



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES
AND FOOD SECURITY



JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT OF THE

9th Ministerial Meeting of the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF)

6 December 2024, Dili-Timor Leste

The 9th CTI-CFF Ministerial Meeting (MM-9) was held in Dili, Timor-Leste on 6 December 2024.

The meeting was opened by the Chair the CTI-CFF Council of Ministers (COM), H.E. Honorable Marcos Da Cruz of the Government of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

The Meeting was chaired by the nominee of the Chair for the Council of Ministers, Mr. Celestino Da Cunha Barreto of the Government of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, and co-chaired by the representative of the Vice-Chair of the Council of Ministers, Dr Hendra Yusran Siry of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

And attended by Representatives of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Hendra Yusran Siry, Senior Adviser to Minister on Ecology and Marine Resources Affair; the Government of Malaysia, Datuk Nor Yahati binti Awang, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability; the Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Ms. Kumaras Kay Kalim, Director of Sustainable Environment Programs, Conservation and Environment Protection Authority; the Government of the Republic of Philippines, Atty Jonas R. Leones, Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs, Department of Environment and Natural Resources ; the Government of Solomon Islands, Mr. Karl Ogu Kuper, Deputy Secretary Corporate, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change & Disaster Management, and Meteorology; and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Mr. Celestino Da Cunha Barreto, Director General of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management.

Recalling the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security Leaders' Declaration, signed in Manado 2009, and reaffirming the enduring commitment of the six member countries (CT6)—Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste—to the sustainable management of marine, coastal and small islands resources, recognizing their importance to food security, livelihoods, and the protection of biodiversity.



Recognizing the significant challenges posed by climate change, marine pollution, illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and impacts from other human activities, and emphasizing the need for continued collective action.

Acknowledging the compounding effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on conservation efforts and socioeconomic conditions in the Coral Triangle region.

Reaffirming the commitment to fully implement and harmonize regional plans and global targets to the full implementation of the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action 2.0 (RPOA 2.0), aligning it with global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (particularly SDGs #5 on Gender Equality, #13 on Climate Action, #14 on Life Below Water and #17 on Partnerships for the Goals), the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the commitments under the Paris Agreement.

Reiterating the commitment on strengthening the effort to improve institutional and human capacities to foster continuous collaborative partnerships with regional and global institutions, in exploring innovative financing mechanisms that can sustain marine, coastal and small islands resources management in the long term.

Agreeing to scale up efforts in marine, coastal, and small islands conservation and resources management, climate resilience, and sustainable fisheries management, ensuring the involvement the marginalized and underrepresented groups such as youth, women, and indigenous people and local communities in decision-making processes.

We, the Representatives of the Ministers and the Heads of Delegation, hereby:

1. Express our highest gratitude and appreciation to the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste for the warm hospitality and excellent hosting of the Pre-19th Senior Officials' Meeting (Pre-SOM), the 19th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-19) and the 9th Ministerial Meeting (MM-9)
2. Adopt the Chair's Summaries of the 18th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-18) of 2023; and the 19th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-19) of 2024;
3. Appreciate the contribution and leadership of the Government of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste as the Chair of the Council of Ministers (COM) and the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO), and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia as Vice Chair for the period of 2023-2024;
4. Elect the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and Government of Malaysia as the Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, of the Council of Ministers (COM) and Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) for two (2) years starting from 6 December 2024;



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5. Acknowledge the establishment and the progress of the Coral Triangle Conservation Trust Fund (CTCF) as one of the funding mechanisms for the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0;
6. Appreciate the contribution and support from CTI Partners to implement the RPOA 2.0 and National Plan of Action (NPOA);
7. Encourage the continuous contribution and support for CT6 and CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat from the CTI Partners;
8. Agree to review the Regional Plan of Action 2.0 for potential, substantial revision taking into account concerns that have been raised by the Member Countries;
9. Endorse the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 9th Ministerial Meeting of Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security.



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Government of the Republic of
Indonesia

Dr. Hendra Yusran Siry
Senior Adviser to Minister on Ecology
and Marine Resources Affair

Government of Malaysia

Datuk Nor Yahati binti Awang
Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of
Natural Resources and Environmental
Sustainability

Government of Papua New Guinea

Ms. Kumaras Kay Kalim,
Director of Sustainable Environment
Programs, Conservation and
Environment Protection Authority



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Government of Republic of the
Philippines

Atty Jonas R. Leones
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and
International Affairs, Department of
Environment and Natural Resources

Government of Solomon Islands

Mr. Karl Ogu Kuper
Deputy Secretary Corporate, Ministry of
Environment, Climate Change &
Disaster Management, and Meteorology

Government of the Democratic Republic
of Timor-Leste

Mr. Celestino Da Cunha Barreto
Director General of Fisheries,
Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources
Management.



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