

Resolution on Coral Reefs and the World summit for sustainable Development 2002

*Adopted during the ICRI Coordination and Planning Committee (CPC) Meeting
5-6 April 2001, Cebu City (Philippines)*

Recognizing that coral reefs and related ecosystems are critically important for the food security of vulnerable groups in coastal areas in tropical nations around the world, especially Small Island Developing States;

Noting the recent reports of the UN Secretary General for the World Summit for Sustainable Development on Oceans and on the Global Status of Biological Diversity stating that 60 percent of the world's coral reefs could be lost by the year 2030;

Reaffirming the UNEP Governing Council Resolution 21/12 which underscores inter alia the urgent need to implement the International Coral Reef Initiative Framework for Action at all levels including the Regional Seas;

The International Coral Reef Initiative Coordinating and Planning Committee:

Calls upon all countries to address the alarming rate of coral reef decline in the decisions to be taken at the forthcoming World Summit for Sustainable Development, in Johannesburg, in September 2002;

Requests multilateral and bilateral agencies support the efforts of developing countries with coral reefs to sustainably manage and protect these critical and vulnerable resources;

Requests the international community to support efforts of developing countries with coral reefs in integrating conservation and sustainable use during the formulation and implementation of economic and development plans and thus part of the poverty alleviation programs.

Requests the co-chairs of the joint ICRI Secretariat to highlight the importance of coral reefs in their respective regions and to promote coordinated actions to address the challenges.