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**UNDP/GEF PROJECT ENTITLED “REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL STRESS IN THE  
YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM”**

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UNDP/GEF/YS/RWG-B.3/9  
Date: 15 September 2006  
English only

**Third Meeting of the Regional Working Group  
for the Biodiversity Component**

*Weihai, China, 20 – 23 October 2006*

**Biodiversity Component Activities for 2007 and Onwards**

1. During the past two years of Project Implementation, members of the RWG-B have provided technical guidance for implementation of activities under this component. Certain activities have been identified for implementation during the first two years of the Project, but not all have been implemented. The delay has been due to various reasons, including unexpected longer time of data collections, revision of final report , and/or lack of clear directions on how to implement the activities.
2. Agenda 7.1 will focus on the main activities over the next two years that will contribute to the Strategic Action Programme (SAP). This agenda will consider other activities that may not directly contribute to SAP, but are needed for enhancing co-operation and capacity building in the region.

**Agenda 7.2.1**

**Winter co-operative study cruise**

3. The Winter Cruise listed under this Agenda has already been presented to the Regional Scientific and Technical Panel and the Project Steering Committee, and has been approved for implementation. Technical and logistic arrangements for the Biodiversity Component of the Summer Cruise were already discussed. The Biodiversity Group would not need any experts on-board for marine mammal or seabird observation in the Summer Cruise (agreed at Second Technical Meeting for the Co-operative Study Cruises, Qingdao, China, 26 - 27 April 2006). Due to the negotiation and approval process, the Winter Cruise has been postponed to 2007. But the draft workplan relating to the preparation of the winter study cruise for Biodiversity component, including a schedule of activities was not discussed. The Secretariat will update the Meeting on the progress of this activity, if any.

**Agenda 7.2.2**

**Suggestions for other activities**

4. Some suggestions for “Actions” activities are:
  - Development of further scientific and ecological criteria for identification, designation, management, monitoring and evaluation of national and regional systems of protected areas

- Based on the targets, report of ideas recommending types of “long-term investments” needed for the region. “Investments” may include financial, technical, resources items
- Based on the targets, report of ideas recommending regional biodiversity conservation strategies, expanding upon the strategies proposed by Wetlands International
- Regular regional state of environment report for biodiversity

Members should note that some of the above activities can be combined, and reports should include actions to test the recommended ideas through pilot projects.

5. Members are invited to suggest additional activities not mentioned in the other agenda items, and that meet the technical and capacity building needs of the region and also the objectives of the Project.