

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP FOR STOCK ASSESSMENT ON NERITIC TUNAS IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGION

(Final Draft as of 19 Nov. 2014)

I. Introduction and Rationale

Refers to the Expert Group Meeting on Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tuna Resources in the Southeast Asia Waters conducted on 18-20 June 2014 in Krabi Province, Thailand, that, during the workshop one of the important outputs was the need to establish Scientific Working Group on Stock Assessment for neritic tunas in the Southeast Asian waters herein after called “SWG-Neritic tunas”. In this connection, SEAFDEC Member Countries namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam nominated their delegations to work as members of the scientific working group since October 2014 (**Annex 1**). To facilitate the work of Scientific Working Group, SEAFDEC formulates the Term of Reference (ToR) to be considered and finalized by all members of the SWG at the 1st Meeting of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment in the Southeast Asian Waters, 18-20 November 2014 in Malaysia. The objectives of the ToR is to ensure that the regional cooperation from AMS on the stock assessment of the neritic tunas (**Annex 2**) can be effectively implemented by the SWG as well as SEAFDEC to continue support under the ToR framework after the end of the funded project.

II. Role of SWG-Neritic tunas

The role of SWG is to provide technical/scientific advice particular on the current status of neritic tuna fisheries resources and policy consideration needs to the SEAFDEC Council for the improvement of fisheries management in Southeast Asia.

III. Scope of Work

SWG will cover data collection, genetic study and other relevant activities to support stock assessment on neritic tunas and mackerel species (seerfish) for the management of neritic tunas in Southeast Asian waters.

IV. Terms of Reference of the SWG-Neritic tunas

- To review and assess the current status of the neritic tuna resources in the region;
- To provide scientific based recommendations on priority fisheries management issues which may include policy consideration, and coordinated fisheries management actions for sustainable utilization of neritic tunas;
- To share the national catch and effort data/information including the biological data (if available) for regional stock assessment of the neritic tunas;
- To identify the needs for human capacity requirements in Member Countries;
- To coordinate with international/regional organizations, programs or projects concerned with fisheries management and sustainable use of fisheries resources in formulating advice.

V. Composition of the SWG-Neritic tunas

The composition of the SWG-Neritic tunas is identified as follows:

a. SWG-Neritic tunas:

The SWG comprises at least two standing members representing the SEAFDEC Member Country by nomination with Four-year fixed tenure of members and possibility for reappointment.

b. Chief Scientist(s):

An interim Chief Scientist for stock assessment of neritic tunas shall be a stock assessment expert from MFRDMD. A work period of the Chief Scientist is depended upon the tenure of the study period as decided by the SWG.

c. Chairperson:

SWG-Neritic tunas shall be chaired by Chief MFRDMD and co-chaired by a representative of its Member Countries on an annual rotational basis following alphabetical in order.

d. Resources persons/ Experts:

SWG-neritic tunas may identify and invite resource persons/experts from the Member Countries, ASEAN and other international/regional organizations to participate in SWG Meeting on an *ad-hoc* basis.

e. Secretariat:

MFRDMD in collaboration with the SEAFDEC Secretariat shall serve as a secretariat of the SWG meeting, as well as coordinate with the SWG members on the propose period and date of the meeting.

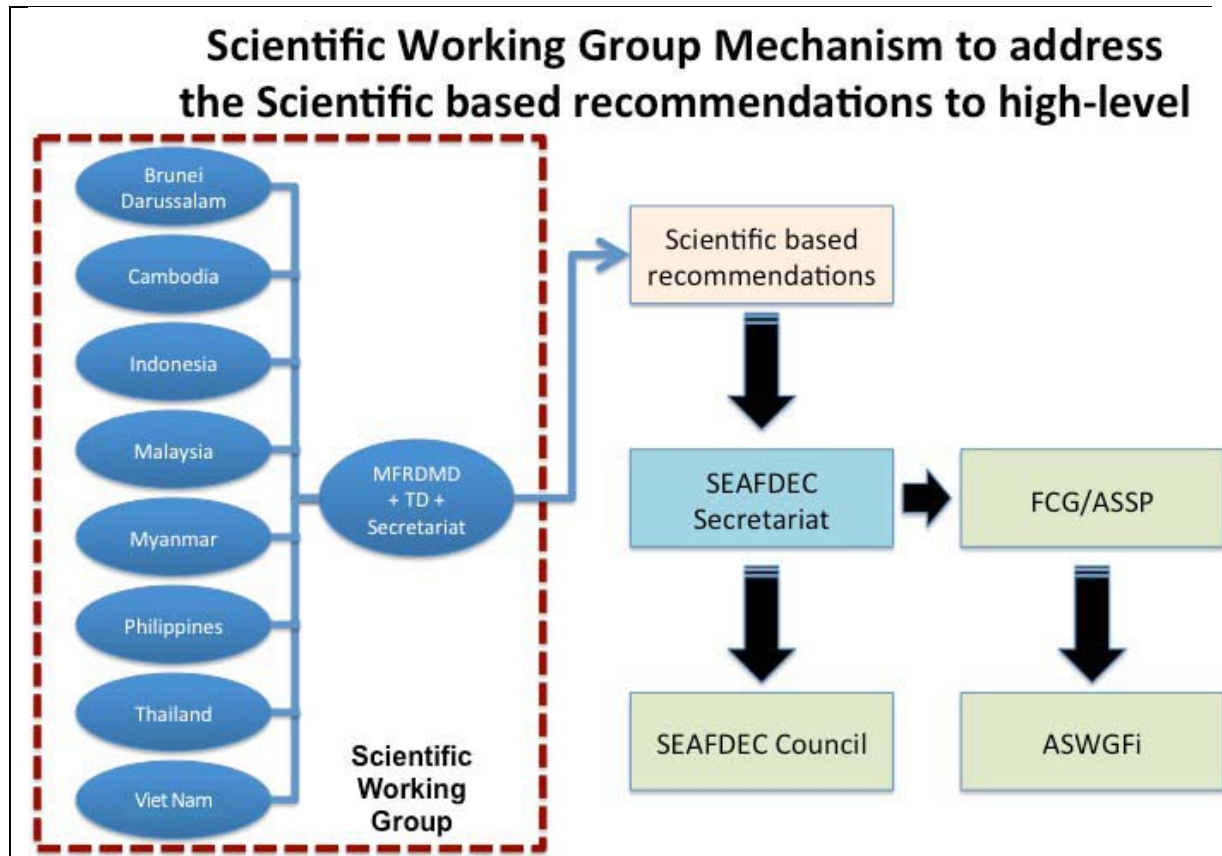
f. Rapporteur:

Secretariat of the meeting shall perform a Rapporteur of the SWG meeting in collaboration with the host country.

VI. Nature of SWG Activities and Financial Arrangements

1. SWG is scheduled to meet at least once a year. The timing of the meeting(s) should be set in accordance with SEAFDEC annual working cycle before the SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting.
2. Inter-sessional activities may be conducted as the need arises and subject to availability of funds.
3. The SWG meetings will be partially funded by SEAFDEC-Sweden Project managing by the secretariat of the working group. Under this condition, annually a certain amount of the money would be used for the meeting cost and participation of members from SEAFDEC MFRDMD and Secretariat to the SWG meetings; while the Member Countries would bear the cost for their participation to the SWG meetings starting from 2018.
4. The cost for attendance of the resource persons during SWG meeting (s) or during the inter-sessional activities should be from SEAFDEC-Sweden project and extra budgetary sources under the responsible of the Secretariat, while the cost for the experts/ representatives from international/regional organizations will be shouldered by their respective organizations.
5. The cost for the inter-sessional activities will be funded from SEAFDEC-Sweden project and/or extra-budgetary sources.
6. SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with the Member Countries and the MFRDMD are responsible for sourcing extra-budgetary funds for SWG.
7. Based on SWG's advice, the SEAFDEC Council will decide on how such advice should be considered and followed-up for the next session including imparting the recommendations to the ASEAN through ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries.

VII. Mechanism to Convey the Technical/Scientific Advice/Recommendation



REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to consider and approve the proposed Terms of Reference of the Scientific Working Groups for Stock Assessment on Neritic Tunas in the Southeast Asian Region to ensure that the regional cooperation from AMS on the stock assessment of the neritic tunas can be effectively implemented by the SWG after the end of the funded project. The Council is also invited to provide directive guidance to SEAFDEC on this matter to enhance the effective implementation for sustainable neritic tunas fisheries in the region.

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Annex-1

List of the standing members of SWG-Neritic Tunas from 2014

SWG Name	Position	Address	Email
Brunei Darussalam			
❖ Not confirm yet			
Cambodia			
❖ Mr. Suy Serywath (Chief Scientist)	Director, Fisheries Research and Development Institute	Fisheries Administration 186 Norodom Blvd, Sangkat Tonle Basac Khan Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh CAMBODIA Tel. (855-12) 714 239 Fax: (855-23) 219 256	serywath@gmail.com
❖ Mr. Kao Monirith	Deputy Director, Marine Fisheries Inspectorate, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Institute	Fisheries Administration 186 Norodom Blvd, Sangkat Tonle Basac Khan Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh CAMBODIA Tel. (855-12) 714 239 Fax: (855-23) 219 256	kaomonirith@yahoo.com
Indonesia			
❖ Mr. Khairul Amri (Chief Scientist)	Senior Researcher, Marine and Fisheries Research Institute	Agency of Marine and Fisheries Research and Development, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Jl. Muara Baru Ujung Komplek Pelabuhan Perikanan Nizam Zachman, Jakarta, INDONESIA Tel: +62-8568020608 Fax: +62-21 64700929	Kh_amri@yahoo.com
❖ Mr. Thomas Hidayat (Senior Officer)	Researcher, Marine and Fisheries Research Institute,	Agency of Marine and Fisheries Research and Development, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Jl. Muara Baru Ujung Komplek Pelabuhan Perikanan Nizam Zachman, Jakarta, INDONESIA Tel: +62-081806043030; Fax: +62-21 64700929	thomas.hidayat@yahoo.com hidayatthomas245@gmail.com
Malaysia			
❖ Mr. Mohd Noor bin Noordin (Senior Officer)	Head, Marine Aquaculture Section	Department of Fisheries Malaysia 1st Floor, Podium 2, Block 4G2 Wisma Tani, Precinct 4 62628, Putrajaya Tel.: +6 03-8870 4618 Fax.: +6 03-8889 1749 Mobile: +6 012-678 4028	mnn@dof.gov.my
❖ Mr. Hj Samsudin bin Basir (Chief Scientist)	Senior Researcher, FRI Kg. Aceh,	Kompleks Perikanan Kg. Acheh, 3200 Sitiawan, Perak, Malaysia Tel.: +6 05-691 4752	samsudin@dof.gov.my

SWG Name	Position	Address	Email
		Fax.: +6 05-691 4742 Mobile: +6 019-457 2978	
Myanmar			
❖ Dr. Htun Thein (Chief Scientist)	Assistance Director, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Bureau	Department of Fisheries, Marine Fisheries Research and Survey Unit, Building No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw, MYANMAR Tel.: +95 67 418534 Mobile: +95 95027889	htunthein.akyab@gmail.com
❖ Mr. Nay Myo Aye (Senior Officer)	Assistance Fisheries Officer	Ye Township, Regional Fishery Officer, Department of Fisheries Mon State Mobile: +95 9425355353	irnp.dof@gmail.com nyonyo.ye@gmail.com
Philippine			
❖ Mr. Noel C. Barut (Chief Scientist)	National Coordinator, National Stock Assessment Program	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) Corporate 101 Bldg, 101 Mother Ignacia Avenue Quezon City, Metro Manila The PHILIPPINES Tel./Fax: +63 2-3725063	necbarut@gmail.com
❖ Ms. Grace V. Lopez	Aquaculturist II, Marine Fisheries Research Division Vertebrate Section,	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) Corporate 101 Bldg, 101 Mother Ignacia Avenue Quezon City, Metro Manila Tel.: +63 2-765133(LOC. 607) Fax: + 63 2-725063	gmvlopez@yahoo.com
Thailand			
❖ Mrs. Praulai Nootmorn (Chief Scientist)	Director, Marine Fisheries Technology Research and Development Institute	Marine Fisheries Research and Development Bureau Kaset-Klang, Bang Khen, Bangkok 10900 THAILAND Tel.: +66 8 5070 6589	nootmorn@yahoo.com
❖ Ms. Pakjuta Khemakorn	Fishery Biologist, (Professional Level), Marine Fisheries Research and Development Bureau	Southern Marine Fisheries Research and Development Center, 79/1 Wichianchom Rd., Bo- Yang, Muang, Songkhla 90000 THAILAND Tel.: 66 8 1896 4702	pakjuta@gmail.com
Viet Nam			
❖ Mr. Pham Hung	Officer, Department exploitation and protection of fisheries resources	Department of Capture Fisheries and Resources Protection, Directorate of Fisheries 10 Nguyen Cong Hoon, BaDinh, Hanoi, VIET NAM Tel.: +84-983-804-039	hungfam83@gmail.com
❖ Mr. Nguyen Viet Nghia (Chief Scientist)	Deputy Director, Expert, Research Institute for Marine Fisheries	224 Le Lai, Hai Phong City VIET NAM Tel.: +84-982-728-365 Fax: +84-313-836-812	nvnghia@rimf.org.vn

Annex-2

Tentative Work Plan for Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment

#	Activity/Program	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION								
1	Developing the POA-Neritic Tunas	X						
CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM								
2	Improving Data Collection, (including on job training) a. Catch and effort data b. Biological data c. Species identification d. Classification of gears e. Data handling, Database-worksheet, f. others		X	X	X			
3	Stock Assessment a. Length base stock analysis b. Surplus production • Time series data (10 Years) for MYS estimation • Trends analysis c. Data poor stock assessment d. Age structure production model e. Kobe-plot f. Biological analysis • Measures analysis (Length analysis) • Gonad analysis • Stomach analysis g. Genetic analysis			X	X	X		
STOCK ASSESSMENT PROGRAM								
4	1 st Assessment of neritic tunas stock: a. Longtail tuna (Tongol)			X				
	b. Eastern little tuna (Kawa kawa)				X			
	c. Frigate tuna					X		
	d. Other species: Seer fish					X		
5	2 nd Assessment of neritic tunas stock:						X	X