



Seventh General Assembly of ISME

The Seventh General Assembly of ISME was held in T.K. Palace, Bangkok, Thailand on 22 August 2008. The assembly was jointly organised by ISME, ITTO, Thailand Environment Institute (TEI) and Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) of Thailand. ISME was truly honoured that H.E. Banyin Tangpakorn, Honourable Deputy Minister of Commerce and the Acting Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand, was able to find time to grace the occasion and to deliver his keynote address. ISME was equally honoured by the presence of H.E. Bannasopis Mekwichai, Honourable Vice-Governor of Bangkok Metropolitan and Dr. Nisakorn Kositrat, Director-General of DMCR of Thailand.

Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe, President of TEI, Treasurer of ISME and Chairman of the Organising Committee, welcomed all delegates and participants. The Opening Session of the assembly ended with an Opening Address by Prof. Salif E. Diop, President of ISME.

During the Business Session of the assembly, election results of the Executive Committee of ISME were announced. Endorsed by members of ISME, honorary members of the Executive Committee for the coming term (2008-2011) will remain the same as the previous term (2005-2008).



Honourable delegates of the Seventh General Assembly of ISME held in Bangkok, Thailand on 22 August 2008

President:
Prof. Salif E. Diop (Senegal)
Vice-Presidents:
H.E. Ambassador Noboru Nakahira (Japan)
Prof. François Blasco (France)
Dr. Chan Hung Tuck (Malaysia)
Treasurer:
Prof. Sanit Aksornkoe (Thailand)
Executive Secretary:
Prof. Shigeyuki Baba (Japan)

Ms. Nozomi Oshiro was appointed Assistant Executive Secretary by the Executive Committee of ISME. The next general assembly will be held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in 2011.

ISME/ITTO Workshop

A workshop on *Restoration of Mangroves and other Coastal Forests damaged by Tsunamis and other Natural Hazards in the Asia-Pacific Region and Impacts of Global Warming on Mangrove Ecosystems and their Mitigation Options* was held on 23 August 2008 in conjunction with the Seventh General Assembly of ISME.

The Opening Session of the workshop started with Welcoming Remarks by Ambassador Noboru Nakahira, Vice-President of ISME. This was followed by Opening Remarks by Dr. Ma Hwan Ok, Projects Manager, Reforestation and Forest Management, ITTO. As Dr. Ma was unable to attend, his speech was read by Prof. Baba.

About 150 overseas and local participants attended the workshop. UN and Non-Governmental Organisations represented at the workshop included FAO, UNDP, IUCN, TEI, Wetlands International, World Food Program, WWF and Mangroves for the Future. Local government departments and universities represented included Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, National Research Council of Thailand, Pollution Control Department, National Economic and Social Development Board, Department of Environment Quality Promotion, Tourism Development Board, Chulalongkorn University, Kasetsart University, King Mongkut's University of Technology and Mahidol University.



Participants and honourable delegates of the ISME/ITTO Workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand on 23 August 2008

The Technical Session of the workshop started with a discussion on the progress of the ISME/ITTO Pre-Project on *Guidelines for Restoration of Mangroves and other Coastal Forests damaged by Tsunamis and other Natural Hazards in the Asia-Pacific Region*. The discussion was moderated by Dr. H.T. Chan, Coordinator of the Pre-Project. Technical papers presented during the workshop included:

Devastation of the 2008 cyclonic storms on mangrove and other coastal ecosystems in Myanmar by M.M. Than (Myanmar)

Guidelines on the assessment of mangrove restoration efforts as mitigation to natural hazards: Thailand's experiences by N. Paphavasit *et al.* (Thailand)

Coastal degradation and rehabilitation in Thailand by S. Havanond (Thailand)

Coastal vegetation rehabilitation for the mitigation of coastal hazards – The Malaysian experience by K.H. Tan & J.E. Ong (Malaysia)

Impacts of recent natural hazards on mangrove ecosystems in the Bay of Bengal by F. Blasco & Y. Auda (France)

Impacts of tsunami on mangroves and other coastal ecosystems of Solomon Islands by T. Hiraishi (Japan)

Integrating climate change considerations into coastal ecosystems management: Early experiences from the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) Initiative by D. Macintosh (Thailand)

Mangroves and sea level change by J.E. Ong and K.H. Tan (Malaysia)

Conclusions and Recommendations of the Bangkok Workshop by B. Clough (Vietnam)

Sponsors and Organizers of the General Assembly and Workshop



“**GLO**bal Mangrove Database and Information System (GLOMIS)” is an International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)/International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems (ISME) Project, PD 14/97 Rev.1 (F). **GLOMIS** is based at ISME's Secretariat in Okinawa, Japan and supported by four regional centres located in Brazil, Fiji, Ghana and Malaysia

GLOMIS Headquarters

ISME Secretariat
 Fax: (+81)-98-895-6602
 e-mail: mangrove@ryukyu.ne.jp

Brazil Regional Centre (for the Americas)

Dr. Luiz Drude de Lacerda
 Fax: (+55) 85 242 8355
 e-mail: ismebr@labomar.ufc.br

Fiji Regional Centre (for Oceania and Australia)

Ms. Elizabeth Erasito
 Fax: (+679) 303 820
 e-mail: glomis@is.com.fj

Ghana Regional Centre (for Africa)

Prof. Dr. Christopher Gordon
 Fax: (+233) 21 512 837
 e-mail: afriwet@idngh.com

Malaysia Regional Centre (for S. & S.E. Asia)

Dr. Hung Tuck Chan
 email: malglomis@frim.gov.my

GLOMIS is a tool that will be continually developing and growing. Input and contributions from users are essential in order for GLOMIS to increase the functionality and usefulness of this tool. Please visit <http://www.glomis.com>