

MINUTES

POLICY COMMITTEE

December 4, 1991
Washington, NC

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chairman Ray Cunningham called the Policy Committee meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. The attendees list is Attachment A. Dr. John Costlow introduced Mr. Miaosong Yang, director and senior engineer of the Water Quality Research Center in China, who is visiting at Duke Marine Laboratory for about a year.

MINUTES

Dr. Bud Cross moved to approve the August 29, 1991, Policy Committee minutes as distributed. Mr. Don Bryan seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dr. John Costlow moved to approve the October 11, 1991, Policy Committee minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Don Bryan and the minutes were unanimously approved as distributed.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Co-chairman Bill Cobey urged the Policy Committee members to attend as many meetings as possible and to make the A/P Study a top priority during the CCMP development year. He noted the importance of each members point of view. If members could not attend a meeting, a representative should be asked to attend. Dr. Cross noted that according to the adopted By-Laws, alternates have no voting privileges. Dr. Costlow suggested this procedure should be revised at this time in the program. Dr. Costlow made a motion for Director Waite to look at amending the By-Laws and to present this for discussion at the next Policy Committee meeting. Dr. Cross seconded the motion which carried.

Co-chairman Cobey reported that an invitation to serve on the Policy Committee had been extended to Virginia's Secretary of Natural Resources, Elizabeth Haskell or her designee; however, no response had been received to date.

CAC REPORT

Mr. Derb Carter reported the CACs met in October. Mr. Waite gave an update on the workgroup process for developing the CCMP. Mr. Carter noted it had been emphasized to the CACs that the CCMP development process is at the critical time for their involvement and contribution. Significant effort has been made to involve

everyone on the CACs by assigning them to specific workgroups. This effort has been well received by the CAC members.

TECHNICAL REPORT

Mr. Bowman Crum, co-chairman of the Technical Committee, reported on the November 6 meeting:

- 1) An issue paper on the National Estuary Program (NEP) produced by EPA Headquarters has been reviewed by Region IV. Region IV recommends that:
 - post-CCMP activities receive \$100-150k annual EPA funding for approximately a three-year period with a 50% non-federal match;
 - post-CCMP funds cover administrative commitments made in the Conference Agreement, monitoring, and federal project consistency review and reporting;
 - consideration be given to restructuring management conference committees and forming an implementation committee;
 - new NEPs be convened as existing ones complete their CCMPs;
 - EPA commitments focus on strengthening existing program authorities to assist in implementation of CCMPs; and
 - the NEP and the Near Coastal Waters (NCW) program (EPA's umbrella program to include all coastal issues/programs) be implemented as part of an overall coastal strategy which would include EPA CCMP implementation support through existing program authorities.
- 2) A separate GIS data management component containing recommendations regarding long-term maintenance and use of the GIS system for land-use planning will be included in the CCMP.
- 3) The CCMP outline and workgroup schedule was discussed. It was recommended that the CCMP workgroups be convened a second time to review the recommended action plans prior to their submittal to the Policy Committee or for public review.

- 4) The Technical Committee recommends to the Policy Committee that additional funds (\$29,110) be provided to the Division of Soil and Water Conservation's (DSWC) project pertaining to composting farm animal and seafood animal residuals. This recommendation is a result of a presentation by Mr. Jim Cummings on the Merchant Millpond project and the Composting project (see November 6, 1991 Technical Committee minutes).
- 5) The October 30 Goals and Objectives were discussed and as a result of concern over the lack of specificity, the Technical Committee instructed staff to assign specific numbers to the Goals and Objectives to be determined by using background information and best professional judgment.
- 6) Regarding the Policy Committee's direction to the Technical Committee to approve the draft Goals and Objectives, the Technical Committee reports that the process for formalizing the Goals and Objectives continues.
- 7) The Technical Committee heard a presentation by Dr. JoAnn Burkholder on two projects requiring ~\$65,000 APES funding: 1) Coastal Eutrophication and Disappearing Submersed Vegetation: Lethal Effects of Nitrate Enrichment on Eelgrass and Other Beneficial Aquatic Plants and 2) The Role of a New Toxic Dinoflagellate in Estuarine Finfish and Shellfish Kills in the Neuse and Pamlico Estuaries. The Technical Committee recommended that the projects undergo the same peer review process as had been used throughout the Study and that the Technical Review Subcommittee would have the authority to recommend action on the projects. (Dr. Burkholder made a presentation to the Policy Committee during the afternoon session.)

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Jennifer Steel reported that the staff had been working on the Goals and Objectives and issue papers. Following the workgroup sessions to be held from December 3 thru December 5, the issue papers will be revised and folded together into individual plans (Water Quality, Fisheries, Critical Areas, Human Environment). Following that process, a draft will be sent out for full committee review.

Four final reports now available are: 1) Oyster Recruitment in the Pamlico River (Sutherland/Ortega); 2) 1989 Striped Bass Study (Rulifson); 3) Albemarle/Pamlico Hydrodynamic Coupling Model (Pietrafesa); 4) Nutrient Reduction Through Wetlands (Kuenzler). The draft report on the City of Greenville Urban BMP Demonstration Stormwater Detention Pond is undergoing peer review. The Heavy

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Metals in the Neuse River report (Riggs) is being printed and bound for distribution.

Staff has been compiling other chapters to be included in the CCMP. Monitoring plans are required in the final document. Meetings are planned to develop the monitoring plans for water quality, fisheries, and critical areas and the data management plan.

The Burkholder projects previously mentioned are in peer review. Also a project by the Nature Conservancy and CGIA entitled "Utilizing the GIS of APES for Natural Community Classification and Critical Areas Planning" [\$2500 APES funds] is under review. Mr. Waite further explained this project during his report.

APES has been notified that the Removal of Obstructions to Anadromous Fish Migration project submitted to the Coastal America program by APES and US FWS has been selected for \$100,000 supplemental funding for FY 92. A detailed workplan is to be submitted as soon as possible. Agencies to be involved in this project include the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, the NC Division of Marine Fisheries, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Striped Bass Commission, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Virginia and North Carolina Departments of Transportation. The NC DOT will play a central role in this project and is offering to provide funds to replace at least one culvert system and will help with the replacement of two additional current obstructions. Field work to identify sites will take place probably during the week of December 9. Ultimately the product of this project will be an interagency consensus document regarding requirements for culvert installation with involved agencies signing off on requirements developed in coordination with DOT. DOT would then know upfront what each agency requires in a permit review process. Dr. Costlow asked that at the appropriate time a press release be issued on this project.

Ms. Steel reported that the Wetlands Subcommittee established to update the Wetlands Section of the Status and Trends Report will meet in Raleigh on December 10.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Joan Giordano reported on the activities of the Citizens' Advisory Committees; outreach programs (general, education, local government liaison); projects' status (exhibits, print, electronic); newsletter; and citizens' monitoring (Attachment B). She reported that a second GIS video is being planned presenting an actual case study that will deal more intensely with the actual capability of the GIS.

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Dr. Costlow reported that at the request of Karen Siderelis he attended a meeting at the Supercomputer at which Dr. Alan Bromby, President Bush's science advisor, spoke about declassified information now available in terms of software and other techniques for GIS. Also at a meeting in California, Dr. Costlow gave a paper on the future of North Carolina estuaries which included reference to the availability of the APES video, "A Coastal County in 2010 A.D.--Planning with Geographic Information Systems". Ten to 15 people asked about obtaining a copy of the video. As a result of this interest, it has been suggested that the video be distributed through the NEP around the county and through the Sea Grant Program. Dr. Costlow also reported that as a result of an article in the "Sun Journal" of New Bern, General Ridgewine, the commanding officer at Cherry Point Marine Station, met with Dr. Costlow and expressed interest in having the Marine Corp at Cherry Point, and possibly Camp Lejeune, become more of a working partner in a four-county effort to look at long-term goals, objectives, problems, and options using not only the accepted GIS program but those that will now become declassified.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Waite noted the success of the Annual Public meeting held October 12 in Manteo with an estimated 800 attendees.

Dr. JoAnn Burkholder will be making a presentation to the Policy Committee on the two projects previously mentioned by Mr. Crum. Peer and Technical Review Subcommittee reviews currently appear to be in favor of funding these projects with minor modifications and clarifications.

Mr. Waite reported that The Nature Conservancy (TNC) project came about as a result of TNC's interest in APES data layers and how to share information to avoid duplication of efforts. This will be good use of the CGIA budget which is supposed to get information out to user groups. In addition, TNC offered to take the information for specific demonstration areas (the flood plain of the Roanoke River and the Northwest, Blackwater, Nottaway and Meherrin Rivers in southeastern Virginia) and look at the critical areas being mapped and identified by the North Carolina and Virginia Natural Heritage Programs. TNC will also take the land use satellite photos and make them more specific with groundtruthing to the point that they can come up with critical area protection plans. TNC will train CGIA staff to do this type of work since CGIA employs computer specialists and not ecologists. The project has undergone peer review. APES would be contributing \$2500 but would gain much needed cost-share match (\$83,000) for the Study. Dr. Cross also suggested TNC contact his office to utilize information which is available through his program.

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Mr. Waite distributed a copy of the FY 91-92 APES budget (Attachment C). He explained the status of APES funds since FY 86-87 through September 1992. The Study currently has a shortfall of \$125,000. These are the State dollars budgeted for the last quarter of this year (July-September, 1992).

Ballots were sent to the Citizens' Advisory Committees to elect officers. The individuals currently serving as Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the CACs have been re-elected.

Regarding the request from the Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DSWC) to transfer funds from the Merchant Millpond BMP project to the Composting project, Mr. Waite reported that delays in getting farmers to sign up to participate in the Merchant Millpond project will not allow all of the funds to be obligated during the contract period for this project. Currently ~\$64,500 are unspent in the Merchant Millpond project; however, some of these funds should be obligated during the spring. Approximately \$30,000 will likely be returned to APES from that project. The Composting project needs an additional \$29,110 to be implemented. The Technical Committee recommends transferring \$29,110 to this project. **Ms. Mike Gantt made a motion to approve transferring \$29,110 to the DSWC Composting project from the Merchant Millpond project. Dr. Bud Cross seconded the motion which was approved.**

Dr. Costlow requested that Mr. Jerry Hardisty, a member of the Marine Fisheries Commission and retired Agricultural Extension Agent from Currituck, be kept informed of APES projects relevant to the farming community. Mr. Hardisty is organizing the 1993 National Future Farmers of America meeting.

Mr. Waite reported he would be making a presentation on the Study to the Coastal Resources Commission during the week of December 10. Mr. Carter suggested that either Mr. Waite or someone from the Division of Coastal Resources update the Policy Committee on the status of CRAC recommendations concerning APES.

PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Ted Bisterfeld reported the following activities:

- 1) Participation in EPA Region 4's review of an issue paper on post-CCMP agency involvement and financial commitments.
- 2) Reviewed draft guidance from EPA OWOW on conducting analysis of base environmental programs. This is a required element of the characterization phase of NEP. The guidance is too late to be useful to APES but will help newer management conferences.

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- 3) EPA OWOW is advising of expedited Work Plan review and funds allocation for FY 92. Work Plans are due to OWOW in March and the regions are to issue grants in June.
- 4) Official FY 92 funding targets for NEPs have not been received from OWOW but unofficially APES can expect at least \$300,000.

Mr. Larry Saunders noted that the Army Corps of Engineers has been funding USGS for modeling on the Albemarle Sound for ~\$450,000. However USGS has not been spending the allocated dollars for monitoring as quickly as expected and may not be able to use all the funds. The funds were specifically designated for participation in APES. Dr. Costlow moved, in the event the Army Corps of Engineers deems it appropriate, that unexpended funds available to USGS be directed toward GIS use for the A/P Study. Mr. Bryan seconded the motion. Concern was expressed that the money may be needed elsewhere as the Study nears completion of the CCMP. The motion carried.

Mr. Waite noted CGIA has received an electrostatic plotter which will increase output from the GIS. EPA Region 4 assisted in the purchase of this equipment saving ~\$40,000 on the cost.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Yates Barber, Albemarle CAC member, requested that any extra dollars available to the Study be considered for establishing a permanent continuous monitoring recording station at Currituck Narrows.

Mr. Tom Stroud, Pamlico-Tar River Foundation, asked about the status of critical area mapping in the Pamlico area. Ms. Steel indicated 10 regions have been completed in Phase I. Phase II, which included 17 regions, is schedule for completion in June. Phase III will then follow. The Natural Heritage Program fell behind in completing this work when staffing changes occurred in the program.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Technical Committee on November 6 raised concerns on the lack of specific numbers delineated in the October 30 version of the Goals and Objectives. The Committee instructed the staff to assign numbers (not percentages) to the Goals and Objectives based on background conditions and best professional judgment. Comments are still being provided and the issue papers workgroup sessions being held from December 3 through December 5 will provide additional comments and numbers. No action was required from the Policy Committee; however, members were asked to notify staff of any concerns or comments on the draft Goals and Objectives.

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CCMP UPDATE AND MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Waite reviewed the CCMP development schedule (Attachment D). Approximately seven public workshops will be held in February to include agricultural, forestry, fishermen, the development community, public officials, and industry and municipal dischargers. Issue papers will be presented to these groups for input as to the most feasible management options from their perspective. The first draft of the CCMP will be sent out for review during the first week in March. An additional Policy Committee meeting will be necessary in April to review the first draft CCMP. Public meetings will occur in June. The Policy Committee will meet in August to review the second draft CCMP. Public comment will again be solicited during September. The Policy Committee will meet in November to review the final CCMP. The CCMP will be ready for distribution in December. A revised meeting schedule will be distributed to the management conference.

COMMITTEE ROLES

No changes were made in the committees' responsibilities as distributed to all management conference members.

RESEARCH BRIEFING

Dr. JoAnn Burkholder made presentations to the Policy Committee on two research projects which she and Dr. Ed Noga are seeking APES funding assistance: (1) Coastal Eutrophication and Disappearing Submersed Vegetation: Lethal Effects of Nitrate Enrichment on Eelgrass and Other Beneficial Aquatic Plants and (2) The Role of A New Toxic Dinoflagellate in Estuarine Finfish and Shellfish Kills in the Neuse and Pamlico Estuaries. (See Technical Committee Minutes/11-6-91 for summaries.) The combined funding request from APES amounts to \$62,518. The projects are currently undergoing peer review and the Technical Committee delegated final recommendation authority to the Technical Review Subcommittee which will make its recommendation following the review process.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

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POLICY COMMITTEE
ATTENDEES LIST
DECEMBER 4, 1991

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
W. RAY CUNNINGHAM	POLICY COMMITTEE
BILL COBEY	POLICY COMMITTEE
DERB CARTER	POLICY COMMITTEE
JOHN D. COSTLOW	POLICY COMMITTEE
DON BRYAN	POLICY COMMITTEE
BILL QUEEN	POLICY COMMITTEE
BUD CROSS	POLICY COMMITTEE
MIKE GANTT	POLICY COMMITTEE
TED BISTERFELD	EPA REGION IV
BO CRUM	EPA REGION IV
LARRY SAUNDERS	CORPS OF ENGINEERS
ERNIE CARL	EHNR
YATES BARBER	ALBEMARLE CAC
TOM AUGSPURGER	US FISH & WILDLIFE
JOHN M. CARLOCK	HAMPTON ROADS PDC
ANN DEWITT BROOKS	VA COUNCIL ON THE ENVIRONMENT
TOM STROUD	PTRF
MIAOSONG YANG	DUKE MARINE LAB
LORRAINE SHINN	EHNR
TOM QUAY	PAMLICO CAC
JOANN BURKHOLDER	NCSU
RANDALL WAITE	APES
KRISTIN ROWLES	APES
KATHY NORRIS	APES
MARGARET SCULLY	APES
JOAN GIORDANO	APES
SYBIL SHIRLEY	APES
JENNIFER STEEL	APES

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT
Nov. 1991

1. Citizens' Advisory Committees (CACs)

- Continue to meet quarterly and other times as necessary
- Meeting jointly
- Meeting notices sent to public officials, interested citizens and newspapers in area
- CAC members continue to share program information with community, civic and educational organizations; also are accompanying outreach personnel on local government presentations
- 2 new members on Pamlico CAC:
 - Sybil Basnight - Friends of Roanoke Island
 - Dick Brame - Atlantic Coast Conservation Council of NC

2. Outreach

- General

- * Va.-NC Bi-State Meeting - Sept. 26
- * Presentation - Seafood & the Environment Conf. - Oct. 2
- * APES Policy Committee Special Meeting - Manteo - Oct. 11
- * APES Annual Public Meeting - Manteo - Oct. 12
- * Elizabeth City Lions Club - Oct. 14
- * Presentation - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council - Kill Devil Hills Oct. 23
- * Presentation - Washington Arts Council - Nov. 3
- * Presentation - Mosquito & Vector Control Association - Nov. 7
- * Presentation - Young Episcopal Churchmen - Washington - Nov. 10

- Education

- * Researchers' Review Workshop - Manteo - Oct. 11
- * Pasquotank County Environment Days - Oct. 17
- * Project Aquatic Wild Workshop - Nov. 3
- * Environmental Ed Presentation - 4th grade - Belhaven Elementary - Nov. 4-8
- * Environmental Ed Presentation - 4th grade - Pinetown Elementary - Nov. 12, 13, 15 & 18
- * Presentation - Farm City Day - Bayboro - Nov. 23

- Local Government Liaison

- * Camden County Commissioners - Sept. 3
- * Town of Winfall - Sept. 9; Nov. 11
- * Gates County Commissioners - Oct. 7
- * Hertford County Commissioners - Oct. 7
- * Elizabeth City Council - Oct. 7
- * Carteret County Commissioners - Nov. 4
- * Perquimans County Commissioners - Nov. 4
- * Town of Hertford - Nov. 11

3. Projects

4th cycle projects remaining to be completed:

- Exhibits

- * Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium - "Precious Waters"

- Print

- * Fact Sheets

ACA
PTRF } in various stages of rewrite
NCCR }
HRPDC - extension request to Nov. 30

- * Environmental/Estuarine Health Modules (3) - Elizabeth City/Pasquotank Schools in rewrite

- Electronic

- * Video PSAs for targeted audiences (5) are in process of distribution across the state - Accompanying Tip Sheet to printer - Nov. 6
- * Radio spots - within established structure of daily syndicated radio program - "Weekdays with Barbara King" are available on a single tape for borrowing

4. Newsletter

- Mail list is constantly updated
- Next issue due toward end of November

5. Citizens' Monitoring

- CWQ database is presently being compiled into a technical report to reflect program activity since April 1988 (7700 records)
- Four regional QA/QC and volunteer recognition meetings for monitors will be held during November

6. Other

- * GIS video completed and will be available for distribution to local governments (upon request) for introduction of GIS capabilities

10/29/91

Attachment C

FY 91-92 BUDGET

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>
EPA/EHNR	
ADMIN 3/4	\$206,421
ADMIN 1/4	\$68,807
CCMP	\$101,174
CGIA	\$186,000
DSW/CUMMINGS	\$34,922
DEM/TEDDER	\$57,881
DMF/MCKENNA	\$44,406
CARLOCK	\$44,200
LIPFORD	\$68,000
AMBROSE	\$4,070
BLINKOFF	\$45,322
COUTURE/AEA	\$32,680
ARMINGEON/NCCF	\$40,956
STROUD/PTRF	\$77,400
MEIGGS	\$50,625
SEDIMENT TOX	\$25,000
ROWLES	\$30,446
SCULLY	\$45,000
VIDEOPONICS	\$7,650
PUBLIC PARTIC	\$10,000
EPA/RTI	
LIDDLE	\$20,000
MCCARTHY	\$15,000
CUNNINGHAM	\$30,000
DODD	\$140,000
EHNR/NMFS	
FERGUSON	\$82,125
USGS - EHNR	\$219,850
91-92 TOTAL	\$1,687,945

TOTAL 1986-1991	EPA	ACTUAL EHNR	CREDITS	DEBITS
FY86-87	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$213,403
FY87-88	\$685,042	\$360,823	\$1,045,865	\$1,218,928
FY88-89	\$1,625,000	\$514,177	\$2,139,177	\$2,200,684
FY89-90	\$1,345,708	\$500,197	\$1,845,905	\$1,709,947
FY90-91	\$1,265,760	\$497,699	\$1,763,459	\$1,724,168
FY91-92	\$1,034,900	\$500,769	\$1,535,669	\$1,687,945
GRAND-TOTAL	\$6,256,410	\$2,373,665	\$8,630,075	\$8,755,075

OCT 23 1991

Mos	Date	CCMP Development
Oct	21-25	PTC (all comm members) reviews G&O (goals & obj)
	28-01	CAC mtg on G&O, staff prepares background papers
Nov	4-8	TC mtg on G&O, staff prepares background papers
	11-15	PTC reviews background papers, staff revises G&O
	18-22	PTC review, staff writes CCMP Intro, PC reviews G&O
	25-29	PTC review, staff writes CCMP Intro, PC reviews G&O
Dec	02-06	Action Plan Development Workshops, PC mtg on G&O
	09-13	staff writes Action Plans (APs)
	16-20	staff writes APs
	23-27	staff writes APs
	30-03	PTC reviews APs, staff writes Pub Inv Plan
Jan	06-10	PTC reviews APs, staff writes Res & Imp Plans
	13-17	PTC reviews APs, staff writes Mon & Fin Mgt Plans
	20-24	staff revises APs and completes Other Plans (OPs)
	27-31	staff revises APs, PTC reviews OPs
Feb	03-07	public workshops, CAC mtg, PTC reviews OPs
	10-14	public workshops, PTC reviews OPs
	17-21	staff revises APs & OPs, TC mtg
	24-28	staff compiles CCMP
Mar	02-06	Roundtable & PC mtgs, PTC reviews CCMP
	09-13	PTC reviews CCMP
	16-20	PTC reviews CCMP
	23-27	staff revises CCMP
	30-03	staff revises CCMP
Apr	06-10	PC reviews CCMP
	13-17	PC reviews CCMP
	20-24	PC mtg on CCMP
	27-01	staff revises CCMP
May	04-08	staff revises CCMP, CAC mtg
	11-15	public & PTC review CCMP
	18-22	public & PTC review CCMP, TC mtg
	25-29	public & PTC review CCMP
Jun	01-05	public & PTC review CCMP, PC mtg
	08-12	public meetings on CCMP
	15-19	public meetings on CCMP
	22-26	staff revises CCMP
	29-03	staff revises CCMP
Jul	06-10	staff revises CCMP
	13-17	PTC reviews CCMP
	20-24	PTC reviews CCMP
	27-31	PTC reviews CCMP
Aug	03-07	PC mtg on CCMP
	10-14	staff revises CCMP
	17-21	staff revises CCMP
	24-28	public & PTC review CCMP
	31-04	public & PTC review CCMP
Sep	07-11	public & PTC review CCMP
	14-18	public & PTC review CCMP
	21-25	public meetings on CCMP
	28-02	public meetings on CCMP
Oct	05-09	staff revises CCMP
	12-16	staff revises CCMP
	19-23	PTC reviews CCMP
	26-30	PTC reviews CCMP

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Nov 02-06 PTC reviews CCMP
09-13 PC approves CCMP
16-20 staff proofs & prints final CCMP
23-27 staff proofs & prints final CCMP
30-04 staff proofs & prints final CCMP
Dec 07-11 Implementation Summit