

**3rd EAS Partnership Council Meeting
Agenda Item 3.2 Council Session**

GUIDELINES ON ELIGIBILITY OF NON-COUNTRY PARTNERS

Background

1. In view of the increased interest being expressed by different organizations to become a PEMSEA Non-Country Partner and the general nature of the existing criteria on the inclusion of Partners, the 6th Executive Committee Meeting requested the PRF to revisit the criteria and propose clear guidelines on the eligibility for new application of PEMSEA Non-Country Partners.
2. The criteria currently listed in the Clause 16 of the Partnership Operating Arrangements of the Haikou Partnership Agreement state, "Other stakeholders who are not yet Partners but interested in participating in the implementation of the SDS-SEA may request for inclusion as a PEMSEA partner by sending written notification to the Executive Director of the PEMSEA Resource Facility of:
 - a. Its adherence to the Partnership Agreement and the PEMSEA Operating Arrangements, and the policies and decisions of the Council, and
 - b. Agreeing to enter into a partnership arrangement with PEMSEA through an MOA or similar instrument on the implementation of the SDS-SEA."

Proposed Guidelines on eligibility of a Non-Country Partner of PEMSEA

3. In line with the objective to encourage the active participation, support and collaboration among Country and non-Country Partners of PEMSEA for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA), as well as the implementation of individual programmes that support the objectives of the SDS-SEA, it is proposed that the following criteria be included in the written notification to the Executive Director:
 - a. Confirmation of registration as a "not-for-profit entity" in one of the Partner Countries of PEMSEA;
 - b. Its regional coverage, objectives and capacities; and
 - c. Its experience in at least one collaborative activity with a PEMSEA Partner Country in support of SDS-SEA implementation.

Actions for consideration by the Council Session

4. The Council is invited to review and adopt the proposed amendments for inclusion of Non-Country Partners.
