



**Distinguished representatives,  
Friends and Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As a result of the current negotiations by UNCSD Parties in Rio+20 in June on oceans and coastal marine resource governance, the international community has emphasised the important links between sustainable economic growth, poverty eradication, food security and sustainable livelihoods, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment, and adapting to climate change.

These important linkages between healthy oceans and coasts with sustainable economic development, poverty eradication, food security and sustainable livelihoods, have also been recognized in our CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (CTI RPOA). Strategically, the CTI-CFF has developed goals and regional priority actions aimed at addressing the major threats to the Coral Triangle's marine biodiversity and resources many of which are common threats faced around the globe.

Friends and Colleagues,

The State of Coral Triangle Report was established by SOM/MM as the CTI-CFF report on the status of biophysical and socio-economic characteristics of the marine resources and communities. The SCTR was directed as point of reference to track progress and change from time to time and as progressing baselines for Monitoring and Evaluation measurements for the overarching goals and target of the CTI-CFF. This report should be considered as part of continuous effort to develop more quantitative targets and plan of actions.

As we heard from the presentations today, the member countries have completed their first national SCTR for CTI-CFF. In the panel discussion earlier, we received significant input from scientists on prioritized parameters that need to be considered or need to be added in such report. What's more, we received supporting encouragement to conduct scientific researches and studies to strengthen our understanding on the overall dynamics in Coral Triangle. It would reinforce the basis for our planning process, implementing actions and monitoring and evaluating progress. It would also significantly improve decision and policy making process in the Coral Triangle region.

**Friends and Colleagues,**

Lesson learned from Rio+20 last month give us insight on the need to prepare far reaching regional statements. I am excited to note that the SCTR process was giving some emphasis to the higher level outcomes of CTI which are sustained ecosystem services from ocean, coral reefs and fisheries, sustained fishery production and improved food security – and trying to link and interpret how the five goals in the CTI-CFF contribute to such.

Addressing this challenge requires a transformation in approaches to oceans management. In Rio+20, several countries promotes "Blue Economy" concepts which propose deriving economic and social benefits from oceans in an efficient, equitable and sustainable way in both the short and long term. I consider the CTI-CFF as a suitable regional framework for implementing such concept due to its parallel with our principle guidance which recognizes those important linkages between healthy oceans and coasts with sustainable economic growth, poverty eradication, food security and sustainable livelihoods.

The Coral Triangle's vast marine resources are critical for both economic and food security, and as a global biodiversity conservation priority. The marine and coastal ecosystems of the region provide significant actual and potential economic benefits to over 360 million people in the region, and many more beyond the region. This is a large constituency --- living in a situation of fragile food security and disproportionate levels of poverty.

As such, it is important to look carefully at the economic values of the rich coral triangle ecosystems – from the rich fisheries, to the value of tourism, and the importance of healthy coral reefs and mangroves for the climate resilience of the region – and consider what substantive impacts our actions will have on livelihoods, employment, food security and fiscal revenues, as well as biodiversity conservation.

With its focus on **“people centred biodiversity conservation”**, I believe CTI countries are keen to discuss and work with partners, experts and other institutions to be able to deliver a strong outcome for oceans, fisheries and biodiversity in light of their economic, social and environmental significance. The initiative has gathered significant progress, but there are still many works need to be done. The plans of action need to be fully funded, country programs must be replicated, and regional cooperation programs must be strengthened.

CTI-CFF plan of actions have to become an integral part of each countries development plan. As such, sciences and researches have to be tailored to address countries need above. In consequence, the SCTR, as part of the ME system for CTI-CFF has to be in continuous improvement to grasp the ever-increasing demand for comprehensiveness of ecosystem conservation, economic development and social inclusiveness.

Therefore, I congratulate and convey my earnest appreciation for the country writing teams, regional organizations and experts who have contributed to the writing of the first CTI-CFF State of Coral Triangle Report. **This report will become our benchmark for future actions.** Special thank goes to the Asian Development Bank who provide a special team to coordinate the writing process. The Secretariat also acknowledges support from individuals and institutions in the process of its preparation, data collection and report writing. I especially would like to thank my team Mr. Eko Rudianto and Dr. Darmawan for their hard work and never ending support in the Interim Secretariat.

**Distinguished representatives,  
Friends and Colleagues,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

With this, I officially launch the first State of Coral Triangle Report of the CTI-CFF.

**THE SCREEN SHOWS THE 6 REPORTS OF COUNTRY SCTR.**

I thank again for all of your support and hard work in developing this report, and I look forward to continue the cooperation in developing and strengthening forthcoming SCTR report in a couple of years.

Dr. Suseno Sukoyono