INFORMATION NOTE for
BOBLME Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Working Group Meeting
11-12 February 2014, Penang, Malaysia

1) MEETING VENUE
The workshop will be held at “Tilapia room, Block J” WorldFish, Penang.

WorldFish
Jalan Batu Maung, Batu Maung, 11960 Bayan Lepas, Penang, Malaysia
Tel: +604 626 1606
Fax: +604 626 5530

2) ACCOMMODATION
Set majestically 250 feet above sea level, Hotel Equatorial Penang, which is peacefully tucked away on a hillock is just 7 minutes to the Penang International Airport and a mere distance to the Bayan Lepas Industrial Zone. The UNESCO Heritage Site listed George Town is only 20 minutes from the hotel. For details of the hotel please go to https://www.equatorial.com/pen/

Hotel address:
Hotel Equatorial Penang
1 Jalan Bukit Jambul
Bayan Lepas
11900 Penang
Malaysia
Tel: +604 632 7000

Check-In/Check-Out: Check-in is at 2:00pm. Check-out is at 12:00pm.

Self-Paid Participants: The room rate for self-paying participants at Equatorial Hotel is MYR284.20 net per night, inclusive of daily breakfast.
From Penang International Airport to Equatorial Hotel
Participants will need to take an Airport taxi at Penang International Airport at the arrival hall to go to Equatorial Hotel, Penang. The price should be around MYR50 (or USD16) per trip. Please note that there will be a 50% surcharge for mid-night transfer to hotel. It is only 6.5km, approximately 7 minutes from the Penang International Airport to the hotel.

DSA (Daily Subsistence Allowance)
Eligible participants are being contacted by FAO/UNDP in the respective countries on this matter.

The allowance includes accommodation, meals, terminals and incidental expenses for the whole period of meeting and all participants are required to settle their bill directly to the hotel.

3) TRANSPORTATION FROM EQUATORIAL HOTEL TO WORLDFISH
Participants are required to gather at hotel lobby to be transported to WorldFish. There will be a coach to transfer the participants from hotel to WorldFish at 7:30am and back to the hotel at 5pm every day of the workshop. Participants are advised to be punctual at the lobby hotel to avoid delay.

4) MEALS
Food & Beverage
Breakfast is included in hotel accommodation. Lunch and two coffee-breaks are provided at WorldFish during the meeting.

Meeting Dinner
Welcome dinner will be organized by the workshop organizer on 11 February 2014 at the CMR China Muslim Restaurant (http://www.cmr-restoran.com/). The hotel is located about 3.5km from the hotel. All participants required being at the restaurant at 7pm and transportation to restaurant is provided. The details logistics will be announced during the workshop.

6) WEATHER AND CLOTHING
In February, Penang is a wet and hot season and the average temperature is about 27 to 32 degrees Celsius. The recommended clothes to bring for the workshop are business casual.
7) WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE WORKSHOP
The workshop will be conducted in English and all documentation will be in English.

8) FOREIGN EXCHANGE
Participants may bring with them into Malaysia unrestricted sums of foreign currency in the form of traveler's cheques, drafts, letter of credit or other banking instruments which may be exchanged for Malaysian currency at the prevailing exchange rates. Currency exchange facilities are available at the hotels, airport and shopping mall. According to exchange rates as of January 2014, an estimation of 1.00 US Dollar is approximately equivalent to 3.33 Malaysian Ringgits.

9) SELF FUNDED PARTICIPANTS
Self funded participants are anticipated to assume the cost of your participation including international travel and accommodation. The workshop organizer will provide support for the meeting package and transfer of Hotel – WorldFish.

For any further information, please contact:
Ms. Shwu Jiau Teoh
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Fax: +604 6265530
E-mail: s.teoh@cgiar.org
You are cordially invited to a
**BOBLME MPA Working Group Meeting Dinner**
on **11 February, Tuesday 7pm at the**
**CMR China Muslim Restaurant**
70-01-12A & 14, D’Piazza Mall, Jalan Mahsuri, Bayan Baru, 11900 Penang, Malaysia.