

Theme 3: Enforcement and Investigation Recommendations¹

- 1) Enforcement must be viewed in the context of one of several strategies used to promote improved compliance with coral reef regulations. Without high compliance, no management strategy can be fully effective.
- 2) High levels of stakeholder participation and involvement of enforcement authorities in coral reef management planning is essential to develop practical regulations whereby there is high voluntary compliance by resource users and practical means of enforcement.
- 3) Enforcement is composed of several stages and should not be viewed solely as at-sea monitoring control and surveillance actions, although this is an essential and important part of any enforcement strategy.
- 4) Enforcement strategies must also incorporate more effective means of investigation of coral reef crimes and more effective prosecution of violators.
- 5) Transparency and accountability must be improved.
- 6) Communities can also play an important role in enforcement both through Participation in formulating laws as well as supplementing surveillance capabilities of enforcement authorities and also in developing social capital within their community as deterrence.

¹ ¹ Workshop report from the 3rd International Tropical Marine Ecosystem Symposium held in Cozumel, Mexico 16-20th October 2006. Theme 3 – Enforcement and Investigation. Visit www.itmems.org for more information.