

# Congratulatory Remarks

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## **Congratulatory Remark**

I would like to congratulate ICHCAP and the UNESCO Apia Office for successfully co-organizing the webinar series, *Maritime Living Heritage: Building Sustainable Livelihood and Ecosystems in the Asia-Pacific Region*. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the presenters for their insightful case study presentations.

With the importance of environmental conservation for sustainable development being emphasized in heritage discourses more than ever, this webinar series exploring marine ecosystem and the living heritage found therein is a welcome continuum to learn from the wisdom of maritime communities about sustainable livelihoods and ICH safeguarding in this time of crisis.

The National Research Institute of Maritime Cultural Heritage partnered with the ICHCAP in 2018 to host an international symposium on maritime heritage along the Silk Road. We would like to emphasize our solidarity with and admiration for ICHCAP in continuously nurturing platforms that enable meaningful exchange of ideas on and collaboration for the safeguarding of maritime ICH in the Asia-Pacific region.

Once again, I congratulate and thank the co-organizers for successfully conducting this year's webinar series. I look forward to more programs for active exchange with experts and heritage practitioners around the region for the safeguarding of maritime ICH.

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