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

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### **First Meeting of the Regional Working Group for the Investment Component** *Yantai, China, 17-20 May 2005*

#### **Available Resources for Data Information Management**

The final outputs of the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Project are to prepare a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), Regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP), National Yellow Sea Action Plans, and demonstration of the SAP. Each of the four natural science Regional Working Groups (RWG) is required to set a common ground for data acquisition for their component, that will contribute to TDA and SAP development. These four RWGs will discuss and agree on the basic requirements and procedures for preparing an initial causal chain analysis, governance analysis, and propose some solutions to address the environmental problems in the Yellow Sea.

In the approved Implementation Plan, the Regional Working Group for Investment is charged with data and information management. The data collected by the other four RWGs, contractors, and project partners require a storage facility and strategies on usage and exchange. Thus, the RWG-I is responsible for: 1) determining regional data and information management capabilities; 2) developing data information management (DIM) strategies to achieve the goals of the Project; and 3) proposing ways to implement DIM. These three activities should be considered while keeping in mind some of the existing data and information systems, as listed below.

#### **Data and Information Sharing and Management**

The following marine environmental data and information systems exist in the Yellow Sea region:

- The World Data Centre for oceanography operated by the International Council for Science (ICSU), in Tianjin, China, which has mirror sites in USA and Moscow, Russia;
- The Regional Oceanographic Data Centre for the Western Pacific Region, operated by the IOC/WESTPAC, in Tokyo, Japan;
- The Northeast Asian Regional Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS), operated by IOC/WESTPAC in the participating countries, including China, Japan, South Korea and Russia;

- The National Oceanographic Data Centre of China, operated by the National Marine Data and Information Services, State Oceanic Administration (SOA), in Tianjin, China;
- The Korean Oceanographic Data Centre, operated by the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF), in Busan, Korea;
- The Regional Marine Environment Data and Information Network, operated by United Nations Environment Programme – Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP), and the Data and Information Network Regional Activity Centre (DINRAC) in Beijing, China.

In addition to these major data and information management systems of oceanography and marine environment, there are many other existing databases in the region.

The regional working group needs to be aware of the existing systems and to discuss possible ways to co-ordinate the efforts of these groups with the Yellow Sea Project.