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Regional data processing and analysis as a basis for co-operative resource assessment

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The Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP) is an intergovernmental organization with the following member countries: China, Democratic Kampuchea, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The Hydrocarbon Resource Assessment Program undertaken by CCOP involves countries with different levels of development. Its objectives therefore differ significantly from programs undertaken within regions that represent the same development level.

The CCOP Resource Assessment Program was designed to help the CCOP countries improve their capacity and procedures for mapping and assessment of energy and mineral resources in sedimentary basins. The CCOP Resource Program started with national data compilations that could be fit into a regional framework. At the same time, different methodologies for analyzing the resource potentials of the region were demonstrated and discussed during a series of workshops throughout the

Program. The Program started with the compilation and production of geological resources maps and cross sections at the basin level. It supported the demonstration and introduction of methods for assessing resources by using the play concept, and assisted in systematizing the necessary play data for resource assessment. The products of the Project include maps, cross sections and explanatory notes as well as a preliminary play atlas, which are intended to help identify areas for new plays, encourage exploration and facilitate the management of national resource programs within the individual CCOP countries. Mineral and energy resource management based on adequate resource data and data system is important to the CCOP countries because of their need for resource data on which they can base realistic national plans for resource development. Recognition of this need has led to an increasing effort to develop resource data files and data systems relative to non-renewable energy and mineral resources.