

**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Third Steering Committee Meeting
North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network

23 April 2021
Virtual meeting

Minutes of the meeting

1. The third Steering Committee (SC) Meeting of the North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN) was held virtually on 23 April 2021.
2. The Meeting was attended by SC members from China, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, while the NEAMPAN secretariat had a prior consultation with the SC member of Japan who was absent due to an unforeseeable circumstance. The SC member of Japan shared his feedback on the meeting agenda, which was fully reported during the SC meeting.
3. The secretariat shared *updates on the NEAMPAN activities* since the informal SC meeting held in June 2020. Thanking the support of the SC members, the secretariat shared the progress on the publication under the project on “Strengthening the subregional cooperation through knowledge sharing on sustainable management of marine protected areas”. English version of the report will be available in May 2021, and translation of the report (Chinese, Japanese, Korea and Russian) will be completed in June 2021.
4. The secretariat also informed the SC members of the NEAMPAN brochure, which is now available on the NEASPEC website*. The secretariat plans to distribute a limited number of copies to the SC members and MPA management office.

* <http://www.neaspec.org/>

5. While the plan to organize a NEAMPAN workshop has been postponed several times over the years due to various constraints, including the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NEAMPAN secretariat presented a plan to organize a *virtual NEAMPAN workshop in 2021*. The Steering Committee members generally supported the proposal to hold it in July 2021 and agreed that the language support would be effective in increasing the interest and outreaching local participants. The Meeting also noted that PEMSEA is also planning to organize an international workshop (virtual) on MPA in July 2021.
6. The secretariat proposed three workshop topics: (1) Experience and lessons learned in tourism management (including eco-tourisms) in MPAs; (2) Assessing and managing human impact on MPAs; and (3) Engaging stakeholders in MPA management. The SC members generally agreed that the proposed topics are relevant and of interest and shared views as follows:
 - a. All the topics are interrelated and can be framed as “sustainable resource use”, including tourism and fisheries.;
 - b. MPA’s contribution to climate change (mitigation) can also be a possible topic. A recent study of blue carbon in tidal flats by the Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM), for example, can be shared at the workshop.;
 - c. Challenges in the marine area and terrestrial areas should be considered as an integrated issue (such as poaching).
7. For the framework of the workshop, the NEAMPAN secretariat will draft the plan and share it with the SC members for feedback.
8. The Meeting also discussed *the procedures for nomination of new MPAs to NEAMPAN*, which was raised at the 24th Senior Officials Meeting of NEASPEC (SOM-24) in 2020. The SC member pointed out that, before having the procedural discussion, sharing a clearer picture of NEAMPAN’s vision and activities, as well as the benefits of joining the NEAMPAN, would be helpful to raise awareness and attract more MPAs to the Network.
9. The Secretariat responded that it would draft nomination procedures and upload it on the NEASPEC website. As NEAMPAN has not had many activities, the Meeting agreed that the current focus is on increasing its activities.

ANNEX

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHINA	Mr. Zhang Zhaohui Professor, Marine Ecological and Environmental Research Center First Institute of Oceanography Email: zhang@fio.org.cn
JAPAN	(Mr. Yohei Mori) [†] Examiner, Biodiversity Policy Division Ministry of the Environment Email: YOHEI_MORI@env.go.jp
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Ms. Gu-Seong Lee Senior Manager, Marine Protected Area Management Team Marine Protected Area Center Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation Email: gslee@koem.or.kr
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NEAMPAN Secretariat (ESCAP)

East and North-East Asia Office/ NEASPEC Secretariat	Mr. Sangmin Nam Deputy Head Email: nams@un.org
	Ms. Nobuko Kajiura Sustainable Development Officer Email: kajiura.unescap@un.org
	Ms. Mi-Jin Lee Research Assistant Email: lee62@un.org

[†] **Note:** Mr. Yohei Mori was absent due to an unforeseeable circumstance. The NEMPAN secretariat had a brief consultation with him prior to the meeting and shared his feedback with the meeting.