



CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE

ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

Annex 7

Decision Document on CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Budget

The 12th CTI-CFF SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING (SOM-12)

**1 - 2 November 2016
Laguna Hotel, Waigani Drive
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea**

**Adopted on 2 November 2016
by
the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea,
the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste**

I. Background

The 11th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-11) which was held from 1st to 2nd December 2015 in Manado, Indonesia, agreed that the schedule of country contributions approved by the Special SOM in May 2014 applies for 2016. In addition, the meeting also noted the urgent need to appoint an independent Auditor to review the 2015 financial report.

The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat has received full country contribution for 2016 from Indonesia, Malaysia, Timor-Leste and Philippines and partial country contribution from Solomon Islands. In this regard, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat would like to express its high gratitude to the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Timor-Leste and the Philippines for their commitments to remit respective schedule of contributions for the year of 2016.

In addition, Furthermore, the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat appointed an independent Auditor, Johan Malonda Mustika & Rekan, to review the 2015 financial report. On 30 March 2016, the office of Auditor issued the report and their opinion. the Auditor's opinion informed that audited financial statement of CTI-CFF has been presented fairly. This report was circulated to the CTI-COM and CTI-CSO on 31 March 2016 for reporting and ready reference. In addition, the funding support of the Australian Department of the Environment Funding Agreement was also audited for the period from 23 September 2015 to 31 March 2016.

The annual contribution to the CTI-CFF Budget is imperative for the Regional Secretariat to administer its full operational function in coordinating and monitoring program and activities in the region. The CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat appreciates the remittance of the country contribution without much delay and hopes that with continuous support from the CT6 member countries, the Regional Secretariat shall grow and strengthen as the foremost regional cooperation in marine resources management.

II. Decision

Referring to the discussion and consideration among the SOM-12 on session on CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat Budget, the Senior Officials hereby:

1. Accepted the Regional Secretariat apology for the mistake in selecting the external auditor for 2015 which was not in accordance with Regulation 5 and Regulation 12 of the Agreement on the Establishment of the Regional Secretariat of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security;

2. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to establish specific SOPs for all financial-related decisions (e.g. procurements, selection of auditors and consultants) with the guidance of the next Chair of CTI-CSO;
3. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to work closely with Philippines as the next Chair of CTI-CSO and CTI-COM to formulate the 2017 budget taking into consideration the prioritization of activities / programs, including SOM-12 decisions that have financial implications to be included in the 2017 budget for CTI-COM endorsement;
4. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to circulate the detailed budget for 2017 to all NCCs within seven to 14 working days for comments and further collate and assess those comments prior to its submission for the Council of Ministers endorsement by mid-January 2017;
5. Tasked the Regional Secretariat to work closely with Philippines as the next Chair of CTI-CSO and CTI-COM to review and revise criteria on the quantum from the respective CT6 Member Countries with regards to the country contribution.