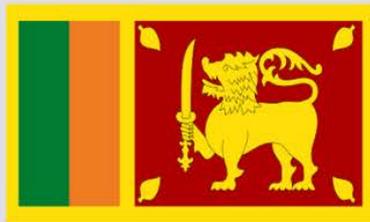




Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project



Report of the
Regional Policy Review Workshop
2-4 October 2012 • Penang Malaysia

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Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem

Pusat Pengajian Sains Kajahayat
School of Biological Sciences



**REPORT OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON
POLICY DIRECTIONS IN FISHERIES, COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT, AND
INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE BAY OF BENGAL LARGE MARINE
ECOSYSTEM (BOBLEME) COUNTRIES**

Penang, Malaysia, 2-4 October 2012

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1. Introduction

1. The “Regional Workshop on Policy Directions in Fisheries, Coastal and Marine Environment and ICM in the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Countries” was hosted by the Centre for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS) and School of Biological Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, in collaboration with the BOBLME Project. The workshop was held on 2-4 October 2012 in the School of Biological Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia. The workshop agenda is provided in **Appendix I**, and the list of documents and presentations is provided in **Appendix II**.
2. The workshop was attended by a total of 30 delegates from government agencies of fisheries and environment from the eight countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand) bordering the Bay of Bengal, joined by national and regional experts from policy institutions, universities and NGOs. The list of participants is provided in **Appendix III**.
3. The objectives of the workshop were to validate the contents and findings of the regional synthesis of policy instruments, processes and implementation, which the BOBLME Project had produced in 2011; to identify areas of policy needs and gaps and constraints in policy implementation; and to develop a work plan and recommendations for future action or work on harmonizing policies and strengthening policy making capacity in the Bay of Bengal region. The outputs of the workshop, which is a major activity under BOBLME Component 2.2 “Policy harmonization”, are expected to make a contribution to improved management of shared fisheries resources and coastal environments.

2. Inaugural session

4. Prof. Abu Hassan Ahmad, the Dean of School of Biological Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, welcomed the participants to the workshop. He mentioned that Malaysia has continuously supported regional action to strengthen cooperation for capacity building, sharing of data, information and expertise, fishing technology, responsible fisheries and sustainable aquaculture, and coastal and marine management. He encouraged the participants to play active roles in contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the workshop. His Welcoming Speech appears as **Appendix IV**.
5. Mr Ismail Ishak, BOBLME National Coordinator Malaysia, delivered his welcoming remarks, followed by Dr Rudolf Hermes, Chief Technical Advisor, BOBLME Regional Coordination Unit. Assoc. Prof. Dr Azhari Karim, Director, Centre for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS), made an opening statement on behalf of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) USM. The BOBLME process underlines the need to put the differing perceptions of maritime and continental development into the right context. The workshop is called upon to address the issues of governance and other institutional arrangements to support policy coherence and harmonisation. CenPRIS is ready to extend its expertise if required in these efforts. His Opening Remarks appear as **Appendix V**.
6. Prof. Hans-Dieter Evers, CenPRIS (USM), gave a presentation on CenPRIS Ocean Research Cluster, highlighting the CenPRIS Ocean Index, which will measure how far a country has utilized its “spatial ocean resources” and this index can be used as a policy-planning tool (**BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-01**).

3. Updates from countries and partner organisations

7. The Chief Technical Advisor of BOBLME, Dr Rudolf Hermes, gave a presentation on BOBLME Project Overview and Policy Sub-component. He briefly presented some facts on the BOBLME Project, the five important modules (fish and fisheries, ecosystem health, productivity, socio-economics, and governance) with indicators, agencies and partners involved, and the major outputs of BOBLME: Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Programme (SAP) as well as the expected outcomes of BOBLME Project in terms of capacity development, knowledge management, and improved governance. The presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-02**. He also recalled the workshop objectives and gave some explanation of the workshop mechanics, consisting of a combination of presentations and facilitated break-out sessions.
8. The delegates from the eight countries then presented the country reports during the session on "2011-2012: New and upcoming developments in national policy landscapes in environment, fisheries and ICM".

Bangladesh : Mr Arun Chandra Barman

He presented the status of coastal resources in Bangladesh, issues and problems of the BOB ecosystem, sustainable management and livelihood approach, management and development issues, changes to legal instruments, policies, strategies and plans related to fisheries, environment and coastal and marine resources. He has also pointed to the activities underway to improve regional, national and local fisheries management, conservation and habitat protection. He stressed that capacity building is much needed in the country. His presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-03**.

India : Dr Sanjay Pandey

He summarized his country report by highlighting the existing mechanisms of legislation directly relevant to marine fisheries, development of policy framework, Coastal Regulation Zone Notification 2011 and the 12th Five Year Plan. His presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-04**. Dr Hermes gave comments on the governance and institutions relating to a very large country like India: harmonizing between states within a country is also important, as well as the transboundary cooperation between Bangladesh and India, as well as Sri Lanka and India.

Indonesia : Ms Yvonne Indrajati

She presented the Marine Spatial Planning in Asia with special case in Indonesia. She emphasized the Act 27 on coastal and small island management; as well as the seven principles of marine spatial planning based on coastal disaster mitigation planning. She also highlighted best practice and lessons learned, such as the integration of MSP into local government development planning. Her presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-05**.

Malaysia : Mr Ab Rahim Gor Yaman

He presented Malaysia's new policy initiative on fisheries, environment and ICM (2011-2012), which includes fisheries policies. ICM Policy Processes can be found in Section C of the stated document, which includes the National Physical Policy and National Biodiversity Policy. He also mentioned that the National Policy on the Environment had no changes since 2002 but there is a possibility for it to be revised to include a marine component. He also mentioned the new Marine Protected Area (MPA) policy. A MPA Act and Strategic Plan of Action are also under development. His presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-06**.

Maldives : Ms Noora Jaleel

She summarized that Maldives is currently revising its strategic action plans and started development of fisheries master plan (assists by JICA). She mentioned briefly the shared fisheries management, reef regulation, development and implementation by year 2013, 26 MPAs and Fisheries Law; and risk management and risk mapping.

Myanmar : Mr U Myint Han

He highlighted the integrated coastal management in Myanmar with focus on mangrove conservation. He also stressed that there is a need for exchanges of experiences and views towards better management. His presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-07**.

Sri Lanka : Mr Ajith Silva

He presented the policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine environment and ICM in Sri Lanka. He also highlighted the Policy Directions given in Mahinda Chintana - Vision for the Future. Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) was mentioned to be playing an important role in environment management. The presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-08**.

Thailand : Dr Wantana Chenkitkosol

She presented the 11th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2012-2016) of Thailand, with special emphasis on the Environmental Quality Management Plan and Fisheries Development Policy of Thai Government 2012. Her presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-09**.

9. After completion of the country presentations, the 1st Technical Session continued with a presentation by Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava from BOBP-IGO, entitled "Policy Dimensions of Fisheries Work in South Asia". He highlighted the past and current policy dynamics, with policies early on largely guided by the needs of enhancing production and decreasing scope of further growth. He recommended focusing on regional and cooperative approaches to fisheries management. His presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-10**.
10. Ms Cheryl Rita Kaur from Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA) presented a talk entitled "MIMA's Contribution towards Policy Development in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore". MIMA's work covers coastal and marine environment, maritime law, maritime security and diplomacy, as well as maritime economics. As a maritime policy think-tank, MIMA has played a role in the development of national and international policies on the Straits of Malacca and Singapore. Her presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-11**.
11. Dr Magnus Torell, Senior Advisor of SEAFDEC, on behalf of Dr Chumnarn Pongsri, SEAFDEC Secretary General, gave a presentation on the role of SEAFDEC as a technical organization to support policy development in ASEAN countries. He highlighted the ASEAN/SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership to guide national and regional decisions, which involves fisheries and environment issues and challenges, as well as addressing the trans-boundary issues and opportunities. His presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-12**.
12. The 1st Technical Session ended with the presentation by Dr Doug Beare from WorldFish Centre. His presentation was entitled "Linking Research and Policy in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Recommendations from WorldFish Centre" (**BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-13**). His presentation referred to linking poverty to food security, aquaculture and fisheries, impacts from recent policy reform, right based fisheries, food security impact, aquaculture development pathways, policy recommendations, striving for policy coherence, avoiding

blueprints, investing in evidence based political economy and building on what already works.

4. Policy review - Needs, gaps and areas for harmonisation and development

13. This session kicked off with a presentation by Mr Tim Huntington from Poseidon Aquatic Resource Management Ltd. His presentation was entitled “Fisheries, marine environment and integrated coastal management policy processes, content and implementation in the BOBLME countries: Regional Synthesis”. He briefed on the purpose of the report and review and gave an overview of good policy and its importance. He summarized policy development processes in the eight countries and his findings on policy content and implementation. His presentation which is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-14**, ended with a number of conclusions (**Box 1**).
14. Mr Huntington described attributes of a good policy as strategic, outcome focussed, joined up, inclusive, flexible, innovative and robust. Five out of eight countries have specific fisheries policies. But stakeholder involvement in policy development and policy cycle is minimum. No BOBLME country has a specific marine environment policy, and no BOBLME country has a specific ICM policy except for Bangladesh, but efforts are made in other countries. But a real participatory process in coastal management policies is still lacking. Most countries are committed to substantial capture fisheries increase without really considering the stock status and situation. Fisheries management targets are in place in many countries, but there is a perceived need for regional guidelines to target setting. Ecosystem approach to fisheries management is yet to be incorporated to the policy and there are hardly any long-term fisheries management objectives. Some ‘on the ground’ co-management examples need more replication. There is greater need for catch certification. BOBLME countries need to make explicit policy statements that attempt to balance the opportunity for the foreign exchange gains from exports with the need to ensure the food security of the people. The weak area seems to be the implementation of fisheries management measures. Under environment policies, bycatch reduction needs more consideration. For protection of endangered threatened and protected (ETP) species there is a need for a regional guideline. There is also a need for a more strategic approach in MPA development. Regarding the EIA process, though well developed, implementation is still weak.



Box 1: Conclusions from Tim Huntington's presentation

1. **The use of formal policies to inform and serve as the basis for strategies and implementation action plans for fisheries management has been reasonably successful in the countries round the Bay of Bengal**
2. **Most fisheries policies include elements of FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing (CCRF), this often conflicts with policy targets that are based on increased production.** There is scope to increase the use of outcome-based fisheries management targets that are more in line with the CCRF.
3. There are opportunities for greater regional cooperation in adopting the EAF and reflecting this in policy updates and implementation processes as they occur.
4. **With the advent of climate change-induced alterations in sea level and trophic structure alterations and the inherent vulnerability of coastal communities, policy (across fisheries, marine environment and ICM) needs to be responsive to these changing needs.**
5. **Some key elements of marine environmental policy seem to be under-represented in the BOBLME countries.** These include the protection of endangered and threatened freshwater, estuarine and marine species that are either not commercially important or are outside the 'iconic' species focus. In addition the policy commitment to improving coastal water quality appears weak in some countries given the economic, social and health consequences involved.
6. **There is an increasing use of MPAs in marine conservation.** However, there is an opportunity to develop a more strategic approach to MPA designation and management at both national and regional levels in order to provide a coherent network of MPAs that act in combination rather than as isolated conservation areas.
7. **Some key ICM sectoral interests e.g. coastal defences, tourism and urban development show surprisingly low levels of inclusion in BOBLME country ICM policies and plans.** This suggests there is not full multi-sectoral engagement in the process, with a greater focus on 'soft' coastal resource issues rather than 'hard' planning issues.
8. **A number of countries are heavily reliant upon the EIA process to ensure that development is sustainable.** However in most cases this does not capture the cumulative impacts that occur when sectoral interests are concentrated in a limited area (e.g. aquaculture in a bay). Well structured ICM should provide the communication and information pathways to ensure that many of these impacts can be eliminated in through robust, proactive environmental planning in the coastal zone.

15. The session continued with all the country delegates breaking into groups according to country to check on the draft review report. Each group was required to verify, validate and provide input to update and amend the document. This session was facilitated by Mr Huntington and Dr Hermes. A summary of the output of the verification and validation, and details for the amendments of the Draft Review Report were presented by country representatives in plenary. Written submissions were made to Mr Huntington to enable him to revise and update the review report. This report is available on the BOBLME website at the following link:

<http://www.boblme.org/documentRepository/BOBLME-2012-Governance-03.pdf>

16. Dr Rudolf Hermes gave a short presentation entitled “Introduction to Global and International Policy Instruments: Conventions and Agreements” (**BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-15**). He provided a list of major environmental treaties. Following to that, Dr Hermes opened the floor to gather suggestions and inputs for environmental agreements list on a regional basis. The delegates had suggested:
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation - Man and the Biosphere (UNESCO-MAB)
 - United Nations Fisheries Agreement (UNFA) 1982
 - Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral, Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)
 - South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
 - Indian Ocean Marine Affairs Co-operation (IOMAC)
 - South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
 - Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)
 - Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
 - Sectoral Working Groups on Coasts and Marine Environment and Fisheries,
 - Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) and
 - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
17. Mr C.M. Muralidharan from BOBLME RCU, presented a talk entitled “Integrated Fisheries Policy Analysis Toolbox”. This tool set was developed by the FAO-World Bank Project “Fisheries Management for Sustainable Livelihoods” (FIMSUL) in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, India, and comprises of 10 sets of policy tools: Sector profile, Sector Context, Key Issues, Policy Profile, Policy Implementation, Policy Assessment, Policy Evaluation, Policy Coherence, Future Policy Options and Strategies for Policy Reform. The details of this toolbox are provided in workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-16**. The session on the Fisheries Policy tool box was followed by a brief discussion session. On a query on the duration of the project, it was confirmed as 22 months. On the involvement of the private sector in the project, it was explained that the private sector other than the traditional fishers who were involved were the trawler owners, fish merchants, vendors, local processors, ice suppliers and transporters. The larger deepsea vessel groups and big exporters could not be involved. It was also clarified that the tool box with some modifications can be applied to other sectors as well, and the tools could be selectively used as per the need.
18. The technical sessions continued with group discussions. In the break up session, the participants were divided into a South Asian and South East Asian group. Both groups discussed the policy needs and the gaps (gaps resulting from lack of policy) and constraints in implementing existing policies.
19. The South Asia group flagged the lack of policies that ensure linkages between sectors and between research and policy. The existing policies do not give sufficient focus on food security, livelihoods and poverty issues. Lack of long term vision, no clear policy on fleet strength and lack of political commitment were also highlighted. On constraints for policy implementation, the limitation of human resources and budget and lack of political will were mentioned. Other constraints were the absence of well defined master plans, time lines and monitoring mechanisms, lack of strong supportive legislative framework and poor understanding of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM).

20. The Southeast Asian Group of countries claimed that most of them have long term plans. But the constraints in most countries were again the poor coordination between sectors and inefficient use of scientific information and data in policy making. The Fisheries Policies are to a greater extent production oriented with less focus on management. Another constraint was that in many cases the scientific data are used only if they are aligned to the political agenda and ignored if not. Often fisheries is considered as a minor area in the overall policy scenario. On constraints on implementing policies, budget and human resources were also mentioned. The policies are not communicated well in many cases. The detailed outputs from the respective groups are given in workshop documents **BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-01** and **BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-02**.
21. The same two groups continued to work on the question "Identification of areas for policy harmonisation". It covered the areas of creating common policies wherever feasible and necessary and also joint efforts to implement existing policies.
22. The South Asia group first focussed on the need of harmonisation within the states/provinces within the countries of India and Sri Lanka and then on harmonisation between countries. In India there is a need of long term planning and harmonisation between states on important fisheries management measures like seasonal closures, gear and fleet regulations, fishing zones and MCS. The fleet strength has to be adjusted to the stock status. Sustainable production and livelihoods need sufficient focus. In Sri Lanka the need is for harmonisation of policies between the centre and provinces. In both countries there is need of harmonisation of different sectoral policies and common periodical reviews.
23. Harmonisation of policies among countries recognised also the areas of optimisation of fleet strength to the stocks status, and addressing environmental issues including pollution issues on fisheries policies, and adapting fisheries sector to climate change. Joint management of critical transboundary habitats like Sunderbans, Gulf of Mannar and Andaman Sea become important. More focus needs to be given to coordination, information sharing and networking. The need of respecting and reactivating the existing inter-country MoUs is important now. The SAARC environmental and fisheries working group may have to be revived. The process for cooperative management of shared stocks/species (e.g. sharks and hilsa) has to be continued.
24. The Southeast Asia group emphasised on the need of mechanisms for better sharing of research and development results. An outcome based target setting policy considering the economic and human aspects of the resource is important. Spatial planning for marine environment across sectors is the need of the hour. Effective involvement of stakeholders in the policy process has to be ensured. The scientific information or data need to be translated effectively to the policy makers and politicians. The scientific human resource in the marine science sector needs to be strengthened.
25. The Southeast Asia group proposed more effective regional meetings under ASEAN, SEAFDEC, IOC/WESTPAC and APFIC. The meeting decisions are to be more binding and better compliance needs to be ensured. Setting up focal points or areas of excellence as well as regional think tanks would be helpful. More bilateral agreements may have to be developed. Coherence of the national policies with the regional policies is important. Regional status reports have to be produced periodically and regional databases need to be set up. Websites to share policy documents would also be helpful. The details of the outputs from the two groups are given in workshop documents **BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-03** and **BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-04**.

26. The workshop continued with discussion on Work Plan Drafting. This discussion was chaired by Dr Rudolf Hermes. Workshop participants were requested to propose initiatives or activities in response to the need for strengthening of policy making capacity. The resultant recommendations and proposed actions were structured into three major cross-cutting areas of capacity development, knowledge management and institution building as follows:

Capacity Development	Knowledge Management	Institutions
<p>On global policies and treaties for environment and fisheries agency staff including financial, planning and other relevant personnel (e.g. local government staff)</p> <p>Workshops on transboundary maritime governance and policy implementations</p> <p>Develop capacity in EAFM</p> <p>On national fisheries and environmental legislations and existing bilateral arrangements</p> <p>Develop and or promote the use of marine spatial planning</p> <p>On the use of indicators for policies effectiveness and governance</p>	<p>Dissemination of FAO guidelines on human capacity development in fisheries and respective relevant guidelines from environmental conventions and treaties</p> <p>Dissemination in local or national languages is encouraged when and where necessary</p> <p>Identifying and populating existing databases for policy instruments (web link to existing database or meta database)</p>	<p>Indications of national institutions of relevance to cooperation on integration of fisheries and habitat management, fishing capacity and MCS include fisheries agencies, environmental agencies, maritime transport (registration), navy, customs and others responsible for ministry and control</p> <p>Revive SAARC working group on fisheries</p> <p>Identify existing transboundary arrangements and institutions and enable them to address fisheries and environmental concerns to the extent possible</p> <p>Institution mechanism for increasing knowledge sharing and cooperation between different sectoral interest in coastal development</p> <p>Regional working groups on policy topics</p>



27. Responding to the identified need for capacity development, USM CenPRIS declared its readiness, also in cooperation with the Maritime Institute of Malaysia, to assist BOBLME within its core areas of expertise, governance, policy research and training. A statement to this effect is included in workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-05**.

5. LME governance and institutional arrangements for SAP implementation

28. The session started with a presentation by Mr Raschad Al-Khafaji from FAO entitled "Governance Indicators for LMEs - Methodology for the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme. Touching upon the modular approach, the TDA and SAP process, he mentioned that in the GEF supported LMEs, the countries are moving towards joint governance arrangements to address priority transboundary issues. The Strategic Action Programme will be guiding the implementation in the second phase. The application of SMART indicators in this context also was discussed. The presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-17**.
29. Mr Raschad Al-Khafaji gave another presentation entitled "Institutional arrangements for BOBLME SAP implementation: mapping and preliminary analysis - towards a future regional coordination mechanism". The presentation covered Governance of Transboundary Natural Resources, the Large Marine Ecosystems approach, the BOBLME project, existing entities in the region and options for BOBLME Phase II. BOBLME is among the 17 LMEs from 64 LMEs world wide that are taken up for ecosystem-based management. After describing the outcome of the TDA in BOBLME and the emerging Strategic Action Programme (SAP), the future institutional options were discussed. There are possibilities of creating a new institution such as the Commissions developed in some other LMEs or integrating into existing Institutions and expanding the mandates as needed. The presentation is workshop document **BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-18**.
30. The following discussion addressed first the SAP development timeline. It was clarified that the SAP is currently being drafted, and that a first full draft including national action programmes will be tabled at the BOBLME Project Steering Committee meeting in March 2013. It is expected that it will take a full year, up to the end of the current project in March 2014, to finalize the draft SAP, to negotiate it, and to generate political support for its endorsement and adoption. SAP implementation under a second phase project will then involve various regional and sub-regional arrangements, with academic and policy institutions providing guidance and as implementation partners.
31. Dr Rudolf Hermes chaired the final session and invited comments and suggestions on a potential institutional arrangement for the BOBLME SAP Implementation Phase (Phase II) the workshop participants. Some participants saw a potential role for the respective working groups established by ASEAN (coasts and marine environment and fisheries), while there is no equivalent effective body under SAARC. Any future arrangement should be at a sufficiently high level and should consist of a combination of a scientific and political body. Lessons should still be learned from the final phase of the Bay of Bengal Programme, and the process or mechanism used to establish the BOBP - Intergovernmental Organisation.

32. As the closure of the workshop, all participants agreed to adopt the following conclusions:

- The Penang Policy Workshop participants welcome the presentation and discussion of the draft policy review report. As updated and validated through the workshop process, it is now ready to be finalized and is expected to become an informative and reliable resource on policy work in the BOBLME countries.
- The participants further recommend that BOBLME engages in collaborative work with policy resource institutions such as CenPRIS, USM, and MIMA, as well as other institutions with similar interests to promote information exchange on policies and to develop capacity.
- The action items on policy strengthening identified in the Penang Policy Workshop shall be developed into a work plan for implementation by BOBLME and its partners, to the extent possible, during the current BOBLME Project phase and shall be given due consideration in the implementation of the BOBLME SAP phase.
- The workshop participants, after considering options for institutional arrangements for the implementation of the SAP implementation phase of BOBLME, recommend that the process to identify a sustainable arrangement or mechanism for implementation of the BOBLME SAP phase should be given due attention by BOBLME.

33. Dr Rudolf Hermes expressed his appreciation to the various institutions, agencies and people involved in their various capacities in realizing this workshop. He further stated his gratitude to the participants for a productive and fruitful workshop. Finally, he wished everyone a safe journey home.

Report prepared by Assoc. Prof. Dr Aileen Tan Shau-Hwai, Secretariat Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, MALAYSIA assisted by her team and with inputs from Dr Rudolf Hermes, Mr C.M.Muralidharan of BOBLME and Mr Raschad Al-Khafaji of FAO. Final Compilation and formatting by Mr Nishan Sugathadasa, BOBLME

Appendix I Agenda



Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem

Pusat Pengajian Sains Kajihayat
School of Biological Sciences



Regional Workshop

Policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine environment and ICM
in the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) countries

October 2 - 4, 2012, Penang, Malaysia

Day 1	OCTOBER 2, 2012
08.30-09.00	Registration
09.00	Inaugural Session
09.00-09.10	Welcoming remarks by Professor Abu Hassan Ahmad, Dean, School of Biological Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia
09.10-09.20	Welcoming remarks by Encik Ismail Ishak, BOBLME National Coordinator Malaysia, Fisheries Research Institute, Department of Fisheries
09.20-09.30	Welcoming remarks by Dr Rudolf Hermes, BOBLME Chief Technical Advisor, Regional Coordination Unit
09.30-09.40	Opening remarks by Assoc. Prof. Dr Azhari Karim, Director, Centre for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS), Universiti Sains Malaysia
09.40-09.50	CenPRIS Ocean Research Cluster, Prof. Hans-Dieter Evers, CenPRIS
09.50-10.00	Workshop mechanics, self introductions
10.00-10.30	Group photo, tea/coffee break - Press Conference
10.30	1st Technical Session - Policy Context
10.30-10.40	BOBLME Project overview and policy sub-component, CTA BOBLME - Dr Rudolf Hermes
10.40-12.10	2011-2012: New and upcoming developments in national policy landscapes in environment, fisheries and ICM (8 countries)
12.10-12.20	Policy dimensions of fisheries work in South Asia, BOBP-IGO - Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava

12.20-12.40	Policy work of MIMA and transboundary policy issues in Malacca Strait, MIMA - Ms Cheryl Rita Kaur
12.40-12.50	Policy dimensions of fisheries work in ASEAN countries, SEAFDEC by Secretary General Dr Chumnarn Pongsri (or Senior Advisor Dr Magnus Torell)
12.50-13.00	Linking research and policy in fisheries and aquaculture, WorldFish Center - Dr Doug Beare
13.00-14.00	Lunch break
14.00	2nd Technical Session - Policy Review
14.00-14.30	Policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine environment and Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) in the BOBLME countries (Draft Review Report) - Tim Huntington, Poseidon
14.30	Facilitated workshop session: verification and validation, amendments
15.45-16.30	Tea / coffee break
	Continued
16.30-17.00	Plenary: Primary feedback on validation process
17.00-17.30	Plenary: Relevant regional and sub-regional policies
19.00	Welcoming reception at Vistana Hotel. Hosted by BOBLME
Day 2	OCTOBER 3, 2012
09.00-09.10	Review of Day 1
09.10-09.30	Policy Toolbox Development - Mr C.M. Muralidharan
09.30-10.30	Facilitated workshop session: Policy needs and gaps - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaps resulting from the absence of policies • Constraints to the implementation of existing policies
10.30-10.45	Tea / coffee break
10.45-12.00	Continued
12.00-12.30	Plenary Report
12.30	Lunch break
14.00	Facilitated workshop session: Identification of areas for policy harmonization -

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating common policies where feasible and necessary • Joint efforts to implement existing policies
15.45-16.00	Tea / coffee break
16.00-17.00	Plenary: Determine priority areas for policy strengthening and harmonization - development of a work plan (national, regional; BOBLME and SAP)
17.00-17.30	Plenary: Work plan drafting
19.00	Dinner at Park Royal Hotel. Hosted by USM
Day 3	OCTOBER 4, 2012
09.00-09.15	Review of Day 2
09.15	3rd Technical Session - From policy to governance - institutional arrangements
09.15-09.30	Governance indicators for LMEs - Methodology for the GEF Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme (Raschad Al-Khafaji, FAO)
09.30	Institutional arrangements for BOBLME SAP implementation: mapping and preliminary analysis - "towards a future regional coordination mechanism" (Raschad al Khafaji, FAO)
	Plenary: Potential collaboration of regional entities in BOBLME SAP implementation
10.00-10.15	Tea / coffee break
10.15-11.00	Continued
11.00-11.30	Conclusion and recommendations. Closure of the workshop
11.30	Lunch

Appendix II List of documents

Document name	Title
BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-01	Group work - Policy gaps and constraints - South Asia
BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-02	Group work - Policy gaps and constraints - Southeast Asia
BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-03	Group work - Areas of policy harmonisation - South Asia
BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-04	Group work - Areas of policy harmonisation - Southeast Asia
BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-05	USM CenPRIS statement
BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-06	List of local organising committee members
BOBLME-2012-Policy_doc-07	Press coverage

BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-01	Prof. Hans Dieter Evers on CenPRIS research
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-02	Dr Rudolf Hermes on BOBLME
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-03	Bangladesh country presentation
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-04	India country presentation
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-05	Indonesia country presentation
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-06	Malaysia country presentation
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-07	Myanmar country presentation
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-08	Sri Lanka country presentation
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-09	Thailand country presentation
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-10	Policy dimensions fisheries, South Asia - Dr Y. S. Yadava (BOBP-IGO)
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-11	MIMA's contribution towards policy development in the Straits - Ms Cheryl Rita Kaur
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-12	Role of SEAFDEC - Dr Chumnarn Pongsri
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-13	Linking research and policy: WFC perspective - Dr Doug Beare
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-14	BOBLME Policy Review Report - Mr Tim Huntington
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-15	International agreements - Dr Rudolf Hermes
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-16	FIMSUL Policy Analysis Tool Box - Mr C. M. Muralidharan
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-17	Governance indicators - Mr Raschad Al Khafaji
BOBLME-2012-Policy_ppt-18	BOBLME future coordination mechanisms - Mr Raschad Al Khafaji

Appendix III List of participants



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Appendix IV Welcoming remarks by the Dean, School of Biological Sciences, USM

Regional Workshop: Policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine environment and ICM in the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) countries

OCTOBER 2 - 4, 2012, PENANG, MALAYSIA

WELCOMING REMARKS

by

PROF. ABU HASSAN AHMAD

Dean School of Biological Sciences

Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, MALAYSIA

Distinguished Guests, Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum and a very good morning,

It's a great pleasure to be given the opportunity to host the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project Regional Workshop today with the theme "Policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine environment and ICM in the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) countries". On behalf of the School of Biological Sciences, as well as the whole community of Universiti Sains Malaysia, I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to all the participants in the meeting. We feel proud to host the workshop on campus. Universiti Sains Malaysia has always regarded the educational collaboration with overseas partners as one of our most precious assets.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all people and sponsoring institutions, Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), who have made significant contributions to make this workshop possible.

From October 2-4, 2012, more than 30 delegates from 8 countries bordering the Bay of Bengal will meet in Penang, to discuss policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine environment, in a workshop hosted by the Center of Policy Research and International Studies and School of Biological Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia and organized jointly with the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project. Country delegates from their respective government agencies will be guided by resource persons from the national and regional sectoral and policy institutions, as well as the academe and NGOs.

Distinguished Guests, Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen

As a member of BOBLME, Malaysia continuously supports regional action to strengthen cooperation for capacity building, sharing of data information and expertise, fishing technology, responsible fisheries and sustainable aquaculture, and of course coastal and marine management, respectively. One of the Project's objectives is to promote the development and implementation of demonstrative regional and sub-regional collaborative approaches to common and/or shared issues, which affect the health and status of BOBLME. The workshop will make a key contribution to the achievement of the objective of BOBLME's Sub-component 2.2, which is Improved Policy Harmonization by reviewing the report - "Policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine

environment and ICM in the BOBLME countries” - identifying gaps and conflicts in policies and developing a work plan and recommendations for future work on harmonizing policies.

Finally I would like to again thank FAO, BOBLME and En. Ismail Ishak, BOBLME National Coordinator for giving us the opportunity to host this workshop with a notable support. I firmly believe that through the joint efforts of all parties involved here today, the BOBLME Regional Workshop will definitely achieve significant results and in turn contribute greatly to the whole community in our region. I wish a great success on the BOBLME Regional Workshop, and hope all of you have a good time in Penang. Thank you!

Appendix V Opening remarks by Assoc. Prof. Azhari Karim

**Regional Workshop:
Policy directions in fisheries, coastal and marine environment and ICM
in the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) countries
OCTOBER 2 - 4, 2012, PENANG, MALAYSIA**

**OPENING REMARKS
by
ASSOC. PROF. AZHARI KARIM**

**Director, Centre for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS)
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, MALAYSIA**

The BOBLME Process underlines the need to put the differing perceptions of maritime and continental development into the right context. While countries tended to opt for land-based policies in the past the existing problems resulting from environmental degradation and climate change faced by the fishing industry has brought into focus the maritime aspects.

The task before BOBLME is to integrate the two approaches and recommend appropriate policies and actions to overcome the problems affecting the member countries related to the ocean, environment and fishing industry.

One identifiable constraint is the inability of countries to overcome problems due to a lack of policy coherence and harmonization. The Workshop is called upon to address the issues of governance and other institutional arrangements.

Universiti Sains Malaysia through its Centre for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS) and the Centre for Biological Sciences will be happy to offer its expertise and assistance to enable BOBLME to implement a Plan of Action to address these problems through programmes and training sessions concerning transboundary knowledge management and sharing, development of a Maritime Potential Index based on the CenPRIS Ocean Index (COI) for ASEAN countries and other think-tank activities to be defined together with BOBLME and the Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA).



Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand are working together through the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project and to lay the foundations for a coordinated programme of action designed to improve the lives of the coastal populations through improved regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is the implementing agency for the BOBLME Project.

The Project is funded principally by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Norway, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the FAO, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the USA.

For more information, please visit www.boblme.org



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Norad

