

13th Intergovernmental Meeting

The 13th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting was held on 20-21 October 2008 in Jeju, the Republic of Korea. The meeting was attended by representatives of the NOWPAP member states (China, Japan, Korea and Russia), UNEP (Marine Ecosystems Unit and Division of GEF Coordination) and NOWPAP partners (COBSEA, PEMSEA and YSLME). Two other partners, IOC/WESPAC and PICES, although not able to dispatch representatives to the meeting in person, sent written statements to the meeting for enhancing cooperation with NOWPAP.



The meeting reviewed the programme of work for 2008 and:

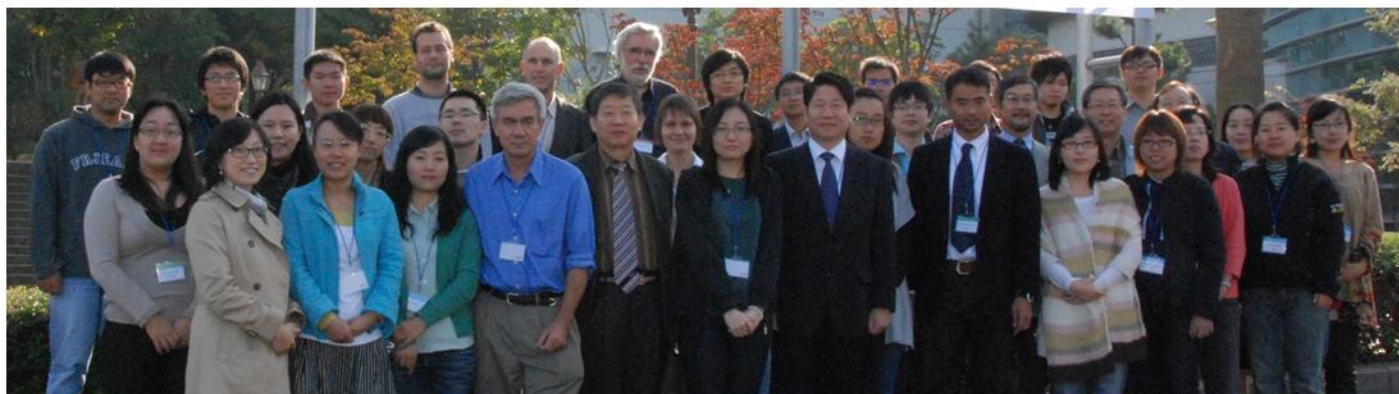
- approved the report of the Executive Director of UNEP on the progress of the implementation of NOWPAP activities;
- adopted the NOWPAP Regional Oil and Hazardous and Noxious Substance Spill Contingency Plan;
- approved the new directions of work for NOWPAP Regional Activity Centres for 2008-2011.

The meeting also encouraged member states to facilitate and promote the implementation of the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter.

The next NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting will be held in Japan in 2009.

Training Course on Remote Sensing Data Analysis

The Second NOWPAP training course on remote sensing data analysis was organized jointly by the NOWPAP Special Monitoring & Coastal Environmental Assessment Regional Activity Centre (CEARAC) and the Korea Ocean Research & Development Institute (KORDI) at Cheju National University (Korea) on 1-5 November 2008.



The training course was conducted for 23 selected trainees from China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, France and Thailand, including postgraduate students, professional researchers and local government officers. 12 lecturers from the NOWPAP countries (China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Russian Federation), Germany, India and USA delivered lectures on remote sensing applications for monitoring and assessment of the marine and coastal environment in the Northwest Pacific.

Relocation of Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator

In 2002, when the 7th NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) decided that NOWPAP RCU offices were co-hosted by Toyama (Japan) and Busan (Korea), member states agreed that every four years Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator were rotated between these two offices. According to the 12th NOWPAP IGM decision, the first rotation was scheduled for December 2008 - January 2009. On 15 December 2008, NOWPAP Coordinator, Alexander Tkalin, reported to RCU Busan office. After hand-over formalities, NOWPAP Deputy Coordinator, Xiaodong Zhong, reported to RCU Toyama office on 24 December.

Meetings / events attended by RCU staff



- 13th Intergovernmental Meeting of NOWPAP, 20-21 October, Jeju, Korea
- PICES 17th Annual Meeting, 24 October – 2 November, Dalian, China

- The 3rd Yellow Sea Partnership Workshop, 2 November, Changwon, Korea
- 3rd International Ecological Forum, 11-12 November, Vladivostok, Russia
- 6th Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in East Asian Countries, 18-20 November, Tokyo, Japan
- Fifth Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel (RSTP) and Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting for the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Large Marine Project, 24-28 November, Shanghai, China
- 10th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, 25-27 November, Guayaquil, Ecuador
- Workshop on Marine Environment in the East China Sea, 5-6 December, Fukuoka, Japan
- Tae'an International Environment Forum, 7-9 December, Tae'an, Korea
- Korea/UNEP/IOC Joint Preparatory Workshop on the UN Regular Process of the Global Reporting and Assessment of the Marine Environment including Socio-Economic Aspects, 9-10 December, Seoul, Korea
- Marine Litter Research Symposium, 11 December, Nagasaki, Japan
- International Workshop of Marine Debris in East Asia, 12-13 December, Tongyeong, Korea



Missions planned for the 1st quarter of 2009

- Workshop on Climate Change organized by Korean Government, 13-17 January, Jeju, Korea
- Leadership Training Course / Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Branch Workshop on SIDA-supported Activities / Visiting relevant UNEP offices, 21-27 February, Nairobi, Kenya

Public awareness / Promotional activities



- Display of posters and NOWPAP publications at the International Exchange Festival 2008, 11-12 October, Toyama
- Lecture on Marine Environment Protection at E-Festa, 12 October, Takaoka, Japan
- Display of posters and NOWPAP publications at Global Gathering 2008, 12 October, Busan Korea
- Environmental seminar by Organization for the East Asia Economic Development, 23-24 October, Shimonoseki, Japan
- Display of posters and NOWPAP publications during the UN Day event, 24 October, Tokyo Japan

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NOWPAP

NOWPAP is an acronym for the Northwest Pacific Action Plan, which is a part of UNEP Regional Seas Programme.

NOWPAP was adopted in 1994 by its four member states:

People's Republic of China,
Japan,
Republic of Korea and
Russian Federation.

Four NOWPAP Regional Activity Centers are located in:

Beijing (DINRAC),
Daejeon (MERRAC),
Toyama (CEARAC) and
Vladivostok (POMRAC).

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