

Decision to Disseminate Scientific Consensus findings on Marine Reserves

*Adopted during the ICRI Coordination and Planning Committee (CPC) Meeting
5-6 April 2001, Cebu City (Philippines)*

Copies of a Scientific Consensus Statement on Marine Reserves and Marine Protected Areas, signed by 161 leading marine scientists and experts on marine reserves from around the world and issued on February 17, 2001, during a meeting organized by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), were distributed to participants in the CPC meeting. Since the Statement provides a succinct, non-technical but scientifically accurate summary of the current scientific knowledge about marine reserves, it could be useful for fishermen, marine resources managers, government officials, conservation activists and others who need information for science-based decision making regarding marine reserves and marine protected areas.

ICRI partners **agreed** to disseminate the Statement to coral reef stakeholders, particularly policy makers and managers, as a tool for their reference. It was noted that scientists who wish to endorse this Consensus Statement may add their names to the list of signatories.