# INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF INITIATIVE (ICRI) 28<sup>th</sup> General Meeting Belize City, 14-17 October 2013

## Proposed new Terms of Reference for ICRI's *Ad Hoc* Committee on Enforcement and Investigation

### Presented by David Gulko

The *Ad Hoc* Committee on Enforcement and Investigation was initially created in late 2005 at ICRI's 19<sup>th</sup> General Meeting in Mexico. It was tasked with developing a standardized protocol to help marine park managers investigate and collect evidence from a wide range of human impacts on coral reefs (with startup funds from the US Department of State and NOAA). At ICRI's last General Meeting in Cairns (27<sup>th</sup> General Meeting), a resolution was adopted by members to re-establish ICRI's *Ad Hoc* Committee on Enforcement and Investigation, noting that the matter would be reported on at the next General Meeting.

The Committee was originally co-chaired by the United States, ICRAN and the ICRI Secretariat. It is now chaired by Dave Gulko and activities are run by CORAL. A list of members of the Committee has been established.

#### **Action requested**

ICRI members are asked to:

- 1. agree to these new Terms of Reference dated October 2013;
- 2. identify where they can support the work of this Committee, including through renewed ICRI member participation and selection of new Chairs; and
- 3. contact the Secretariat if they wish to play an active role.

# Proposed amended Terms of Reference ICRI *Ad-Hoc* Committee on Enforcement & Investigation

The ICRI General Meeting agrees to extend the work of the ICRI *Ad Hoc* Committee for the next two General Meetings, under the chairmanship of the ICRI Secretariat with technical support by David Gulko. Participation is encouraged by members, and particularly government members and experts who could support the Committee in meeting its objectives.

### **Objectives**

- i. Provide mechanisms and training support for small scale Marine Protected Areas on enforcement and compliance; and
- ii. Explore and compare large-scale vessel grounding investigation approaches, including evidence collection and documentation on coral reef damage which can be used for both restoration and compensation.

The Ad Hoc Committee will implement the following activities:

- Activity 1: Develop an MPA Enforcement and Compliance Strategy (ECS) to be used as a framework for local and regional strategies.
- Activity 2: Develop training programs on enforcement and investigation, based on the CRCSI model, specifically tailored for small-scale MPAs.
- Activity 3: Develop a Large-Scale Vessel Grounding Investigative Protocol Strategy (VGIPS) as a collaborative approach towards the investigation and documentation of natural resources impacts associated with large-scale vessel grounding.
- Activity 4: Organise a committee meeting and expert workshop, subject to funding, to confirm, revise and refine the ECS and VGIPS
- Activity 5: Establish an information platform to enable the sharing of strategies and mechanisms, with a view to improve both enforcement and compliance efforts within small-scale MPAs and natural resource trustee actions associated with large-scale vessel groundings.