusing in particular on controlling the spread of lionfish.

Created: ICRI GM 25 (2010, Samoa), where ToR were adopted

Chairs: U.S.A. / Mexico / Regional Activity Center for the SPAW Protocol of the Cartagena Convention (SPAW-RAC)

Members: U.S.A., Mexico, SPAW-RAC, Reef Check-Dominican Republic, CABI and the ICRI Secretariat.

Products: see report of activities of the committee

⇒ This committee will be reporting at the ICRI GM26.

- ***Ad Hoc committee on Coral Reef Associated Fisheries***

Purpose: To compile information for ICRI members about the importance of sustainable management for coral reef associated fisheries.

Last report: ICRI GM 25 (Samoa, 2010) where amended ToR were adopted and committee renewed

Created: ICRI GM 24 (Monaco, 2010)

Chairs: Coral Reef Initiatives for the Pacific and the Society for the Conservation of Reef Fish Aggregations

Members:

Products:

- Reef fisheries management in the Pacific, success stories
- Participation at the seventh SPC Heads of Fisheries Meeting under the leadership of ICRI Secretariat.
- Two films to raise awareness about spawning aggregations using one of the few known and accessible pristine grouper aggregations in the Pacific. As a follow-up to the film, research options are being pursued to promote research on spawning aggregations' (June 2011-French Polynesia).
- A comprehensive global list of RFMOs has been constructed jointly with the IUCN SSC Marine Conservation Sub-Committee that will allow for discussion about how we can best engage RFMOs for coral-reef associated fisheries in the region.

⇒ This committee will be reporting at the ICRI GM26.

• ***Ad Hoc Committee on the International Coral Reef Action Network***

Purpose: To review the future of ICran and prepare option papers on the role and responsibilities of ICran as an ICRI operational network, and its governance.

Last report: ICRI GM 25, 2010, Samoa

Created: ICRI GM 24, 2010, Monaco

Chair: ICran coordinating unit

Members: France, USA, Australia,

⇒ This committee will be reporting at the ICRI GM26.

• ***Ad Hoc Committee on the “Call to Action”***

Purpose: To work on a up-to-date call to action to consider new global issues and threats to coral reefs and related ecosystems, the advancements and continuing challenges in science and management.

Last report: ICRI GM 25 (2010, Samoa)

Created: ICRI GM 24 (2010, Monaco)

Chair: France

Members:

⇒ This committee will be reporting at the ICRI GM26.

• **Ad Hoc committee on ITMEMS 4**

Purpose: to organize ITMEMS (content and themes, host and venue location, timing, budget and financing)

Last report: ICRI GM 25 (2010, Samoa)

Created: ICRI GM 23 (2009, Thailand)

Chair: ICRAU Coordinating Unit / SeaWeb

Members: the current and incoming ICRI Secretariats, GCRMN, SPREP, SACEP and Barbados

Product: organization of ITMEMS

⇒ **Since ITMEMS was organized, this committee can now be dissolve.**

- ***Ad Hoc Committee on Pacific Day***

Purpose: In an effort to improve regional cooperation and enhance the regional focus of ICRI's work, a full day will be devoted to issues in the Pacific region. The committee was tasked to work on the organization of a Pacific Day (held at the ICRI GM 25, Apia, Samoa).

Last report:

Created: ICRI GM 24 (2010, Monaco)

Chair: Samoa

Members: the ICRI Secretariat, CRISP/SPC, SPREP, IUCN, and USA. Other PIF countries will also be invited of their interest to participate in due course.

Products:

- organization of the Pacific day
- Recommendation for the Pacific region

⇒ **Proposition of the secretariat: to dissolve**

- ***Ad Hoc Committee on Coral Disease***

Purpose: the committee was asked to promote the existing mechanisms, to research and learn more on coral diseases.

Last report: ICRI GM 25 (2010, Samoa)

No decision was taken concerning the committee

Created: ICRI GM 23 (2009, Thailand)

Chairs: UNEP WCMC / ICRI

Members: Coral Cay Conservation, Barbados, South Africa and experts

Current status: unknown

Product:

- Disease in Tropical Coral Reef Ecosystems: ICRI Key Messages on Coral Disease, 11pp.

⇒ **Proposition of the secretariat: to dissolve it**

- ***Ad Hoc committee on the East Asia Regional Workshop***

Purpose: preparation, organization, and follow-ups for the workshop in 2008, and preparation for the workshop in 2009.

Last report: at the last ICRI meeting, the committee reported under "regional Initiative). The ToR of this committee were updated in July 2008, and 2009 (ICRI GM 23, 2009).

Created: ICRI GM 21 (2008, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.)

Chair: Japan and the ICRI Secretariat

Members:

Current status: unknown

Product:

- 4 regional workshops organized (Tokyo, 2008; Viet Nam, 2009; Thailand, 2010; Cambodia, 2011)
- Development of an *ICRI East Asia Regional Strategy on MPA Networks 2010*

⇒ **Proposition of the secretariat: to continue to work closely with the government of Japan on this initiative, but not as an Ad Hoc committee. The government of Japan will report under regional activities.**

- **Ad Hoc committee on Economic Valuation of Coral Reef Ecosystems**

Purpose: to provide information and support to the coral reef community within this field.

Last report: ICRI GM 25 (2010, Samoa). No decision was taken regarding the future of this committee. The ToR were updated in 2008 at the ICRI GM 22 (Florida, U.S.A.). A written report was submitted for the meeting.

Created: ICRI GM 21 (2008, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.)

Chairs: ICRI Secretariat and the World Resources Institute (WRI)

Members: Australia (Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority), IUCN, Government of Mexico, UNEP-WCMC, CRISP, Conservation International, USA.

Current status: Currently, there is no active discussion between the members of this committee.

Products:

- Contribution to the “Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership (MESP)” a virtual center for information and communication on the human uses of marine ecosystem services around the world. However, ICRI is not recognized on the website.
- *Economic Values of Coral Reefs, Mangroves, and Seagrasses: A Global Compilation*

⇒ **Proposition of the secretariat: to dissolve it, even if WRI or other ICRI members could always report on this important theme at upcoming ICRI meetings.**

- **The Ad Hoc Committee on Enforcement & Investigation**

Last report: ICRI GM 25 (2010, Samoa). No decision was taken concerning the committee. New ToR were adopted at the ICRI Meeting in Phuket (2009)

Created: 2005 (GM Palau)

Chairs: Dave Gulko

Members:

Product: A toolkit has been developed in English, French and Spanish. Over 14 workshops have been organized.

⇒ **Proposition of the secretariat: the ICRI secretariat recognize all the work done initially by the committee, but have not been concerted for the last 2 years. For instance, the Secretariat was not consulted on the change of the hosting institution. Updates on the work on the project will still be done at the meetings, but the Secretariat is proposing to dissolve the committee.**

The **Ad Hoc committee on International Year of the Reef (IYOR) was dissolved** at the ICRI GM held in Thailand (ICRI GM 23, 2009)

Suggestions received on the Ad Hoc Committees:

- Make the Ad Hoc Committees “issue and task-oriented” and of short duration so that members of these committee feel there is a concrete deliverable for which they are responsible and beginning and an end to their involvement on the Committee.
- To have some clear tasks for the committee with clear deliverables, and timeline.
- If possible, it would also be useful if a funding arrangement to facilitate the work of the committees could be explored in advance of the final formation