



**International Coral Reef Initiative
Coordinating and Planning Committee (CPC) Meeting
November 27, 1998 - Townsville**

Present:

Richard Kenchington	ICRI Global Coordinator
John Baldwin	ICRI Secretariat
Ian Dight	Consultant - ITMEMS
Gerard Siclet	Embassy of France, Canberra
Bernard Salvat	GCRMN-STAC Chairman
Genevieve Verbrugge	Ministere de L'Environnement, France
Clive Wilkinson	GCRMN Global Coordinator
Peter Thomas	United States Department of State
Arthur Paterson	NOAA
George Grice	UNESCO - IOC
Naoko Nakajima	Environment Agency of Japan
Lucille Apis-Overhoff	SPREP
Stephen Colwell	The Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL)
John McManus	ICLARM
Charlotte De Fontaubert	IUCN - US
Marea Hatzios	World Bank
Jean-Luc Bodin	France, Secretariat Permanent pour le Pacifique
Ananda Joshi	SACEP
Prasantha Abeyegunawardene	SACEP

Apologies:

Hugh Kirkman	UNEP EAS/RCU
Alessandra Vanzella-Khouri	UNEP CAR/RCU

AGENDA

1	Welcome and Apologies	Richard Kenchington
2	Action Arising from 22/11/98 CPC	John Baldwin
3	Outcomes of ITMEMS	Richard Kenchington/Ian Dight
4	Secretariat Arrangements for France	Bernard Salvat
5	Other Business	

Item 1

Accepted

Item 2

Nil

Item 3

Prior to discussing the major elements of the outcome statement of ITMEMS members discussed the degree to which the CPC has a "licence" to amend the text. It was agreed that the body of ITMEMS had provided the text to the CPC for action and, as such, the CPC was obliged to leave the text substantially as presented. It was agreed that there was some latitude to effect grammatical and presentation changes without altering the meaning or emphasis of the text. A copy of the document discussed at this meeting, incorporating the changes provided by the final Plenary Session of ITMEMS, is at Attachment 1. Marea Hatzios suggested that a listing of agencies and organisations attending ITMEMS would make a useful appendix

Discussion on the text centred on the section titled "**Current Priorities for Action**". Discussion among members focussed on what action, if any, the CPC as a body could take to address the issues or associated actions as follows:

"Ignorance is destroying coral reefs ..."

Discussion centred on the need for a broad, efficient and effective coral reef communications and awareness network. Members noted that the existing Secretariat arrangements with an email and Internet system were a good start but that the system needed expansion. Stephen Colwell identified that the CORAL network has an Internet Directory with over 106 entries from NGO's, agencies, etc. It was also pointed out that the World Bank is commencing a "kiosk" system on the Internet allowing the posting of information and other discussion documents.

Members from South Asia and the Pacific identified that, on a regional basis, awareness and communications networks currently exist and are working. External linkages to and from those networks would enhance their utility.

Discussion then focussed on the need to encourage regional networks but that two matters needed to be addressed. the first was a mechanism to link those regional arrangements. the second was the important need for regional and national focal points to be identified. Networks can not function effectively without focal points to deal with logistics matters and as sources of enthusiasm and encouragement within the network. It was agreed that countries associated with ICRI should endeavour to establish not only a focal point but also a stakeholder-based ICRI National Committee or similar coordinating mechanism. Clive Wilkinson stated that such a network would be an asset to the coordination and extension functions of the GCRMN.

"Pollutants, including sediments and ..."

Peter Thomas suggested that for this topic, and others where relevant, CPC members collate pertinent reports and bring these to the next meeting of CPC. It would be necessary to advise the Secretariat beforehand that this was occurring.

"Destructive and unsustainable fishing practices ..."

George Grice noted the coming conference entitled "The Effects of Fishing on Ecosystems" organised by the Scientific Committee on Ocean Reserves (SCOR) group as an appropriate venue for the outcomes of ITMEMS to be presented.

"Activities of the private sector ..."

Ian Dight advised members that ICRI had been invited to engage further with the World Travel and Tourism Committee and its "Green Globe" program. It was suggested that Kelly Robinson from the Caribbean Hotels Association (CHA) be invited to the next CPC to elaborate on this potential alliance.

Richard Kenchington undertook to have GBRMPA staff (Annie Ilett) prepare an initial paper on engaging the tourism sector in coral reef management including identifying relevant international agencies in the field. This paper would be developed for the next CPC meeting.

"An ecosystem approach to management ..."

Arthur Paterson noted recent initiatives by the IUCN and World Bank in this area. Arthur agreed to coordinate a paper to the next CPC meeting identifying strategies adopted by agencies such as The World Bank/GEF, GBRMPA, IUCN and NOAA.

"Coral reef ecosystems are the life-support ..."

It was agreed that, to add emphasis to these statements, that they appear last in this series in the final document.

There was general agreement on the need for all CPC members to push the ICRI/ITMEMS message at relevant international fora. It was noted that the text of the ITMEMS statement would need to be finalised in time for meetings to be held in February, 1998 that were preparatory for CSD. Other forums identified include pre-CSD talks within the European Union, bilateral talks between the United States and France, etc. Peter Thomas, as Chair of the ITMEMS Drafting Committee undertook to provide CPC members with a draft of a "common message" on ICRI to use in these forums. This document would also form the basis of the ITMEMS paper to CSD.

"Recognition of traditional knowledge ..."

No discussion

"Projects have failed because they have not taken into account ..."

No discussion

"Managers and communities are not getting the information ..."

No discussion, however, Arthur Paterson noted the current proposal for a coral reef awareness network is a start of action in this area.

"Data produced by the GCRMN, Reef Check ..."

No discussion, however, Clive Wilkinson noted that the report of the Bolinao workshop on socio-economic techniques is now available and that more information will be provided at the next CPC meeting on further reports including work now underway between NOAA and the GCRMN.

"Lack of funding undermines actions ..."

There was discussion on the mechanism for promoting awareness of funding sources and appropriate projects for funding support. Approaches will be made to AusAID (Kenchington), USAID (Paterson) and the World Bank (Hatzios) for lists of current and proposed projects. It was noted that a similar request should go to DFID. Arthur Paterson undertook to prepare a format for such reports and it was agreed that the reports should be forwarded, electronically to Genevieve Verbrugge, John McManus and Marea Hatzios.

In relation to regional coordination, members agreed that a strengthened engagement of UNEP was required. Richard Kenchington agreed to communicate the outcomes of ITMEMS direct to senior management of UNEP. It was also agreed that members urge their permanent representatives to UNEP to continue the promotion of ICRI and its regional priorities.

Item 4

Members discussed the revised version of the 3 page document related to French propositions for the new secretariat and its activities that was distributed to the first CPC meeting on 22 November (Attachment 2).

There was general agreement on the composition of the new committee with a specific statement that France will ensure the best possible representation with funds available. It was agreed that the following be included as members of the CPC:

- The 'original founding' countries
- UNEP Headquarters and each ICRI Regional Coordinator (UNEP Regional Seas Programme) plus one other government representative from each Region to be decided through consultation between the ICRI Secretariat, Regional Coordinators and CPC Members
- SPREP
- UNDP
- UNESCO-IOC
- World Bank and regional banks
- Additional members of the European Union and a representative of the European Commission as appropriate
- Indonesia as the host of the next International Coral Reef Symposium
- Existing NGO members (IUCN, ICLARM) and WWF and CORAL
- The GCRMN.

Members also noted the value in establishing a dialogue between the CPC/Secretariat and various Foundations. It was proposed that this dialogue commence at both the CSD and the next CPC meeting. Stephen Colwell agreed to approach several United States-based Foundations with a view to having representation at the next CPC meeting.

The calendar of events proposed by France was discussed and agreed by members.

The orientation of activities of the new committee was discussed. There was agreement on all suggestions, with the more immediate activities given greater emphasis. Related to ICRI focal national points, it was suggested that a draft list be prepared by IOC as a basis for discussion.

Discussion of a coral reef awareness Network was agreed as a topic for the next CPC meeting. Steve Colwell of CORAL was asked to prepare a report of what is currently in place and what needs to be done to develop an international network under ICRI. A request was made to ICRI CPC partners to provide information to CORAL before the next meeting.

Item 5

Arthur Paterson tabled a statement that he suggested be presented by CPC government representatives to the current meeting of the World Heritage Committee meeting in Kyoto, Japan. Members agreed to a revised text a copy of which is at Attachment 3.

Clive Wilkinson tabled several reports of the GCRMN including The Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 1998 and the GCRMN Annual Report. The Status report was requested in the Framework for Action from the Dumaguete meeting in 1995 and includes a summary of coral bleaching in 1998 that was requested at the CPC meeting in Singapore, June 1998. Copies were distributed during ITMEMS and are also available from the GCRMN Coordinator.

Clive Wilkinson also noted that funding for central coordination of ICRI and the GCRMN is a continuing problem. There is a need to seek funds from a range of sponsors including private sector (tourist and travel industry), agencies and banks, and country donors. He also noted that SACEP (Prasantha A.) will host a Regional Seas person to market ICRI and related activities. SACEP wishes to continue to assist the hosting of a GCRMN regional coordinator, Jason Rubens and strongly supports the continuation of the DFID GCRMN project for further 2 years beyond March 1999.

Members also noted the current proposals being developed by ICLARM/UNEP and others for a four year project aimed at progressing coral reef awareness and cation on a global scale. Members look forward to a closer involvement of the CPC in the process.

Next Meeting

Members discussed and agreed to the calendar of events proposed by France. It was agreed that the next meeting of the ICRI CPC would take place in the week of 15 March, 1999.



COORDINATING & PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING - 22 NOVEMBER, 1998

AGENDA

Item	Time	Topic	Presenter
1	5:30 pm	Welcome & Apologies	Richard Kenchington
2	5:35 pm	Action arising from last meeting	John Baldwin
3	5:45 pm	Briefing on ITMEMS	Richard Kenchington & Ian Dight
4	6:15 pm	"Handing on the Secretariat"	Richard Kenchington
5	6:30 pm	Other Business	Richard Kenchington
	6:35 pm	Close	