

**Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security
(CTI-CFF) Local Government Network**

The Manila Declaration

Aware that a Mayors Round Table was convened in May 2011 in Wakatobi, Indonesia, and such round table produced a Joint Communiqué that expressed The vision: "By 2016, we see ourselves as resourced, innovative, informed, and effective local governments collaborating, sharing information, experience and expertise, and advocating policies to achieve the goals of the Coral Triangle initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security."

Cognizant that the participants in the Mayors Round Table further agreed to a two-year action agenda including, among other things: to meet regularly with the National Coordinating Committee (NCC), to promote awareness among local governments and other local stakeholders about the CTI-CFF, to identifying a CTI-CFF local government focal point in each country to liaise with and advocate representation on the NCC, to explore opportunities for regional dialogue on best practices and exchanges on local environmental governance, sustainable coastal management and community resiliency; and to develop these practices into learning destinations in each country;

Learning that 18 months after the adoption of the Joint Communiqué many of the planned courses of action were fulfilled in some countries such as the official participation of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines to the NCC, the conduct of Premiers' Conference in Solomon Islands, and establishment of local government alliances in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands;

Agreeing that the Mayors Round Table should now be referred to as the CTI-CFF Local Government Network in recognition of various levels of local government in the Coral Triangle region which are interested in participating in peer learning, dialogues and alliance-building,

Believing that there is a need to update, refine and amend some portions of the Joint Communiqué signed in Wakatobi, Indonesia in appreciation of the emerging trends and developments in the Coral Triangle region.

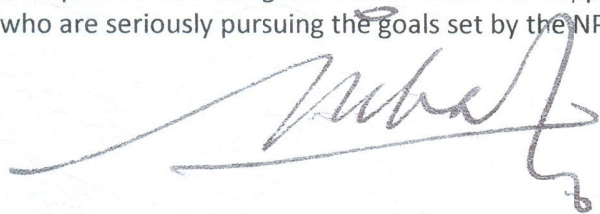
Now, therefore, we local government leaders of the Coral Triangle region commit ourselves to:

Enjoin our colleagues to demonstrate their commitment to protect and sustain the productivity of the coastal and marine environment through strong political will and financial support;

Encourage local governments to undertake inter-local and multi-level dialogues and exchanges within and outside of the country;

Promote the CTI-CFF National Plan of Action (NPOA) and goals set by our respective countries to other local government leaders within our country;

Request our respective national government leaders to support and complement the efforts of local governments who are seriously pursuing the goals set by the NPOA of each country;



Sumi Jacinto

JOHN MICHAEL PUNY



Serve as role models by complying with the commitments contained herein;

Furthermore, we call on our respective NCC to:

Conduct intensive information, education and communication campaigns about the CTI-CFF NPOA and all other commitments and activities relative to the CTI-CFF;

Foster inter-local cooperation in their respective countries;

Consider inviting local government leaders or local government associations to be part officially of the NCC;

Mobilize resources and channel funds directly to the local governments to contribute to the achievement of the goals of NPOA and monitor their field implementation;

Build the technical capacities of local governments in undertaking integrated coastal resource management, climate change, marine protected area management and ecosystem management;

Provide guidance and technical inputs on how to access or develop alternative sources of income for coastal communities and enforce coastal and fishery laws;

Finally, we call on the Interim CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat to:

Engage local governments and other stakeholders in drafting policies, plans and programs that are regional in scope;

Develop a regional award and recognition system to reward best practices in coastal management and popularize such practices to the widest audience as possible;

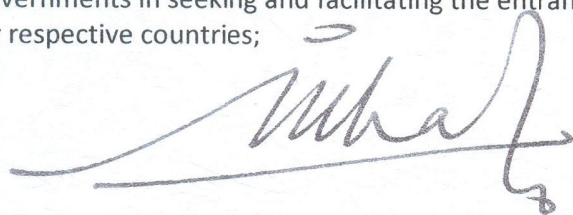
Facilitate the technical capacities of local governments in undertaking integrated coastal resource management, climate change adaptation, marine protected area management, ecosystem management and coastal law enforcement;

Promote sisterhood and twinning arrangements among the local government in pursuit of CTI-CFF concerns;

Engage in constructive dialogues, through the Regional Business Forum or other venues, with extractive industries that may threaten marine resources so they can be guided in the conduct of their business;

Strengthen the CTI-CFF Local Government Network through the establishment of a regional local government forum and the designation of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) as secretariat responsible for ensuring that the local governments from CT countries continue to communicate and hold dialogues among peers;

Assist local governments in seeking and facilitating the entrance of additional multilateral and bilateral donors in our respective countries;

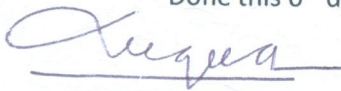


Handwritten signature

Handwritten notes and symbols on the right margin, including a triangle and a blue mark.

Consider distributing venues for hosting and sponsorship of meetings, forums, conferences and the like to other CT countries;

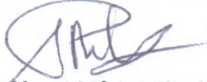
Done this 6th day of December 2012 in Manila, Philippines



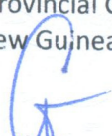
Hon. Hugua
Regent
District of Wakatobi
Indonesia




Hon. I Nyoman Sutjindra
Vice Regent
Regent of Buleleng
Indonesia



Hon. John Micah
Balopa Local Level Government President
Manus Provincial Government
Papua New Guinea



Hon. Alfredo Arquillano
Vice-Mayor
Municipality of San Francisco
Philippines

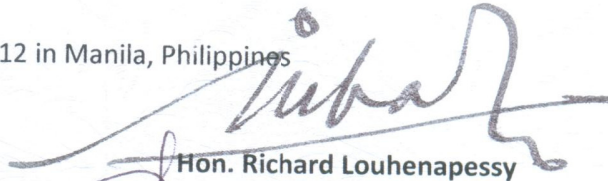


Hon. Pedro Trinidad Jr
Municipal Mayor
Cortes, Surigao del Sur
Philippines

Hon. Rodrigo Alanano
Board Member
Province of Oriental Negros
Philippines



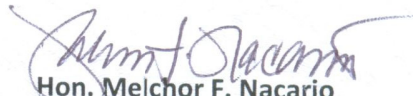
Hon. Paul Jackson Kiloe
Premier
Choiseul Provincial Government
Solomon Islands



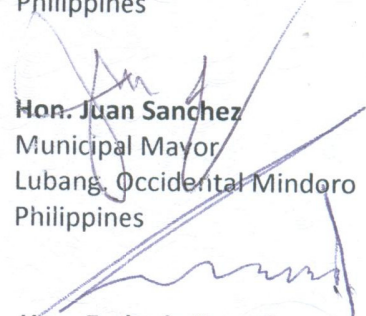
Hon. Richard Louhenapessy
Mayor
City of Ambon, Maluku
Indonesia



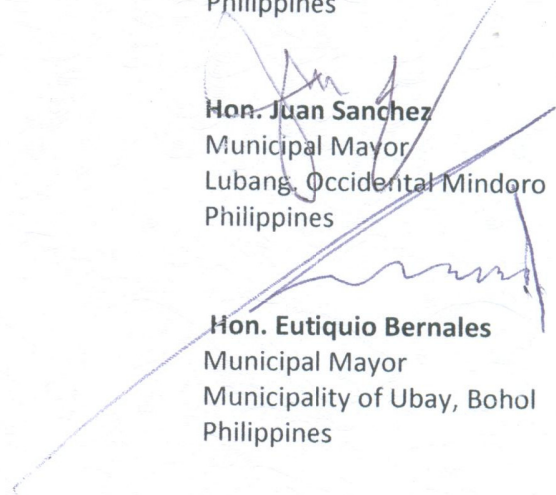
Hon. Charlie Benjamin, MP
Governor and Regional MP
Manus Provincial Government
Papua New Guinea



Hon. Melchor F. Nacario
Municipal Mayor
Calbiga, Samar
Philippines



Hon. Juan Sanchez
Municipal Mayor
Lubang, Occidental Mindoro
Philippines



Hon. Eutiquio Bernales
Municipal Mayor
Municipality of Ubay, Bohol
Philippines

Hon. Donato Marcos
Municipal Mayor
Municipality of Paombong, Bulacan
Philippines



Hon. George Solingi Lilo
Premier
Western Provincial Government
Solomon Islands