

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC2)

PROMOTING MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORKS IN THE ASEAN REGION
UNEP/CMS/COP12/DOC.24.4.9

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

- A link should be made to the IMMA process for the North East Indian Ocean and South East Asia, in particular the workshop planned for 2018.
- The text should be clarified as to whether each action is directed regionally or globally.
- The role of the international community in supporting the development of MPA networks in the region should be clarified.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS/ INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

Page 2, para 8:

- *Conscious that the Protected Areas Gap Analysis in ASEAN region (ACB, 2010), reports severe under-representation of marine habitats and ecosystems and absence of protection of 78%, or more than 6 million hectares, of the 82 identified marine Key Biodiversity Areas (mKBAs), and recognizing the ongoing work by the Key Biodiversity Area Partnership to further develop these efforts and identify additional marine Key Biodiversity Areas as sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity.*

Page 2, para 10:

- *Also recognizing that Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) and Marine Spatial Planning is a dynamic process of planning and management involving stakeholders, and requiring the analysis of the environmental and socioeconomic implications of development, the ecosystem processes, and the interrelationships among land-based and marine-related activities across jurisdictions.*

Page 3, para 1: b)

- preventing the extinction of known migratory marine threatened species

Page 3, para 3:

- *Considering the need to scale up marine biodiversity conservation in the ASEAN Region identified on the basis of: a) the marine Key Biodiversity Areas (mKBA) process that seeks to address the ecological gaps identified in the current PA identification practice, using criteria of vulnerability and irreplaceability of species, among other equally relevant criteria; b) the Gap Analysis of Protected Areas conducted for the region prepared by ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity highlighting those mKBAs that are unprotected or partially protected; c) the coastal and marine sites identified through the Important Bird Areas (IBAs) process, d) current levels of MPA designations in the ASEAN Region (2%); and e) the connectivity patterns among habitats based on results of studies on larval migration, and therefore the need to scale up marine biodiversity conservation taking into account areas of high value for biodiversity such as Key Biodiversity Areas, including the coastal and marine Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) and the Alliance of Zero Extinction (AZEs) subsets*

Page 3, para 4:

- *Seeking to strengthen representativeness and connectivity of marine conservation areas using a combination of tools, including Important Bird Areas (IBAs), Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), those Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) and Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites, described on the basis of their importance for migratory species*

Page 3, para 5:

- *Further seeking to conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with Aichi Target 11 and Target 14.5 under the Sustainable Development Goal 14 on oceans and seas, national and international laws, based on the best available scientific information that identify sites critical to the persistence of biodiversity and ecosystem services, for the purpose of sustainably using oceans and marine resources essential to human well-being and social and economic development,*

Page 4, para 1:

- *Calls upon Parties to continue development of transboundary area-based conservation measures including marine protected areas that contribute to the persistence of migratory species, particularly in the ASEAN Region;*

Page 4, para 1 bis:

- *Calls upon Parties to collaborative identify, design and nationally create and effectively manage sites that cover all life stages of migratory species*

Page 4, para 2:

- *Encourages Parties and other Range States of the ASEAN Region to participate in promoting support the identification of important sites for migratory species, such as Key Biodiversity Areas and the Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas subset, promote their inclusion in marine protected area networks and their connectivity and support internationally coordinated MPA that will improve the identification and governance of important sites for migratory species and support internationally coordinated conservation and management, with support from the CMS Scientific Council, where appropriate;*

Page 4, para 3:

- *Urges Non-Parties to collaborate closely with Parties in the management of transboundary management of populations of CMS-listed species, including by acceding, including by acceding to CMS and its associated instruments, to support the development and implementation of ecological networks globally;*

Page 4, para. 5

- Include reference to IMMA process.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP12

- Recommended for adoption