

Global Targets Local Benefits

Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

16-21 November 2015

Special Event

PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG) Forum











PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2015 PNLG FORUM

Da Nang City, Viet Nam 20 November 2015

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2015 PNLG FORUM

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INTRODUCTION

- i. The 2015 Annual Forum of PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) was held at Pullman Hotel, Da Nang City, Viet Nam, on 20 November 2015. The People's Committee of Da Nang City hosted the Forum.
- ii. The Forum was attended by representatives from 26 of the 40 PNLG Regular Members, namely: Cambodia (Sihanoukville); China (Beihai, Changyi, Dongying, Fangchenggang, Pingtan, Quanzhou, Wenzhou, and Xiamen); Indonesia (Bali Province, Buleleng Regency, and Sukabumi Regency); Japan (Shima), Malaysia (Northern Selangor, Port Klang, and Sepang); Philippines (Bataan, Batangas, Cavite and Guimaras); RO Korea (Ansan and Changwon); Thailand (Chonburi); and Viet Nam (Da Nang, Quang Nam, and Thua Thien Hue). Representatives from the two Associate Members, i.e., First Institute of Oceanography (FIO) of the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) and Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) of Xiamen University, China, also attended the event.
- iii. Representatives from various local governments and institutions participated as observers, including: Cambodia (Kampot, Kep, and Koh Kong); China (State Oceanic Administration); Japan (Obama City and Omura City); Lao PDR (Champasack Province, Saravanne Province, and Sekong Province); Philippines (Bataan Coastal Care Foundation, Inc.); and Timor-Leste (Dili Municipality and Liquiça Municipality).
- iv. The PNLG Secretariat in Xiamen and the PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as the Secretariat for the forum, while the Department of Natural Resource and Environment of Da Nang City served as the local secretariat.
- v. Technical Session Chair and Co-Chair of East Asian Seas Partnership Council, PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) and Southeast Asia Secretariat of ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability also participated in the event.
- vi. The meeting agenda and full list of participants are attached as Annex 1 and 2.

1. OPENING CEREMONY

1.1 On behalf of the People's Committee of Da Nang City, Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan extended his warm welcome to all the participants. As one of the founding members of PNLG, Da Nang tried its best to develop and enhance the reputation of the network. In his view, the participation in the network gave Da Nang the chance to exchange, learn from other members the practical and valuable experiences in the management of coastal resources and environment. As a consequence, the development of the city benefitted significantly in the region. He admitted

that in spite of the many accomplishments in protecting marine and coastal resources and the environment, the marine and coastal areas in the region still face many challenges, such as unsustainable and illegal exploitation of marine and coastal resources, degradation of environment in some places at an alarming rate, immense damage to people and properties from climate change, etc. He highlighted close partnership among countries in the region as one solution to addressing these challenges. To put the East Asian seas region on a sustainable development path, he called on all members of the Network to strengthen cooperation in marine and coastal environmental management and protection, and reasonable use of coastal natural resources. In closing, Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan wished all the delegates an enjoyable stay in Da Nang.

- 1.2 On behalf of PEMSEA, Mr. Prof. Chul Hwan Koh, Technical Session Chair of the East Asian Seas Partnership Council, appreciated the commitment of Da Nang City for hosting the PNLG Forum. He said that this year's PNLG Annual Forum coupled with the 5th EAS Congress, an intellectual marketplace and unprecedented event of the East Asian Seas region under the theme Global Targets, Local Benefits – Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015. The Congress focused on assessing lessons learnt and progress made in scaling up of good practices and initiatives towards building an ocean-based blue economy, and ocean ministers from 11 countries would sign the Da Nang Compact which would adopt the updated Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia, or SDS-SEA 2015, and the post-2015 strategic targets. The SDS-SEA 2015 has mapped the new objectives and schedule for the region in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other international agreements and targets. He underscored that strengthening the partnership with PNLG topped the agenda of PEMSA in the implementation of the SDS-SEA 2015 and achievement of the post-2015 targets, in particular, the target of covering 25 percent of the region's coastline with the ICM program by 2021.
- 1.3 On behalf of the PNLG, Mr. Prak Sihara, PNLG President and member of the Provincial Council of Preah Sihanouk, Cambodia, congratulated Danang City for the successful organization of the PNLG Forum. Mr. Sihara related the progress in achieving the Dongying Declaration and expressed that it is the commitment of the Network to achieve these targets. He emphasized that while the network was able to achieve some of its targets such as the implementation of the ICM Code and conduct of capacity development, there are still a lot of challenges, including the mainstreaming of ICM strategies, objectives and targets into local development plans. As regards the target of using the State of the Coasts Report as a reporting system, 50% of the members are still at the early stage of report preparation, while half of the members are on the process of finalizing their reports. Membership expansion only reached 38% as opposed to the target of 100% by 2015.
- 1.4 Mr. Sihara encouraged the members to further discuss the role and contributions of members in achieving post-2015 targets for the East Asian region. This includes finding ways to facilitate cross-learning among the members and getting more members to be active in the activities of the network.
- 1.5 The full texts of the Opening Ceremony speeches are attached in Annex 3.

2. SUMMARY REPORT OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PNLG SAP AND DONGYING DECLARATION TARGETS

- 2.1 Mr. Prak Sihara, PNLG President, served as the Chair of the PNLG General Assembly.
- 2.2 He invited Ms. Nancy Bermas, Senior Country Program Manager, PEMSEA Resource Facility, to report on behalf of the PNLG Secretariat on the status of achievements of the targets that the PNLG members had set in the Dongying Declaration and the PNLG Strategic Action Plan.
- 2.3 Ms. Bermas reminded the forum that 2015 is the target year agreed to by the members in achieving the six targets. She revisited the report presented during the 2014 PNLG Forum in Sepang, Malaysia where three out of the six targets were cited to be in peril. Ms. Bermas focused her report on the three targets that remained to be achieved last year: (a) implementing the PEMSEA ICM Code and Recognition System across 50% of the PNLG local government membership; (b) application of the State of the Coasts reporting across 100% of the PNLG local government membership; and (c) achieving 100% of PNLG membership by 2015. Of the three targets, only the certification of ICM Code and Recognition System of members was achieved where 15 members from Cambodia, China, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, representing 50% of the PNLG membership, have completed ICM Code Level 1 certification. For the State of the Coasts reporting, the PNLG members are in varying stages of implementation, i.e., 13% have completed the SOC report, 80% are on the process of completion (i.e., data gathering and validation, conduct of stakeholder's consultation, drafting and finalizing the reports) while 7% remains to be initiated. For the increase in membership, only 11 members, representing 38%, were added since 2011. Ms. Bermas invited the members to identify and discuss strategies and actions to achieving the targets of the Dongying Declaration in the course of preparing the PNLG SAP for 2016-2021. She expressed the PRF Secretariat's support in coordination with the PNLG Secretariat, in providing assistance to the members to comply with the decisions and recommendations of the General Assembly.
- 2.4 No questions were raised on the presentation. The Chair thanked Ms. Nancy Bermas for the presentation and proceeded to the next agenda.

3. ELECTION AND OATHTAKING OF NEW PNLG OFFICERS

- 3.1 The Chair introduced the background of the agenda and requested the PNLG Secretariat to present the results of elections for PNLG President and Vice President.
- 3.2 Dr. Zhou Lumin presented as follows the process of nomination and result of consensus-building for the selection of the new PNLG President and Vice President.
 - The nomination process for President and Vice President went from June 1 to June 30, 2015. Northern Selangor of Malaysia and Dongying City of China nominated Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan as PNLG President and Mr. Yang Tongzhu as PNLG Vice president, respectively.
 - With sole nominations for each position, the PNLG Secretariat conducted only one round of consultation from July 15 to August 15, 2015.

- No new nominees were received and no objections were received on the nominees, then the
 two candidates formally became the lone candidates for PNLG President and Vice President
 positions.
- 3.3 One PNLG member requested to move for the election of Mrs. Noraini and Mr. Yang as PNLG President and Vice President. With this, the General Assembly formally elected Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan, Council President of Majlis Daerah Kuala Selangor, Malaysia, as the new PNLG President and Mr. Yang Tongzhu, Vice Mayor of Dongying Municipal Government, PR China, as the new PNLG Vice President.
- 3.4 Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan and Mr. Yang Tongzhu were sworn to office by Mr. Prak Sihara. A round of applause was given to the newly elected President and Vice President.

4. INDUCTION OF NEW PNLG REGULAR MEMBERS AND SIGNING OF THE PNLG CHARTER

- 4.1 Following the oathtaking, Mr. Yang was invited to serve as the Co-Chair of the General Assembly.
- 4.2 Mr. Yang briefed that meeting that during the Sixth PNLG Executive Committee Meeting held in May 2015, the applications from Ansan (RO Korea), Pingtan and Wenzhou (PR China) to become regular members were reviewed and approved. He then invited representatives of Pingtan, China; Wenzhou, China; and Ansan, RO Korea, to proceed on stage for the signing of the PNLG Charter to formally become PNLG members.
- 4.3 Dr. Jong Geel Je, Mayor of Ansan City, Mr. Chen Yuanwu, Deputy Director General of Ocean and Fisheries Bureau of Wenzhou City, and Mr. Chen Wenbo, Vice Counselor of Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone of Fujian Province of PR China signed the PNLG Charter.
- 4.4 The Co-Chair welcomed new members to the PNLG family and invited them to deliver statements at the PNLG banquet.

5. MAPPING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA FOR COASTAL CITIES AND COMMUNITIES BEYOND 2015

Part 1: Overview of the International Conference

- 5.1 After a 15-minute break, Mr. Prak Sihara resumed the forum and invited Ms. Nancy Bermas of the PRF to present the overview of the International Conference workshops which constituted the PNLG technical program.
- 5.2 Ms. Bermas presented the key recommendations from the EAS Congress International Conference that are relevant to the PNLG. Ms. Bermas cited that the recommendations are intended to provide guidance to the PNLG in identifying and aligning the priorities and targets of the SAP for 2016-2021 with the 2015 Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia. The presentation highlighted three key areas that are crucial to sustainable development of coastal and marine areas among PNLG members, namely: (a) climate change

mitigation/adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management; (b) planning and investing in a blue economy at the local government level; and (c) role of PNLG in ICM scaling up and networking.

- 5.3 Key recommendations for managing risks and disasters that PNLG members must consider include the following:
 - Programs developed under the framework of SDS-SEA should target opportunities for capacity enhancement, knowledge and sharing of experiences.
 - In the implementation of the ADAPT Strategy of the SDS-SEA 2015, it is necessary to set appropriate and more specific targets.
 - Replication of good practices need to suit the specific country needs, and should be considered in capacity building and knowledge transfer efforts.
 - Knowledge products need to be developed based on working models and good practices available to facilitate sharing and replication.
 - Post-disaster recovery efforts need to create risk-based land use plans and development.
- 5.4 Key recommendations for investing in blue economy for conservation and impact include the following:
 - Explore opportunities for supporting local governments in establishing an enabling environment for investment through PNLG.
 - Engage PNLG in identifying good quality potential investment projects included in PNLG action plans.
 - Government plays a key role in providing proper governance and establishing an enabling environment for investment in the region.
 - Seas of East Asia (SEA) Knowledge Bank can be a useful tool as an initial step for project developers and local governments to build an understanding of how to develop investments.
- 5.5 Key recommendations for ICM scaling up and networking include the following:
 - Local governments need to set clear targets on climate change and biodiversity in order to safeguard the sustainable development in growing cities.
 - Establish networking with existing networks such as ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability and UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments).
 - Utilize methods or approaches for measuring sustainability and progress in ICM implementation such as Singapore's Index on Biodiversity and PEMSEA's State of the Coasts report.
 - Promote scaling up of investments and replication of good practices through:
 - Mainstreaming ICM into local and national socioeconomic development plans;
 - Building and strengthening knowledge and capacity of local governments;
 - o Implementing a system of rewards/provides incentives for local governments and stakeholders for progress, achievements and impacts of ICM implementation;
 - o Organizing leadership forums to build political commitment and confidence in ICM;
 - Mobilizing the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers as support network for ICM scaling up including the application of tools and methodologies; and
 - Facilitating documentation and sharing of good management practices including knowledge products and services and tools to improve the implementation of sustainable development programs and optimize investments.

5.6 Ms. Bermas stressed the relevance of the above recommendations in the development of the PNLG SAP 2016-2021 in combination with the results of the survey conducted among the members with regard to capacity development and strengthening of the PNLG (see Part 2).

Part 2: Reflections of PNLG Members to PNLG Strategic Plan 2011-2015

- 5.7 The Co-Chair introduced the background of Part 2 of agenda 5. and then invited Dr. Fang Qinhua, Deputy Secretary General of PNLG Secretariat to present the results of the survey as directed by the Executive Committee held in May 2015.
- Accordingly to Dr. Fang, the PNLG Secretariat conducted a questionnaire survey of 40 regular members with respect to the profiles of members, gaps and priorities in coastal development, future services of the PNLG Secretariat and relevance of existing PNLG SAP. Twenty six valid responses were received from members from China (11), Philippines (4), Malaysia (3), Indonesia (2), Vietnam (2), Cambodia (1), Japan (1), RO Korea (1) and Thailand (1).
- 5.9 Dr. Fang presented the results of the key findings of the survey as follows:
 - Small-scale and artisanal fishers, subsistence collection in the intertidal zone, industrial bottom-trawler fisheries and seaweed collection and cultivation are the five major living marine resources extraction activities.
 - Coastal aquaculture (pens and nets), seafood processing, shipping, ports, shipbuilding and repair, artisanal small-scale shipyards boat-repairing workshops are the industrial or semiindustrial activities currently being conducted in more than half of the members.
 - Coastal tourism in this region accounts for more than 40% of services.
 - Political will to support sustainable management of resources, inter-sectoral and interagency coordination, access to knowledge and information and strength of civil society participation are the factors most cited by respondents as affecting the ICM programs implementation.
 - More than 60% of respondents rated the following tools as highly relevant: total pollution load control, marine spatial planning, ecosystem approach fishery management, integrated information management system, valuation of ecosystem services, coastal erosion and oil spill response.
 - Social network group (Facebook, WeChat and LinkedIn) and web-discussion room are the two most preferred virtual dynamic network to be provided by PNLG Secretariat.
 - Regarding twinning, partnerships and mentoring to promote cooperation between members, coastal issues or challenges are considered as the most important factor, followed by ecosystem type, socioeconomic contexts and solutions. Cultural difference does not matter much.
 - The six objectives of current PNLG Strategic Action Plan (2011-2015) remain relevant.
 - Of the six targets of the PNLG SAP, the following are most relevant: (1) mobilizing
 partnerships with ICM Learning Centers and Regional Center of Excellence, scientific
 institutions, international organizations and individual experts; and (2) stock-taking,
 publication and dissemination of achievements, lessons and benefits derived from ICM
 programs.
 - The six targets to strengthen the capacity of local governments in the implementation of PNLG SAP 2011-2015 to achieve 20% coverage of regional coastlines by ICM are still relevant.

Strengthening the capacity of PNLG members through ICM executive courses, study tours and leadership seminars is given first priority.

Part 3: Moderated Panel Discussion

- 5.10 The Chair invited Mr. Yinfeng Guo, Head of Planning and Partnership Development of the PEMSEA Resource Facility to moderate the panel discussion on mapping the sustainable development agenda for coastal cities and communities beyond 2015.
- 5.11 Mr. Guo invited the following panelists to proceed on the stage:
 - Mr. Zhao Zenglian, Vice Mayor of Beihai City, Guangxi, China
 - Mr. Putu Agus Suradnyana, Buleleng Regency, Bali, Indonesia
 - Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, Vice Chairman, Danang People's Committee, Viet Nam
 - Mr. Aristotle Gaza, Board Member, Bataan, Philippines
 - Dr. Je Jong Geel, Mayor of Ansan City, RO Korea
 - Mr. Victorino Aquitania, Regional Director, ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, Southeast Asia Secretariat
 - Mr. Makoto Harunari, Technical Session Co-Chair, EAS Partnership Council
- 5.12 The panelists were requested to keep their discussion relevant to one or more of the following aspects:
 - Priority actions/activities/programs in relation to: climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction; ICM and capacity building; investments; and expanding PNLG's networking
 - Key targets that local governments/PNLG members can commit to over the next five years;
 - Assessing and reporting on the impact of such targets in meeting local sustainable development objectives.
- 5.13 Based on local and organizational contexts, panelists shared their perspectives focusing on the three identified areas.
- 5.14 Mr. Zhao Zenglian, Vice Mayor of Beihai City, Guangxi Autonomous Region of PR China, highlighted progress of ICM implementation since joining PNLG in 2014. Reference was made to ICM policy and regulatory framework, expanding marine protected area coverage and coral reef restoration, integrated land and sea use management including baseline assessment, strengthening the management capacity of ocean-related disasters and preparation of emergency response plans, partnership with academia including ICM Institute of Chinese Academy of Sciences. For future priority targets, Mr. Zhao cited enlarging the protected areas covering coral reef ecosystems to 2,500 ha as a key target of the city by 2020. He expressed the willingness of the city to implement ICM in line with the ICM code developed by PEMSEA and looked forward to receiving certification of compliance in the near future.
- 5.15 Mr. Putu Agus Suradnyana shared the various socioeconomic and ecological values of Buleleng Regency, the potential for developing fisheries and tourism industries, the challenges that the regency has previously faced including hazardous fishing practices, coral mining and pollution from the river systems, and new challenges from increasing population and climate change

including drought during the longer dry season and flooding during the rainy season. He highlighted their community education and mobilization efforts in reforestation, coral reef conservation and restoration, fisheries management including the use of more environment-friendly fishing and aquaculture practices, and ecotourism development. Buleleng Regency's community participation program has received international recognition, including the Equator Prize from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which was awarded to Pemuteran Village for its community-based coral restoration efforts, during the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012. Bondalem Village also received an award from the Reef Check Alliance in San Francisco, USA, in 2013. Buleleng Regency aims to replicate these community-engagement initiatives in other villages across the regency's 157-km coastline.

- Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, Vice Chairman, Danang People's Committee, highlighted disaster preparedness as urgent development challenges to the people of Da Nang. Based on the experiences of Da Nang, engagement of stakeholders, integration of climate change adaptation to local economic development planning, inter-sectoral coordination, partnership with donors in finding solutions, and strengthening the capacity of local community to adapt to impact of climate change are some of the practical experiences of Da Nang. Finally, he expressed his willingness to share its experiences with other members.
- 5.17 Mr. Aristotle Gaza, Board Member of the Province of Bataan, Philippines, highlighted the legislative initiative of the province to incorporate disaster risk reduction into local development plans following the adoption of the implementation of Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan down to town level through similar legislative measures. In addition, he underscored the completion of the SOC of Bataan as a ways to dissemination of coastal and marine facts and data by municipal level decisionmakers down to the village people. Regarding how to make sure ICM works, the experiences of Bataan is to sustain existing programs in the next five years and enlarge engagement of more stakeholders particular the private sector. He also highlighted that capacity building entails the efforts to capacitate everyone in particular to keep everyone informed of the vision, mission and goals of the province "making Bataan as the preferred location for Eco industrial investment leading to the highlight development index in the country in year 2020.
- Dr. Je Jong Geel, Mayor of Ansan City, RO Korea, congratulated to PEMSEA and Da Nang City for the successful organization of the EAS Congress and the PNLG Forum. As an old friend of PEMSEA, he underscored the importance of sharing experiences of ICM implementation in addressing pollution and other environmental issues in the course of coastal development. After expressing his heartfelt gratitude to members of PNLG for adoption of the endorsement of Ansan City as a member of PNLG, he announced that Ansan City would host the next PNLG Annual Forum in the second half of 2016. In relation to the three areas for discussion, he supported the alignment with SDGs at local level and informed the participants of the plan of Ansan City to develop and adopt the sustainable development targets of the city at the PNLG Annual Forum.
- 5.19 Mr. Victorino Aquitania, Regional Director of Southeast Asia Secretariat of ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, informed the participants that ICLEI is an international local government association founded in 1990 with support of UNEP. With over 1,000 local government members around the world, ICLEI runs programs and campaigns to lead global

cities towards sustainability supported by trainings, tools and publications focusing on the main global challenges of scarce resources and climate change. Similar to PNLG, he emphasized the usefulness of partnership with Rockefeller Foundation and other partners as effective ways to achieve objectives of programs and campaigns. Mr. Aquitania considered such exchanges with PNLG members as mutually beneficial and looked forward to collaboration with PNLG in the future in achieving mutual objectives through experience and knowledge sharing.

- 5.20 Mr. Makoto Harunari, Co-Chair of Technical Session of PEMSEA Partnership Council, underscored political will, comprehensive coastal strategy with supporting institutional arrangements and leadership as the three most important factors to achieve sustainable coastal development through ICM. Future capacity development programs for LCEs of PNLG members may consider these areas as priorities among others.
- 5.21 On knowledge transfer and partnerships between PNLG members, Mr. Aristotle Gaza suggested PNLG to explore the national forums of association of cities within respective countries of PNLG members as effective ways of experience sharing and knowledge transfer, in particular on ICM implementation. Best way or platform where all the best practices can be showcased in the Philippines for maximum advantage and adaptation success through utilization of the national organization like the League of Provinces, City Mayors' League of the Philippines, Councilor's League of the Philippines and other associations and organized groups. This experience exchange modality is especially useful for representatives of members challenged by languages. In addition to sharing of experiences, such platforms also contribute to expansion of PEMSEA network of local government units.
- 5.22 In response to the low interest to investment from private sector such as through public-private partnership, Mr. Victorino Aquitania from ICLEI cited similar situations in implementation of financing initiatives in the Philippines due to low awareness of private sector financing. Preparation of case studies, dialogues between business and local chief executives, better understanding of the investment climate of the city by the private sector are suggested for consideration by the participants.
- 5.23 Mr. Nguyen Dieu, Director of Da Nang Department of Natural Resource and Environment, requested PNLG to organize more forums and workshops to facilitate experience sharing among members. In his view, the two get-togethers each year should be increased and chances to solidify the partnership between members should be further explored.

Part 4: Development Process of PNLG SAP 2016-2021

- 5.24 The Chair invited PNLG Secretariat to introduce the plan to develop the PNLG SAP.
- 5.25 Dr. Fang Qinhua presented the six-step development process of SAP 2016-2021 as approved by the PNLG Executive Committee, which entails:
 - a. Review of the implementation of the PNLG SAP 2011-2015 and Dongying Declaration;
 - b. Alignment with in SDS-SEA and strategic targets;
 - c. Survey of PNLG Members;
 - d. Guidance from PNLG Executive Committee and consultation with PNLG members on objectives, actions, targets and indicators;

- e. Consultation with partners; and
- f. Approval and adoption by PNLG General Assembly.
- 5.26 The PNLG Secretariat suggested key elements of the SAP to include:
 - a. Progress and achievements of the SAP (2011-2015);
 - b. Alignment with updated SDS-SEA, strategic targets and implementation plan;
 - c. Challenges and needs of PNLG members;
 - d. Strategies, objectives, targets, actions and timeframe;
 - e. Partnerships for implementation; and
 - f. Implementation monitoring, reporting and evaluation.
- 5.27 PNLG Secretariat proposed the following workplan for review and consideration by the members:
 - Preparation of the 1st draft by PNLG Secretariat and PRF by March 2016;
 - Distribution to PNLG members for comments and consolidation of comments into the second draft by April 2016;
 - Review by PNLG Executive Committee of the 2nd draft in May 2016;
 - Consultation with stakeholders at EAS Partnership Council meeting;
 - Preparation of the 3rd draft in June and circulation to members for comments;
 - Review and adoption of the 4th draft in PNLG Annual Forum in September 2016
- 5.28 As there were no objections to the proposed steps, outline of the PNLG SAP and workplan, the Chair declared that the proposed plan and schedule for the development of the PNLG SAP 2016-2021 were adopted.

6. RECOGNITION OF THE OUTGOING PNLG OFFICER

In recognition of the services of Mr. Prak Sihara as President of PNLG, the PNLG Secretariat delivered a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the PNLG members.

7. TURNOVER OF THE PNLG FLAG TO PNLG FORUM 2016 HOST

- 7.1 The Ansan City Government of RO Korea accepted the PNLG Flag from Da Nang City Government as the next host city for the PNLG Forum 2016.
- As part of their 2016 invitation, a short video that introduced Ansan City was presented. Dr. Je Jong Geel, Mayor of Ansan City, also personally invited all the PNLG members to participate in the 2016 PNLG Forum.

8. GENERAL DISCUSSIONS

8.1 The Chair opened the floor for general discussion after all agenda items of the forum were completed.

- 8.2 Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan, the newly elected PNLG President, expressed her gratitude to all PNLG members for their trust in her to take the roles of President of the PNLG. She emphasized the need for PNLG to disseminate information to members in integrated coastal management, and encouraged all members to continue to move forward with the implementation of the SDS-SEA 2015. She underscored the importance of setting targets and reporting by saying that an action plan is only meaningful if implementation is measured. Finally she expressed her willingness to work closely with PNLG Secretariat and PEMSEA Resource Facility, and looked forward to their support to enable her to fulfill the role of presidency successfully.
- 8.3 A delegate reminded the need for PNLG Secretariat to organize more trainings as a service of the PNLG to its members. Staff of PEMSEA Resource Facility clarified that the results of the PNLG Secretariat survey related to priority technical support and capacity building needs of PNLG members can be matched with available opportunities for trainings offered by various PEMSEA partners and collaborators.
- A delegate sought clarification on the design of questions in the survey of PNLG members on the PNLG SAP implementation, in particular the relevance of livelihoods to the mandate of the PNLG. Mr. Yinfeng Guo from the PEMSEA Resource Facility referred the survey as an effective way of communication between PNLG Secretariat and members on the future plan of PNLG following a direction from the PNLG Executive Committee. As local contexts vary from member to member, it is necessary for PNLG to consider communities and people as key beneficiaries of the ICM program implementation.

9. CLOSING OF THE FORUM

- 9.1 The meeting was closed at 18:00, followed by a dinner hosted by Da Nang City. At the dinner, Mr. Manoto Harunari, Co-Chair of Technical Session of EAS Partnership Council and Executive Deputy Secretary General of PNLG Secretariat, extended appreciation to Da Nang People's Committee for its hospitality and the excellent cultural performance. The three new PNLG members, Ansan, Pingtan and Wenzhou, made official statements to members to affirm their observance to the PNLG Charter.
- 9.2 Statements of the three cities are attached as Annex 4.

ANNEX 1. PNLG FORUM 2015 PROGRAM

PNLG FORUM 2015 Pullman Hotel November 20, 2015

PROGRAMME

Time	Activity/Presentation	Possible Speaker/Panelist
1400 – 1415	1. Opening Ceremony	·
	 Welcome Remarks (Danang) 	Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan,
		Vice Chairman, Danang People's
		Committee, Viet Nam
	o Welcome Remarks (PEMSEA)	Prof. Chul Hwan Koh
		Technical Session Chair
		EAS Partnership Council
	o Opening Remarks	Mr. Prak Sihara
	, ,	President
		PNLG
1415 - 1425	2. Summary Report of the Achievements of	PNLG Secretariat
	PNLG SAP and Dongying Declaration Targets	
1425 – 1440	3. Election and Oathtaking of New PNLG	New President and Vice President
	Officers	
		Mrs. Noraini bt Roslan, Northern Selangor,
		Malaysia
		Mr. Yang Tongzhu, Dongying City, PR China
1440 – 1530	4. Induction of New PNLG Members and	New PNLG members
1440 1550	Signing of the PNLG Charter	New Fived members
	organis of the Free charter	Pingtan, China
		Wenzhou, China
		Ansan, RO Korea
1530 – 1545	Coffee break	
	5. Mapping the Sustainable Development Agenda	
	for Coastal Cities and Communities beyond 2015	
1545 – 1600	Part 1: Overview of the International Conference	Ms. Nancy Bermas
	A summary of the key recommendations and	PRF
	conclusions from the EAS Congress International	
	Conference will be presented. The summary	
	presentation will highlight at least three key areas	
	that are crucial to sustainable development of	
	coastal and marine areas among PNLG members,	
	namely: (a) climate change mitigation/adaptation;	
	(b) disaster risk reduction and management; and (c)	
	planning and investing in a blue economy at the	

Time	Activity/Presentation	Possible Speaker/Panelist
	local government level.	
	Part 2: Reflections of PNLG members to PNLG	
1600 – 1615	Srategic Plan 2011-2015	
	A synthesis of the PNLG Survey focusing on the	Dr. Fang Qinhua
	relevance of objectives and targets of PNLG	PNLG Secretariat
	Strategic Action Plan, priority needs in capacity development as well as ways on how PNLG can	
	operate more effectively for the benefits of all PNLG	
	members.	
1615 – 1715	Part 3: Moderated Panel Discussion	Moderator: Mr. Guo Yinfeng, PRF
		G,
	The panel will provide insights on the following:	Panelists:
	(1) Priority actions/activities/programs in	Mr. Zhao Zenglian
	relation to: climate change adaptation and	Vice Mayor
	disaster risk reduction; ICM and capacity	Beihai City, Guangxi China
	building; investments; and expanding	Mr. Dutu Agus Curadayana
	PNLG's networking (2) Key targets that local governments/PNLG	Mr. Putu Agus Suradnyana Buleleng Regency, Bai, Indonesia
	members can commit to over the next five	Buleleng Regency, Bai, Indonesia
	years; and	Mr. Aristotle Gaza, Board Member, Bataan,
	(3) Assessing and reporting on the impact of	Philippines
	such targets in meeting local sustainable	
	development objectives.	Dr. Je Jong Geel, Ansan, RO Korea
		Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, Vice Chairman,
		Danang People's Committee, Viet Nam
		,
		Mr. Victorino Aquitania,
		Regional Director
		ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
		Southeast Asia Secretariat
		Mr. Maketa Harupari
		Mr. Makoto Harunari Technical Session Co-Chair
		EAS Partnership Council
1715 – 1740	Part 4: Development Process of PNLG SAP 2016-	PNLG Secretariat
	2021	
	Taking into consideration the key points raised	
	during the moderated panel discussion, the PNLG	
	Secretariat will introduce key priorities that could	
	be considered by the membership in the	
	development of the PNLG SAP 2016-2021. The	
	Secretariat will also present and seek concurrence	
	on the proposed priorities, process and timetable	
	for the development of the new PNLG SAP 2016-	
	2021.	

Time	Activity/Presentation	Possible Speaker/Panelist
	The PNLG membership will be invited to endorse the proposed priorities, process and timetable.	
1740 – 1800	Recognition of the Outgoing PNLG Officer Turnover of the PNLG flag to PNLG Forum 2016 Host	PNLG Secretariat
1810 – 2000	8. Closing of the Forum PNLG Dinner Banquet (to be hosted by Danang)	

ANNEX 2. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

PNLG EXECUTIVE COMMITTE

Mr. Prak Sihara PNLG President

Member

Provincial Council Preah Sihanouk Cambodia

Mr. Yang Tongzhu PNLG Vice President

Vice Mayor Dongying City China

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Mr. Hun Phy Director

Department of Land Management

Preah Sihanouk Province

Mr. Kong Vitanak Director General

Provincial Administration Preah Sihanouk Province

Mr. Prak Visal
Deputy Director
Administration Division
ICM Program Manager
Preah Sihanouk Province

Mr. Prak Vong Deputy Director

Department of Environment Preah Sihanouk Province

Ms. Sally Nay

Vice Chief

Provincial Foreign Affairs Office Preah Sihanouk Province

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Mr. Zhao Zenglian Vice Mayor Beihai City

Mr. Peng Zaiqing Vice General Director Beihai Oceans and Fisheries Beihai City

Mr. Shen Yiyong

Section Chief, General Office

Beihai City

Ms. Lei Jing Translator

Foreign & Overseas Chinese Affairs Office

Beihai City

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Changyi Ocean and Fisheries Bureau

Ms. Zhang Yanhua Section Chief

Changyi Ocean and Fisheries Bureau

Dongying

Mr. Chen Yinlu Director General

Dongying Ocean and Fishery Bureau

Dongying City

Ms. Gao Xiaochen

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Mr. Liu Pei

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Oceans and Fisheries Bureau

Dongying City Mr. Sun Xuetian

Director

Kenli County Ocean and Fisheries Bureau

Dongying City

Fangchenggang

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Gangkou District Oceanic Bureau

Fangchenggang

Mr. Li Shunan

Assistant Consultant

Fangchenggang Oceanic Bureau

Mr. Liao Jinning General Director

Dongxing Oceanic Bureau

Fangchenggang

Mr. Yang Qiang General Director

Fangcheng District Oceanic Bureau

Pingtan

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Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone

Management Committee

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Vice General Director

Pingtan Oceans and Fisheries Bureau

Mr. Yan Xiaohua Vice General Director

Pingtan Economic and Development Bureau

Quanzhou

Mr. Wang Songqing Vice Director General

Oceans and Fisheries Bureau

Quanzhou City

Wenzhou

Mr. Chen Yuanwu Deputy Director General Ocean and Fisheries Bureau Wenzhou City

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Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office

Xiamen Municipal Government

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International Communication and Training

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Ms. Zhang Lifeng Vice Section Chief

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Mr. Gede Suarjana

Head

Environmental Agency

Bali Province

Buleleng

Mr. Putu Agus Suradnyana, ST Regent Buleleng Regency Drh. Nyoman Surya Temaja, M.P.

Head

Environmental Agency Buleleng Regency

Mr. I Gede Suyasa Environmental Agency Buleleng Regency

Drs. Ida Bagus Made Geriastika

Assistant

Economic Development and People's

Welfare Secretariat Buleleng Regency

Drs. Ketut Suparto, M.MA

Head

Economy and Development Office

Buleleng Regency

Gede Supriatna

Chairman of District Council

Buleleng Regency

I Made Hindra Jiwaksara

Aide of Regent
Buleleng Regency
Ir. Gde Darmaja, M.Si
Head of Bappeda
Buleleng Regency

Ir. Nyoman Sutrisna, MM

Head

Fisheries and Marine Agency

Buleleng Regency

Ir.Dewa Ketut Puspaka, M.P

Secretary

Buleleng Regency

Luh Krisnawati, S.PD

Translator

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Sukabumi

Abdul Kodir

Head of Fisheries and Sea Agency

Member of PCC

Indonesia

Daden Gunawan Supardi Head of Environmental Board

Head of PMO

Denis Eriska

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Environmental Impact Analysis Division, PMO

Tetty Twofri Saptiati

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Financial Services and Asset Management Areas

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PMO

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Sabak Bernam District Council

Ms. Noraini bt Roslan

President

Kuala Selangor District Council

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Mr. Mohd Husin bin Miswan

Admin Officer

Port Klang Authority

Ms. Norfaezah bt Shamsuddin Head of ICM Section / Engineer LUAS

Sepang

Mr. Nor Zamri bin Sondor Acting Director of LUAS

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Mr. Jang Gijun

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Mr. Jung Seunghyun

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House Administration Committee Ansan City

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Mr. Kim Jungtaek Chairperson

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Gyeonggi Daily Newspaper

Mr. Kim Taewoo Director General

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Mr. Lee Jinsung Secretary

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Mr. Koutaro Jyo Member of Omura City Council

Mr. Hidekazu Tanaka Member and former Chair Omura City Council

Mr. Toshiaki Osaki Vice Chair of Omura City Council

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Mr. Julio Pereira de Castro District Director Agriculture and Fisheries Affairs

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Mr. Domingos da Conçeicão dos Santos Administrator of Liquiça Municipality Mr. Gustavo Rodrigues Pereira ICM Coordinator of Liquiça Municipality

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Mr. Makoto Harunari Co-Chair Technical Session

PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Guo Yinfeng Head, Planning and Partnership Development

Ms. Nancy Bermas Senior Country Manager

Ms. Cristine Ingrid Narcise Country Manager

Ms. Belyn Rafael Country Manager

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Mr. Zhou Lumin
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Xiamen
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Ms. Zheng Yangsi PNLG Secretariat Staff Xiamen China

ANNEX 3

OPENING CEREMONY SPEECHES

Welcome remarks at the PNLG Forum

By Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan

Vice - Chairman of the People's Committee of Da Nang City

Mr. Prak Sihara, Vice Chairman of Sihanoukville Province, President of PNLG, Representatives of local government of the PNLG Network, Representatives of international and national organizations, Distinguished delegates of ministries, agencies and local governments in Vietnam, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the leaders of the People's Committee of Da Nang City, I warmly welcome all of you attending the Forum of the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development 2015 today.

First, I would like to thank delegates — representatives of the local governments of the PNLG and representatives of observer local authorities in the region, representatives of international organizations, the international experts and representatives of coastal local governments in Vietnam to attend the Forum. Your presence in this forum is a pleasure of our city.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The network of local governments for sustainable coastal development was established as a forum for exchange of information and experience in the implementation of Integrated Coastal Management between local governments in the East Asia region.

Since its establishment, the PNLG has confirmed its prestige at regional and international forums, and the roles of protecting coastal and marine resources and environment in the East Asia region is well recognized and enhanced. So far, there are 37 local governments in 11 countries in the East Asia region as official members of the PNLG, among which the coastal provinces of Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam and Da Nang are members in Vietnam.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As one of the members founding the network, Danang has tried its best to develop and enhance the reputation of the network. Besides, the participation in the network gave us the chance to exchange, learn from others the practical and valuable experiences in the management of coastal resources and environment. Our city development has benefitted significantly from the experiences and lessons learned from other local government members in the region.

As an official member of the Network, Da Nang city always fully implements its commitments to the Network, always adhere to the rules of international law, especially the Convention of the United Nations of the Sea Law in 1982. In particular, Da Nang City also supporting the coastal provinces in Vietnam became official members of the PNLG Network.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In spite of many accomplishments in protecting marine and coastal resources and environment, the marine and coastal areas in the region still faces many challenges. Unsustainable and illegal exploitation of marine and coastal resources are still prevalent, environment in some places is degrading at an alarming rate, the impact of climate change is causing immense damage to people and properties in many countries in the region. The above challenges need to be resolved based on close partnership among countries in the Region.

To put the East Asian Sea Region on a sustainable development path, I call on all members of the Network, the countries in the East Asia region to strengthen cooperation in marine and coastal environmental management and protection, and reasonable use of coastal natural resources, and more importantly to respect for international law in resolving territorial disputes in the sea.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The PNLG Forum 2015 is an opportunity for us to exchange and share experiences and lessons learned on the status of the marine and coastal resources management and exploitation. Together we will discuss the goals and methods of implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA), and at this forum, we are glad to witness some new members to join our network.

In the spirit of frank discussion and positive cooperation, I believe that the PNLG Forum in 2015 today is going to get practical results.

Again, thank you for your presence in the Forum, hoping that your stay in our city is rewarding and the beautiful memories will stay with all of you.

I wish you health and wish our forum success.

Welcome Remarks at the PNLG Forum

Prof. Chul Hwan Koh

Technical Session Chair
East Asian Seas Partnership Council

Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, Vice Chairman, Da Nang People's Committee

Mr. Prak Sihara, President, PNLG

Mr. Yang Tongzhu, Vice President, PNLG

Mr. Makoto Harunari, Technical Session Co-Chair, EAS Partnership Council

Distinguished local chief executives, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon!

On behalf of PEMSEA, I would like to express our appreciation to the People's Committee of Da Nang for hosting this event and for bringing together Local Chief Executives and representatives from the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments, observer local governments and the ICLEI - International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. We sincerely appreciate the time and effort that all of you have taken to organize such a splendid event in this beautiful city of Da Nang.

This years' PNLG Annual Forum couples with the 5th EAS Congress, an intellectual marketplace and unprecedented event of East Asian Seas region under the theme *Global Targets, Local Benefits – Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015*. The Congress focuses on assessing lessons learnt and progress made in scaling up of good practices and initiatives towards building an ocean-based blue economy. Ocean ministers from 11 countries will sign the Da Nang Compact which will adopt the updated Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia, or SDS-SEA 2015, and the post-2015 strategic targets. The SDS-SEA 2015 has mapped the new objectives and schedule for the region in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other international agreements and targets.

Strengthening the partnership with PNLG tops the agenda of PEMSA in implementation of the SDS-SEA 2015 and achievement of the post-2015 targets, in particular the target of covering 25 percent of the region's coastline by ICM program by 2021.

Over the years, the PNLG has served as a key driving force in the promotion, demonstration and continuous strengthening of efforts on integrated coastal management (ICM). This unique network has significantly contributed to the development and delivery of ICM through its knowledge sharing and on-the-ground experience. With national and local governments committed to scaling up ICM, the PNLG has had a unique opportunity to contribute to the planning and development of such programs and has contributed to the region's effort to expand ICM coverage in the region's coastline. With PNLG's support the EAS region has now achieved 14 percent coverage of its coastlines. With our collective and concerted efforts, achieving the 25 percent coverage target by 2021 can become a reality.

During the EAS Congress International Conference, the good practices as demonstrated by our PNLG members have been highly acknowledged thru the shared knowledge products or case studies highlighting your significant contributions in addressing various sustainable development issues on the ground particularly in areas of biodiversity conservation, livelihood management, pollution and water management, climate change/hazards, among others.

The challenges faced by local governments are the most difficult, for it is where the impacts brought about by climate change/disasters, economic crisis, and environmental degradation, are most felt. But this is also

where the true value of PNLG lies. The PNLG provides a platform for learning, sharing and connecting. It enables local chief executives/local governments to link up and learn from each others experiences; it provides access to technical expertise for project planning and development to address constraints faced by local governments; it helps local on-the-ground actions contribute to higher national and regional socioeconomic targets; and most importantly it has given the local governments a voice at the international arena of sustainable development discussions.

The regional community of PNLG should be proud for serving as a major actor in realizing the objectives of the SDS-SEA and in effect in the sustainable development of the East Asian Seas.

Undoubtedly, the challenges besetting local governments and the PNLG are still enormous. But we are confident that the PNLG has established a strong foundation to move forward. In today's Forum, the PNLG will discuss crucial issues as well as a roadmap to better address the challenges beyond 2015. This is also a good opportunity to learn from other global networks involving local governments and how we can further expand PNLG partnerships in order to build the necessary capacity to address local development concerns and effect changes on the ground.

Once again, thank you to our host city and I look forward to an exciting afternoon with you all.

Thank you!

Welcome Remarks at the PNLG Forum

Mr. Prak Sihara President, PNLG

Good afternoon, honourable governors, mayors, ladies and gentlemen.

Welcome to this special event.

I would like to congratulate and thank the city of Da Nang for hosting our forum in their wonderful city.

The Dongying Declaration is our affirmation to the PNLG's commitment to implement the five-year PNLG Strategic Action Plan and to enhance our capability in promoting ICM.

There were six specific targets that were set before under the Dongying Declaration. Our efforts as members of the PNLG will be assessed based on these targets and we gave ourselves up to this year to accomplish this target.

In the past five years, PNLG members have been able to comply with the requirements of the ICM code. This means that half of our members are able to meet the standard for ICM Implementation. We are also able to conduct an annual forum with technical session as part of capacity development for the Local Chief Executives (LCEs) on ICM scaling up in collaboration with the PRF and the XWOW.

However, there are still challenges that we need to overcome. PNLG members have mainstreamed ICM strategies, objectives and targets into different forms and plans pertaining to various sustainable development aspects. A target was also set so that one hundred percent of the PNLG members will be able to apply the State of the Coasts reporting system by 2015. At this time, 50 percent of the SOC reports are at the final stage of report preparation. Four sites have already published their reports. The remaining 50 percent are still on the early preparatory stages of the report preparation. The PNLG is also committed to engaging other local governments in developing and implementing ICM. We have targeted one hundred percent increase in PNLG membership by 2015. With 11 new members since 2011, we have grown our network by 38 percent. Three of which will be officially inducted today, and just last week, we received one application from Kep Province to be a member of the PNLG and the application will be assessed by the PNLG Executive Committee.

Today, we are here not only to review our progress but also to discuss the role and contributions of a strengthened PNLG in achieving post-2015 targets for the East Asian Seas region and other international commitments beyond 2015. We have to update the PNLG Strategic Action Plan to reflect the changes and to reflect new challenges such as climate change, rapid urbanization and other issues in the coastal areas.

As a growing network, we need to think of our future as an organization. We need to collectively identify new ways to make members more active, and to facilitate cross learning and sharing and cooperation among members . We need to continuously work together.

Thank you and wish the forum a great success.

ANNEX 4

STATEMENTS FROM NEW PNLG MEMBERS

Statement from Ansan as a New PNLG Member

Dr. Jong Geel JeMayor of Ansan City

PNLG President, Mr. Prak Sihara Executive Direcgtor of PEMSEA Resource Facility, Mr. Adrian Ross PNLG Executive Deputy Secretary General, Dr. Zhou Lumin Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

I am very pleased to be with you on the occasion of the 2015 PEMSEA Network of Local Government for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) Forum.

My sincerest appreciation goes to the PEMSEA, the PNLG Secretariat and Chairman of People's Committee of Da Nang City.

Ansan City, the biggest industrial city of Yellow Sea region, is located on the Gyeongi Bay of Yellow Sea in the RO Korea and covers an area of 175.8 square kilometers with a total population of 760,000.

We went through pollution crisis in the air and water due to sprawling development of national industrial complex and was stigmatized as polluted city in the past. However, we have tried to rehabilitate Sihwa lake of PEMSEA parallel site which was a byword for the deterioration of water quality as well as the destruction of coastal wetland, now boasting of its habitat for 250,000 migratory birds and biodiversity. Most notably, Daebudo Island with over 100 km coastlines became marine ecotourism site with around 9 million domestic visitors every year.

We understand that sustainable coastal development is heavily dependent on the partnership and network with different stakeholders. For that reason, we promise to work together with PEMSEA and PNLG to deal with various issues and conflicts in order to ensure the sustainability of coastal ecosystems.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, we, the city of Ansan, are honored to become a new member of PNLG. We shall diligently observe the Charter of PNLG, participate actively in the related activities and contribute to the development of PNLG.

I would like to invite all delegates to join us in the 2016 PNLG Forum in Ansan. I hope we can share ideas and knowledge for a sustainable development of the East Asian Seas for future generation during the forum in Ansan.

Lastly, I wish this conference a big success and wish all delegates a good health and good luck!

Statement of Wenzhou City, PR China, as New PNLG Member

Mr. Chen Yuanwu

Deputy Director General Ocean and Fisheries Bureau

Honorable Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, Vice Chairman, Da Nang People's Committee,

Honorable Mr. Prak Sihara, PNLG President

Honorable Mr. Adrian Ross, Executive Director of PEMSEA Resource Facility

Honorable Dr. Zhou Lumin, PNLG Executive Deputy Secretary-General

Ladies and Gentlemen, Good evening!

November is indeed a good time to visit Da Nang, as the city overflows with vigor and oceanic scenery. In this nice season, we gather together in this beautiful city to attend the 2015 PNLG Forum. Here I want to extend my warmest congratulations on the holding of the annual forum on behalf of the Municipal People's Government and 9,000,000 people of Wenzhou. We are honored to become a regular member of PNLG.

Wenzhou is located at the southeast part of Zhejiang Province, adjacent to the west coast of the East China Sea. It lies to the north of Fujian and borders with Lishui City and Taizhou City. Wenzhou covers 8,649 km² land area by 4 districts, 2 prefecture-level cities and 5 counties.

With the sea area of $11,000 \text{ km}^2$, Wenzhou has 713.5 islands (the Hengzai Island is shared with Taizhou City), including 35 inhabited islands and 678.5 uninhabited islands, with 455.5 islands with an area of more than 500 m^2 . The total length of coastline is over 1,260 km, with 580 km mainland coastline and 680 km island coastline.

Wenzhou is a historic city with more than 2,000 years history. However, it is also the pioneer of Chinese private economy development and the implementation of reforming and opening door policy. As one of the 14 earliest cities opening to the outside world, Wenzhou makes up the "golden triangle" of Zhejiang province with Hangzhou and Ningbo, the most active and advanced area of China. Over the past years, Wenzhou accelerated the city construction and was awarded as "National Forest City", "National Civilized City" and "National Health City".

Besides its rich ocean resource, Wenzhou has advantages in location, private economy and ocean ecological environment, which provide huge potential for the development of ocean economy. The Eighteenth National Congress of CPC raised the general strategy of making China powerful through the ocean. In line with this, Wenzhou insisted to pay equal attention to economic development and environmental protection. It strengthened the integrated coastal management, effectively protected the coastal resources and promoted the harmonious development between human being and ocean.

Today, Wenzhou is honored to become a regular member of the PNLG. We promise to strictly obey the regulations and provisions of the PNLG Charter and take active participation in relevant PNLG activities. We commit to carry out comprehensive management of our coastal zone, and contribute in the promotion of the sustainable development of the East Asian Seas region. We are very pleased and hope to learn from the experiences and good practices of other areas that are currently implementing ICM programs.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Statement of Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone, Fujian, PR China as a New New PNLG Member

Mr. Chen Wenbo Vice Counselor

Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening!

Today we are gathering here for the annual conference of PNLG, to exchange views and discuss on the important issues of sustainable coastal development. On this special occasion, I am very pleased to be a part of this meeting. Hereby, on behalf of Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone Management Committee, I would like to extend our warm congratulations to the success of this conference, extend our high respect for all the members of PNLG, and express our heartfelt thanks to the help and guidance of the executive committee of PNLG. Pingtan is honored to become a regular member of PNLG.

Pingtan, located in the middle of Fujian's coasts, faces Changle and Fuqing through Haitan Strait and borders the Nanri Island of Putian on the south, Baiquan Island, Matsu Archipelago on the north and Taiwan Strait on the east. The Houyan Mountain of Pingtan, only 68 nautical miles away from Nanliao Fishing Port of Hsinchu, Taiwan, is the area closest to Taiwan in Mainland China. This place enjoys geographical advantages with Taiwan and is rich with fruitful resources in fishing, ports, coastal tourism and marine development.

Surrounded by seas, Pingtan is composed of 126 islands and 702 islets including the Haitan Island, hence earning the name of the "Island of Islets". With an entire land area of 392.92 square kilometers and a population of 418,000, Haitan Island, the main island of Pingtan with an area of 324.12 square kilometers, is the fifth largest island of China and the largest island of Fujian. With the sea area of 6,064 square kilometers and the coastline of 408 kilometers, Pingtan boasts an array of great shelter harbors and deepwater shorelines. Pingtan also features abundant cultural and tourism resources. For example, the Keqiutou Cultural Relics, rated as the "province-level cultural relic protection site" that dates back to 7,000 years, is a relic of the Neolithic Age. Meanwhile, Pingtan has world-class underwater cultural relics and is the most frequent place where ancient shipwrecks of the Maritime Silk Road were discovered. The Eight Scenic Spots of Haitan were rated as the National Key Scenic Sites in January 1994, and were included into the candidate list of world natural heritage reported by the nation in March, 1999. These spots were accepted as one of the first batch national natural heritage in January 2006.

In July, 2009, the Provincial Party Committee and the Provincial Government implemented the Notifications of the State Council on Supporting Fujian Province to Accelerate the Construction of the West Strait Economic Zone, and established Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone whose opening and development shall be promoted at a higher starting point, higher standard, higher grade and higher level under the overall guidance of the Scientific Concept on Development. In 2011, "Accelerating the Opening and Development of Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone" was included in the outline of the Twelfth Five-year Plan as well as the Development Plan of West Strait Economic Zone approved by the State Council. Since then, the opening and development of Pingtan has become a national strategy.

Since the establishment of Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone, we have been developing the marine economy within the ecological carrying capacity of marine resources and have enhanced integrated coastal management to give priority to ecological considerations in development. We are committed to

keeping a balance between environmental protection and development, while allowing the geographical resource and policy advantages to play roles.

Today, Pingtan Comprehensive Experimental Zone is much honored to become a member of PNLG. We promise to strictly observe regulations and stipulations of PNLG and actively participate in the related activities, develop and implement integrated management programs in Pingtan, promote the sustainable development of the East Asian Sea area and actively share knowledge and experiences with other members.

Last but not the least, I wish all the delegates a good health!