

**REPORT OF THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING
OF THE FIRST ASIAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON TIGER CONSERVATION**

27-29 January, 2010

Hua Hin, Thailand

INTRODUCTION

1. The Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the First Asian Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation (AMC) was held 27-28 January 2010 and the Ministerial Meeting was held 29 January 2010, in Hua Hin, Thailand.
2. The SOM was attended by delegates from 13 Tiger Range Countries (TRCs) and the AMC and Global Tiger Initiative (GTI) Secretariats. The list of delegates is at ANNEX 1.

OPENING CEREMONY

Welcome Remarks

3. Dr. Saksit Tridech, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, Thailand, and Chairman of the SOM, welcomed the delegates to Hua Hin, Thailand. He noted that it is Thailand's privilege to cooperate with the GTI in the process leading to the Summit in Vladivostok, which is a turning point for tiger conservation. He thanked in advance all the delegates and participants for their hard work over the next days.

Opening Remarks

4. His Excellency Minister Suwit Khunkitti, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE), Thailand, opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking delegates and participants for joining the meeting. He reviewed the outcomes of the Pattaya Workshop "A Forgotten Crisis: Arresting Wildlife Depletion in Asia through Strengthened Regional Cooperation and Effective Partnerships" and urged TRC governments to endorse the ***Manifesto on Combating Wildlife Crime*** for implementation. He also reviewed the outcomes of the Kathmandu Global Tiger Workshop and called for high-level support for the Kathmandu Recommendations. He outlined the main objectives of the 1st AMC, which include defining the key elements of a Global Tiger Stabilization and Recovery Program. He proposed formation of a high-level "Tigers Council" to support and oversee implementation of action plans and pledges.

He urged bold, clear, focused, transformational actions to avert the wild tiger's extinction. His opening address is attached as ANNEX 1.

5. In a video presentation, **Mr. Robert B. Zoellick**, President, The World Bank Group, thanked the Royal Government of Thailand for hosting the First Asian Ministerial Conference on tiger Conservation. He noted that the Global Tiger Initiative had made progress, but the tiger crisis continues on the ground. He pointed out that the GTI and the crisis is not only about wild tigers; it is a crisis of the Asian biodiversity that the tiger represents, and he stressed the importance of maintaining biodiversity to sustainable development. To address the crisis, he noted that the Kathmandu Recommendations need to be implemented and recognized the need to mobilize donors to support the efforts of the Tiger Range Countries. His opening address is attached as ANNEX 2.

6. On behalf of World Bank President Robert B. Zoellick, **Mr. James Adams**, Vice President of the East Asia and the Pacific Region, The World Bank, applauded Thailand for its leadership in tiger conservation. He explained the why the World Bank is a strong partner in the Global Tiger Initiative, noting that the GTI is a driver of the World Bank taking a new approach in which fighting climate change, protecting biodiversity and ecosystems, and conserving wildlife is within the mainstream of its development paradigm. He noted that the message of tiger conservation must be conveyed to all ministries whose actions influence it, and to leaders of corporations and industry. He pledged that the World Bank would continue to support the TRCs and the goals of the GTI. His opening address is attached as ANNEX 3.

7. Mr. Michael Baltzer of WWF presented His Excellency Minister Suwit Khunkitti, MONRE, Thailand, with the 2009 J. Paul Getty Award for conservation in recognition of his outstanding leadership in conservation, especially for his leadership in establishing ASEAN-WEN. Mr. James Compton of TRAFFIC and Mr. Steven Galster of FREELAND added their felicitations to Minister Suwit on the occasion of this award.

PLENARY SESSION 1

Keynote Addresses:

8. Dr. John Robinson, Executive Vice President for Conservation and Science, Global Conservation Program, Wildlife Conservation Society, stated that we know what wild tigers need—strictly enforced protection, areas free of human activity set in larger tiger landscapes, and good science to monitor tigers and law enforcement efforts. He noted that if programs and approaches known to work are implemented, tigers can be saved. His keynote address is attached as ANNEX 4.

9. Dr. Eric Dinerstein, Chief Scientist and Vice President for Conservation Science, WWF, noted the importance of properly valuing wild tigers and tiger landscapes for the essential ecological services they provide and their contributions to human livelihoods. He highlighted tiger landscapes for their role in carbon sequestration and their provision of water, and presented new scientific methods for measuring carbon with high accuracy, a forthcoming method for monitoring forest change online in real time, and a methodology for highlighting tiger landscapes' contributions to water provisioning.

10. Dr. John Seidensticker, Head, Conservation Ecology Center, Smithsonian National Zoological Park, and Chair, Save the Tiger Fund Council, outlined a brief and personal history of the wild tiger's trajectory toward extinction. He summarized conservation lessons learned and the need to change the conversation about tiger conservation from one of decline and despair to one of hope and recovery. He highlighted the importance of both partnerships and individual tiger champions, and paid tribute to the late Billy Arjan Singh, a renowned champion of tigers. His keynote address is attached as ANNEX 5.

11. Mr. Keshav Varma, Program Director, GTI, World Bank Institute, stressed that four activities are essential to address the challenges of tiger conservation: the strictest protection of wild tigers, their prey, and their core breeding areas; stopping the illegal trade in tiger parts and products, especially through strong, effective trans-boundary cooperation; ensuring stable and sufficient funding of protected areas by TRC governments, supplemented by support from the donor community, and addressing issues of corruption that threaten conservation efforts. Only then can we hope to double the tiger population in 12 years. The major points of his keynote address are attached as ANNEX 6.

12. H.E. Deepak Bohara, Minister for Forests and Soil Conservation, Government of Nepal, congratulated H.E. Mr. Suwit on his receiving the Getty Award. He welcomed the delegates and participants and expressed his confidence in a successful 1st AMC, building on the very successful Kathmandu Global Tiger workshop in Nepal.

Presentation and Discussion of the Post-Kathmandu Status and Strategy Notes (KSSNs) from the Tiger Range Countries (TRCs):

13. Delegates from each of the 13 TRCs presented their KSSNs, which are summarized in ANNEX 7.

SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING

AGENDA ITEM 1: ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIRPERSON, NOMINATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

14. The Meeting unanimously elected Mr. Zhang Zhongtian of China, Dr. Harry Santoso of Indonesia, and Mr. Yuba Raj Bhusal of Nepal as Vice Chairpersons of the Meeting. The Meeting nominated Dr. Susan Lumpkin of the GTI as Rapporteur.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

15. The Meeting adopted the Agenda as in ANNEX 8.

AGENDA ITEM 3: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS: DESIGNATION OF THE REPORT DRAFTING COMMITTEE

16. The Meeting opened in closed session.

17. The Meeting accepted a proposal to permit one observer from each of 16 organizations to observe the SOM sessions. They may be invited to comment on discussions or delegates can request side meetings.

18. Thematic Sessions on Landscape and Park Management, International Law Enforcement, Ecotourism and Communities, Sustainable Finance and the Cost of Conservation, Smart Green Infrastructure, and Donor Collaboration were held in parallel, and their outcomes were reported to the SOM. Side Sessions on the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network, Lower Mekong Collaboration Initiative, and Transboundary Collaboration between Russia and China were also held. A report from the Side Meeting on the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network is at ANNEX 9.

19. A Report Drafting Committee composed of the following representatives from TRCs and the AMC Secretariat/GTI was formed to prepare the Report of the Meeting:

Dr. Susan Lumpkin, Chair

Dr. Igor Chestin, Russia

Mr. Satya Prakash Yadav, India
Dr. Asdaporn Krairapanowd, Thailand
Dr. Rungnapar Pattanavibool, Thailand
Dr. Shant Raj Jnawali, Nepal
Mr. Shiv Raj Bhatta, Nepal
Dr. Kry Masphal, Cambodia

20. This Committee will also prepare the draft Hua Hin Declaration and the Report of the Ministerial Meeting. China suggested a different drafting group, composed of a government member from each TRC, for reporting the outcomes of the Ministerial Meeting. The Meeting indicated that a core drafting group for all reporting and the declaration would be more efficient, noting that any TRC can submit a name for consideration to join the core group. All TRCs can discuss the draft SOM Report and the draft Declaration as agenda items on 28 January afternoon.

AGENDA ITEM 4: RELEVANT OUTCOMES OF KEY MEETINGS ON TIGER CONSERVATION

21. Dr. Andrey Kushlin of the GTI reported on outcomes of previous meetings, noting in particular the International Workshop “A Forgotten Crisis: Arresting Wildlife Depletion in Asia through Strengthened Regional Cooperation and Effective Partnerships” on 10-12 April 2009 (the resulting *Manifesto on Combating Wildlife Crime* is at ANNEX 10), and the **Kathmandu Recommendations** from the Kathmandu Global Tiger Workshop on 27-30 October 2009, as attached at ANNEX 11. He also summarized the key meetings of 2010, starting with the 1st AMC and leading up to the Summit in Vladivostok in September 2010. His report is at ANNEX 12.

22. The Meeting took note and will follow up on 2010 meetings.

AGENDA ITEM 5: REVIEW OF KSSNs FROM TIGER RANGE COUNTRIES AND DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL AREAS OF COLLABORATION

23. Mr. Anand Seth, GTI, summarized the key points of the KSSNs. He noted that points of excellence exist in one more TRCs on which to model every area of transformational action, and gave examples. He indicated that “T x 2” may be a good global goal, but that scientific analysis of potential for growth in tiger numbers in each TRC was necessary to determine what is feasible. He noted that most TRCs need resources from external support for national programs, and listed six areas in which opportunities for potential collaboration exist. He stressed that TRCs must launch steps now to ensure the success of the Summit.

Discussion:

24. India noted its new transparent online vehicle for reporting tiger mortalities, open to viewing by officials and the public, and recommended all TRCs need similar transparency.
25. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, and Nepal endorsed the view that the Global Tiger Forum (GTF) is the appropriate body for sharing knowledge among the TRCs and facilitating cross-boundary bi-lateral dialogs. Bhutan and GTI noted that GTF and GTI can complement one another. Bhutan also noted previous poor coordination among NGOs and suggested a strong transparent alliance of NGOs.
26. Cambodia, China, India, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand reiterated the importance of trans-boundary cooperation, and more workshops were suggested to foster this.
27. China stressed moving to concrete, focused efforts on the ground based on the best science, and noted that gaps in knowledge and differences in opinions about tiger conservation persist. A group of highly qualified scientists and experts should be assembled to resolve these issues, and guide next steps. China also noted the need to projectize trans-boundary programs as a way to start funds flowing.
28. Most TRCs expressed a strong need for a flow of funding to begin as soon as possible. GTI noted that in the next months leading up to the Summit, GTI will be devoted to acquiring resources, but enlisting donors requires TRCs to have good plans for implementation of transformational actions.
29. The Meeting/The Chairman requested the GTI/World Bank move faster on securing and delivering funding.

AGENDA ITEM 6: DISCUSSION ON INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATION: THEMATIC AREA 1: LANDSCAPE AND PARK MANAGEMENT

30. Thematic Session 1 Chair Dr. Effendy Sumardja of Indonesia presented a summary of the outcomes of the Thematic Area 1 parallel session. The summary as delivered is attached as ANNEX 13.

Discussion:

31. Malaysia expressed concern that the summary was not a result of group agreement during the Thematic Session and had reservations about it. The “T x 2” target was questioned. It was noted that this was a draft note and the Session Chair welcomed comments and corrections.
32. Russia stressed importance of excellent preparation for the Summit so Heads of Governments know what they are committing to. He noted that there must be a global goal for

tiger numbers based on the targets of national action plans, which hopefully will add up to “T x 2.” Budgets for national action plans must be clear, to ensure full support from government plus the international community.

33. Delegates proposed that the term “protected area” was too narrow as it omits protected forests that may contain tigers. The Session Chair recommended the IUCN protected area definitions be followed. Proposed alternatives were “critical tiger habitat” and “tiger habitat.” “Critical tiger habitats” was supported as a term.

AGENDA ITEM 7: DISCUSSION ON INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATION: THEMATIC AREA 2: INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

34. Thematic Session 2 Chair Mr. John Sellar of the CITES Secretariat presented a summary of the outcomes of the Thematic Area 2 parallel session. In particular, he requested endorsement of a new International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) and “Project Jakarta, designed to create an overview of the scope of the international problem of tiger-related wildlife crime. The summary as delivered is attached as ANNEX 14.

Discussion:

35. Indonesia stressed that TRCs must commit to information exchange between producer and consumer countries and also noted the need for expert support.

36. India and Nepal indicated a meeting will be held in the near future to strengthen trans-boundary law-enforcement.

37. Bhutan suggested a cost/benefit analysis of regional agreements compared to an international agreement on law enforcement cooperation.

38. Thailand needs cooperation in research project on DNA testing for tigers and their prey to apply to enforcement issues. Currently, Thailand proposes to establishment the National Wildlife Forensics Lab.

39. China expressed the view that law enforcement efforts and budgets should be focused on the boundaries, at a local, on-the-ground level. China stressed that the TRCs’ frontier law enforcement staff need training to improve the quality of law enforcement. China also noted channels and mechanisms for information sharing among TRCs and international organizations and NGOs.

40. The Meeting/Vice Chair Mr. Zhang Zhongtian summarized two views:

- A focus on bilateral cooperation, training, and increased funding for on-the-ground law enforcement
- A focus on the role of CITES and other international law enforcement bodies.

41. He indicated that further discussion was needed before the presentation to the Ministers, noting all TRCs would have an opportunity for input at the afternoon session of 28 January.

42. The Meeting took note of observers from GTI, Smithsonian Institution, WWF, WCS, CITES Secretariat, NTNC-Nepal, FREELAND, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Trust of India, Save the Tiger Fund, US AID, US State Department, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and Asia Development Bank.

AGENDA ITEM 8: DISCUSSION ON INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATION: THEMATIC AREA 3: ECOTOURISM AND COMMUNITIES

43. Thematic Session 3 Leaders Richard Damania of The World Bank, Keith Sproule of WWF-US, and Steven Noakes of Ecolodges Indonesia presented a summary of the outcomes of the Thematic Area 3 parallel session. The summary as delivered is attached as ANNEX 15.

Discussion:

44. Bangladesh noted that the Namibia model provided by the speakers may not be viable in some TRCs, such as Bangladesh where tigers may endanger tourists. There is a recommendation in Bangladesh that tour groups must go into the reserve with two guides. Indonesia also noted that safe tourism may be a challenge, but wants to work on tiger-related tourism to enhance support of local communities by supplementing incomes. India also noted it cannot be compared to Namibia because protected areas are much smaller, but noted TRCs could still follow the best practices. He summarized India's best practices for tourism including making core area inviolate, promoting tourism in buffer zones, limiting numbers of tourists who must be accompanied by trained guides, and that as a matter of policy, benefits must go to local communities. India asked if the GTI could support study tours for TRCs to visit Namibia.

45. Bhutan noted its philosophy that the entire state is a "protected area." Bhutan is promoting ecotourism, with local communities partnering with the private sector, to provide incentives to prevent retaliation for human-wildlife conflict. Bhutan noted it cannot sustain compensation and needs resources from donors or from tourism and other sources. He noted Bhutan is developing community-owned insurance schemes.

46. Cambodia noted it is hard to see tigers, but NGOs have tourism programs focused on bird-watching in which funds raised must go to local communities. It is interested in the Ecolodges

Indonesia and requested more information. Cambodia is also interested in private-sector investment in ecotourism.

47. China has some ecotourism but what roles can government agencies played in promoting ecotourism. We know the first role should be protection. China asks whether government agencies can play the role of supervisor and investor. But afterword, protected areas are very remote and lack facilities for tourists. China noted that forests need to recover before tiger tourism can be conducted, and cited its policy of turning farms into forests for which local communities receive financial support.

48. Nepal described nearly 50 years of ecotourism experience and highlighted its well-known model that pioneered sharing revenues from the protected areas to local communities and promoting tourism in buffer zones. Nepal noted that transparent process for permitting lodges in the protected area was needed, with regulations and monitoring for compliance.

49. Russia provided a model used in Russia in which private game management units manage ungulates in buffer zones, and attract hunters, who pay for licenses, because management has double the number of ungulates compared to other hunting areas. He also noted the marketing appeal of "Hunt with Tigers.

50. Indonesia asked for mechanisms for organizing local communities to develop agreements with private investors, and asked about the role of government in these endeavors.

51. The Vice Chair summarized the issues related to ecotourism development in the TRCs. These include issues of liability should tourists be injured by tigers, for example, in the Sundarbans Tiger Reserve; issues related to the distribution of resources among the local community, the government, and the private sector; issues related to tourism in core areas versus the buffer zone; issues related to the capacity of tiger protected areas to absorb the impact of tourists; and the need to develop guidelines for tourism development.

52. Mr. Sproule extended an open invitation to visit Namibia to learn about its successful program.

AGENDA ITEM 9: DISCUSSION ON INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATION: THEMATIC AREA 4: SUSTAINABLE FINANCE/COST OF CONSERVATION

53. Thematic Session 4 summary of the outcomes of the Thematic Area 4 parallel session was presented by Johannes Kiess of World Bank and Melissa Moyo of WWF-US. The summary as delivered is attached as ANNEX 16.

Discussion:

54. The TRCs shared their experiences and ideas related to sustainable financing for tiger conservation and expressed interest in developing sustainable financing mechanisms.

55. Bhutan noted the need for funds to begin flowing immediately while waiting for long-term funding to be developed.

AGENDA ITEM 10: DISCUSSION ON INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATION: THEMATIC AREA 5: SMART GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

56. Thematic Session 5 Chair Mr. Juan Quintero of The World Bank presented a summary of the outcomes of the Thematic Area 5 parallel session. The summary as delivered is attached as ANNEX 17. The detailed report “Smart Green Infrastructure in Tiger Range Countries: A Multi-Level Approach” is available from the Secretariat.

Discussion:

57. India and Bhutan fully endorsed the recommendations, but many TRCs expressed reservations about feasibility in their countries and Bhutan noted that resistance would be strong. Vietnam asked how to implement and enforce national policy related to infrastructure on the ground, and requested guidelines in local languages to assist in this. Nepal also noted the challenge of implementing EIA policies on the group.

58. TRCs noted that it is important to stress that the core “no-go” areas for infrastructure are very small, just about 1% of tiger habitat. This information may help to explain that almost all infrastructure can still go on to meet nations’ development goals.

59. Mr. Quintero stressed that the recommendations do not propose to stop infrastructure, but to gain benefits from development that could be applied to conservation, or at least to mitigate any harm. He also expressed willingness to conduct workshops in TRCs to disseminate the concept of Smart Green Infrastructure.

AGENDA ITEM 11: DISCUSSION ON INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATION: THEMATIC AREA 6: DONOR COLLABORATION

60. Thematic Session 6 Chair Ms. Kate Newman of WWF-US and Dr. Andrey Kushlin of GTI presented a summary of the outcomes of the Thematic Area 6 parallel session. The summary as delivered is attached as ANNEX 18.

Discussion:

61. The Vice Chair noted that 2010 will be a busy year with many new opportunities to save tigers and use new donor initiatives, and thanked the World Bank and the GTI.

62. Bangladesh requests GEF funding for climate change because the Sundarbans Tiger Reserve is suffering from rising sea levels, and requests help to develop a project.

63. Thailand would like to share its work on conducting a smart patrolling system in the Western Forest Complex with the tiger conservation community. We will therefore establish the Regional Wildlife Research and Management Center in the Western Forest Complex, and we seek cooperation from other TRCs and the international community to help run this Center. The Center will focus on research, practices for management of core tiger areas, and capacity building for range country staff.

64. Mr. Keshav Varma noted that the World Bank can provide help and ideas for GEF funding as a joint exercise with NGOs and indicated that getting this funding will need persistent effort and discussion with partners to improve coordination.

AGENDA ITEM 12: INPUTS FROM NGO FORUM

66. Inputs from the NGO Forum were presented by Mr. Steven Galster, FREELAND, and Mr. James Compton, TRAFFIC. A summary as delivered is attached as ANNEX 19.

Discussion:

67. TRCs would like to see more support provided to the existing tiger conservation institutions and bodies rather than creation of new organizations;

68. Bangladesh noted law formulations, training especially to deal with the wildlife trade, community education, sustainable land use—these are the areas for NGOs attention;

69. Thailand sees role for NGOs in technical expertise and training.

70. Nepal suggests GTF should revisit and modify its focus; TRCs should be welcomed to discuss the position of Secretary General; GTF to become a common platform for all TRCs; TRC Secretariat to shift from India to other TRC.

71. Malaysia supports the strengthening of the existing mechanism.

72. GTI comments and suggestions:

- Reinforce the value of the NGOs' contribution to tiger conservation.
- NGOs helped to create useful models of tiger conservation and park management that need to be scaled up, and GTI is willing to support this scaling up process.
- Better coordination between NGOs activities.
- Tiger or Ministerial Council to give high-level political attention to tiger conservation, but it is not about building a new institution.
- GTF under new leadership would sharpen activities.
- WB would like to be a member of the Tiger Council.

73. NGOs's input are endorsed by SOM.

AGENDA ITEM 13: DISCUSSION AND PREPARATION OF THE TIGER SUMMIT IN VLADIVOSTOK

74. Dr. Igor Chestin of the Russia delegation reported that Prime Minister Putin issued the official declaration of the Tiger Summit on September 8-12, 2010.

75. Russia proposed as main inputs of the Tiger Summit:

- Approved Global Program for Tiger Stabilization and Recovery, signed by TRC Heads of Governments and global partners
- Declaration of Heads of Governments
- Financial commitments in place
- Specific high-level pledges (such as joint China-Russia effort bring tigers back to NE China)
- Culmination of global awareness campaign for tigers, with special cultural performances

76. Russia proposes that:

- contact points from each TRC, with authority to speak for the TRC, be appointed to form a steering committee to prepare for the Summit;
- a national organizing committee, to be chaired by the Minister, be formed;
- the GTI partners in Washington and Moscow form the International Secretariat with bases in Moscow and Washington, D.C.;
- the general format of the four-day Summit will be: two-day Senior Officials Meeting; one-day Ministerial Meeting; and half-day Heads of Governments Meeting; and
- a Pre-Summit Partners' Dialogue meeting be held before the Summit, in June or July, to review and finalize the documents we want the Heads of Governments to endorse. Russia will be pleased to host this meeting in Moscow, but invites other TRCs to offer to host the meeting.

78. Russia requests a motion from the SOM to state that the Summit is a meeting of Prime Ministers or other Heads of Governments, and that this motion, if approved, be entered into the Hua Hin Declaration.

79. Mr. Keshav Varma of the World Bank/GTI welcomes Mr. Putin's declaration to hold the Tiger Summit. He noted that India has proposed a Summit to be held in November of 2010. He noted it was unique to have this most high level on interest in tiger conservation. He urged urgent action to begin the process of the Summit, including issuing invitations and the like. He noted the importance of having excellent National Action Plans by the Summit. He further suggested a website for coordination. After the Summit, there is a need to monitor progress, with a critical role for GTF, GTI, and NGOs to play in monitoring. He conveyed the full support of the GTI for work toward the Summit.

Discussion:

80. Malaysia noted that dates for the Summit overlap with an important holiday on 10 September that might prevent Heads of Government from attending. Indonesia supports Malaysia's concern. Russia will take this back to Moscow for consideration to shift the dates.

81. Bangladesh noted that the Summit is a golden opportunity, and we need use the momentum toward the Summit to create that national planning committees and consensus to raise the profile of tiger conservation. Mr. Varma agreed, and suggested to Russia the formation of a National Council.

82. China noted its SFA does not have a right to approve participation in the Summit and requests that Russia employ diplomatic channels to discuss with Chinese side. Russia agreed and assured that invitations would go through the proper channels. Prime Ministers, ultimately, will decide. Our role is to indicate our desire that this will happen, without it sounding like an imperative.

83. China would like to encourage Russia to send official information through proper government channels as soon as possible so there is time to prepare. Indonesia endorsed this.

84. Thailand asks Russia to set precise date for Heads of Government to be there. Russia reported this would be 12 September, pending a shift as noted in Paragraph 80.

85. The Chair will bring Russia's proposals to the Ministers tomorrow.

AGENDA ITEM 14: INTRODUCTION OF DRAFT SOM REPORT

86. Dr. Igor Chestin of the Russia delegation and a member of the Report Drafting Committee introduced the Draft SOM Report. He noted that the summary reports of the thematic sessions are attached, as delivered, without the review or endorsement of the Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 15: DISCUSSION AND PREPARATION OF THE *HUA HIN DECLARATION*

87. The Chair noted that the Minister drafted a Declaration and circulated it to all delegates.

88. Mr. Anand Seth noted that the draft is an amplification of the Kathmandu Recommendations, and its elements reflect the Kathmandu Recommendations. Items 1-5 reflect those outcomes; item 6 includes actions we need to accomplish for a successful Tiger Summit.

89. The TRCs discussed and agreed to an amended Declaration. The **Hua Hin Declaration** is attached as ANNEX 20.

AGENDA ITEM 16: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING OF THE FIRST AMC ON TIGER CONSERVATION

90. The Meeting adopted the Report, and invited TRCs to submit any corrections and additions to the Secretariat before the close of the Meeting. The Report will be presented to the Ministers by SOM Chair Dr. Saksit Tridech on January 29, 2010.