

## **World Coastal Forum (WCF) Establishment Group**

### **Report on 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of 17 May 2022**

A Second Meeting of the informal World Coastal Forum Establishment Group (WCFEG) was held online on 17 May 2022. The main purpose of the WCFEG is to develop documentation, including a proposed institutional framework, for the launch of the WCF, which will hopefully take place later this year. This WCFEG2 meeting follows its first meeting on 17 February 2022 which confirmed Mr Zhang Xinsheng (Ex IUCN President) as its Chair. The initiative is co-ordinated by Eco Foundation Global and BirdLife International.

Mr Zhang welcomed all to the second meeting of the WCFEG which is building greater input and support to the establishment of the WCF from around the world, with two new members joining the WCFEG at this meeting (the Paulson Institute (USA) and the East-West Philanthropy Forum (USA) and invited guests from the government agencies of Australia, Spain and Singapore, UN Food and Agriculture Organisation and League of Arab States. A full list of participants is available below.

Updates were received from the leads of the voluntary WCFEG Task Teams (TT), including on appointment of co-leads and first meetings of the groups. As open-ended groups, they have the opportunity to expand through inviting other strategic stakeholder and partners.

The Institutional Framework and Resource Mobilisation TT has initiated work to update the WCF Concept as per the WCFEG Terms of Reference. It is in the early stages of developing a vision, mission, objectives, institutional framework and modus operandi and is collating and reviewing existing working models of partnerships. The importance of identifying resources from a range of government and private sources to support the work of the WCF has been recognised.

The TT on International Engagement is focussing on promoting the WCFEG process at key international (global and regional) meetings to raise awareness and support for the WCF; a timetable of key events was shared. The TT will also work on reaching out bilaterally to relevant stakeholders around the world. The input of all was sought to enhance its work.

As highlighted by the Local and Subnational Engagement TT lead, local engagement is critical in supporting change through action and an initial mapping of stakeholders is being identified, including "coastal champion cities", national governments, NGOs and UN organisations, with future opportunities being identified for the coming years, which can be synergized with the initial plans envisaged by TT2.

The co-lead of the Science and Evidence Base TT outlined a six-point plan of priority areas of research and knowledge covering (a) status and changes in habitats and species by cataloguing existing work and identifying gaps in knowledge, (b) coastal challenges and opportunities, covering magnitude of changes, including sea level rise, (c) importance of coastal biodiversity for humanity, (d) considering management options (solution scanning and evidence base), and (e) identifying how to deliver change through helping practitioners including via making evidence-based guidance available to support action.

The importance of establishment of the Stakeholder Mapping TT to identify the niche and role of the WCF was recognised by the Chair and volunteers are invited to form this group at the earliest.

The coordinators also reported on the first meeting of the WCFEG Steering Group that brings together co-leads of the TTs and WCFEG co-coordinators.

The launch was announced of the new WCF website [www.worldcoastalforum.org](http://www.worldcoastalforum.org) to raise awareness, interest and support for the establishment process. In addition, a WCFEG dedicated work space has been established to facilitate the work of the group.

The next meeting is scheduled for 17 August 2022.

## List of Participants of EG2 Meeting, 17 May 2022

Institution	Name	Position
<b>WCFEG Members</b>		
CHAIR	Zhang Xinsheng	Former IUCN President
Asian Development Bank	Duncan Lang	Senior Environmental Specialist
East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership Secretariat	Doug Watkins	Chief Executive
East-West Philanthropy Forum	Wang Qinghong	Executive President & CEO
Future Earth Coasts	Li Xiuzhen	co-Host International Project Office of FEC, State Key Laboratory of Estuarine and Coastal Research, East China Normal University
ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability	Ingrid Coetsee	Director for Biodiversity, Nature & Health, ICLEI Africa Secretariat & Global Cities Biodiversity Center
	Zhu Shu	Regional Director & China Representative, ICLEI East Asia Secretariat
International Crane Foundation	Spike Millington	Vice President of International Programs–Asia
Mandai Nature	Jessica Lee	Assistant Vice President, Head of Bird Programs and Partnerships
Ministry of Natural Resources, PRC	Jiang Xiaohong	Division Director, Dept. of International Cooperation
	Guo Yinfeng	Chief Expert for International Cooperation, National Marine Hazard Mitigation Service
National Forestry and Grassland Administration, PRC	Zheng Sixian	Deputy Division Director, Department of International Cooperation
	Sun Yingzhe	Project Officer of International Cooperation Center
Paulson Institute	Rose Niu	Chief Conservation Office
The Nature Conservancy	Hu Fan	External Affairs Senior Manager
University of Queensland, Australia	Richard Fuller	Professor
University of Cambridge, United Kingdom	William James Sutherland	Professor
Wetlands International	Ward Hagemeijer Represented by Lorenzo Gaffi	Senior Advisor
Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	Tim McGrath	Head of Project Development
<b>WCFEG Observers</b>		
CMS Secretariat	Ivan Ramirez	Head, Avian Species Team

Institution	Name	Position
Ramsar Secretariat	Jerker Tamelander	Director, Science and Policy
<b>WCFEG Advisors</b>		
	Stanley Johnson	
<b>Invitees</b>		
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN	Li Lifeng	Director of Land and Water Division (NSL)
League of Arab States	Nada El Agizy	Director, Sustainable Development & International Cooperation
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australia	Kathryn Eyles	Assistant Director Wetlands Section and National Focal Point for Ramsar Convention
Ministry of Natural Resources, PRC	Luo Ming	Director of Key Laboratory of Consolidation and Rehabilitation
National Marine Data & Information Service, PRC	Lu Wenhai	Director Research, Marine Ecology Division
Ecology and Nature Conservation Institute, Chinese Academy of Forestry, National Bird Banding Center of China, PRC	Qian Fawen	Associate Research Professor / Director
	Jiang Hongxing	Associate Research Professor / Deputy Director
National Parks Board of Singapore	Wendy Yap Hwee Min	Director, International Biodiversity Conservation
	Karenne Tun	Director, Coastal and Marine, National Biodiversity Centre
	David LI	Senior Conservation Officer, Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve
	Jeremy WOON	Biodiversity Manager
Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Spain	Elvira Garcia-Bellido Capdevila	Especies Marinas
	Jorge Alonso Rodríguez	Espacios Marinos
Conservación Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre, Spain	Marta Valle Agudo	Conservation Project Officer
Hainan Institute of National Park, China		
Yancheng Wetland and Natural World Heritage Conservation & Management Center, China		

Institution	Name	Position
<i>WCFEG COORDINATORS</i>		
BirdLife International	Nicola Crockford	Principal Policy Officer of Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
Eco Foundation Global	Alex Zhang	Secretary General
	Taej Mundkur	WCFEG Interim Coordinator
	Haochen Li	Senior Project Manager

### Group Photos

