



**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)**

**Eleventh Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-
Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-XI)**

Qingdao, China, 21-23 April 2017

Item 4.2 of the Provisional Agenda

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG, PARTICULARLY SDG 14, AT NATIONAL LEVEL,
AND CONTRIBUTION OF IOC AND WESTPAC**

1. Since the adoption of the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in 2015, a number of Member States have been demonstrating strong political will to fulfil their commitments, by taking immediate actions to initiate the Agenda 2030 implementation, and in many cases actively implementing and monitoring the Agenda 2030 implementation at national level.
2. In order to identify clearly the role of WESTPAC in assisting countries in the region in the implementation of SDG 14. A survey was conducted in early 2017 with WESTPAC countries with feedbacks received from Bangladesh, China, Japan, Indonesia, Korea, Russia Federation, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.
3. The results from the survey indicated that most of WESTPAC countries have been taking substantive steps towards the attainment of SDG14, which embrace:
 - a) convening multi-sectoral consultations on SDG implementation,
 - b) launching SDG related advocacy and public relation to ensure integrated and participatory processes,
 - c) establishing inter-ministerial SDG coordination while specifying responsibilities to relevant sectors, and
 - d) aligning national development plan with SDGs.
4. In several countries with advance SDG implementation, national plans for SDGs, including SDG 14, are already in place, SDG indicators are identified, and monitoring boards for the SDG implementation are established.
5. In particular, Japan and China already formulated their SDG National Implementation plan while Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Republic of Korea are in the process of drafting or getting the draft national SDG implementation plans approved. Other countries such as Thailand, Russian Federation and Bangladesh have incorporated the SDG in their national strategic framework or national economic and social development plans.

Roles of WESTPAC in facilitating and assisting its Member States in ocean related SDGs implementation

6. With a recognition of WESTPAC critical roles and extensive experience in ocean science development and research coordination in the Western Pacific to serve the country's and regional need, the Member States request WESTPAC to continue its support via strengthening international collaboration in the following areas for SDG 14 accomplishment;
- a) Regional collaborative research to understand the marine related challenges, especially regarding marine pollution and ocean acidification, and bridge the knowledge gaps necessary for addressing the Goal 14's targets and improving ocean health.
 - b) Scientific knowledge dissemination to facilitate regional information sharing platform and science-policy interface in order to effectively apply the existing knowledge to achieve ocean related SDGs and reverse any negative impact of the ocean. This also include sharing research findings and applications on ocean observation and forecasting systems among the Member States.
 - c) Marine technology transfer and capacity development to empower the individuals, institutes, countries and the region in tackling the SDG 14 and maintaining sustainability of the ocean via the existing WESTPAC capacity development Mechanisms (RTRCs, trainings via research, workshops and summer schools). In addition, WESTPAC shall provide technical advice or expert assistants to address specific need of its Member States.
 - d) Ocean and SDG 14 advocacy to raise awareness of decision makers and general public in order to enhance science-based policy and integrated participatory approaches.
 - e) Creating regional platform for SDG implementation progress update for countries to share lesson learned, promising innovation and best practices; address transboundary dimensions of Goal 14; encourage the Member States to participate and contribute to regional aspect of SDG 14; and promote integrated ocean governance.

ANNEX: INPUTS FROM THE MEMBER STATES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG, PARTICULARLY SDG 14, AT NATIONAL LEVEL, AND CONTRIBUTION OF IOC AND WESTPAC

#	Country	National Competent Agency_Whole SDGs	National Lead Agency_SDG 14	National SDG Implementation Strategies/Plans	Considerations/ Mechanisms on SDG Implementation	SDG14 Implementation Plan	Suggested WESTPAC Roles
1	Bangladesh	Prime Minister's Office (Lead), Ministry of Planning (Coordination/Compilation/Reporting)	Several relevant government agencies	No, but integrated in National Plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Involving high level government officers in SDG assessments to incorporate SDG in national plans. 2. Engaging several ministers in SDG planning and implementation 	In progress of incorporating SDG 14 in Blue Economy paradigm pf the 7th- five year plan.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WESTPAC researches scoping on blue economy 2. Supporting capacity development for TOT and building local experts
2	China	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	State Oceanic Administration	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National coordinating mechanism 2. National SDG implementation plan 	Incorporated in the National SDG implementation plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encouraging more engagement of IOC and relevant framework to the Agenda 2030; 2. Guiding WESTPAC's projects/working groups to focus on and strengthen their links with the relevant priorities of UN 2030 Agenda; 3. Creating a platform for MS to exchange UN 2030 Agenda implementation progress 4. Encouraging the member states to engage and contribute to regional aspects of UN 2030 Agenda

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3	Japan	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters established by the Cabinet	Several relevant government agencies	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopting universality, inclusiveness, participatory approach, integrated approach, and transparency and accountability approaches for SDG implementation. 2. SDG promotion headquarter to coordinate national implementation 3. Awareness raising of the Agenda 2030 and the national implementation plan. 	No	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinating international cooperation on ocean researches relevant to ocean-related SDGs. 2. Providing scientific and technical inputs to policy makers in implementation of SDG 14. 3. Assisting MS on capacity development and marine technology transfer 4. Promoting importance of Ocean science in SDG 14 implementation to policy makers and general public. 5. Providing relevant information for implementation measures and monitoring via regional partnership. 6. Enhancing international cooperation for effectively using STI to solve emerging issues
4	Indonesia	National Development Planning Agency	In process of appointment	Under preparation	SDG will be mainstreaming in ministerial program and voluntary commitments from other organization and industries.	Under development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting joint corporation program, provide experts for alternative livelihood of coastal communities, scientific based on adaptation of climate change, marine resource related study to assist decision making.
5	Korea	Ministry of Environment	Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries	Under preparation	N/A	No	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. providing information on the most urgently desired technologies to protect marine environment which

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							shall be transferred to LDCs in WESTPAC.
6	Russian Federation	Government of Russian Federation	Several relevant government agencies	Integrated in National Plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated policy analysis 2. Coordinated institutional mechanisms 3. Establishing monitoring and evaluation 4. Developing indicators for SDG 5. Engaging in international information exchange 	No	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promoting coherent actions of the countries in solving major environmental problems. 2. Assisting MS in obtaining reliable scientific information for solving complex problems related to oceans and coastal zones in order to ensure environmental safety in the world, conservation of marine ecosystems and resources of the world ocean. 3. Ensuring respect the law of the sea, in particular the Convention on the law of the sea and related instruments and in a timely manner inform about its violations. 4. Providing financial support for successful development of international projects.
7	Sri Lanka	The National Aquatic Resources research and Development Agency	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development	Under development	Participatory by several organizations	Under development	Supporting regional cooperation on coastal habitat monitoring, coral reefs status and ocean observation and forecasting system.

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8	Thailand	SDG Committee Chair by the Prime Minister	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Integrated in National Plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inter-ministerial mechanism 2. Assigning particular ministries to responsible for specific SDGs 3. Incorporating SDG in 20-year national strategic framework and national economic and social development plan 	Yes, for some specific targets	Supporting technology transfer and capacity building.
9	Vietnam	Ministry of Planning and Investment	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Draft Plan is in approval progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drafting Action Plan with specific tasks in 2 implementation phases and measures to facilitate the implementation 2. Appointing advisory group to Government and Prime Minister to support the implementing the plan 3. Assigning particular ministries to responsible for specific SDGs 	Yes (incorporated in the draft National SDG implementation plan)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing information and building capacity for members in early warning and reduction of ocean hazards 2. Contributing to build the confidence among states through organizing joint activities in the seas and ocean