

Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
13 June 2013

**John Baldwin**

The ICRI Secretariat  
The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority  
Townsville, Queensland 4810  
AUSTRALIA

Dear Mr Baldwin:

Given that Honduras is home to part of the second-largest Reef Barrier in the world after Australia, that it shares this reef with three countries in Mesoamerica (Mexico, Belize, Guatemala), and that it is included in the Mesoamerican Reef System (Sistema Arrecifal Mesoamericano or SAM) which has been declared a Natural Heritage of the Caribbean, we would like to advise you of our interest in becoming a member of the **International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)**. We agree with the Call to Action and the Framework for Action of the initiative, under which we join other Governments in fighting for the preservation of coral reefs and ecosystems related to their territories.

We have appointed **Mr Oscar René Torres Palacios (Bachelor of Science in Biology)**, as the Contact Person on ICRI-related matters and nominated him to attend the 28<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the International Coral Reef Initiative to be held in October 2013 in Belize. Mr Torres is a Marine Biodiversity Specialist and Environmental Analyst in the Directorate-General for Biodiversity in the Ministry for Natural Resources and the Environment (SERNA).

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest regard and consideration.

Best regards,

(signed)

Dr. Rigoberto Cuéllar Cruz  
Minister for Natural Resources and the Environment

cc: Mr Rafael Amaro García, Director, DiBio  
Ms Irina Pineda, External Cooperation, SERNA