

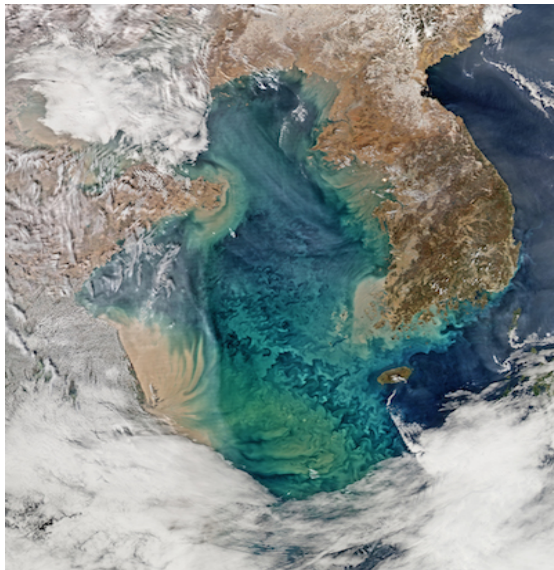


YSLME

UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea
Large Marine Ecosystem

3rd Interim Commission Council Meeting

12-14 MARCH 2019 • QINGDAO, PR CHINA



Agenda 3.3

Project Progress Report





Contents

- Implementation of the Decisions of MSTP-2/ICC-2 and recommendations of the RWGs
- Implementation progress of PCAs, procurement, grants, events and recruitment plans;
- Project expenditure in 2018;
- Partnerships;
- Issues, risks, proposed actions and lessons learnt

Recommendations (revised)

The Secretariat recommends that the 3rd Meetings of the MSTP and ICC:

- adopt the project progress report;
- review and provide guidance to responsible parties for effective implementation of the project PCAs, subcontracts and consultancies, and monitoring of progress;
- approve the expenditure of 2018; and
- request the Secretariat to report the progress of the implementation of the recommendations at the next meeting of the ICC.

Implementation of decisions of MSTP-2/ ICC-2 and recommendations of the RWGs - implemented



Recommendations	Status of Implementation
Efficient use of times of RWG members	<p><u>Implemented:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ RWG-A, RWG-F and RWG-M reviewed technical reports, TORs, financial proposals and progress of activities; ❖ RWG-A was held back to back with China-Korea Workshop on Harmful Marine Organisms in Yellow Sea.
Faster recruitment of consultants	<p><u>Implemented:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Weekly meeting between UNOPS Copenhagen team and PMO in initiated in September 2018 ❖ Monthly meeting between UNDP/GEF, UNDO CO, UNOPS and PMO to resolve implementation issues timely ❖ CBI training and certification of Project Manager and Operations Associate in December 2018 to allow PMO to chair and participate in interviews of consultants/interns

Implementation of decisions of MSTP-2/ ICC-2 and recommendations of the RWGs - implemented



Decisions	Status of Implementation
Project Communication	❖ Implemented. New logo was approved after 30 days of ICC-2 and is used in communication products
Request for Project Extension	❖ Implemented. The project was officially extended to December 31, 2019.
Responses to Mid-term evaluation recommendation and request	❖ Implemented. Information requested by MTR mission submitted within the deadline; ❖ Management responses prepared and implemented. To be reported under a separate agenda
Balanced report of project progress in PRC and ROK	❖ implemented. Quarterly Progress Report, Project Implementation Report (PIR) and PIR in 2018 circulated to RO Korea and PR China for inputs. <i>Recommendation: ROK also report the project implementation progress in line with the TORs agreed at the RWGs supported by co-financing</i>

Implementation of decisions of MSTP-2/ ICC-2 and recommendations of the RWGs – in progress



Decisions	Status of Implementation
Review of the Implementation of the YSLME SAP 2009-2020	❖ In progress. Reports to be presented by PRC and ROK for review at MSTP-3/ICC-3
Engagement of DPR Korea	❖ In progress. UNESCAP-ENEA, Hanns Seidel Foundation and EAAFP committed to support but was unrealized due to postponement of the YSLME Biodiversity Forum. To be discussed at a separate agenda
Request for Project Extension	❖ In progress for prioritization of activities: 117 activities reduced to 86 activities at the time of extension; Further prioritized in the workplan 2019 for review at the MSTP-3/ICC-3 to determine whether a second extension is needed for a satisfactory implementation of the project

Implementation of decisions of MSTP-2/ ICC-2 and recommendations of the RWGs – to be implemented



Recommendations	Status of Implementation
Enhancing coordination among RWGs	❖ To be implemented. 3 rd YSLME Science Conference, to be discussed under separate agenda at the MSTP-3/ICC-3
RWG review of YSLME reports before release to public domain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To be implemented. Ensuring participation of RWG Chairs/Vice Chairs at 3rd YSLME Science Conference and SAP update workshop ❖ Applicable to updated TDA and SAP;
Having one YSLME Commission secretariat	❖ To be implemented. Referred to Task Force on Rules of Governance

Implementation of decisions of MSTP-2/ ICC-2 and recommendations of the RWGs – to be implemented



Decisions	Status of Implementation
Yellow Sea Partnership	❖ To be implemented. YSLME Biodiversity Forum to become a parallel event of 3 rd YSLME Science Conference;
Task Forces on Sustainable Financing and Rules of Governance	❖ To be implemented. Members yet to be nominated by the two countries

Implementation of decisions of MSTP-2/ ICC-2 and recommendations of the RWGs – not fully implemented



Decisions	Status of Implementation
Yellow Sea Partnership	❖ Not fully implemented. Yellow Sea Grant Program launched on Jan 9 but the CFP guidelines are unable to fully encourage participation of NGOs of both countries as agreed. YSGP will be further discussed under Agenda 8.6 of MSTP-3/ICC-3
Task Forces on Sustainable Financing and Rules of Governance	❖ Not fully implemented. Ocean Governance Specialist and Financing Specialist on board on June 7, 2018 and Sept. 7, 2018 respectively, and deliverables submitted but are not included for discussion at the request of PR China. A consultancy contract will be issued to review options for a sustainable regional ocean governance mechanism to be discussed after this motive and the TOR is approved at MSTP-3/ICC-3

Progress with Implementation of Project Cooperation Agreements (PCAs)



PCA	No. of reports	Reports due	Reports submitted	Remark
FIO	10	3	3	PCA amendment pending approval at MSTP-3/ICC-3
YSFRI	15	11	8	3 reports pending submission (COC guidelines; IMTA promotion plan in Shandong; biodiversity overlay and MPA recommendations)
NMEMC	16	10	6	4 reports pending submission (nutrient loading, nutrients from atmosphere, sea and fertilizer use; new MPA assessment. NSAP 2018-2020 cancelled)

Progress with Implementation of Project Cooperation Agreements (PCAs)



Institution	Total (A) (USD)	1 st payment (USD)	2 nd payment (USD)	Sum of payment (USD)	Balance (USD)
FIO	437,000	87,400	0	87,400	349,600 (80%)
YSFRI	446,700	90,000	129,400	219,400	227,300 (51%)
NMEMC	407,500	80,000	80,000	160,000	247,500 (61%)
Subtotal	1,291,200	257,400	209,400	466,800	824,400 (63%)

Implementation status of Procurement and Grants



	Planned	Issued	Grant amount (USD)	Delivered amount (USD)	Percentage of delivery (USD)
Procurement	8	4	162,731	34,714	21%
YS Grant Program	1 call	0	-	-	-

- For the remaining four procurement activities, the request for proposal for video production is published, while bidding has not been initiated for the remaining three procurement activities in the 2018 plan.
- For grants, the call for proposal for Yellow Sea Grant Program was launched in January, 2019.

Implementation status of Procurement and Grants



	Output	Activity	Budget	Contract value	Payments in 2018	Status
1	Output 1.3.1	Activity 3. develop the YSLME Partnership portal	40,000	46,150	11,538	Website developed and in use (90% paid)
5	Output 2.3.2	Procurement of 3 equipment	27,400	24,700	-	Delivered in January, 2019 (Paid)
3	Output 2.1.1	Activity 2. Assess socio-economic implications of buy-back schemes	82,265	43,881	8,776	Contract in CNY302,782 issued to Nanjing University in September 2018. first payment made

Table 6: Status of Implementation of Procurement & Grants Plan in 2018



	Output	Activity	Budget	Contract value	Payments in 2018	Status
7	Output 3.3.1	Weihai marine litter policy support	53,760	48,000	14,400	2 nd payment pending

Table 6: Status of Implementation of Procurement & Grants Plan in 2018



	Output	Activity	Budget	Contract value	Payments in 2018	Status
2	Output 1.3.2	Activity 2: produce 7 videos	100,000	-	-	Request for award to be prepared
4	Output 2.1.1	Training for re-employment for fishermen	260,108	-	-	PCA under review at ICC-3
6	Output 3.2.1	nutrient reduction through wetland restoration	273,577	-	-	PCA for review in ICC-3

Table 6: Status of Implementation of Procurement & Grants Plan in 2018



	Output	Activity	Budget	Contract value	Payments in 2018	Status
8	Output 4.2.1	Activity 5: spotted seal MPA network strengthening	105,200	-	-	FIO PCA for approval at ICC-3
1	Output 4.4.1	Activity 2: implement the SGP for on-thr-ground results and community actions	300,000	-	-	Call for proposal launched in January 2019

Implementation of the Recruitment Plan



- ❖ In 2018, the PMO and UNOPS team in Copenhagen have managed a total of 25 consultants and interns, including hiring, extending contracts and monitoring implementation of contracts.
- ❖ The engagement of 5 consultants are still in the process.
- ❖ **Table 7** lists all consultants and interns managed by PMO and UNOPS in 2018.



Implementation status of the Planned Events and Activities

- ❖ Thirteen (13) events were conducted as planned for 2018, 4 events were postponed.
- ❖ Key activities organized include: the 2nd Meetings of the MSTP and ICC, RWG-A, RWG-F and RWG- M, MPA connectivity training, IMTA training, fish stock assessment workshop, and the Seminar on the Law and Policy to Promote Regional Ocean Governance.
- ❖ 445 participants attended events, 301 (67.6%) were males and 144 (32.4%) were females.

Table 8: Events in 2018 and Implementation Status



No.	Events and activities	Actual Dates	Venue	No. of participants and gender	Organizers
1	MSTP-2/ICC-2	March 27-29	Dalian, PRC	43 (M:26/F:17)	PMO, SOA and Fisheries Bureau of MARA
2	Mid-Term Review	March-May	Dalian, Weihai, Seoul, Incheon	N/A	UNDP China Office, PMO, SOA/PRC, MOF/ROK
3	YSLME Training IMTA for mariculture operators in Rongcheng City of Shandong Province	May 20	Rongcheng, PRC	32 (M:27/F:5)	PMO, Rongcheng Ocean and Fishery Bureau, Shandong Ocean and Fishery Bureau and YSFRI



Table 8: Events in 2018 and Implementation Status



No.	Events and activities	Actual Dates	Venue	No. of participants and gender	Organizers
4	China-Korea Workshop on Harmful Marine Organisms in Yellow Sea	June 25-26	Kunming, PRC	50 (M:35/F:15)	SOA, MOF, KOEM, IOCAS, NMEMC
	RWG-Assessment and Monitoring	June 27	Kunming, PRC	25 (M:18/ F:7)	PMO
5	Visit of SEAFDEC on Refugia Project by Shandong Province	July 17-18	Bangkok	6 (M:5/ F:1)	UNEP/UNDP Refugia Project, SEAFDEC
6	Workshop on designing a network of MPAs for the YSLME based on biophysical connectivity	July 23-27	Seochon, ROK	29 (M:14/ F:15)	PMO, MNR, KOEM, MOF



Table 8: Events in 2018 and Implementation Status

No.	Events and activities	Actual Dates	Venue	Number of participants and gender	Organizers
7	Fish stock assessment workshop	July 30-31	Tongyeong, ROK	24 (M:16/ F:8)	PMO, NIFS
8	International Training Course of Physiological Energy Measurement Technique of Bivalves	September 17-18	Rongcheng, PRC	119 (M:70/ F:49)	YSFRI, YSLME PMO
9	RWG-Fish Stocks	October 10-11	Jeju, ROK	24 (M:18/ F:6)	YSLME PMO, NIFS



Table 8: Events in 2018 and Implementation Status

No	Events and activities	Actual Dates	Venue	Number of participants and gender	Organizers
10	RWG-Sustainable Mariculture	November 8-9	Jeju, ROK	22 (M:15/ F:7)	YSLME PMO
11	Seminar on the Law and Policy to Promote Regional Ocean Governance	November 17-18, 2018	Qingdao, PRC	50 (M:40/ F:10)	Marine Development Studies Institute of Ocean University of China, Center for Global Climate and marine Governance of Korea University, PMO, NMEMC



Table 8: Events in 2018 and Implementation Status

No.	Events and activities	Actual Dates	Venue	Number of participants and gender	Organizers
12	Integrated Multitrophic Aquaculture (IMTA) Responsibly Farming Waters by Taking Advantage of Ecosystem Services	December 1-2	Bangkok	>3 (M:3/ F:0)	AIT, FIO, Incheon National University
13	Visit of Chungcheongnam-do officials to Shandong Ocean Bureau	December 12-14, 2018	Jinan, PRC	18 (M:14/ F:4)	PMO
TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS				445 (M:301/F:144)	

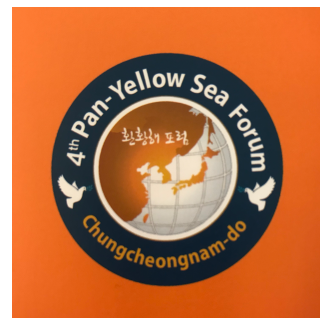


Table 8: Postponed Events in 2018

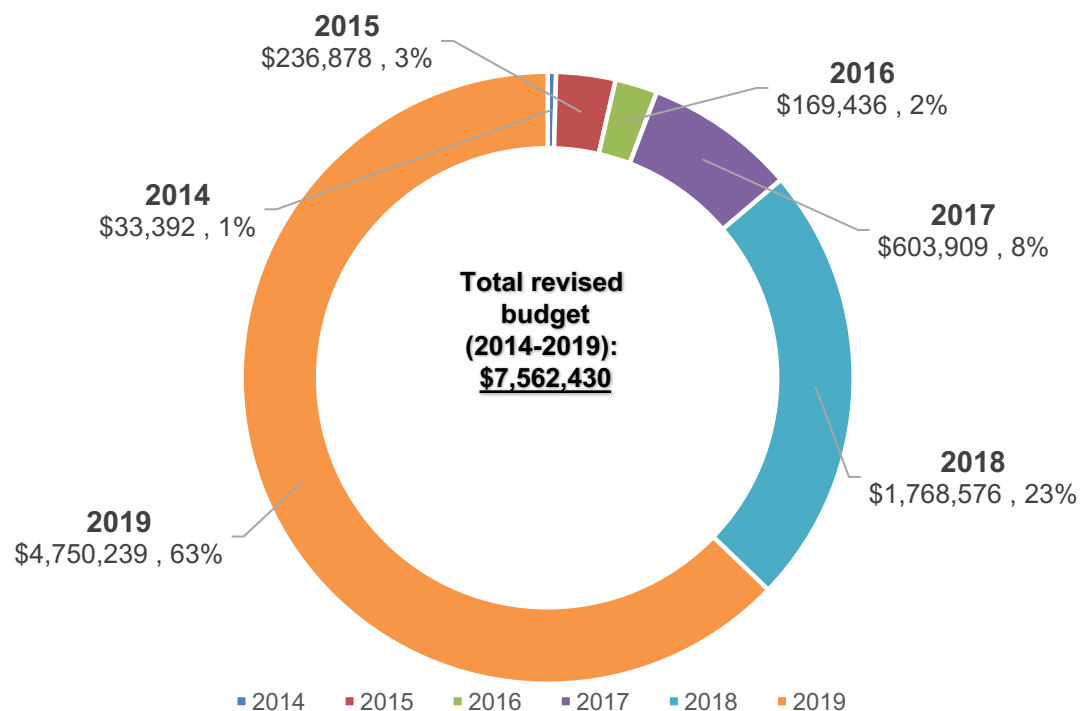


No	Events and activities	Actual Dates	Venue	Organizers	Remarks
1	Exchange visit on marine environment monitoring	July 11	Busan, ROK	KIOST, PMO, NMEMC	AWP 2019
	Workshop on Nutrients	July 12-13	Busan, ROK	KIOST, PMO, NMEMC	3 rd YSLME SC
	2nd RWG-P	July 14	Busan, ROK	KIOST, PMO	deleted
2	HELCOM Visit	August 12	Helsinki and Stockholm	YSLME PMO, HELCOM Secretariat	Deleted
3	2nd RWG-H	September 4	Suzhou, PRC	FIO and PMO	Deleted
	YSLME Biodiversity Forum	September 5-7	Suzhou, PRC	FIO and PMO	3 rd YSLMC SC
4	2nd RWG-G	November 16	Qingdao, PRC	PMO	3 rd YSLME SC

Project Expenditure in 2018



A total of **US\$1,768,576** has been disbursed in 2018, with a balance of \$4,750,239 in 2019.



Delivery in 2019 by component

Component	Delivery (USD)
1	377,663.75
2	857,271.33
3	0
4	139,805.32
5	393,835.84
Total	1,768,576

Strengthened YSLME Partnership



- ❖ MOU with **Incheon Metropolitan City** extended until December 31, 2019;
- ❖ **UNESCAP-ENEA, Hanns Seidel Foundation** and **EAAFP** offered support to YSLME II Project to invite participants of DRP Korea to participate in the YSLME Biodiversity Forum.
- ❖ YSLME Training IMTA for mariculture operators in Shandong Province (May, **Rongcheng**) and International Training Course of Physiological Energy Measurement Technique of Bivalves (September, Rongcheng) with **YSFRI**;
- ❖ China-Korea Workshop on Harmful Marine Organisms in Yellow Sea (June, Kunming) with the Korea Marine Management Corporation (**KOEM**) and Institute of Oceanology of Chinese Academy of Sciences (**IOCAS**);
- ❖ **SEAFDEC** and UNDP/GEF Refugia Project to receive a delegation from Shandong Province, PR China to exchange experiences in conservation of spawning and nursery sites (July, Bangkok);

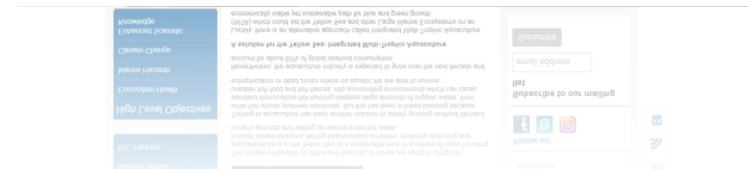
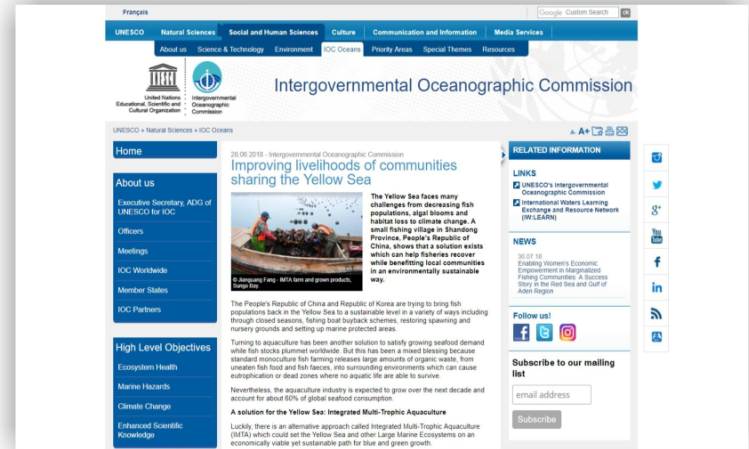
Strengthened YSLME Partnership



- ❖ Marine Biodiversity Institute of Korea (**MABIK**) and **MOF/ROK** in the conduct of Workshop on designing a network of MPAs for the YSLME based on biophysical connectivity (July, Secheon);
- ❖ Marine Development Studies Institute of **Ocean University of China** and **Center for Global Climate and Marine Governance of Korea University** and **NMEMC** in joint organization of the Seminar on the Law and Policy to Promote Regional Ocean Governance (November, Qingdao),
- ❖ **Asian Institute of Technology** in the conduct of IIMTA Responsibly Farming Waters by Taking Advantage of Ecosystem Services (December, Bangkok).

Communication

- Reached out to the IW and LME communities to visualize its impact and progress in meeting the SDGs by the YSLME Phase II Project
- The story of Improving livelihoods of communities sharing the Yellow Sea was featured in the IOC-UNESCO newsletter this June 2018 (<https://mailchi.mp/unesco.org/ioc-news-june-2018>).
- The Project also hosted a booth to introduce the portfolio of YSLME Partnership efforts to participants at the 2018 EAS Congress in Iloilo, Philippines.





Issues, Risks and Lessons Learnt

In 2018, six risks are registered, classified as low to medium risk levels.

Risks and management measures adopted by the project are summarized in the Project Implementation Report (PIR 2018)

Risk register and management measures



Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures
<p>1.1 National, Provincial and Local Governments continue to encourage land reclamation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the coastal habitats with international and regional significance, and integrate these areas under various means of protection and restrictions within legal and policy framework of both countries through marine spatial planning, land use plan, redline system, etc. Work with IUCN, EAAFP, RAMSAR and CBD Secretariat to profile the significance of intertidal mudflats Support to participation of government officials in workshops organized by other partners, and invitation of collaborators such as EAAFP in MPA networking and biodiversity forum, etc.

Risk register and management measures



Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures
2.1 Difficulties in negotiating the joint fisheries stock assessment, causes delay or cancellation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identified swimming crab and small yellow croaker as two target species for stock assessment training and sharing of stock assessment experiences between the two countries.• Results of assessment using the agreed methodologies will be shared at field visits on marine ranching and gear management in 2019.

Risk register and management measures



Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures
<p>2.2 Mariculture enterprises unwilling to adopt integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) in place of monoculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training course to mariculture managers held in May 2018 showcased that IMTA is the real sustainable mariculture practices that saves costs, increases productivity per unit area and generate more income.• Support to establish IMTA enterprise alliance to help build the community of practice of IMTA through the Yellow Sea Grant Program, and support to develop and implement an IMTA Promotion Plan.

Risk register and management measures



Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures
<p>3.1 Potential partners unwilling to make formal commitments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A regional ocean governance workshop held in Qingdao PR China on November 17-18 facilitated discussion on national laws and policies to enable good regional ocean governance.• Non-legally binding cooperation framework between the two countries based on needs, complementarity with existing mechanisms and within the resources and capacity of the two NFPs.

Risk register and management measures



Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures
4.1 restructuring demands stronger implementation coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relocation of the PMO Dalian Branch to Beijing hosted by the Disaster Reduction Center of the MNR,• More frequent meeting of IMCC to give oversight of project implementation.• Quality control mechanisms of National Working Groups be fully operationalized to appraise the deliverables of PCAs, subcontracts and consultants.

Risk register and management measures



Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures
5.1 heavy workload under the project to PMO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upgrade the post of Operations Associate to ICS-10• internship opportunities will be provided to two candidates in Incheon to enhance the chance of employment through learning by doing as a team member.• Task level workplan should be prepared to enable tight control of interrelated activities.

Lessons learnt in implementation of workplan 2018



- ❖ Multi-stakeholder participation in YSLME Partnership can minimize impact of changes in project contexts, such as institutional restructuring;
- ❖ Strong ownership of interim regional environmental governance mechanism in particular RWGs is critical to sustaining results generated from the project.
- ❖ Staff time inputs in organizing RWG meetings and workshops should be balanced to ensure adequate efforts are made in respect of due process in procurement of goods and services and quality control in PCA and contract implementation.
- ❖ Empowerment of interns and talent retention can fill the gaps of staff turn-over and efficient delivery of PMO services;

Recommendations (revised)



The Secretariat recommends that the 3rd Meetings of the MSTP and ICC:

- adopt the project progress report;
- review and provide guidance to responsible parties for effective implementation of the project PCAs, subcontracts and consultancies, and monitoring of progress;
- approve the expenditure of 2018; and
- request the Secretariat to report the progress of the implementation of the recommendations at the next meeting of the ICC.