

**Wadden Sea Board**

**WSB 13**

**28 - 29 January 2015**

**Wilhelmshaven**

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**Agenda Item:** 5

**Subject:** Status Report MoU Korea –Wadden Sea (§ 70-71 TD)

**Document No.** WSB 13/5/2

**Date:** 18 December 2014

**Submitted by:** Secretariat

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Attached is a report on the status of the Memorandum of Understanding with Korea (§ 70 TD) and the joint input on tidal flat management delivered to the COP CBD in Korea in October 2014 (§ 71 TD).

**Proposal: The meeting is proposed to comment on the MoU and the preparation of the work programme 2015-2018.**

**Status Report MoU Korea –Wadden Sea**

**Background**

In accordance with the Tønder Declaration (§ 71 TD), an official side event has been organized at the CBD COP in Korea in cooperation with the Korean partner of the MoU:

* The Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) who signed the MoU,
* The KOEM (Korean Marine Environment Management Cooperation) as the management organization for the Ministry MOF, who implements the MoU,

The aim was to present the results of the MoU for a transnational conservation of tidal flat ecosystem as input to the CBD. The programme has been prepared by the CWSS and the KOEM. Because the side event was finally confirmed in September 2014, the appointment of experts and budget preparation had to be done on very short notice.

A Wadden Sea delegation of six persons attended the CBD on 6 – 10 October and contributed to the side event and the MoU activities in Korea (overall schedule **Annex 1**). The programme of the CBD side event is in **Annex 2**.

**Outcome**

The MoU with Korea has been presented to a wider audience at the CBD COP. About 60 persons participated at the side event. The presentation underlined the global importance of both tidal flats and the joint responsibility to protect the most important and largest tidal flat ecosystems worldwide with importance for biodiversity way beyond their boundaries.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to organize a joint high level event with participation of Dutch, German, and Danish senior officials and representatives from the relevant Korean Ministries. This would have been strong political signal and would have profiled the MoU internationally but also nationally.

Overall, the MoU activities carried out since 2009 can be regarded as successful. Until October 2014, over 19 events have been organized, with about 150 experts involved and about 2,000 persons reached at both sites. In specific, the exchange between the info centres in Korea and the Wadden Sea are very close and have strengthened the capacities at both sites (see list of activities in **Annex 3**). A concrete joint education product is the preparation for a children’s book about migratory birds (Atlantic and Pacific Flyways) which will be published in 15.

In conclusion, activities under the MoU have been quite successful, mainly because of the high interest of the stakeholders in the regions (local governments, NGOs, scientists, info centres) and a number of joint project has been realized. This approach will also be continued in the coming work period.

**Follow up**

On the occasion of the CBD, the work programme of the MoU for the next period was discussed with the KOEM and the stakeholder in two meetings (6 and 7 October 2014 in order to prepare a draft MoU programme by beginning of 2015.

The main focus will be on:

1. Policy and management

* Exchange of experiences on management issues e.g. restoration projects, adaptation to climate change, assessment reports (activities: exchange of report and publication, participation at workshops and conferences, also internationally)

2. Monitoring and Waterbird Management

* Strengthening bird monitoring network and exchange in Korea (using experiences and know-how from the Wadden Sea),
* Further enhance connection between science and policy

3. Information centres, education and eco-tourism

* Continue cooperation between info centres (exchange, capacity building and training)
* Develop partnerships between Korean and Wadden Sea info centres
* Develop joint education products (e.g. flyway book project)
* Cooperation and exchange on sustainable tourism

4. Science and research

* Definition of research themes which integrates issues relevant for the MOZ
* Approach scientists and institutions who are willing to cooperate on these issues (building on the existing scientific structures at both sites)

5. MoU Communication

* Extend communication on MoU to a broader audience and multipliers (MoU leaflet or brochure, website and via info centres).

A draft programme is currently being prepared jointly by the CWSS and Korean KOEM and will be submitted to the WSB and the Korean Ministry MOF for endorsement.

**Proposal: The meeting is proposed comment on the MoU and the preparation of the work programme 2015-2018.**

**ANNEX 1**

**MoU Korea Wadden Sea at CBD-COP**

**6 - 10 October 2014**

**Final Schedule**

Participants

1. Mr Harald Marencic, Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, Managing Director World Heritage,
2. Mr. Hubert Farke, Senior Scientist, WIMO Project, National Park Lower Saxon Wadden Sea, Germany
3. Mr. Jens Enemark, Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, International Advisor,
4. Mr. Martin Baptist, IMARES, Waddenacademie, The Netherlands, Senior Scientist.
5. Ms Anja Szczesinski, WWF Germany, World Heritage Environmental Education,
6. Mr. Soeren Rask Jessen, Nature Agency Danish Environmental Ministry, Denmark

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Location** | **Programme** |
| 5.10.2014 | Yongpyoung Resort | Arrival at Hotel (afternoon up to 22:00), briefing |
| 6.10.2014 | Yongpyoung Resort | 10:00 – 17:00  MoU joint meeting on work plan 2014-2018 |
| 7.10.2014 | Yongpyoung Resort / CBD Conference Venue | 10:00 – 13:00  Preparation MoU side event (presentations, discussion, statements)  13:00 attend CBD-COP |
| 8.10.2014 | CBD Conference Venue | 13:15 - 14:45 MoU side event (about 60 participants)  15:30 – 17:30 Meeting MoU  18:15 Participation side event East-Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership |
| 9.10.2014 | Yongpyoung Resort,  CBD Conference Venue | 8:30 – 13:00: Excursion (Naksansa Temple, East Sea),  13:15 – 14:45 Participation event Yellow Sea Partnership |
| 10.10.2014 | Yongpyoung Resort, Dragon Valley Hotel | 11:00 – 14:30:  Meeting with Korean World Heritage Project Team |
| 11.10.2014 | Departure | Departure or West Coast Excursion |

**MoU Korea Wadden Sea at CBD-COP**

**The 4th Joint Workshop on the MoU Wadden Sea Korea**

**8 October 2014**

**13:15 – 14:45**

**Final Programme**

13:15 – 13:20 Mr. Cho, KOEM: Opening and Introduction to the MoU

13:20 – 14:20 Presentations by Wadden Sea and Korean Experts

1. Harald Marencic, CWSS: Management and Protection of Tidal Flats in an international perspective (World Heritage, Flyway, MoU Korea)
2. Byoungseol Koh, KOEM: Science and monitoring of tidal flats in Korea and scientific exchange
3. Hubert Farke, WIMO Project / Martin Baptist, IMARES / Waddenacademie: Ecology of intertidal flats - Cooperation in science and monitoring
4. Yung-Ki Ju, Korean Shorebird Network: Migratory Birds in Korea and exchange with the Wadden Sea
5. Anja Szczesinski, IWSS /Soeren Rask Jessen, Nature Agency: Environmental education, cooperation of info centres and sustainable tourism (Trilateral Wadden Sea School, info centre network and exchange with Korea)
6. Ji-Young Jang, EcoHorizon: Tidal flat education in Korea and exchange with the Wadden Sea

14:20 – 14:25 Summary (chair Jens Enemark)

14:25 – 14:45 Discussion, Q&A (chair Jens Enemark)

**Annex 3**

List of MoU Activities (December 2014)

| **No.** | **Description** | **Date** | **Result** | **# experts participated**  **WS Korea** | | **# persons reached**  **WS Korea** | | **Type of event** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Int. Symposium on East Asian Coastal Wetlands.  Side Event Ramsar COP 10, Changwon |  | Workshop Report, Prep MoU  Ramsar Resolution X.2 | 3 |  |  | 120 | Man |
| 2 | 12th International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium, Wilhelmshaven | March 2009 | Lecture Getbol,  Signing MoU |  | 18 | 250 |  | Man, Research |
| 3 | 1st Joint MoU Workshop on Learning on Wadden Sea Strategy for Getbol protection, Mokpo | October 2009 | Workshop Report, Definition of work themes and priorities | 12 |  |  | 200 | Man, Mon, Info |
| 4 | 11th Trilateral Governmental Conference, Sylt, March 2010 | March 2010 | Conference and Workshop on Benthos with exchange for monitoring strategies |  | 14 | 180 |  | Man, Pol, Mon |
| 5 | International Symposium of Migratory Birds, Mokpo | October 2010 | Review of monitoring methods and data exchange | 2 |  |  | 80 | Mon |
| 6 | Workshop on Wadden Sea education, Mokpo, Muan, Sinan. | September 2010. | Training courses and shared experiences, know-how and material of the International Wadden Sea School. | 3 |  |  | 100 | Info |
| 7 | 3rd MoUWorkshop on Benthos Monitoring, Mokpo | Sep 11 | Workshop Report, Practical field studies. | 8 |  | 40 |  | Mon |
| 8 | Study visit info centres Wadden Sea | October 2011 | Input for info centers Korea |  | 6 | 40 |  | Info |
| 9 | IUCN World Conservation Congress Jeju, World Heritage workshop, Mokpo | Sep 12 | Report and input for Korean World Heritage project | 2 |  |  | 150 | Man |
| 10 | Joint workshop on tidal flat education, Suncheon | November, 2012 | Input on educational programs and exhibition | 4 |  |  | 50 | Info |
| 11 | 13th International Scientific Wadden Sea Symposium, Leeuwarden. Study visit Ameland. | Nov 12 | Keynote on Korean tidal flats. Review of work programme. |  | 6 | 250 |  | Man, Mon, Info |
| 12 | Study visit info centres Wadden Sea | June 2013 | Exploration of 20 info centers |  | 7 | 80 |  | Info |
| 13 | Water Bird Society Symposium and International Wader Study Group, Wilhelmshaven. | Sep 13 | Joint meeting with bird experts TMAP and excursion |  | 1 | 15 |  |  |
| 14 | Annual workshop International Wadden Sea School, Spiekeroog | Nov 13 | Workshop Report. Review of work program. | 15 | 5 | 20 |  | Info |
| 15 | International Marine Protected Areas Conference (IMPAC), Marseille, | October 2013 | Joint workshop on management MPA (KOEM, CWSS, NOAA) | 1 | 4 | 25\* |  | Man  \*international audience |
| 16 | 12th Trilateral Governmental Conference, Tønder Feb 2014 | February 2014 | Rep from KOEM, MoU activities 2014/15, Planning CBD COP 12 |  | 2 | 20 |  | Man |
| 17 | Study visit info centres Wadden Sea | Aug 14 | Exploration of 10 info centers |  | 7 | 40 |  | Info |
| 18 | Joint workshop on tidal flat education | Sep 14 | Training courses, capacity building, development of joint material (bird book) | 4 | 10 |  | 100 | Info |
| 19 | 4th MoU Workshop, Side event at CBD COP 12 | October 2014 | Draft work programme 2014-18, Presentation MoU at CBD | 6 | 10 |  | 100 | Man, Mon, Info, Res |
| 20 | MoU Presentation at IUCN World Park Congress 2014 | November 2014 | Presentation Wadden Sea and Korea activities and outcomes | 1 | 3 | 20\* | 200\* | Man  \*international audience |
|  |  |  |  | 60 | 90 | 960 | 900 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **TOTAL** |  | **150** |  | **1860** |  |