



THE EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS

**25** Years of Partnerships for  
Healthy Oceans, People and Economies  
Moving as One with the Global Ocean Agenda

**27-30 November 2018** • Iloilo Convention Center, Philippines

**PEMSEA/WP/2019/45**

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE PNLG FORUM 2018**



**GUIMARAS PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES**

**29 NOVEMBER 2018**





## Table of Contents

I.	INTRODUCTION.....	4
II.	OPENING CEREMONY.....	4
III.	GENERAL ASSEMBLY.....	6
1.0	PNLG Strategic Action Plan: Measuring and Reporting Progress in Implementation.....	6
2.0	ICM Code and ICM Certification .....	8
3.0	PNLG Work Plan and Budget 2018-2019 .....	10
4.0	Election of PNLG Officers .....	12
5.0	Induction of New PNLG Members and signing of PNLG Charter .....	12
6.0	Closing of the General Assembly .....	13
IV.	PNLG Forum Press Conference .....	13
	ANNEX 1: PNLG Forum Agenda.....	15
	ANNEX 2: List of Participants .....	18
	ANNEX 3: Opening Ceremony Speeches.....	34
	ANNEX 4: Statements of the New Members .....	41

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2018 PNLG FORUM**  
**Guimaras Province, Philippines**  
**29 November 2018**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

- i. The 2018 PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) Forum was held at Andana Resort, Guimaras Province, Philippines on 29 November 2018. The Provincial Government of Guimaras hosted the forum.
- ii. The Forum was attended by representatives from PNLG members from Cambodia (Kampot, Kep, Koh Kong, and Preah Sihanouk); Indonesia (Bali, Bontang, Sukabumi and Tangerang); Malaysia (Northern Selangor, Port Klang, and Sepang); PR China (Fangchenggang, Jinjiang, Pingtan, Sanya and Xiamen); Philippines (Bataan, Batangas, Cavite, and Guimaras); RO Korea (Ansan, Shihwa and Changwon); Thailand (Chonburi); Timor-Leste (Dili, Liquiçá, and Manatuto); and Vietnam (Danang and Quang Nam).
- iii. Representatives from various local governments and institutions participated as observers, including Lao PDR (Champasak, Saravanne and Sekong); Philippines (Oriental Mindoro and Romblon); and Thailand (Trat, Chanthaburi and Rayong).
- iv. Representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines, the Global Environment Facility, the Technical Session Chair of the East Asian Seas Partnership Council (EASPC), including PEMSEA trainees from China, Indonesia and Lao PDR also participated in the event.
- v. The PNLG Secretariat in Xiamen and PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as the secretariat for the forum, while the Guimaras Environment and Natural Resources Office (GENRO) of Guimaras Province headed the local secretariat.
- vi. The PNLG Forum Agenda and full list of participants are attached as Annex 1 and 2.

**II. OPENING CEREMONY**

- i. On behalf of the host local government, Honorable Samuel T. Gumarin, Governor, Province of Guimaras, cordially welcomed the participants to the island province. Governor Gumarin cited the 2006 oil spill incident as the defining moment for the province to embrace integrated coastal management (ICM), given the uncoordinated way the clean-up was conducted. Ten years after initiating the ICM program, ICM now serves

as the key development strategy for the island province, as referenced in the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan. Governor Gumarin expressed pride over the province as the first local government in the Philippines to have passed an ICM Ordinance which mirrors the provisions of the ICM Bill being reviewed by the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Philippines. The Governor cited that inter-agency coordination and collaboration have been significantly strengthened such that the usual challenges brought about by overlapping responsibilities and duplication of efforts are reduced. Governor Gumarin acknowledged the various partners of the province in helping achieve its vision towards transforming Guimaras into an agri-ecotourism destination in Western Visayas. He particularly thanked PRF for its unwavering support since the province started ICM implementation in 2008 and for making Guimaras Province visible and able to expand its network in the East Asian Seas Region.

- ii. Mr. Marcial Amaro, Assistant Secretary for Field Operations – Visayas, DENR, delivered the message as representative of the Government of the Philippines and as host of the 2018 East Asian Seas Congress. Asec. Amaro lauded Guimaras efforts in recovering from the negative impacts of the 2006 oil spill and for considering the ICM approach in restoring the health and productivity of its coastal and marine areas. Asec. Amaro shared his insights on how ICM can play a key role in supporting the national government’s resolve to clean and rehabilitate popular coastal tourism sites such as the world famous Boracay Island and render these islands compliant to environmental protection and sanitation laws. Asec. Amaro cited that the Boracay experience will be replicated in other islands in the Philippines that are also identified as famous tourism sites. The replication process can be linked to the national government’s commitment to PEMSEA to scale up ICM to cover 25 per cent of the country’s coastline by 2021. He cited the completion of the ICM Third Party Assessment as the necessary first step for the country to validate its ICM coastline coverage and expressed DENR’s continuing support to facilitate the scaling up process.
- iii. On behalf of PEMSEA, Mr. Makoto Harunari, Technical Session Chair, EASPC, appreciated Guimaras’ effort in organizing the forum. Mr. Harunari corroborated the previous speakers’ point about the oil spill that served as the major driver for Guimaras to adopt ICM and commended the province’s efforts in mainstreaming ICM into its institutional mechanisms. Mr. Harunari reminded the PNLG members about their critical role in achieving the 25 per cent ICM scaling up target that their respective countries have committed, including the application of the State of the Coasts to monitor and report on the progress of ICM implementation and documenting the impacts and benefits of ICM. Mr. Harunari congratulated Guimaras Province for being the first PNLG member that developed the second SOC report. He reaffirmed PEMSEA’s commitment in providing support to current and future ICM sites and PNLG members and in facilitating linkages between the PNLG members and entities who can provide support for capacity strengthening and knowledge sharing to further aid ICM implementation. He concluded

his message by citing that in line with the EAS Congress theme of “Moving as One with the Global Agenda”, the PNLG is in the right position to make positive impacts and that the annual forum provides the venue for identifying common solutions and actions towards achieving the targets enshrined in the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- iv. On behalf of the PNLG, Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan, PNLG President, acknowledged the efforts of the Provincial Government of Guimaras, under the guidance and leadership of Gov. Samuel Gumarin, not only for hosting the forum but also for their tireless efforts in promoting sustainable development for the island and the preservation of Guimaras’ ecosystem through membership in the PNLG. Mrs. Noraini recalled that since the formal inception of PNLG in 2006, the organization has steadily grown and that by end of the forum, the PNLG will reach 50 members from 10 countries. She noted that the expansion is testament to the region’s recognition of the power of collaboration between local and national governments and other partners to address aspects of sustainable development. Mrs. Noraini emphasized the continuing relevance of the PNLG, particularly in contributing to achieving the SDGs where the PNLG Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2016-2021 is aligned. She reminded the PNLG members to utilize the PNLG online reporting platform, which was launched in January 2018 to report their progress and show how their collective efforts on the ground are creating impacts at the local, national, regional and global scales.
- v. The full texts of the Opening Ceremony speeches are attached in Annex 3.

### III. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- I. The PNLG President, Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan presided over the General Assembly. Mrs. Noraini called the Assembly to order and proceeded to the first agenda item.
- II. Mrs. Noraini reminded the PNLG members of their commitment under the Ansan Declaration, which included tracking/monitoring of progress on ICM implementation and commitments that are contributing to the SDGs. Mrs. Noraini invited PRF and GENRO to present the State of the Coasts Reports of Guimaras Province and Guimaras’ experience in implementing the PNLG Tracking System as means of monitoring and reporting of progress in PNLG SAP implementation and SDG commitments.

#### 1.0 PNLG Strategic Action Plan: Measuring and Reporting Progress in Implementation

- (a) **Guimaras Province First and Second State of the Coasts: Showcasing positive trends in environmental governance and management practices**

- 1.1 Ms. Nancy Bermas, Senior Country Programme Manager, PRF, introduced the SOC reporting as a valuable tool for the PNLG to report their progress in ICM implementation and more importantly, in reporting their accomplishments in achieving their SDG commitments as called for the Ansan Declaration. Ms. Bermas reminded the PNLG members that the SOC reporting is one of the agreed targets in the PNLG SAP 2011-2015 and that it remains as a key tool for reporting PNLG SAP 2016-2021 implementation. Ms. Bermas revisited the process of reporting and monitoring SAP implementation, as agreed during 2016 PNLG Forum in Ansan, RO Korea and PRF's effort in creating and operationalizing the PNLG online tracking system. She emphasized the usefulness of the tracking system in consolidating the inputs from the members and showing the collective contribution of the PNLG to achieving the SDGs. Ms. Bermas informed the Assembly that so far only about half of the members have registered their SDG targets in the online tracking system.
- 1.2 Ms. Bermas showed how the SOC can facilitate reporting for 4 SDG targets: SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation); SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities); SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 14 (Life Below Water) by using the SOC Reports of Guimaras as case example. Concrete example on how reporting for SDG 14.1 (i.e., scale up the protection and conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems and resources as a percentage of the areal extent of coastal and marine areas) was provided, which entails establishing the baseline data for 2015; target for 2021 based on the PNLG SAP timeline; and target for 2030, the completion year of the SDGs. Ms. Bermas shared the various measures undertaken by Guimaras to monitor progress, including the conduct of assessments to determine the management effectiveness for selected marine protected areas (MPAs) and conduct of periodic monitoring of critical habitats and associated reef fishes, including water quality within the MPAs, with the assistance of the University of the Philippines Visayas.
- 1.3 Ms. Bermas provided the following key points from the presentation:
- SOC is a useful tool for reporting progress in line with the PNLG member's SDG commitments.
  - SOC allows information to be consolidated from among various sources and sectors ensuring a comprehensive assessment of the area.
  - SOC is not a one-time process. It needs to be regularly updated to maximize its usefulness and intended benefits.
  - PNLG must make the SOC reporting visible --- so far, it is the only reporting mechanism that is commonly utilized by the PNLG members in 10 countries. The PNLG Tracking System is designed to serve as platform for the PNLG members to share experiences and stay connected.

1.4 Ms. Bermas concluded her presentation by informing the Assembly that PRF will continue to provide technical support and guidance in operationalizing the PNLG tracking system, in coordination with the PNLG Secretariat.

**(b) PNLG SAP Tracking System: Reporting on SDG commitments**

1.5 Ms. Maria Leah Joy Gabayeron, Environmental Management Specialist 1, GENRO, Guimaras Province, shared Guimaras' experience in implementing the reporting system and the challenges encountered in populating the system. Ms. Gabayeron walked the PNLG members through the following stages of the reporting system:

- Registering Guimaras Province account: Site description, designated contact point for the reporting system, political liaison and local chief executive's information.
- Selecting Guimaras Province SDG target: SDG 14.1: Scale up the protection and conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems and resources that are socially, ecologically and/or economically significant as a percentage of the areal extent of coastal and marine areas within the jurisdiction of the local government.
- Establishing Guimaras baseline and targets: Increase in protected areas and increase in area of rehabilitated coastal habitats with baseline data for 2015 and targets for 2021.
- Planning how to reach Guimaras targets: Management plans and types of actions included in the management plans.
- Reporting on the status of implementation: Quantified achievements of actions on annual basis starting in 2015 (baseline) until 2021.

1.6 Ms. Gabayeron cited the lack of standardized system for data collection, collation and recording and the absence of Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office at the municipalities as major challenges. In addressing the challenges, GENRO indicated that it will regularly update the Integrated Information Management System to consolidate data and information related to SDG 14.1; conduct regular Project Steering Committee and Sub-committee meetings; and aligning the components on environment and management of coastal and marine areas in the development and investment plans and programs of the Province and Municipalities with the SDGs.

1.7 No questions were raised on the two presentations. The Chair thanked Ms. Bermas and Ms. Gabayeron for the presentations and proceeded to the next agenda.

## 2.0 ICM Code and ICM Certification

2.1 Mrs. Noraini emphasized that the second agenda item focuses on the ICM Code. She reminded the PNLG members that the ICM Code and ICM system certification is also one



of the targets of the PNLG SAP 2011-2015, which aims to provide local governments with a systematic approach for implementing and sustaining their ICM programs. Mrs. Noraini invited PRF to introduce the ICM Code and PEMSEA certification system.

- 2.2 Mr. Renato Cardinal, Programme Manager, PRF, presented the objectives, purpose and importance of the ICM Code. Mr. Cardinal reiterated that the ICM Code is built upon the ICM development and implementation process and framework for sustainable development of coastal areas that capture the ICM practices and experiences in the East Asian Region over the past 25 years. More importantly, the ICM Code conforms to the requirements of international management standards, i.e., ISO 14001 and ISO 9001. Mr. Cardinal explained the requirements of the tri-level ICM Certification System, which provides a means of evaluating the conformity of ICM systems of local governments to the requirements of the ICM Code. Mr. Cardinal indicated that 15 PNLG members have received Level 1 certification; 9 of these members are in the process of achieving Level 2 certification, while the remaining members are maintaining their Level 1 certification. In China, the China PEMSEA Center is providing assistance to the PNLG members by establishing country auditors.

Mr. Cardinal provided the following next steps for consideration of the PNLG members with certified ICM systems:

- PNLG members with existing PEMSEA Level 1 Certification: submit updated evidence of compliance to the ICM Code requirements as defined by the ICM System checklist.
- A desktop audit will be conducted by PRF to determine continued conformance of the ICM System or the need for on-site assessment.
- After the evaluation, a communication on the renewal of certification will be forwarded by the PRF to the PNLG members that showed continued compliance to the ICM Code requirements.
- For PNLG members that are not able to maintain compliance to the ICM Code requirements, PRF will forward a request for follow-up assessment to be conducted on site or withdrawal of certification.
- For PNLG members proceeding to ICM System Level-2, the assessment will be conducted as part of the process for developing the Level 2 system, renewal of certification will be forwarded.

For members that joined the PNLG starting 2012, below are the prescribed next steps:

- All PNLG members not yet certified by PRF are invited to conduct a self-assessment by accomplishing the Initial Status Review (ISR) Checklist and submit the accomplished form to PRF.
- After evaluation by PRF, PNLG members that demonstrated conformance to the requirements of the ICM Code as defined in the checklist will be invited by PRF to undergo the assessment. Copies of supporting documents and records indicated in the ISR Checklist will also be requested.
- PRF will coordinate with the PNLG member the schedule of on-site assessment.
- PRF ICM Audit Team will conduct the on-site assessment.
- Based on the result of the assessment, ICM System Certification will be awarded to the PNLG members that complied to the ICM Code.

2.3 Mr. Cardinal also introduced the ICM Manager Certification and the PEMSEA Sustainable Business Award for the information of the PNLG members. Mr. Cardinal elaborated on the importance, benefits, certification process and requirements for ICM Manager Certification, which targets ICM managers and where majority of the members may qualify. For the PEMSEA Sustainable Award on the other hand, Mr. Cardinal emphasized that the local governments will be invited to nominate the corporations in their respective localities that are actively supporting ICM implementation to vie for certification.

2.4 No questions were raised on the presentation. Mrs. Noraini thanked Mr. Cardinal for the presentation.

### 3.0 PNLG Work Plans and Budgets 2018-2019

3.1 Mrs. Noraini invited the PNLG Secretariat to present the PNLG Work Plans and Budgets for 2018 and 2019.

3.2 Dr. Fang Qinhua, Deputy Secretary General, PNLG Secretariat, provided the following information:

3.3 Work plan:

- For 2018, major accomplishments included the conduct of the Training Workshop on ICM and Blue Economy Development for ASEAN countries; recruitment of new PNLG members; conduct of the 9<sup>th</sup> PNLG EC meeting; nomination and election of new PNLG officers and conduct of the 2018 PNLG Forum.
- For 2019, planned activities will focus on providing training opportunities and enhancing capacity of members; scaling up ICM and increasing the PNLG membership; conduct of 10<sup>th</sup> EC meeting to review the agreed actions from previous

EC meetings and from the PNLG General Assembly and organization of the 2019 PNLG Forum and promoting the implementation of the PNLG SAP Tracking System.

#### 3.4 Budget:

- For 2018, sources of funds included the Xiamen Government, which provided USD 20,000 for the conduct of the 9<sup>th</sup> PNLG Executive Committee meeting and the PNLG Secretariat's operational costs. As of end of 2017, the PNLG Fund has a balance of USD 78,389. Charges made in 2018 against the PNLG Fund amounted to USD 1,357, which covered the PNLG President's travel and accommodation costs for her participation in the EC meeting and travel cost for attending the 2018 PNLG Forum, including the cost for printing of materials for the PNLG 's exhibit booth and plaque of appreciation for the 2018 PNLG Forum host.
- For 2019, the proposed budget of USD 51,578 will be charged to the total estimated budget of USD 102,406 comprising of funds from the Xiamen Government (USD 20,000), balance of membership fees in the Xiamen (USD 72,033) and Manila (USD 10,575) accounts. The proposed budget will cover the organization of the 10<sup>th</sup> EC meeting, operational costs of the PNLG Secretariat and travel costs of the PNLG President to attend the EC meeting and PNLG Forum. An ICM training for PNLG members is being proposed to be convened in 2019 in China with an estimated budget of USD 28,000. This is in response to the proposal made during the 2017 PNLG Forum where it was agreed that the PNLG Fund will be utilized for capacity building of the members.

3.5 Mrs. Noraini expressed appreciation for Xiamen's continuing support to PNLG operations. Mrs. Noraini also reiterated that based on PNLG Forum 2017 discussion, it was decided that only the activities and budget identified in the approved work plan and budget can be charged to the PNLG Fund. Mrs. Noraini requested the Assembly to comment on and approve the 2018 and 2019 work plans and budgets.

3.6 In an effort to keep the PNLG members on the loop, Mrs. Noraini reconfirmed the recommendations made during the 9<sup>th</sup> PNLG Executive Committee meeting that a PNLG Newsletter or Bulletin will be prepared every 6 months to capture the good practices in ICM implementation and facilitate knowledge and experience exchange among the members during the intersession period. The Newsletter/Bulletin can also include information on training opportunities and important events that are relevant to the members. Malaysia can initiate the call for contributions and prepare the newsletter/bulletin that can be disseminated online. Further discussion on the arrangements for the preparation of the newsletter/bulletin including the resources

required (e.g., call for contributions, consolidation of contributions, editing, formatting, dissemination) will be undertaken during the Executive Committee meeting.

**Decision of the General Assembly:**

3.6 The PNLG work plans and budgets for 2018 and 2019 were approved and adopted by the Assembly.

#### 4.0 Election of PNLG Officers

4.1 Mrs. Noraini requested the PNLG Secretariat to present the process and results of the election of new PNLG officers.

4.2 Dr. Fang Qinhua summarized the election process and timeline as follows:

- July 1 - 30, 2018: Calling for nomination of candidates for President and Vice-President
- August 1 - 3, 2018: Consolidating the submitted nominations
- August 6 - 13, 2018: Notifying and securing the consent of nominees
- August 15 - September 15, 2018: Conducting the first round of consultations to shortlist the top two nominees for each position
- September 15 - October 15, 2018: Conducting the second round of consultation to identify lone nominees for each position
- October 15 - November 15, 2018: Securing consensus on the lone nominees for each position
- November 29, 2018: Formal election by consensus at the General Assembly

4.3 Dr. Fang requested the General Assembly to formally elect the final lone candidates for President and Vice President, which comprise of Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan, the incumbent President and Mr. Kong Vitanak, Deputy Governor of Preah Sihanouk, Cambodia.

4.4 After the motion has been moved and seconded by the General Assembly, Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan and Mr. Kong Vitanak were sworn to office by Dr. Fang. Following the oathtaking, the newly elected officers signed the Oath of Office and were invited thereafter to jointly preside the rest of the General Assembly.

#### 5.0 Induction of New PNLG Members and Signing of PNLG Charter

5.1 The PNLG President informed the Assembly that 2 local governments from PR China and Indonesia have applied as new members of the PNLG. During the 9<sup>th</sup> PNLG Executive Committee Meeting, the committee assessed and accepted the applications from Jinjiang, PR China and Bontang, Indonesia.

5.2 Mrs. Noraini requested the heads of delegation of Jinjiang, PR China and Bontang, Indonesia to proceed on stage for the signing of the PNLG Charter. After signing the Charter, Mr. Vitanak welcomed the new members to the PNLG and invited them to deliver their statements.

5.1 Full statements of the new PNLG members are found in Annex 4.

## 6.0 Closing of the General Assembly

6.1 Mrs. Noraini expressed her gratitude to Guimaras Province for graciously hosting the forum. She also thanked the PNLG Secretariat and PRF for their unwavering support to the network. She urged the PNLG members to move forward with the PNLG SAP implementation and endeavor to accomplish the tracking system. She finally wished everyone well and invited them to interact with the fellow PNLG members and partners during the banquet.

6.2 Mrs. Noraini adjourned the General Assembly. The Local Secretariat informed the delegates to proceed to the PNLG Dinner Banquet venue while the Governor of Guimaras, PNLG President and representatives from the PNLG Secretariat and PRF will join the Press Conference.

## III. PNLG Forum Press Conference

- i. The Press Conference was attended by various media groups from the Western Visayas Region, including counterparts of national news agencies that are based in Western Visayas.
- ii. Interviewees included Governor Samuel Gumarin, Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan, Dr. Fang Qinhua, Mr. Lin Guozong and Ms. Nancy Bermas.
- iii. The Press Conference witnessed the launching of the Second Guimaras SOC Report and the Xiamen ICM Story.
- iv. The interview focused on the impacts of ICM implementation in Guimaras Province and Xiamen and the value of the indicator-based SOC reporting in capturing the progress made and impacts in ICM implementation. It was highlighted that the Second SOC Report was able to capture evidences that showed significant improvements in environmental governance and management practices of Guimaras Province.
- v. The interview also focused on the benefits of being a member of the PNLG and how the PNLG Forum has served as an effective venue for showcasing the host local government's efforts in sustainable development.

vi. Online articles from the Press Conference are available at the following links:

<https://thedailyguardian.net/local-news/guimaras-wants-to-become-agri-tourism-capital-of-wv/>

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1055401>

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## ANNEX 1: PNLG Forum Agenda



**PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES**  
**Andana Resort, Guimaras Province, Philippines**  
**29 November 2018**

**Opening Ceremony of the PNLG General Assembly**

- 13:30 – 13:40**                    **Welcome Message from Local Host**  
 Hon. Samuel Gumarin, M.D.  
 Governor  
 Province of Guimaras  
 Philippines
- 13:40 – 13:50**                    **Message from Philippine representative**  
 Asec. Marcial Amaro, Jr  
 Assistant Secretary for Field Operations - Visayas  
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines
- 13:50 – 14:00**                    **Message from PEMSEA Representative**  
 Mr. Makoto Harunari  
 Technical Session Chair  
 EAS Partnership Council
- 14:00 – 14:10**                    **Opening Remarks from PNLG**  
 Hon. Noraini Binti Roslan  
 President, Kuala Selangor District Council, Malaysia, and  
 President, PNLG

**General Assembly**

- 14:10 – 15:00**                    **PNLG Strategic Action Plan (SAP): Measuring and Reporting Progress in Implementation**
- (c) Guimaras Province First and Second State of the Coasts: Showcasing positive trends in environmental governance and management practices**
- Ms. Nancy Bermas  
 Sr. Country Programme Manager



PEMSEA Resource Facility

**(d) PNLG SAP Tracking System: Reporting on SDG commitments**

Ms. Ma. Leah Joy Gabayeron  
EMS I, Guimaras Environment and Natural Resources Office  
Guimaras Province

**15:00 – 15:15**

**Coffee Break**

**15:15 – 15:45**

**ICM Code and ICM Certification**

Mr. Renato Cardinal, Program Manager for Partnership  
Applications/Certification Officer, PEMSEA

**15:45 – 16:15**

**PNLG Work Plan and Budget 2018 and 2019**

PNLG Secretariat

**16:15 – 16:40**

**Election of PNLG Officers**

PNLG Secretariat

**16:40 - 17:15**

**Induction of new PNLG members**

- Jinjiang, PR China
- Bontang, Indonesia

**17:15– 17:30**

**Closing of the PNLG Forum 2018**

Hon. Noraini Binti Roslan  
President, Kuala Selangor District Council, Malaysia, and  
President, PNLG

**17:40 – 18:20**

**PNLG Forum Press Conference**

Interviewees: Governor Samuel Gumarin, PNLG President Mrs. Noraini Roslan,  
PNLG Secretariat Representative Dr. Fang Qinghua and Mr. Lin Guozong,  
PEMSEA Resource Facility, Ms. Nancy Bermas

- **Launching of Guimaras SOC Report** (to be led by Gov. Samuel Gumarin)
- **Launching of Xiamen’s Story (ICM) Book** (to be led by Mr. Lin Guozhong, Deputy Director General of Xiamen Municipal Bureau of Oceans and Fisheries)
- **Press Conference about PNLG Forum 2018 (Key results and future prospects)**

## ANNEX 2: List of Participants

## ANNEX 2. List of Participants

Site	Full Name	Gender	Affiliation	Title	Contact Details
<b>CAMBODIA</b>					
Sihanoukville	Kong Vitanak	M	Sihanoukville	Deputy Provincial Governor and PMO Director	Vitheikrong, Mondol3, Sangkat3, Sihanoukville, Preah Sihanouk Province Tel: (855) 12 947 869 <a href="mailto:kongvitanak@yahoo.com">kongvitanak@yahoo.com</a>
	Sarath Sok Han	F	Sihanoukville	Accompanying Person of Deputy Governor	Vitheikrong, Mondol3, Sangkat3, Sihanoukville, Preah Sihanouk Province Tel: (855) 12 947 869 <a href="mailto:kongvitanak@yahoo.com">kongvitanak@yahoo.com</a>
	Prak Visal	M	Sihanoukville	Deputy Director of Administration Division and ICM Project Coordinator	Vitheikrong, Mondol3, Sangkat3, Sihanoukville, Preah Sihanouk Province Tel: (855) 11 789 222 <a href="mailto:visalpmo@yahoo.com">visalpmo@yahoo.com</a>
	Nay Sally	F	Sihanoukville	Vice-Chief of Foreign Affairs Office and ICM Program Assistant	<a href="mailto:sallynay@gmail.com">sallynay@gmail.com</a>
	Samuth Sothearith	M	Sihanoukville		<a href="mailto:sallynay@gmail.com">sallynay@gmail.com</a>
	Ven Muoy Long	F	Sihanoukville		<a href="mailto:sallynay@gmail.com">sallynay@gmail.com</a>

Site	Full Name	Gender	Affiliation	Title	Contact Details
Kampot	Kong Bunnary	F	Kampot Province	Director of Planning and Investment and ICM (PNLG) Coordinator	<a href="mailto:kongbunnary168@gmail.com">kongbunnary168@gmail.com</a>
Kep	Chhun Chanvanthou	M	Kep Province	Director of Sectors Division.	c/o Vanthon Chhun: <a href="mailto:vanthon.chhun@yahoo.com">vanthon.chhun@yahoo.com</a>
	Khen Sopheak	M	Kep Province	Officer of Kep Provincial Hall	<a href="mailto:sopheak_K@hotmail.com">sopheak_K@hotmail.com</a>
Koh Kong	On Phereak	M	Koh Kong Province	Deputy Governor	c/o Mr. Ros Chivin: <a href="mailto:ros.chivin@gmail.com">ros.chivin@gmail.com</a>
	Meng Aykin	F	Koh Kong Province	Accompanying Person of Deputy Governor	c/o Mr. Ros Chivin: <a href="mailto:ros.chivin@gmail.com">ros.chivin@gmail.com</a>
	Sek Samol	M	Koh Kong Province	Director, Investing and Planning Division	c/o Mr. Ros Chivin: <a href="mailto:ros.chivin@gmail.com">ros.chivin@gmail.com</a>
	Ros Chivin	M	Koh Kong Provincial Administration	Sub-chief, Capacity Building Office	c/o Mr. Ros Chivin: <a href="mailto:ros.chivin@gmail.com">ros.chivin@gmail.com</a>
<b>CHINA</b>					
Fangchenggang	Lin Kunqiang	M	Fangchenggang Municipal Bureau of Ocean and Fisheries	Deputy Director General	c/o PNLG Secretariat in Xiamen <a href="mailto:pnlg2015@163.com">pnlg2015@163.com</a>

Site	Full Name	Gender	Affiliation	Title	Contact Details
	Yu Haitao	M	Fangchenggang Municipal Bureau of Ocean and Fisheries	Associate Consultant	c/o PNLG Secretariat in Xiamen <a href="mailto:pnlg2015@163.com">pnlg2015@163.com</a>
Jinjiang	Sun Wenxin	M	Jinjiang Municipal Bureau of Ocean and Fisheries	Deputy Director General	c/o PNLG Secretariat in Xiamen <a href="mailto:pnlg2015@163.com">pnlg2015@163.com</a>
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## ANNEX 3: Opening Ceremony Speeches

## **Governor's Welcome Message for PNLG Forum 2018**

November 29, 2018 | 1 pm | Andana Resort

To our honorary guests and partners, Mr. Makoto Harunari, Technical Session Chair, East Asian Seas Partnership Council; Mr. Marcial Amaro, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Field Operations – Visayas, DENR; Honorable Noraini Binti Roslan, PNLG President; Honorable John Edward Gando, Vice Governor, Guimaras Province; local chief executives and government officials, colleagues in the public service and members of the PNLG, good afternoon.

As Governor of the Province of Guimaras, it is my honor and pride to welcome you here in our Island-Province. Perhaps, most of you are first timers in boarding a wooden boat and visiting our small and beautiful island. I thank you for choosing Guimaras as the host of this 2018 PNLG Forum and in responding to our invitation.

Guimaras is the youngest province in Western Visayas, yet despite of our size in terms of land area and falls to the millennial generation in terms of governance, we are thriving to get along with our older and bigger siblings in the Region. Getting along means defining our specific role and contribution to the socio-economic agenda as well as our efforts to the sustainable development goals wherein ecological balance must always be considered given that we are fragile as an island ecosystem.

While we strive to build an interconnected global economy, we, in Guimaras province, value the importance of the environment and protecting it for the future of our people and our small island.

I always reiterated this: that our micro efforts will have macro effects. No matter how small your steps are, they create huge impacts in the society. These major outcomes ensued because of our partnership and commitment to work for our vision of becoming the agri-eco tourism capital of Western Visayas.

The 2006 oil spill incident was a defining moment for the Province of Guimaras on how and what are the means could we recover brought by this human induced disaster that led to losing our track to our direction. The several immediate aids and assistance provided by various agencies during those times, most of them were uncoordinated and probably lost our opportunity on how could we possibly maximized those benefits.



This challenge in 2006 resulted into a positive outcome. Gradually, we were able to redirect into our path going into our vision as the agri-eco tourism capital of the region where ICM plays as the key development strategy.

Implementation of ICM Program in the Province had strengthened our inter-agency coordination. Through the ICM-Program Coordinating Committee, it had harmonized our overlapping responsibilities and avoided duplications of particular project or initiative where all are for the welfare of our constituents and for the Province, contributing to the global ocean agenda targets.

In fact, it is indicated in our Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan that ICM is our key island development strategy. We are the first Province in our country to have passed the ICM Ordinance where its provisions and articles are aligned with the ICM Bill being reviewed by the current 17th Congress.

The preparation and carrying out of these events hosted by our Province was made possible and had showed how partnerships and strong collaborations work in our Province. This activity is not solely undertaken by the Provincial Government but these involve our partners from PEMSEA, other Government Agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Transportation, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Education, Philippine National Police, the Academe John B. Lacson Foundation Maritime University and University of the Philippines Visayas, our five Municipalities, other government and non-government organizations.

The strong collaboration also manifested on the completion of our Second State of the Coast Report for the Province. It was crafted by the SOC tasked team composed of members from the various sectors of the Government. It had undergone tedious data gathering, drafting, review and series of workshops.

All of these highlighted achievements had succeeded with the strong support of PEMSEA Resource Facility. Through them we had widened our network as well as realizing our vision that must have concerted efforts and that will contribute within and outside of our Province.

Again, ladies and gentlemen, my warmest welcome to everyone, I look forward that you will enjoy your stay here in our Province.

May you come back and spend your vacation here with your family and to build strong partnerships among us sooner.

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**PNLG Opening Message from PEMSEA  
November 29, 2018**

**Mr. Makoto Harunari, EAS Partnership Council Technical Chair**

Good afternoon, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of PEMSEA and the EAS Partnership Council, I am very pleased to be given an opportunity to be with all of you once again. Thank you all for your commitment to this forum through the years, as evidenced by your local government's annual attendance and participation.

Let me first acknowledge this year's host, the Provincial Government of Guimaras led by Gov. Samuel Gumarin, for the fantastic job they have done in bringing us all together. Guimaras may be known for producing the sweetest mangoes, but it is also the home of caring and resilient people. We are in such beautiful and pristine surroundings now that's it's easy to forget the catastrophic oil spill that happened here in 2006. Some 500,000 liters out of 2 million liters of bunker fuel were spilled when the oil tanker MV Solar I sank off the coast of Guimaras that year. The event, dubbed the largest oil spill in the Philippines, affected marine sanctuaries and mangrove forests in three of the five municipalities in Guimaras. The spill even reached as far as the shores of Iloilo and Negros Occidental. Guimaras Strait, the site of the oil spill, connects the Visayan Sea with the Sulu Sea, which is a vital fishing ground in Western Visayas. So, you can just imagine the scope and magnitude of the disaster. The situation was so grave that fishing activities were halted for about a year.

It was this disaster, though, that brought about the partnership between Guimaras and PEMSEA. In 2007, the provincial government expressed its intent to implement an ICM program through a letter sent to PEMSEA. By April 2008, a site evaluation mission was conducted to determine the suitability of ICM implementation in the province. The rest, as they say, is history.

Today, the island province is an exemplary ICM parallel site and has mainstreamed ICM priorities into the Guimaras Medium-Term Development Plan of 2014-2019. The story of Guimaras underscores how important our work this afternoon is. Local governments are at the forefront of marine conservation and, just like Guimaras, continue to take their destinies in their own hands by reaching out and collaborating with entities such as PEMSEA. This while working hand-in-hand with the national government and international organizations in honoring global treaties on oceanic and marine preservation, including the Sustainable Development Goals.

The PNLG and this annual forum have become the locus where local governments come together to exchange ideas, share and monitor progress, learn about and discuss the implementation of best practices, as well as keep each other up-to-date on emerging challenges and ways in addressing these challenges. Every year, local governments are given the chance to not only report about their progress, but help other communities rise by learning from their ICM experience.

In 2015, the member countries of PEMSEA through the Da Nang committed that by 2021, 25% of the region's coastline and contiguous watershed areas will be covered by ICM programs. The PNLG is at the forefront in achieving this important target. With your strong support, I am pleased to inform you that we have now reached almost 18% of the region's coastline. We hope that the PNLG as a network will continue to promote good ICM practices and ensure that the progress we have made in ICM in each of the sites will be further strengthened. The ICM book that was launched during the Partnership Night which contains your inspiring stories is a testament of such good practices.

Members of the PNLG have also committed to the continuing development of local State of Coasts (SOC) reports to help local governments and other organizations monitor and report on implementation of ICM programs, including impacts and benefits, and guide policy and management interventions. The usefulness of this reporting system will be further presented today with the launch of Guimaras' 2<sup>nd</sup> SOC Report. On behalf of PEMSEA, we congratulate Guimaras on this significant effort. We hope that the rest of the PNLG members will continue to do same.

In light of the challenges that we continue to face as communities, countries, regions and, ultimately, citizens of one endangered planet, I would like to reaffirm PEMSEA's commitment in providing support to current and future ICM sites and PNLG members. Together with the PNLG Secretariat, PEMSEA will continue to give assistance, especially through technical means. Our network of experts will always be on hand to share their knowledge. PEMSEA and the PNLG Secretariat will also facilitate linkages between members and entities who can provide opportunities for capacity building and knowledge sharing to further aid ICM implementation.

In line with the EAS Congress theme of Moving as One with the Global Ocean Agenda, it is important that we all get onboard in order to bring about change and make positive impact. This is the reason why forums such as the annual PNLG Forum is important so we can get our heads and hearts together to work on common innovative solutions and actions.

Let me end by congratulating the PNLG for its invaluable contribution to the conservation of our regional coastal resources. PEMSEA will continue to nurture the strong partnership we have forged with PNLG. You can count on us for support and we shall be there for you as you carry on with your brilliant work.

Thank you and good afternoon.

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**PNLG Forum Opening Message  
November 29, 2018**

**Mrs. Noraini Binti Roslan, PNLG President**

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

I am honored to be with you all today as we gather to reaffirm our commitment to saving the oceans and exchanging ideas, knowledge, and expertise in achieving the targets we set in the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments Strategic Action Plan for 2016-2021.

Before anything else, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the provincial government of Guimaras, under the guidance and leadership of Gov. Samuel Gumarin, not only for hosting us today and showering us with warmth and hospitality, but also for their tireless efforts on promoting sustainable development for the island and the preservation of Guimaras' ecosystem through membership in the PNLG. One can recognize sincere and effective governance when leaders find innovative solutions to pressing concerns.

I would also like to thank the participants who have come from all over the region to join us in this forum. I am in awe of your commitment and I appreciate your presence. It goes without saying that local governments are at the frontlines in the fight against climate change and oceanic and coastal degradation.

Since the formal inception of PNLG in December 2006, our organization has grown steadily. By end of today, we will reach 50 members, from Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Timor Leste, Thailand and Vietnam. We also have two associate members – the First Institute of Oceanography of the Chinese State Oceanic Administration, and the Coastal and Ocean Management Institute of Xiamen University. This expansion is testament to the region's recognition of the power of collaboration between local and national governments, as well as concern for the ever-looming threat of climate change. Time is of the essence and we must act now.

Local governments are the bridge between the national government and constituents, and are able to articulate the capabilities of the community, as well as rally people towards action. Real momentum can only happen when national and local governments work together. Tapping the strengths of local governments in managing coastal programs is one of the many achievements of PNLG that we should all be proud of.

Another is building the capacity of members through knowledge sharing activities, annual technical sessions, study visits among other interventions. I hope that with the help of the PNLG Secretariat and PEMSEA Resource Facility, we can continue providing regular capacity development initiatives and programs for our PNLG members on ICM and key sustainable development aspects. PNLG members' capacities are at different levels of development and the beauty of membership in an organization such as ours is the ability to help our neighbors move forward so we can all collectively sail towards progress.

With adherence to the principle “no one gets left behind” as espoused by the Sustainable Development Goals, PNLG aligned its goals with the global targets. In particular, focusing on members’ actions in four sectors, namely: water and sanitation, sustainable communities, climate, and conservation and food security. With PNLG’s commitment to blue economy, we also see the opportunity of linking our local government commitments and initiatives with investment opportunities. Boosting investors’ confidence on the sustainable development efforts at the local level, would allow for more capital flows into crucial environmental and coastal management programming right where it can have the most immediate impact.

Through the PNLG Strategic Action Plan 2016-2021, we hope that each PNLG member is able to identify specific initiative that contributes to key SDG targets. In order for our progress and commitments to be tracked and reported accurately and in a timely manner, PNLG and PEMSEA developed an online reporting platform, which was launched in January 2018. I call upon all the PNLG members to utilize this online reporting platform which can serve as useful system to see our progress and how our efforts on the ground are creating impacts at a global scale.

We have so much good ICM-related practices and inspiring stories at the local level that other local governments from within and outside the East Asian Seas region can benefit from. With your support, I hope that we can collaborate on releasing an annual newsletter starting next year to highlight some of our efforts and good practices on the ground.

There are challenges ahead, for sure. Foremost would be capacity building for local governments that are falling behind. I believe, however, that by holding each other up, sharing information, participating in forums such as this, and working with other PNLG members and associations, we can rise together.

We are one with the world in saving the oceans, and we start with our own waters. We begin by educating our communities. We utilize interventions and innovations that have been proven successful, such as ICM, and expand them. In short, we care, we collaborate, and we act.

Once again, thank you.

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## ANNEX 4: Statements of the New Members

## **Speech of Mr. Zulkifli,**

Development Administration Assistant of Secretary of Bontang City, East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia

### ***Assalamu 'alaikum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuh***

May peace, mercy and blessings of the God be upon all of you

### **Honorable board and members of the PNLG, and all guests in PNLG Forum 2018,**

First of all, let me deliver greetings from our Mayor, Mrs. Neni Moerniaeni, to all participants. She was supposed present at this event and delivered her speech. She apologized that she could not attend because of hosting the coordination meeting of the Indonesian City Government Association for the Kalimantan region today.

On behalf of the Government of Bontang City, we are pleased to be here in PNLG Forum 2018. Our deepest appreciation goes the PEMSEA, the PNLG Secretariat, and the Province of Guimaras who have invited us to participate in this important forum at the first time.

We hope that through this forum, we can share ideas, unite our efforts and commitments to provide sustainable development for our people back in our home city and country.

### **Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,**

Bontang City is one of cities in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. Bontang is 3 hours air-travel from Jakarta – the Capital City of Indonesia. Bontang has around 49.000 hectares of total area, consists of more or less 30% land area and 70% sea area.

With a coastline of 135.79 km, Bontang has many mangrove ecosystems, coral reefs and seagrasses with various biological diversity in its coastal area. The use of coastal area in Bontang is very diverse, resulting in many problems including damage to coral reefs and seagrass beds, and degradation of mangrove ecosystems due to pollution and unsustainable human activities.

Many efforts of the coastal area management have been carried out, starting from compiling the Strategic Plan and Zoning Plans for coastal areas and small islands in 2008, reserving the coastal and marine conservation areas in 2010, and integrating coastal zoning plans into the City Spatial Plan in 2012.

Bontang also undertakes various efforts to improve economy of communities in coastal area through support for marine fish farming, seaweed cultivation, and capture fisheries, the development of marine tourism and creative economies, the provision of electricity, clean water and sanitation facilities.

The uses of coastal areas must be followed by efforts to protect the area from various environmental degradation. Therefore, Bontang continues to carry out mangrove planting and coral reef rehabilitation by involving the private sector and the community.

Recently, Bontang and other cities and regencies in Indonesia have been challenged by policies that the marine coastal area management is under the authority of the Central Government and the Provincial Government.

**Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,**

The challenges and problems of coastal area will be more complicated in the future. These need cooperation between regions, between government levels, and between government and the public or private sector through the ICM implementation.

Recently, we have signed agreement with Ministry of Environment and Forestry and PEMSEA to implement ICM in Bontang. We are ecstatic to become a new member of PNLG. We hope as a member that our skills and experiences will be improved to effectively implement ICM.

Bontang are committed to strict compliance of PNLG membership rules and charter, and we will be actively involved in PNLG-related activities, particularly in the implementation of integrated management of coastal area, promotion of sustainable development of the East Asian Seas region and sharing of knowledge and experience with the PNLG members.

**Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,**

Before we finish this speech, let us show a short video about Bontang City.

**Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,**

End of all, Hillel the Elder once said: IF NOT US, THEN WHO – IF NOT NOW, THEN WHEN. Thus, we all here are the agents of change, take actions now for the sustainable future.

Thank you for your kind attention.

May the God guide us all

***Wassalamu 'alaikum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuh***

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## Jinjiang – A Beautiful Costal City in China

November 29, 2018

Ladies and gentlemen:

To start with, I would like to thank PNLG for admitting Jinjiang City to the organization! And I would love to express my gratitude to PEMSEA and PNLG for inviting me to this meeting in the Philippines and for the warm welcome and reception in Iloilo City!

For the past few days, I've learned a lot from the conferences and communication with leaders and experts, which enhance mutual understanding and friendship as well. Today, I am delighted to be here to give a speech representing Jinjiang City and I wish to take this opportunity to briefly introduce the economic development and marine environmental protection of Jinjiang. I hope my speech can help you know more about Jinjiang City.

Jinjiang is a beautiful costal city with 649 square kilometers of land area and 957 square kilometers of sea area. With three sides facing the sea and a coastline of 121 kilometers, Jinjiang enjoys abundant marine resources. Jinjiang City has eight coastal towns and four main bays, which are Quanzhou Bay(泉州湾), Shenhui Bay(深沪湾), Weitou Bay(围头湾) and Anhai Bay(安海湾). There are three natural reserves covering 52.6 square kilometers including National Natural Reserve of Shenhui Bay Fujian Jinjiang Shenhui Bay National Geological Park and Provincial Natural Reserve of Quanzhou Bay Estuary Wetland.

Jinjiang's economy strength has maintained at the first place among counties in Fujian province for 24 consecutive years. It won the right to host large-scale events such as the 18<sup>th</sup> Gymnasiade in 2020, FISU World Cup-Football etc. It has been awarded honorary titles such as National Civilized City, National Ecological City, National Garden City, National Marine Ecological Civilization Demonstration Zone, China Caring City, and so on.

In recent years, the city has established a firm concept of marine ecological civilization, which is "Respect the ocean, Protect the ocean and Conform to the nature". Also, we keep promoting the marine ecological construction: We implement the strictest control measures. As a result, the marine ecology has been improved; the marine ecological environment is still a grim challenge. The coastal zone cooperative protection mechanism is still imperfect.

Ladies and gentlemen, Jinjiang is a developed coastal city and people there are brave and aspirant, having open and inclusive minds. At present, China proposes Belt and Road Initiative to deepen the cooperation with countries along the shoreline. Under the conception of win-win cooperation, we hope to learn more about protecting marine ecological environment by joining PNLG and look forward to hearing from your suggestions on integrated management work of Jinjiang coastal zone!

Last but not the least, you are warmly welcome to visit China, Jinjiang City to exchange experience and seek for cooperation opportunity. Let's build beautiful coastal city with joint efforts!

Now, please enjoy the video of Jinjiang City.

Thank you very much.

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