## 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:

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 Sutjidra

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

Philipgines

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 Mindero

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