

PROCEEDINGS VOLUME I
ASEAN-SEAFDEC CONFERENCE

on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium



"FISH FOR THE PEOPLE"

19-24 November 2001
Bangkok, Thailand

Jointly organized by:

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)

in collaboration with:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

and hosted by:

Department of Fisheries, Thailand (DOF)



PROCEEDINGS

VOLUME I

*Including the Resolution, Plan of Action,
Summary of the Conference Programs, and
Statements made during the Inauguration and Ministerial Sessions*

for the



ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People”



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The Sofitel Central Plaza Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

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PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS DOCUMENT

The Proceedings of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People” was prepared by the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), in collaboration with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Department of Fisheries, Thailand (DOF). The Document is distributed to participants of the Conference, the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries and all collaborative Organizations.

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PREFACE



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Reflecting widespread regional concern over unsustainable fisheries practices which may negatively affect future fish supplies for food security and the economic and social well-being of the people of the ASEAN region, the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) and the 32nd SEAFDEC Council Meeting in March 2000 decided to organize an ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on *Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People”*. The Conference focused attention on fisheries issues of specific concern to the ASEAN region with the objective of coordinating policies and actions within the region and harmonizing them with policies and actions at the international level.

The Conference is a milestone in a long-term collaborative process. During the course of the last two years, SEAFDEC and ASEAN Member Countries, together with the SEAFDEC and the ASEAN Secretariats, have collaborated in designing and organizing this Conference. Ten Regional Technical Consultation Meetings and ten National Seminars were held to define and discuss the key fisheries issues in the region and in each Member Country. The Conclusions and Recommendations on the issues reached through above processes formed the basis for the Technical Session in the Conference and for the content of the Technical Documents as well as for the formulation of the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region.

The Department of Fisheries (DOF), Thailand, was pleased to host this significant regional Conference and to coordinate the Ministerial Session of the Conference.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has been pleased to fully support the purpose and intent of the Conference by providing a range of assistance, including contributing to the preparation of the technical program and participating on a number of Technical Panels. The FAO confirms its continued support for the implementation of the Resolution and Plan of Action.

The Conference organizers wish to express their most sincere thanks to the Conference’s major sponsors, especially the ASEAN Foundation and the Government of Japan for their funding support for the conference. The Conference organizers also would like to acknowledge the

invaluable contributions of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, international/regional organizations, donors, technical institutions, the Chairpersons, Presenters and Panelists of Technical Panels and the many people who had contributed to the Conference process. Finally, we would like to thank the Conference participants for generously sharing their time and ideas.

Now the hard work begins as we take action to meet the challenges of achieving sustainable fisheries and food security in the region. The Conference has provided direction and guidance through the Resolution, the Plan of Action, the Technical Document, reports of national and regional meetings and these Proceedings. A “Follow-up Program on the Contribution of Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region” is being formulated to pursue the initiatives launched by the Conference.

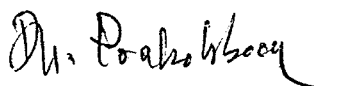
We wish every success to this endeavor!



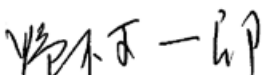
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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES
FOR FOOD SECURITY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM: “FISH FOR THE PEOPLE”

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**RESOLUTION
&
PLAN OF ACTION**

**ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES FOR FOOD SECURITY
FOR THE ASEAN REGION**

ADOPTED DURING
THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES
FOR FOOD SECURITY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM:
“FISH FOR THE PEOPLE”



The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministers during the Ministerial Session of the Conference

**RESOLUTION ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES FOR
FOOD SECURITY FOR THE ASEAN REGION**

We, the Ministers of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries who are responsible for fisheries, met in Bangkok, Thailand on the occasion of *The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People”*, on 24 November, 2001,

Recalling the principles of the ASEAN Vision 2020 and the initiatives agreed upon by the ASEAN Member Countries under the Hanoi Plan of Action;

Recognizing the importance of sustainable fisheries for food security and the livelihoods and well-being of the ASEAN people;

Noting the provisions of international declarations and instruments on food security, fisheries, ocean governance, trade, and the aquatic environment;

Conscious of the growing demand for fish and fishery products and the need to secure sustainable fish supply for food security for each ASEAN Member Country;

Aware of the increasing pressures on ASEAN’s aquatic environment and fisheries resources from fisheries and non-fisheries activities, that may negatively impact on the livelihoods of the ASEAN people, in particular the poor and disadvantaged segments of society;

Considering the benefits of current and future fisheries cooperation among ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries to promote sustainable fisheries in ASEAN Member Countries; and,

Deciding that the issues identified through the national and regional participatory processes in preparation for the above Conference and those identified at the Conference should be given priority;

DO HEREBY RESOLVE, without prejudice to the sovereign rights, obligations, and responsibilities of our countries under relevant international laws and arrangements, to:

1. Formulate regional guidelines to implement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, taking into account the specific social, economic, cultural, ecological and institutional contexts and diversity of ASEAN fisheries;
2. Cooperate to identify constraints and enhance collaboration among government agencies, which have responsibility for fisheries and fisheries-related issues, in order to harmonize policies, plans and activities which support sustainable fisheries at the national and regional levels;
3. Acknowledge the need for enhanced human resource capabilities at all levels and encourage greater involvement by stakeholders to facilitate consensus and compliance in achieving sustainable fisheries;
4. Mobilize regional technical cooperation to reduce disparities and promote solidarity among ASEAN Member Countries;
5. Encourage effective management of fisheries through delegation of selected management functions to the local level;
6. Recognize the need to progressively replace “open access” to fisheries resources with “limited access regimes” through the introduction of rights-based fisheries which may

also facilitate the management of fishing capacity and promote the use of responsible fishing gears and practices;

7. Strengthen national fishery statistical systems and maximize their use for fisheries planning and management and develop standard definitions and classifications to facilitate regional fishery statistics and information exchanges;
8. Emphasize the importance of inland fisheries and aquaculture in planning and policy formulation to improve food security and the livelihoods of rural people;
9. Work towards the conservation and rehabilitation of aquatic habitats essential to enhancing fisheries resources;
10. Mitigate the potential impacts on the environment and biodiversity, including the spreading of aquatic animal diseases, caused by the uncontrolled introduction and transfer of non-indigenous and exotic aquatic species;
11. Promote the maximum utilization of catch, including the reduction of discards and post-harvest losses to increase fish supply and improve economic returns;
12. Increase aquaculture production in a sustainable and environment-friendly manner by ensuring a stable supply of quality seeds and feeds, effectively controlling disease, promoting good farm management and transferring appropriate technology;
13. Promote aquaculture for rural development, which is compatible with the rational use of land and water resources, to increase fish supply and improve the livelihoods of rural people;
14. Improve post-harvest technologies to ensure fish quality assurance and safety management systems, which are appropriate for small and medium-sized enterprises in the region, taking into account the importance of traditional fish products and food security requirements;
15. Strengthen the joint ASEAN approaches and positions on international trade in fish and fishery products indigenous to the region by harmonizing standards, criteria and guidelines; and
16. Increase the participation and involvement of ASEAN Member Countries in international fora to safeguard and promote ASEAN interests;

AND DO HEREBY DECIDE,

That the Resolution be implemented as soon as possible and use the *Plan of Action* adopted by the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Officials as a result of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People”, held November 19-24, 2001, in Bangkok, Thailand, as a guideline for formulating and implementing programs, projects, and activities through appropriate ASEAN-SEAFDEC mechanisms.

PLAN OF ACTION ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES FOR FOOD SECURITY FOR THE ASEAN REGION

On the occasion of the *ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People"*, the Senior Officials of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries met in Bangkok, Thailand on 24 November 2001.

Guided by the Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region, and the need to formulate regional guidelines for the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the Senior Officials adopted the following Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region to be used as a guideline to develop programs, projects and activities for the implementation of the Resolution.

A. FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

1. Establish and implement comprehensive policies for innovative fisheries management, such as the decentralization of selected fisheries management functions to the local level, the progressive introduction of rights-based fisheries management through licensing and community fishing rights, the improvement of vessel registration systems and the development of supporting legal and institutional frameworks.
2. Ensure local consensus building on innovative management measures through consultative processes and create close monitoring mechanisms to support and implement these measures.
3. Take measures to prevent unauthorized fishing and eliminate the use of illegal and destructive fishing gears and practices by building awareness of their adverse impacts, the development and promotion of responsible and selective fishing gears and practices, enforcing regulations and encouraging alternative means of livelihood.
4. Optimize the use of inshore waters through resource enhancement programs such as promoting the installation of artificial reefs and structures, encouraging coordinated and effective planning for coastal fisheries management programs, undertaking environmental impact assessment studies, restocking of commercially important fish species and developing human resources for the implementation of such programs.
5. Review the issue of excess fishing capacity at the national level and recommend where appropriate, measures to improve the registration of fishing vessels, the introduction of rights-based fisheries and the reduction in the number of fishing boats and level of fishing effort using government incentives.
6. Formulate guidelines to promote the use of practical and simple indicators for multi-species fisheries as a substitute for classical fisheries management models within the national fisheries management framework, with particular regard to facilitating timely local level fisheries management decisions.
7. Investigate the potential of under-utilized fisheries resources and promote their exploitation in a precautionary manner based upon analysis of the best available scientific information under rights-based fisheries regimes.
8. Develop and maintain freshwater fisheries through inter-agency coordination of multiple-use water resources and trans-boundary inland fisheries management, promoting awareness of the importance of freshwater fisheries for local food security, rehabilitating

and restoring habitats for migratory freshwater fish, restocking indigenous fish species to enhance productivity and encouraging culture-based freshwater fisheries where appropriate.

9. Coordinate and decentralize the collection and use of fisheries related statistical data between the national fisheries and other authorities including those responsible for food security, trade, vessel registration, aquaculture and rural development.
10. Maximize the use of national fisheries statistical systems by focusing on clear objectives and timely results directly related to fishery management decision-making and planning processes.
11. Apply, where appropriate, regionally standardized definitions and classifications for statistical data to facilitate regional compilation, analysis and data exchange.
12. Develop national statistical mechanisms on inland fisheries and aquaculture in order to provide a basis for their development and the exchange of statistical data and related information, with particular emphasis on the catchment approach in international river basins.

B. AQUACULTURE

1. Ensure that national policies and regulatory frameworks on aquaculture development are directed toward sustainability and avoidance of conflicts by incorporating consultations with stakeholder groups, implementing aquaculture zoning, considering social and environmental impact, and also regulating rights of access to, and use of, open water sites for mariculture.
2. Ensure production of high quality seeds on a consistent and sustainable basis by providing government support for public and private hatchery development and research, developing domesticated broodstocks and fish reproductive technologies, and promoting responsible collection and use of wild broodstock and seed.
3. Promote good farm management practices that reduce effluent pollution load and comply with relevant effluent standards through appropriate treatment.
4. Reduce the risks of negative environmental impacts, loss of biodiversity, and disease transfer by regulating the introduction and transfer of aquatic organisms in accordance with the Regional Guidelines on the Responsible Movement of Live Aquatic Animals and Plants.
5. Improve the efficient use of aquatic feeds by regulating the quality of manufactured feed and feed ingredients, providing guidelines on farm-level food conversion ratios and levels of aquaculture effluents, and supporting research into developing suitable alternative protein sources to reduce dependence on fish meal and other fish based products.
6. Improve capabilities in the diagnosis and control of fish diseases within the region by developing technology and techniques for disease identification, reliable field-side diagnostics and harmonized diagnostic procedures, and establishing regional and inter-regional referral systems, including designation of reference laboratories and timely access to disease control experts within the region.
7. Formulate guidelines for the use of chemicals in aquaculture, establish quality standards and take measures to reduce or eliminate the use of harmful chemicals.

8. Build human resource capabilities for environment-friendly, healthy, wholesome and sustainable aquaculture through closer public and private sector collaboration in research and development, paying particular attention to the emerging need for skills in biotechnology, and effectively implementing aquaculture education and extension services.
9. Promote aquaculture as an integrated rural development activity within multiple-use of land and water resources available through inter-agency coordination in policy formulation, project planning and implementation, stakeholder consultation, extension services and technology transfer.

C. SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS

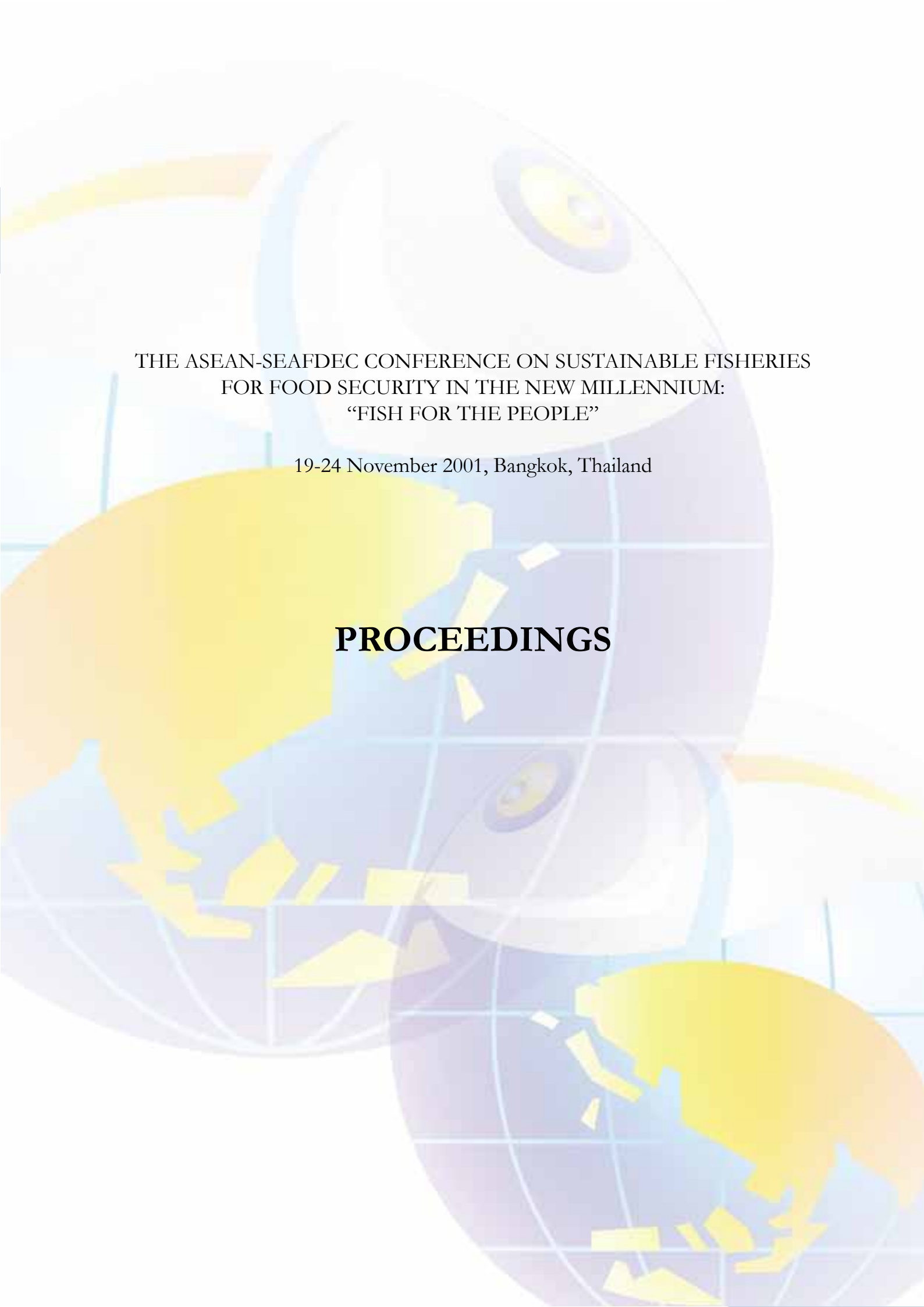
1. Introduce and provide support for the development of technologies to optimize the utilization of catch and reduce post-harvest losses, wastes and discards in industrial and small-scale fisheries and processing operations through improved processing facilities, on-board and on-shore handling, storage and distribution of fish and fishery products.
2. Promote the production and preserve the diversity of traditional fish products by assisting producers to secure stable supplies of quality raw materials, to meet food safety requirements and to improve product identity, nutritive value and marketing.
3. Encourage relevant control agencies to coordinate their activities at all levels in applying appropriate legislation regarding the quality and safety of fish and fishery products.
4. Develop and apply fish quality and safety management systems that ensure food safety and support the competitive position of ASEAN fish products on world markets through the implementation, validation and verification of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) based systems and improved laboratory practices, and adapting quality and safety management systems so that they may be applied to small and medium enterprises in the ASEAN region.
5. Promote and conduct training programs to upgrade the technical skills and competencies of personnel in the public sector and the fish processing industry in the ASEAN region.

D. FISH TRADE

1. Strengthen ASEAN trade policy on fish and fishery products through regional collaboration by harmonizing product standards and sanitary measures with international standards wherever appropriate, working towards harmonized guidelines for fish inspection and quality control systems among ASEAN Member Countries, strengthening fish inspection and quality control systems with regard to food safety and exchanging information on risk analysis.
2. In collaboration with international technical organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), assess the impact of government subsidies on fisheries, particularly on the needs of small-scale fisheries in the ASEAN region and sustainable fisheries.
3. Anticipate and address the potential impacts of eco-labelling of ASEAN fish and fishery products.

E. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY FORMULATION

1. Enhance regional collaboration by developing guidelines, criteria and standards on important fisheries issues to strengthen ASEAN policies and positions and harmonize them with international initiatives and arrangements.
2. Increase participation and involvement of ASEAN Member Countries in international fora and technical committees such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Codex, FAO, Office International des Epizooties (OIE), Regional Fisheries Bodies, and WTO to safeguard and promote ASEAN interests, recognizing that international fisheries policies are increasingly discussed and agreed upon at the global level.



THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES
FOR FOOD SECURITY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM:
“FISH FOR THE PEOPLE”

19-24 November 2001, Bangkok, Thailand

PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Since the introduction of modern fisheries technology in the 1960s, fish production in the ASEAN region has steadily increased and fisheries have grown into one of the most important economic activities in the region. However, this continuous growth in fish production has tended to concentrate the attention of fisheries related agencies on short-term management objectives and increasing fish production, rather than on long-term comprehensive fisheries management.

Fisheries stakeholders, including government fisheries agencies, have long recognized that increasing fish production does not necessarily result in the sustainable use of aquatic resources and the environment. The rate of increase in ASEAN capture fishery production is declining. The quality and value of catches are also declining in many parts of the region, while the level of fishing effort and relative cost of catching fish is rising. This has reduced fishers' incomes, marginalized their livelihoods, and undermined food security. This is particularly true for many small-scale fishers who represent the majority of fishers in the ASEAN region.

Aquatic environments and habitats have seriously deteriorated due to the impact of increased human activities in both coastal and inland areas. Some of this degradation is due to unsustainable aquaculture practices and irresponsible fishing activities. These trends, coupled with population growth and a growing demand for fish and fishery products in the region and the world, will lead to a serious gap between supply and demand for fish products in the future.

To address these problems, in March 2000, representatives at the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) and the 32nd SEAFDEC Council Meeting decided to organize an ASEAN-SEAFDEC¹ Conference with the theme *Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People"*.

This Conference theme reflects the ASEAN Vision 2020 of *"sustainable and equitable growth ... in an ASEAN where hunger, malnutrition, deprivation and poverty are no longer basic problems"* and the Hanoi Plan of Action goal to *"enhance food security and global competitiveness of ASEAN's food products"*, while *"protecting the environment and promoting sustainable development"*.

OBJECTIVES

With a view to achieving sustainable fisheries and stable supplies of fish and fishery products in the ASEAN region, the purpose of the Conference was to evaluate fisheries issues and problems identified at the regional and national levels. In particular, the Conference focused on the unique context and nature of the region's fisheries on important fisheries issues and identifying appropriate regional policy. The Conference had the following specific objectives:

¹ The ASEAN Member Countries are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. SEAFDEC Member Countries are the same except Lao PDR is not included and Japan is added.

1. To discuss and analyze various issues critical to the achievement of sustainable fisheries, recognizing its importance to food security for the ASEAN region;
2. To create a climate of cooperative and integrated efforts among ASEAN Member Countries to achieve sustainable fisheries;
3. To emphasize the importance of such efforts in dealing with issues of social development especially for the poorer and socially disadvantaged people of the region; and,
4. To formulate regional fisheries policy and identify and prioritize implementable actions by the fisheries sectors in the ASEAN region to achieve sustainable fisheries.

THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CONFERENCE

To understand the role of the Conference, it is important to emphasize that the Conference represents much more than a single event. The Conference should be viewed as part of a continuum of activities in three phases, all of which have the objectives described above. The activities in each phase are designed to raise awareness and build consensus for priority actions which will enable the region to achieve sustainable fisheries and food security. Detailed activities in the three phases are described in the *Comprehensive Plan for the Conference* which is included in *Annex 1*.

Phase 1: Consultative Process for the Conference Preparations (2000-2001)

To identify fisheries topics and issues of most importance to the region, the Conference organizers solicited the opinions of a broad range of fisheries related experts, including representatives from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, international and regional organizations, and technical experts from within and outside the region

Two of the most significant achievements of this preparatory process were the completion of ten Regional Technical Consultations (RTCs) on different technical topics, and ten National Seminars organized by the ASEAN Member Countries. While the RTCs focused on regional policy issues in each technical topic, the National Seminars focused on more extensive consultation with a wider group of stakeholders in each Member Country, using standard guidelines developed through the RTCs. The result of this consultation process was the development of the Technical Program for the Conference. This included the identification of twenty-two key areas for discussion at the Conference, the development of presentations on each topic with conclusions and recommendations, and the recruitment of panelists to comment on the presentations.

In consultation with the Senior Officials of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, Drafts of the Resolution and the Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region were also prepared.

Phase 2: The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference (19-24 November 2001)

The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference was held from 19 to 24 November 2001, at the Sofitel Central Plaza Hotel, in Bangkok, Thailand. Over 800 people attended the Inauguration (Opening Session). These included representatives from ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member

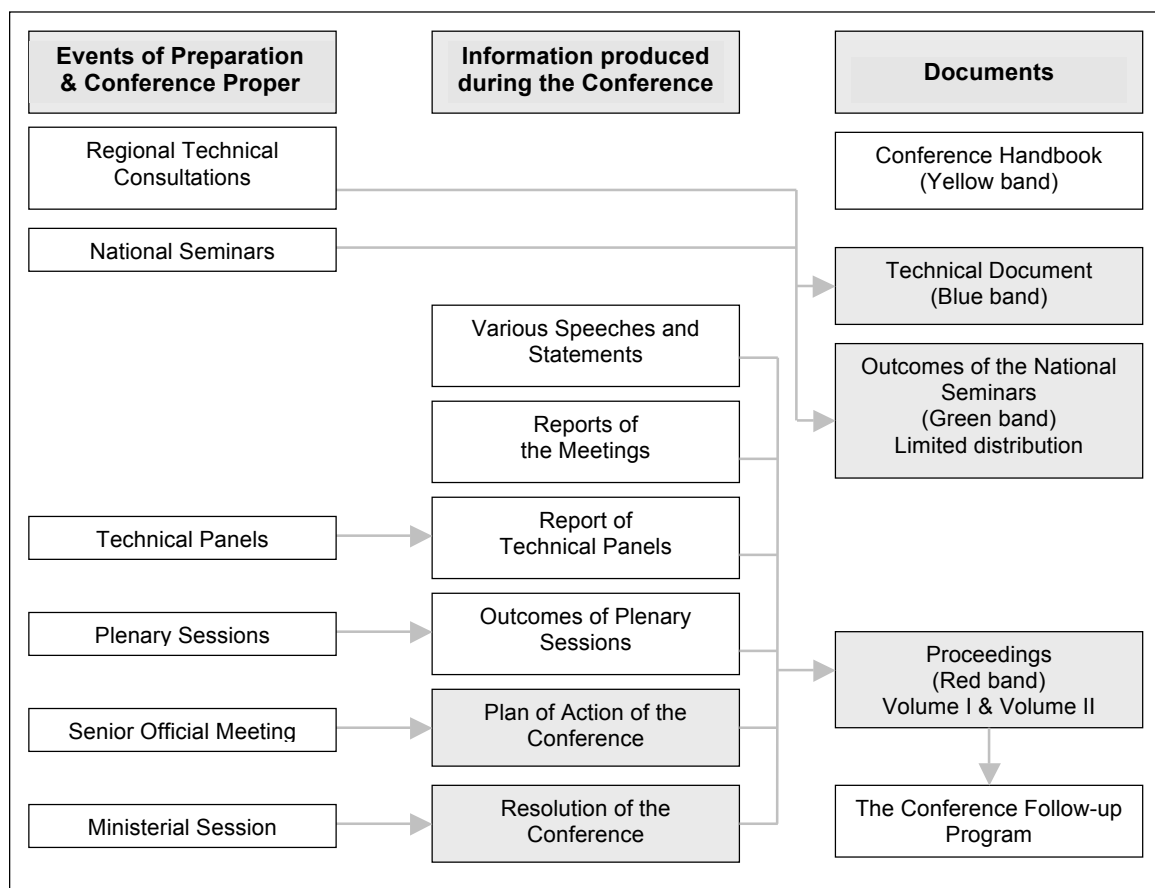
Countries, regional and international organizations, and a broad representation of fisheries experts from around the world.

The Conference could be separated into *the Technical Session* from 19 to 23 November 2001, and *the Ministerial Session*, on 24 November, where the Ministers responsible for fisheries from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries met and formally adopted the Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region.

Phase 3: The Follow-up Phase (2002-2005)

During the follow-up phase of this process, from the year 2002 to 2005, ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries will work together to implement the Resolution and Plan of Action under "The Program on the Contribution of Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region".

Preparatory Process of the Conference



CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS

There are five major documents which were produced either prior to or following the Conference which will be important directives, guidelines and reference documents for the implementation of priority actions for the region.

1. *Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region.* This sixteen point Resolution was adopted by the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministers responsible for fisheries from the eleven ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries. This Resolution will provide the regional policy framework for achieving sustainable fisheries. (The full text of the Resolution is included in the previous section.)
2. *Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region.* The plan was adopted by the Senior Officials of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC fisheries-related agencies. It identifies *priority actions* for achieving sustainable fisheries. (The full text of the Plan of Action is included in the previous section.)

ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries will use the Resolution and Plan of Action to guide changes in national fisheries policies and move closer to the goal of achieving sustainable fisheries and food security for the region. These two documents will also be used to formulate a 5-year regional program titled "The Program on the Contribution of Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region."

3. *Technical Document (blue band on the cover).* The Technical Document was developed to be used at the Conference. It includes the technical papers on each of the twenty-two topics identified in the consultations held prior to the Conference.
4. *Conference Proceedings, Vol I & II (red band on the cover).* The Conference Proceedings are not only a record of what happened at the Conference but also an important part of ongoing activities in the follow-up phase. The Proceedings will provide additional technical guidelines to the people responsible for follow-up activities in ASEAN Member Countries in the implementation of priority actions for achieving sustainable fisheries and food security in the region.
 - *Volume I* contains general information about the Conference, including a report on the Conference program, agendas for key sessions and meetings, full texts of the presentations made at the Opening and Ministerial Sessions and a List of Participants.
 - *Volume II* is more technical in nature. Titled the “Technical Report”, the main purpose of Volume II is to record the conclusions and recommendations which resulted from the discussion in each Technical Panel at the Conference. For ease of reference, the main Conclusions and Recommendations from the *Technical Report* have been added, as well. These consolidated conclusions and recommendations are intended to be used as a *general technical guideline* for the implementation of the Plan of Action.
5. *Outcomes from the National Seminars (green band on the cover)* – This document was prepared as a reference for ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries. It summarizes the outcomes of the individual National Seminars conducted by all ASEAN countries and provides information about the views and circumstances of each country in relation to the topics identified for discussion at the Conference.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



The Best Drawing from Brunei Darussalam

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

TECHNICAL SESSION

19 November 2001 (*Monday*)

- 0730-0930 Registration
- 0930-1055 Inauguration Session
- Introductory Remarks by the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC
 - Introductory Remarks by the representative of the ASEAN Secretariat
 - Welcome Remarks by the Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand
 - Opening Address by the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand
 - Keynote Speech by the Assistant Director-General of FAO
 - Keynote Speech by the Executive Director of the ASEAN Foundation
- 1110-1200 Presentation on Conference Principle
- 1400-1530 Plenary 1: Presentation and Discussion on Outlook of Fish Supply and Demand at Global Level and in the ASEAN Region
- 1600-1700 Plenary 1: *Continued*

20-22 November 2001 (*Tuesday – Thursday*)

0900-1730 Presentation and Discussion of four Technical Panels

Panels	Panel 1	Panel 2	Panel 3	Panel 4
Panel Titles	Sustainable Fisheries Management I	Sustainable Fisheries Management II	Sustainable Aquaculture	Sustainable Utilization of Fish & Fishery Products
<i>20 November (Tuesday)</i>				
0900-1230	1.1 Decentralization of Fisheries Management	2.1 Harvesting of Under-exploited Resources	3.1 Supply of Good Quality Seeds	4.1 Maximizing Utilization of Fish Catch
1400-1730	1.2 Rights-based Fisheries	2.2 Management of Fishing Capacity	3.2 Environment – friendly Aquaculture	4.2 Improved Traditional Fish Products
<i>21 November (Wednesday)</i>				
0900-1230	1.3 Resource Enhancement	2.3 Indicators for Sustainable Fisheries	3.3 Getting out of the 'Fish Meal Trap'	4.3 Fish Quality, Safety and Management Systems
1400-1730	1.4 Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices	2.4 Fishery Statistics	3.4 Healthy and Wholesome Aquaculture	4.4 Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
<i>22 November (Thursday)</i>				
0900-1230	1.5 Inland Fisheries Development and Management	-	3.5 Biotechnology for Aquaculture	4.5 Fisheries Subsidies
1400-1730	-	-	3.6 Aquaculture for Rural Development	4.6 Eco-labelling

23 November 2001 (Friday)

0900-1730 Plenary 2: Presentation by Regional/ International Organizations on Fisheries Cooperation Policies in the ASEAN Region.

MINISTERIAL SESSION

24 November 2001 (Saturday)

- 0910-0940 Opening Ceremony of the Ministerial Session
- Welcome and Introductory Remarks by the Director-General of Department of Fisheries, Thailand
 - Opening Remarks by the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand
- 1000-1230 Closed Session
- Election of Chairman of the Ministerial Session
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Business Arrangements
 - Report of the Chairman of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Official Meeting
 - Adoption of the Resolution
 - Consideration on Joint Press Release of the Ministerial Session
- 1330-1600 Semi-Open Session
- Statement from the Chairman of the Ministerial Meeting
 - Statement from the Senior Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan
 - Statement from the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 - Report of the 11th Council Meeting and Business Conference of the ASEAN Fisheries Federation (AFF)
- 1600-1615 Closing of the Ministerial Session
- Presentation of Souvenirs as well as Outcomes of the National Seminars and Drawing Contests
 - Closing Address by the Chairman of the Ministerial Session
- 1615 Joint Press Release

CONFERENCE PROGRAMS



The Best Drawing from Cambodia

CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

TECHNICAL SESSION

Inauguration Session

See Annex 2 for full texts of the speeches.

After introductory remarks by Mr. Panu Tavarutmaneegul, Secretary-General of SEAFDEC and Dr. Azmi Mat Akhir, Director for the Bureau of Functional Cooperation, ASEAN Secretariat, Mr. Dhammarong Prakobboon, Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, gave a welcome remarks and invited H.E. Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand to deliver an opening address. After the opening address, Mr. Ichiro Nomura, The Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and H.E. Mr. Wisber Loeis, Executive Director of the ASEAN Foundation, delivered keynote speeches, emphasizing the importance of the Conference to sustainable fisheries development of the region.

Conference Principle

See the Technical Document for the full text of the presentation.

A presentation on the Conference Principle provided by Dr. Yasuhisa Kato, Special Advisor of SEAFDEC, included the context for the Conference by reviewing the rationale and objectives for the Conference and the broad consultative process which resulted in the identification of the topics and issues to be addressed in the technical sessions. The actions anticipated as a follow-up to the Conference were also described.

Plenary I: The Outlook of Fish Supply and Demand at the Global Level and in the ASEAN Region

See Annex 3 for summary of Plenary 1.

See Technical Document for full text of the presentation.

See Proceedings Volume II: Technical Report for Conclusions and Recommendations from Plenary 1.

Plenary I: “The Outlook of Fish Supply and Demand at the Global Level and in the ASEAN Region”, formed the basis for the overall discussion at the Conference. The presentation projected a growing gap between fish supply and demand in the region. It was suggested that increasing fish production to meet demand would require a broad range of initiatives in three key areas: Sustainable Fisheries Management, Sustainable Aquaculture, and Sustainable Utilization of Fish and Fishery Products. In order to support the issue, “Global Perspective: Future Demand, Supply and Consumption of Fish and Shellfish” was presented.

Technical Panels

*See Annex 3 for summary of Technical Panels.
See the Technical Document for full texts of the presentations.
See Proceedings Volume II: Technical Report for Conclusions and Recommendations from Technical Panels.*

The key areas identified in Plenary I served as a focus for the 21 topics which were addressed by four technical panels which ran concurrently during Conference: Sustainable Fisheries Management (Panels 1&2, with 9 topics); Sustainable Aquaculture (Panel 3, with 6 topics); and, Sustainable Utilization of Fish and Fishery Products (Panel 4, with 6 topics).

Each topic was introduced by a presenter and followed by comments from a panel of experts from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, fishery-related international/ regional organizations and SEAFDEC. After comments from the panelists, the floor was opened for comments, questions and general discussion. Recommendations and conclusions from each session were compiled in the Technical Report of the Conference (Proceedings, Vol. II) which was presented to the Ministers at the Ministerial Session on the final day of the Conference.

Plenary II: Fisheries Cooperation Policies in the ASEAN Region

See Annex 9 for full texts of the presentations.

Plenary II: “Fisheries Cooperation Policies in the ASEAN Region”, featured presentations by international and regional organizations, donors and academic institutions, which have provided financial and technical cooperation to ASEAN Member Countries. These organizations also assisted the Conference organizers with the development of the technical program. The presentations in Plenary II described their policies and activities in the region and highlighted their interest in strengthening their cooperation with ASEAN Member Countries in the future.

MINISTERIAL SESSION

The Second ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Official Meeting

*See Annex 4 for Agenda of the Meeting and Report of the Chairman of
ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Official Meeting*

During the Conference, the SEAFDEC Council Directors and ASEAN senior officials met on 22nd November 2001, prior to the Ministerial Session, to consider and adopt the Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region, to finalize the Draft Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN region and discuss other issues. The Draft Resolution was subsequently presented to the Ministers for their consideration and adoption at the Ministerial Session on the final day of the Conference.

Ministers’ Working Dinner

In order to effectively discuss the agenda and final arrangement for the Ministerial Session, a Working Dinner of the Ministers was organized on 23rd November 2001.

Ministerial Session

See Annex 5 for full texts of the Ministerial Statements and the Joint Press Release.

On the final day of the Conference (24 November 2001), the Ministers responsible for fisheries from the SEAFDEC-ASEAN Member Countries met and adopted the Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region. The countries represented were Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The Ministerial Session had four parts: Opening Ceremony; Closed Session; Semi-Closed Session, and; Closing Ceremony.

Opening Ceremony: Mr. Dhammarong Prakobboon, Director-General, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand, welcomed the participants and made introductory remarks, followed by H.E. Mr. Shucheep Hansaward, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand, who delivered the opening remarks.

Closed Session: The Chairman of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Official Meeting (ASEAN-SEAFDEC SOM) gave the report on the ASEAN-SEAFDEC SOM, held on 22nd November 2001, and recommended the adoption of the Draft Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region. The Minister from each Member Country made statements regarding the Draft Resolution and matters of concern regarding the fisheries of their countries. The Ministers formally adopted the Resolution.

Semi-Opened Session: H.E. Mr. Shucheep Hansaward, the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand, in the capacity of the Chairman of the Ministerial Session, announced the outcomes of the Ministerial Session including the adoption of the Resolution by the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministers. This session also included statements by H.E. Mr. Takeshi Noma, Senior Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, and Mr. Ulf Wijkstrom, the Chief, Fishery Development Planning Service, Fishery Policy & Planning Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (on behalf of the Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department of FAO). The Secretary-General of ASEAN Fisheries Federation of Thailand also delivered a report on the 11th Council Meeting and Business Conference of the ASEAN Fisheries Federation which was held during the Conference period.

Closing Ceremony: The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, on behalf of the Conference Secretariat made Statement of Appreciation to all ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries for all supports to the preparation and organization of the Conference and presented souvenirs to all the Ministers. H.E. Mr. Shucheep Hansaward made the Closing Remarks for the Conference.

Joint Press Release: The outcomes of the Ministerial Session was prepared as Joint Press Release and provided to the representatives attended to the Semi-Closed Ministerial Session.

PARALLEL ACTIVITIES

Drawing Contest

See Annex 6 for the Details and List of Winners of the Drawing Contests.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries held Drawing Contests for children under the age of 18 on the theme of 'Fish and the Culture', as a part of the preparation of the Conference. The drawing contests were organized to promote public awareness of the importance of sustainable fisheries for food security in the region. The winning drawings from each Member Country were exhibited at the Conference.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Fisheries Exhibition

The Millennium Fisheries Exhibition was held from 21 to 24 November 2001 at the 5th floor of the Bangkok Convention Center, adjacent to the Conference hotel. Organized by the ASEAN Fisheries Federation (AFF), the exhibition provided opportunities for both private and public sectors to demonstrate new technologies in fisheries and fisheries management. There were approximately 70 booths for private companies and 30 booths for governments and international/regional organizations. ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries displayed information about their fisheries and fisheries-related programs. Each of SEAFDEC's four Departments also had a display.

ASEAN Fisheries Federation (AFF)'s Annual Business Council Meeting

See Annex 5 for a report of the 11th Council Meeting and Business Conference of the AFF

ASEAN Fisheries Federation (AFF) held its Annual Business Council Meeting from 21 to 22 November 2001 at the 4th floor of the Bangkok Convention Center, adjacent to the Conference hotel.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

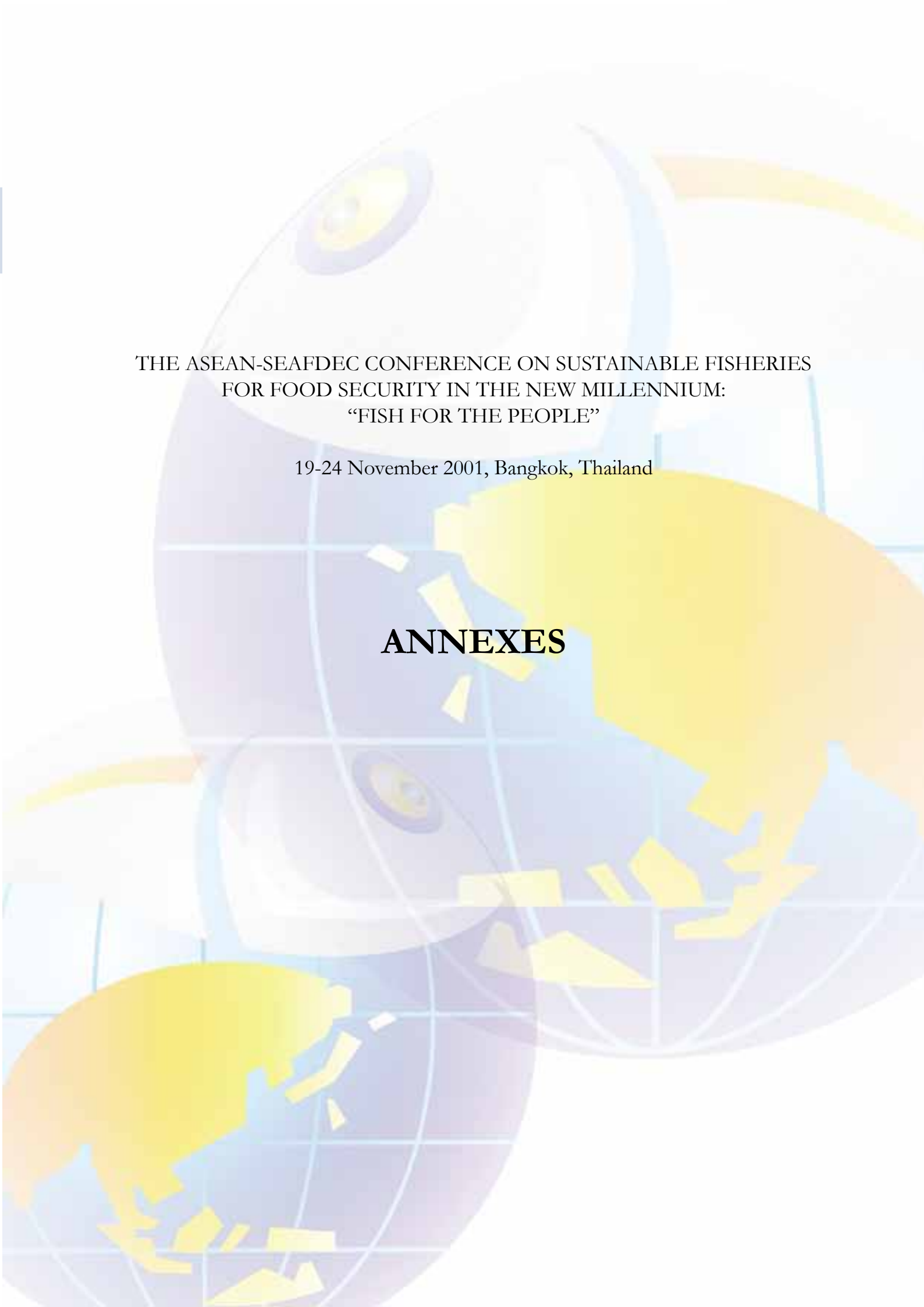


The Best Drawing from Indonesia

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Conference was jointly organized by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and hosted by the Department of Fisheries (DOF), Thailand.

It should be acknowledged with great appreciation to the various organizations that provided wider range of technical and other supports to organize the Conference (see *Annex 7*). The Conference might not be this successful, if these supports were not made available. The special gratitude should be given to ASEAN Foundation and the Government of Japan for their financial supports to the Conference. Furthermore, special efforts from ASEAN Member Countries that ensure the success of the Conference should be noted. These include their active participation to various preparatory works of the Conference, the Conference proper and the exhibition, as well as their contribution in organization of National Seminars and Drawing Contests by their own resources. It should be considered that such active participation and involvement of ASEAN Member Countries are the clear indication of their serious involvement and commitments on the fisheries issues. This elevated and improved momentum of collaboration should be kept for future and a proven basis of effective collaboration among ASEAN Member Countries to collectively challenge the difficult tasks identified through the Conference. In addition, various international and regional organizations, donors and technical institutes that provide wider and valuable range of supports to the organizing of the Conference should also be acknowledged with great appreciation. Last but not least, active participation and contribution from all participants (see *Annex 8*), which make this Conference productive and fruitful, were greatly appreciated.



THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES
FOR FOOD SECURITY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM:
“FISH FOR THE PEOPLE”

19-24 November 2001, Bangkok, Thailand

ANNEXES

ANNEXES

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ANNEX 1

Comprehensive Plan of the Conference



The Best Drawing from Japan

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CONFERENCE

Dates	Policy related activities	Administrative Activities	Technical related activities
Consultative Process for the Conference Preparations (2000-2001)			
<i>2000</i>			
March	The 2 nd Meeting of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (20/3/00) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia		
	The 32 nd Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council (21-24/3/00) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia		
April	SEAFDEC Department Chiefs' Meeting (10-12/4/00) Bangkok, Thailand	SEAFDEC delegates visit to ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries and FAO (2-5/4,21-27/5, 18-23/6/00)	
	Special Meeting of Senior Officials of ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (26-27/4/00) Brunei Darussalam		
May		Nomination of National Coordinators of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries (15/5/00)	Advisory Committee Meeting, (15-17/5/00) Bangkok, Thailand
July	1 st Steering Committee Meeting (3-5/7/00) Bangkok, Thailand		
August			The 1 st Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on Aquaculture, (3/8/00) Iloilo, the Philippines
			The 1 st Technical Sub-Committee Meeting (10-11/8/00), Bangkok, Thailand
			The 1 st RTC on Fishery Post Harvest, (31/8/00), Singapore
September		The Preparatory Meeting for Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting, (15/9/00), Bangkok, Thailand	The 1 st RTC on Coastal Fisheries Management and Responsible Fishing Operations (29/9/00), Samut Prakarn, Thailand
		The 1 st Announcement of the Conference (9/00)	
October	The Senior Officials Meeting of the 22 nd Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) (26-27/10/00), Phnom Penh, Cambodia		

November		The 1 st Administrative Sub-Committee, (13/11/00), Bangkok, Thailand	The 1 st RTC on Commercial Fisheries Management (10-11/11/00) Penang, Malaysia
			The 2 nd RTC on Aquaculture, (23-24/ 11/00), Iloilo, the Philippines
December		The 2 nd Announcement of the Conference (12/00)	The RTC on Responsible Fishing Technology, (18-19/ 12/00), Samut Prakarn, Thailand
		Press Conference (27/12/00) Bangkok, Thailand	
2001			
January			Joint RTC on Commercial and Coastal Fisheries Management and Responsible Fishing Operation, (22-24/1/01), Bangkok, Thailand
			The 2 nd RTC on Fishery Post Harvest, (5-6/1/01) Singapore
February		The 2 nd Administrative Sub-Committee, (16/2/01), Bangkok, Thailand	Lead Experts Workshop (Preparation of the Regional Guidelines for the National Seminars), (12-16/2/ 01) Bangkok, Thailand
March	The 3 rd ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Meeting (12/3/01) Singapore	The 3 rd Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting (29/3/01) Bangkok, Thailand	
	The 33 rd Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, (13-16/3/01) Singapore		
April	The Special Senior Officials Meeting of the 22 nd Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (24-26/4/01)	The 3 rd Announcement of the Conference (4/01)	The RTC on Fish Trade (9-11/4/01) Bangkok, Thailand
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in the Philippines, (18-19/4/01)
May		The 4 th Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting (1/5/01)	Pre-Conference National Seminar in Thailand, (1, 4 and 15/5/01)
			The RTC on Indicators for Sustainable Fisheries Management, (2-5/5/01), Hai phong, Vietnam
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Malaysia, (8-9/5/01)
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Singapore, (11/5/01)

			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Brunei Darussalam, (15-17/5/01)
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Cambodia, (16-18/5/01)
			The RTC on the Outlook of Fish Supply and Demand and Fishery Statistics in ASEAN Region (16-18/5/01), Bangkok, Thailand
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Indonesia , (22-23/5/01)
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Lao PDR, (24-26/5/01)
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Myanmar, (27/5/01)
			Pre-Conference National Seminar in Vietnam, (28-29/5/01)
June			Inter-Departmental Meeting for the preparation of the Technical Documents (5-7/6/01) Bangkok, Thailand
			Preparation of the Technical Documents (June-September/01)
July			The 2 nd Technical Sub Committee Meeting and Lead Experts Meeting (9-13/7/01), Bangkok, Thailand
August	The 2 nd Steering Committee Meeting, (29-31/8/01), Bangkok, Thailand	The 5 th Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting (14/8/01) Bangkok, Thailand	
September		Final Announcement of the Conference	
October	The Senior Officials Meeting of the 23 rd Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF), Indonesia (1-6/10/01)	The 6 th Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting (22/10/01) Bangkok, Thailand	
	The 1 st ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Official Meeting (SOM) (16-17/10/01) Bangkok, Thailand		
November		Protocol Working Group Meeting (Department of Fisheries, Thailand)	Chairperson's Meeting (18/11/01), Bangkok, Thailand

The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference (19-24 November 2001)			
19 Nov.		Organization of the Conference, Exhibition of Drawing Contests	Plenary I: Outlook of Fish Supply and Demand at the Global and in the ASEAN Region
20-22 Nov.	The 2 nd ASEAN-SEAFDEC SOM (22/11/01)	ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Fisheries Exhibition (21-24/11/01)	21 Technical Panels (20-22/01)
23 Nov.			Plenary II: Fisheries Cooperation
24 Nov.	Ministerial Session (24/11/01)		
The Follow-up phase (2002-2005)			
2001			Inter-Departmental Workshop on the Preparation of the Follow-up Program (6-15/12/01), Bangkok, Thailand
2002	SEAFDEC Program Committee (January/02)		The Regional Meeting on the Implementation of the Follow-up Program
	The Special Senior Officials Meeting of the 24 th Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (March 02)		Implementation of the Follow-up Program.
	The 4 th Meeting of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (March/02)		
	The 34 th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, (March /02)		

ANNEX 2 Inauguration Session



The Best Drawing from Lao PDR

INAUGURATION SESSION

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

*by Mr. Panu Tavarutmaneegul
Secretary-General
Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center*

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen

May I, first, express my gratitude to H.E. Chucheeep Hansawasdi, the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Thailand for his presence as the Chairman at the inauguration of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People” this morning.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my privilege and pleasure to extend my warmest welcome to honorable guests, distinguished delegates and participants from ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries and various organizations to witness this very important event for fisheries development in the region of this Millennium.

We are all fully aware of the importance and substantial roles of ASEAN fisheries played in the region and worldwide. The recent globalization and new initiatives related to fisheries have given significant impacts on fisheries development and management, especially in ensuring the continuation of fish production. This has called for a need to open a forum where by all ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries could jointly discuss and develop ways and means to ensuring sustainable fisheries in the region. Based on the above-mentioned need, the ASEAN and SEAFDEC in collaboration with FAO and hosted by the Department of Fisheries, Thailand jointly organize this Conference, which is considered as the milestone of collaborative efforts to ensure sustainable fisheries for food security in the ASEAN region. I should like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to co-organizers and sponsors of the Conference to enable the Conference started off today.

Over the past two years of preparation for the Conference, a series of preparatory activities have been promoted by all concerned parties with great deal of collaboration from ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries. To name a few, there are a number of regional technical consultations as well as national seminars organized by each of ASEAN Member Countries to discuss issues of common interests and concerns on fisheries in the region. In addition, awareness building exercises through drawing contest entitled “Fish and the ASEAN Culture” have been promoted at national level.

The Conference, which is structured into the Technical Session to be held from 19 to 23 November and the Ministerial Session to be held on 24 November, is envisaged to come up with technical ground to be used as the basis to develop the Conference Resolution and Plan of Action considered as the guiding regional policy and actions to be undertaken to promote sustainable fisheries for food security in the generations to come.

SEAFDEC as being one of the key organizers of this Conference has committed ourselves to further promote the outcome of the Conference by making available of a 5-year follow-up program on contribution of fisheries to food security in the ASEAN region.

Lastly, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and heart-felt thanks to the ASEAN Foundation for providing financial support to the Conference, Furthermore, I am also grateful to all those who in one way or another have made this Conference possible.

Thank you very much.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

*by Dr. Azmi Mat Akbir
Director, Bureau of Functional Cooperation,
ASEAN Secretariat*

ASEAN cooperation in agriculture, which includes the fisheries sector, started as early as June 1968 with the convening of the meeting of the Ad-hoc Committee on Food Production on 20-24 June that year in Jakarta. Since then, ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry progresses under the guidelines set by the ASEAN Summits and the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF). The latest of these are the ASEAN Vision 2020 Statement on agriculture and forestry and the Hanoi Plan of Action (HPA) to Implement the ASEAN Vision 2020 on Food, Agriculture and Forestry for the period 1999-2004. The basis of the Hanoi Plan of Action on Food, Agriculture and Forestry are the Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry, which was signed by the AMAF in October 1993, and the Strategic Plan of Action on ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry, which was adopted by the AMAF in October 1999. Action plans on cooperation in fisheries features significantly in the Hanoi Plan of Action.

Cooperation activities in fisheries among ASEAN Member Countries became more intensified towards the end of 1970s. During that time, the first six ASEAN members, with the support of third-party funding, undertook various efforts to promote greater growth of the fisheries sector in the region through the implementation of cooperative projects. In view of the increasing importance of fisheries to ASEAN's economy and recognizing the need to further strengthen regional cooperation in the sector, the AMAF decided to provide policy guidelines for the cooperation by adopting a Ministerial Understanding on Fisheries Cooperation on 22 October 1983. Member Countries, then, reached consensus and agreed to take necessary action towards closer cooperation in:

- the management and conservation of fisheries resources of the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) in the ASEAN region;
- the sharing and transfer of technology at all levels to improve the socio-economic status of the fishermen;
- all aspects of aquaculture to increase production and income of fish farmers;
- all aspects of post-harvest technology in support of production and marketing efforts;
- promoting the trade and marketing of fish and fisheries products among the ASEAN countries as well as with other countries;
- identifying common areas for commercial cooperation in fisheries; and
- working towards a common stand and understanding on regional and international matters in fisheries.

Ten years later, the AMAF further reinforced these actions by identifying seven priority areas of cooperation when they adopted the Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry in October 1993. These are:

- Strengthening Food Security in the Region;
- Facilitation and Promotion of Intra- and Extra-ASEAN Trade in Agriculture and Forestry Products;

- Generation and Transfer of Technology to Increase Productivity and Develop Agribusiness and Silvo-business;
- Agricultural Rural Community and Human Resource Development;
- Private Sector Involvement and Investment;
- Management and Conservation of Natural Resources for Sustainable Development; and
- Strengthening ASEAN Cooperation and Joint Approaches in Addressing International and Regional Issues, especially those pertaining to trade in agricultural and forestry products.

The growth of ASEAN fisheries sector had been very significant since the establishment of the regional cooperation in fisheries. Fisheries had since become an important sector in ensuring food security and in generating foreign currency earning, as well as in providing employment to a large segment of the region's society, and will continue to do so in the future.

According to trade values data collected by the ASEAN Secretariat up to September this year, the total export value of fish, crustaceans, molluscs, etc. from the older six Member Countries of ASEAN (i.e. Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand) was approximately \$4.16 billion, while the total import value was \$1.32 billion. These export and import values would be much higher when including trade values for processed fisheries products and values from the newer ASEAN members. Among these six older members, the biggest exporter has been Thailand at \$1.67 billion for the period January-September 2000 alone; followed by Indonesia at \$1.48 billion for the whole of last year.

Assuming that the exports were of those fish production or the catch that was in surplus of regional domestic consumptions, these trade values of the region's fisheries products confirm the significant contribution of the fisheries sector towards ensuring food security in the region, as well as foreign exchange earnings of ASEAN Member Countries. However, the comparison between the export values of 1994 and 2000, although showing increasing trends for exports from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia, those from the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand were decreasing during the period. The overall total export value for ASEAN also shows a similar declining trend from \$5.08 billion in 1994 to \$4.16 billion in 2000, while the import value over the same period was rather erratic.

This declining trend in the overall exports for ASEAN presents several possible causes. It may be that the catch remained the same while domestic consumptions have increased due to population increase, thus leaving less and less for export from year to year; or that the overall total catch have decreased due to the decrease in the region's fisheries resources itself; or because of other reasons; or a combination of all these possible reasons. Perhaps, a comparison between annual catches data, rather than between exports data, would provide for a more valid assessment. But then, although fisheries is a renewable natural resource and, being a mobile natural resource, fish recognizes no national boundaries such that catches data at any point in time or over a certain period of time do not really reflect the actual situation or potential, we should already be concerned about this declining trend, whatever is the reason. ASEAN Member Countries would, therefore, need to pursue more concerted cooperation, both through ASEAN's own projects and activities and through the SEAFDEC's programmes and activities.

The importance of a strong and sustained collaboration between ASEAN and SEAFDEC has since long been realized by the AMAF. In their Ministerial Understanding on ASEAN

Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry signed in 1993, the AMAF had also identified the mechanism for the implementation of cooperation activities. While harnessing its own cooperation machinery through the involvement of relevant national focal point agencies, ASEAN had also decided to collaborate and utilize the technical expertise of international and inter-governmental organizations and institutions already present in the region. For cooperation in fisheries, ASEAN has confidently identified SEAFDEC as its technical arm. This has, indeed, been an appropriate move because, in the ASEAN members of SEAFDEC, the same government agencies are involved in both the ASEAN and SEAFDEC cooperation activities, thus facilitating all collaborative efforts and also economizing on resources utilization, while at the same time avoiding duplication of efforts.

The participation of ASEAN Member Countries in regional fisheries projects under the ASEAN cooperative sphere as well as under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative mechanism had enabled Member Countries to establish strong institutional linkages within the Southeast Asia region. These linkages had facilitated exchanges of knowledge and experience as well as development of expertise and technologies in areas involving production, harvesting and post-harvest technologies, as well as sustainable management of fisheries resources in the region, both in marine and inland fisheries. The close collaboration has also enabled ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries to collectively address issues of common interest, including those relating to trade in the region's fisheries products.

The joint organization of this Conference is a testimony of this encouraging collaboration between ASEAN and SEAFDEC. This joint activity really presents ASEAN and SEAFDEC as one. The chosen themes and sub-themes, on which the Conference will deliberate, together target at strategizing future plans for sustaining fisheries resources in the Southeast Asia region. This is expected to culminate, at the end of this Conference, in the adoption of ministerial resolution towards sustainable management of fisheries resources for food security in this region.

In closing this short remarks, the ASEAN Secretariat congratulates ASEAN and SEAFDEC for having been able to eventually make this Conference a reality, after almost two years of earnest preparatory works. To all the donors and those, which have, in one way or another, made this forum possible, especially the ASEAN Foundation and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, ASEAN expresses its sincere gratitude and thanks. And, to all paper presenters and discussants who will be contributing their valuable ideas and thoughts towards developing a proper plan of action on sustainable fisheries in the ASEAN region in the future, ASEAN extends a hearty thanks, upfront, to all of you.

Thank you.

WELCOMING REMARKS

*by Mr. Dhammarong Prakobboon,
Director-General,
Department of Fisheries, Thailand*

Excellency, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen;

On behalf of the Administrative Sub-Committee of the ASEAN SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People", I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Your Excellency in accepting our invitation to preside at the opening of the Conference.

The Conference is organized according to the decision made by the SEAFDEC Council Directors at its thirty-second session in Kuala Lumpur in March 2000. The Meeting has unanimously agreed that it is timely for member countries of SEAFDEC and ASEAN as well as the international and regional organization to identify fisheries problems and issues of specific concern to ASEAN region and to help formulate harmonized regional fisheries policies with a view to achieving sustainable fisheries and increasing supplies of fish and fishery products.

Excellency,

I am especially pleased to learn that in organizing this Conference, the Conference Secretariat has obtained support and input, not only from member countries of SEAFDEC and ASEAN but also from various international and regional organizations as well as the technical experts from within and outside the region who have conducted a series of technical preparatory tasks leading up to this Conference. Moreover, this Conference would not be possible without the financial support from the Government of Japan and ASEAN Foundation. I, therefore, wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and admiration for all supports obtained.

The Conference is divided into two main sessions: the Technical Session consisting of Plenary Sessions and four simultaneous Technical Panels and the Ministerial Session. The conclusions and series of technical recommendations of the Technical Panel Sessions will be compiled and submitted for the consideration and adoption of the Ministerial Session.

It is expected that the outcome of the Technical Sessions will be the foundation for an improvement in national and regional policies toward the achievement of sustainable fisheries and stable supply of fish and fishery products.

Excellency,

The auspicious time has now arrived, may I request Your Excellency to declare the Technical Sessions of the Conference open. Thank you.

OPENING ADDRESS

*by H.E. Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward
Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand*

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is great pleasure for me, on behalf of the Thai government and the Thai people to preside a the opening of this ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on the Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People” and to extend greetings and warmest welcome to all distinguished delegates. I also would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the decision made by the SEAFDEC Council Directors at its thirty-second session in Kuala Lumpur in March 2000 to organize this Conference as the forum for ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries, international and regional organizations to discuss and analyze various issues critical to the achievement of sustainable fisheries in the region, since the decline of fish stocks and the state of aquatic environment is of grave concern not only to the ASEAN region but for the sustainability of fisheries at the global level.

Fisheries is the major concern to the region and to the world communities, so I am confident that with your diverse backgrounds and experiences, various fisheries issues and problems would be identified and this Conference would provide a conceptual framework with principles and guidelines, which will contribute to the formulation of regional fisheries policies and help identify activities to be undertaken by ASEAN Member Countries.

Distinguished Delegates;

The subject matter to be discussed, particularly on the sustainable contribution of fisheries to the food security is one which regard as a very important issue to our people to be assured of their quality of life, free from hunger and have adequate food for consumption. ASEAN region has been recognized as one of the potential areas in fisheries development for various reasons, and is also recognized as a leading region which has produced large amount of fish and fishery products to serve both domestic and international consumption. It is estimated that in 1996 this region could produce almost 14 million tons of fishery products (including aquaculture products) at the value of US\$ 11,500 million or about 11% of the total world production. However, the growing of population in ASEAN Countries as well as the increasing of fish in the diet will undoubtedly create a potential gap between the demand and supply of fish in the future. It is, therefore, an urgent need for ASEAN member countries to promote collaboration to focus on the national and regional policy issues that contribute to the achievement of sustainable fisheries and sustainable use of fisheries resource.

Looking to the future, the road to the year 2020 and beyond will paved with challenges and difficulties but also afford us an excellent opportunity to bring about prosperity in the region. I, therefore, strongly urge ASEAN seeks greater cooperation not only to secure sustainable food supplies for food security and the livelihoods and well-being of our people, but also combine the enormous efforts to play more active role in the competitive world of trade for fishery products and prepare ourselves appropriately to cope with what lies ahead.

Distinguished Delegates;

I understand that the Conference Secretariat has put a lot of efforts in preparing for the Conference. I, therefore, wish to express my thanks to the Conference Secretariat and all concerned for the excellent organization of the Conference.

It is now a great pleasure and honour for me to officially declare the opening of the Technical Sessions of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: 'Fish for the People' and wish the Conference every success. I also hope that during your four days of deliberations, you will come up with innovative ideas and new approaches in dealing with the challenges in the year 2020 and beyond.

Thank you.

KEYNOTE SPEECH

*by Mr. Ichiro Nomura
Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

Mr. Minister, Mr. Secretary General of SEAFDEC, Mr. Director General of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, Mr. Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation, Delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Let me say at the outset that I am very happy to be here. I would like you also to know that I travel seldom. So the fact that I have been instructed by Mr. Jacques Diouf, the Director General of FAO, to be with you today is a sign of the importance that he and FAO attaches to this conference. Personally I consider it a great honour to address you on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

I will start my address to you by discussing management and development of fisheries. I will focus on the evolving nature of tasks required to ensure sustainable fisheries. I will briefly review the implications of these for government, industry and science. Finally, I will look at the possible areas for continued and strengthened collaboration between FAO and ASEAN-SEAFDEC in fisheries.

I would like to stress that with very few exceptions what I will now say has global relevance. By this I mean that if this conference had been held somewhere in Latin America – instead of here in Bangkok - I would have conveyed essentially the same message. But, I do realise that the world is not homogeneous. So I suspect that some of you will be thinking that parts of what I say is not applicable to the region. I accept that. But, I would not be making this address unless I thought that most of it does apply also in Asia.

So a few words about management and development of fisheries. As you will soon hear in plenary the management and development of capture fisheries is being placed under increasing strain as a result of growing demand for fish. This affects the importance that the fishing industry and governments assign to the various objectives they see as for the sector.

The consequence is that the relative importance of objectives is evolving. One example of this is the area of technology and economics. The conventional objectives of maximising growth in fishery production or maximising revenues are being replaced by others emerging successively, such as new technologies for selective fishing, safety at sea and maximising efficiency.

Biological and ecological objectives are evolving from maximising catches to protecting the spawning biomass, to minimising waste, to protecting biodiversity, to safeguarding habitats and ecosystem health. Likewise social and cultural objectives have been evolving from maximising employment, through social peace and equity, food security and safety, institutional development, empowerment, long-term social welfare, and cultural identity, to ethical requirements. I conclude that these general but evolving objectives provide all organisations – including ours - that are active in support of fisheries management and development with a common framework for action.

Let us turn to the actions required to improve sustainability and so maintain or increase supplies. There are several clear priorities for action to improve sustainability such as:

- limit fishing capacity and reduce where there is overcapacity by implementing the International Plan of Action (IPOA) on the Management of Fishing Capacity;
- rebuild overexploited or depleted resources;
- protect and rehabilitate habitats, for example through establishing Marine Protected Areas;
- protect vulnerable or endangered species including implementing the IPOA for Sharks;
- minimise discarding and other waste; and implementation of the IPOA for Seabirds;
- reduce or eliminate illegal fishing and implement the IPOA on Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing;
- improve monitoring and reporting on status and trends of fisheries and fishery resources;
- build capacity to implement effective management and implement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;
- move towards ecosystem based fisheries management as was discussed a few weeks ago at a conference in Iceland.

Priorities for action to maintain or increase supplies include the following:

- build capacity for policy-making and fisheries management in line with the Code of Conduct;
- develop sustainable aquaculture;
- enhanced capture fishery productivity through, for example, habitat modification or stocking;
- exploit the few remaining underexploited resources; and
- and improve food quality and safety through the implementation of HACCP.

I will now consider how all of this impacts on policy and on the actions required from government and industry. Policy changes are taking place to reflect the change in objectives. Open access to fishing opportunities is being replaced by rights based systems, free access replaced by user charges, sectoral isolation by sectoral integration such as with Integrated Coastal Area Management, technical measures for fisheries management by economic incentives to comply with regulations, participatory management is replacing top-down management and the precautionary approach will slowly replace the risk prone approach.

These changes in policy will require actions by industry and governments. Industry will need to behave more responsibly, accepting liability when it fails to act responsibly. It will have to request user rights and in many cases this will mean reducing fishing capacity. It will have to reduce gear loss, gear impacts on non-target species and the environment and avoid pollution. Aquaculture will have to be developed. Industry will have to organise itself better and include a wider participation. It will have to ensure food safety, improve compliance with regulations, provide better information on its own activities and contribute to the cost of research.

Likewise many new actions will be required of governments. Increasingly governments will be under pressure to ratify international agreements. They will be asked to suppress subsidies and reduce overcapacity in fleets. They will have to promote public awareness and participation from all sectors. There will be a need to better co-ordinate the activities of regional fishery bodies and to improve enforcement and decision-making in these bodies.

Governments will need to increasingly apply the precautionary approach and create overseeing mechanisms to ensure fair play. In some cases environments will need to be rehabilitated and land-based pollution reduced. Mechanisms will be needed to resolve conflicts. Plans for integrated coastal area management will need to be established and implemented.

What are the implications of all of these changes for science? Certainly, there will be a much greater need to monitor the performance of fisheries management. Already science is being asked to deal with uncertainty in a systematic way and provide different possible options for managers to consider, and this will continue. More socio-economic aspects will need to be considered and included systematically in fishery assessments and projections. Fishery system will need to be considered in the context of ecosystem dynamics. Science will need to contribute to implementation of the precautionary approach. It will need to develop rehabilitation schemes and impact assessment protocols. It will need to further improve fishing technology and to reduce the impact on non-target species. Perhaps most challenging of all, science will need to forecast the effects of climate change and consider the implications in terms of options for fishery managers.

Thus, industry, governments and intergovernmental organisations such as ASEAN, SEAFDEC and FAO are all facing formidable challenges. How can global and regional fishery organisations such as FAO and SEAFDEC collaborate to face these daunting challenges?

Collaboration between our two organisations is long-standing. And, it has been extensive. In the 1970s and 1980s we collaborated on subjects such as: fishery statistics, stock assessment and management of shared fish stocks. In 1985, one year after the FAO World Fisheries Conference on Fisheries management and development at FAO Headquarters SEAFDEC and FAO together held a “Seminar on Fisheries Planning, Management and Development” here in Bangkok in October 1985. The Fisheries Department at that time participated with five staff and five consultants. My colleagues tell me that the report of the seminar in retrospect reveals accurate foresight on the part of those who participated.

In November 1998 the collaboration between SEAFDEC and FAO was formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding

But, Mr. Chairman, that is enough about the past. Now to the future.

I will outline four of the areas that I consider opportune for collaboration. They are:

- helping to make the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries operational;
- in particular, promoting the gradual limitation of access in presently open access fisheries;
- facilitating world-wide access to the Asian aquaculture experience; and,
- collaboration in developing more effective and extensive fishery information systems.

In FAO we have been following with interest the work that SEAFDEC is doing to make the Code operational in the region. I have learnt that you refer to this task as “regionalising” the code. As you know we are involved in many different ways in helping countries making the code operational. This is a work we are pursuing particularly in Africa but also in Latin America and in Small Island Developing States. I believe it might be useful to establish some kind of mechanism through which we can learn from the experiences you obtain in the

ASEAN region and you can learn of the experience we obtain in similar work elsewhere. I believe it will benefit both organisations and their Members. We might want to consider organising ad-hoc meetings for information exchange and debate, perhaps in parallel to an FAO meeting such as the Committee on Fisheries?

Before I leave this subject I would like to draw one issue to your attention: the issue of fishermen safety. You are all aware that to be a fisherman is one of the most dangerous occupations in the world. In FAO's Fisheries Department we are therefore making a special effort to organize technical assistance aiming to improve safety at sea. Some time back we initiated and organized a workshop on the subject in Chennai, India. That meeting recognized the severity of this problem and participants agreed that it needs to be addressed at a high level. So if ASEAN-SEAFDEC is considering initiatives in this field we would like to contribute to them, resources permitting.

As many of you are aware for several years FAO's Fisheries Department has been arguing that Governments have no real choice in respect of open access fisheries. They can not be left the way they are – particularly in densely populated areas. Sooner or later most governments must take steps to introduce some way of controlling and possibly reducing access – if overfishing and depletion of stocks is to be avoided. I understand that several Asian countries – including members of ASEAN – are taking steps in this direction. This is another area where we would like to facilitate the sharing of ASEAN member country experience with other countries that face similar problems. A possible channel for such sharing might be during the meetings of regional fishery bodies. If you believe that this would be appropriate I would be pleased to examine the possibilities for SEAFDEC staff to participate in such meetings in order to report on experiences in the reducing of fishing effort in coastal and small scale fisheries.

Again, as we all are becoming aware, aquaculture is being called upon to provide an ever-increasing share of world fish supplies. Here Asia is fortunate. Much more fortunate than many other parts of the world. Asia already has a well-established aquaculture sector. Thus, Asian experience is invaluable for countries where aquaculture has not yet taken off into a self-sustained activity. Again, FAO would like to help SEAFDEC and other regional organisations facilitate the flow of aquaculture know-how from Asia to developing economies worldwide. We have some ideas on how this could be done, and would like to sit down and discuss this issue with you. In fact cooperation between FAO and Asia in the field of aquaculture is not new. As many of you know, FAO's Fisheries Department collaborated with NACA in the preparation and execution of the Conference: "Aquaculture in the 3rd millennium" which took place here in Bangkok - indeed in this hotel – early in the year 2000.

There is potential for extensive collaboration between SEAFDEC and us on Information Systems. Efforts to improve the quality of fishery statistics and to more systematically link regional and global statistics should be intensified through the Co-ordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics. Also, as you know, FAO is the host of the Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts database. We would like to expand its coverage and develop the information content and database functionality in collaboration with SEAFDEC member countries and with the SEAFDEC organisation. To date only Japan and Vietnam are members of ASFA in the ASEAN-SEAFDEC group of nations.

Also SEAFDEC information on the state of fishery resources in the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean should be more systematically incorporated in FAO's reviews of the state of

marine fishery resources, utilising the Fisheries Global Information System (FIGIS) as the mechanism.

In conclusion, it is clear that there are formidable challenges to be faced and much difficult work to be done. And it is also clear that success in meeting these demands will not be possible without partnerships. I hope I have reminded you of the successful partnership SEAFDEC and FAO has had in the past and, more importantly, demonstrated to you our commitment to strengthen that collaboration in the future.

Mr Chairman, before I end, I would like to thank you very much for inviting FAO to actively collaborate in this Conference. I do congratulate you on taking the initiative to hold the conference, and, wish you well for the future. Mr. Diouf has asked me, as part of this address, to convey to you his greetings and his wishes for a successful conference.

Thank you for your attention.

KEYNOTE SPEECH

*by Ambassador Wisber Loeis
Executive Director, ASEAN Foundation*

I am glad to be with you in this morning's inaugural ceremony of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People". Indeed, the declining trend of fisheries production and stocks, and the deterioration of aquatic environment and habitat, have been prime concerns not only within the ASEAN region but also globally.

It is these very concerns this Millennium Conference will be deliberating on and develop a Millennium Declaration and Plan of Action for the sustainable contribution of fisheries to the food security in the ASEAN region.

It is also with confidence that the ASEAN Foundation embarks on this project with SEAFDEC for we know that SEAFDEC has been cooperating with ASEAN on various other projects that aims at identifying the problems and issues, both at the national and regional level and practical solutions, as well as collaborating regionally to improve the current situations.

Thus, it gives me great pleasure to take part in this morning's inauguration.

The ASEAN Foundation itself, which was established by the ASEAN Leaders to work as a partner of ASEAN, has set part of its priorities the promotion of cooperation among the peoples of ASEAN, and development cooperation in addressing issues of poverty alleviation and other socio-economic disparities, of which this project conforms to.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished Guests,

In deliberating the various issues critical to the achievement of sustainable fisheries and developing regional fisheries policies and actions, you yourselves will also be venturing into more cooperative and integrated efforts among ourselves in the ASEAN region that would significantly help achieve sustainable fisheries and deal with issues of social development especially for the poorer and socially disadvantaged peoples of the region.

The Foundation acknowledges the critical importance of sustainable fisheries in the region and we are in full support of the implementation of this conference.

Hence, the ASEAN Foundation is thankful to the SEAFDEC Secretariat for convening such undertaking as well as acknowledge the generous support that the Government of Japan has imparted to the ASEAN Foundation in the form of the ASEAN-Japan Solidarity Fund which has helped this project possible. As you know, this cooperation between the ASEAN Foundation and the Government of Japan has been with us for the last two hand half years and has borne us concrete and beneficial results.

On a more personal note, as I will also express in another opening of a project funded by the Foundation, today's conference is significant for me as this will be one of the two last projects of the ASEAN Foundation, which I will be sitting as the Executive Director of the Foundation.

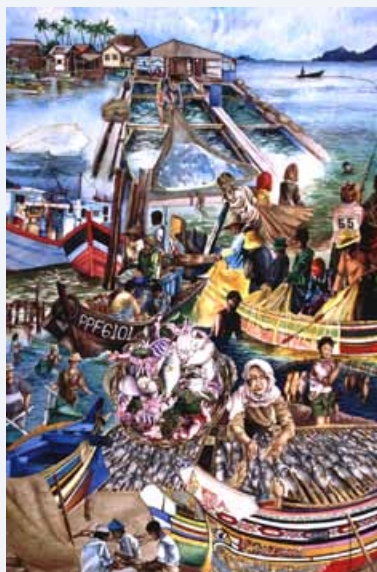
Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished Guests, Friends,

I am glad to share with you another accomplishment in the life of the ASEAN Foundation, a life of helping the peoples of ASEAN in making our region more progressive, more developed and more prosperous.

With this, I wish each and every one of you, success!

Thank you all for your kind attention and good day.

ANNEX 3 Technical Session



The Best Drawing from Malaysia

TECHNICAL SESSION

PLENARY 1: OUTLOOK OF FISH SUPPLY AND DEMAND AT GLOBAL LEVEL AND IN THE ASEAN REGION

Master of the Plenary: Dr. Kitjar Jaiyen (SEAFDEC)

Chairperson: Dr. Yasuhisa Kato (SEAFDEC)

Presenters: Ms. Lena Westlund (Consultant) and Dr. Ulf Wijkström (FAO)

Panelists: Dr. Kee Chai Chong (Consultant), Mr. Joan Fleuren (WFP), Mr. Kieran Kelleber (Consultant) and Dr. Ulf Wijkström (FAO).

Rapporteur: Ms. Nor Ainy Mahyudin (SEAFDEC), Mr. Myint Pe (SEAFDEC), Mr. Nguyen Lam Anh (SEAFDEC), Mr. Severino Escobar, Jr. (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Mala Supongpan (SEAFDEC)

The outlook for fish supply and demand in the ASEAN region in 2010 is analyzed within the context of global supply and demand trends, quantifying the importance of ASEAN fisheries to the economies and food security in the region. Per capita fish consumption in the region has increased from 19.5 kg in 1990 to almost 23 kg in 1997 and fish currently provides about 45% of the animal proteins consumed. Three scenarios, envisaging different levels of projected demand are described, based largely on projections of ASEAN population and fish consumption. The scenarios indicate a potential gap between supply and demand and approaches to countering this shortfall by improving supply are proposed. These proposals are the basis for the topics to be discussed during the following Technical Panel Session and serve as a guide to formulation of regional policy and action plans.

PANEL 1: SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT I

Master of the Panel: Mr. Panu Tavaratmaneegul and Mr. Shogo Sugiura

Overview

Innovated fisheries management arrangements are needed to overcome the present unsustainable use of fisheries resources and achieve regional food security. Centralized systems of management to date, have been unable to effectively manage the largely open-access, common property fisheries regimes of the region. The proposed solution is based on decentralized fisheries management and the allocation of fishing rights, which will give the people responsibility to manage their fisheries sustainably and a sense of participation and custodianship. Additional steps towards sustainable use of fisheries resources includes the elimination of illegal and destructing fishing gear and practices in favor of responsible fishing technologies. The prevention of further habitat loss, resource enhancement strategies including the use of artificial structures and restocking exercises, and the implementation of effective multiple use water management systems in inland water systems, will also go a long way towards the provision of food security for the region.

1.1 Decentralization of Fisheries Management

Chairperson: Dr. Kee Chai Chong (Consultant)

Presenter: Dr. Masahiro Yamao (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Tomoya Akimichi (Japan), Dr. Dominique Gréboval (FAO), Ms. Jessica C. Muñoz (Philippines), and Mr. Jate Pimoljinda (Thailand)

Rapporteur: Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsa-nga (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Rupert W. Elstow (SEAFDEC)

Governments in the ASEAN region have taken steps to decentralize selected fisheries management authority, responsibility and function to the local governments or institutions, and at times to resource users. Such actions are based on the recognition that the present centralized system of governance of fisheries is ineffective, partly due to the weakness of the present open-access common property management regime of the fisheries. The policy, scope, purpose and implications of decentralization of fisheries management are described to highlight the advantages of a decentralized system.

1.2 Rights-based Fisheries

Chairperson: Dr. Kangwan Juntarashote (Thailand)

Presenter: Dr. Kee Chai Chong (Consultant)

Panelists: Dr. Yoshiaki Matsuda (Japan), Ms. Jessica C. Muñoz (Philippines), Dr. Ulf Wijckström (FAO) and Dr. Masahiro Yamao (SEAFDEC)

Rapporteur: Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsa-nga (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Rupert W. Elstow (SEAFDEC)

Recognizing the present constraints of the open-access regime in achieving sustainable fisheries, many governments in Southeast Asia have explored the potential and opportunity of limiting access and granting fishing rights in fisheries. Limiting access to the fisheries through a comprehensive licensing system of the different categories of fishing boats is one way to begin to regulate such open access. In small-scale and coastal fisheries, limiting access and granting of fishing rights enables fisheries management to be shared with the local institutions and resource users through co-management arrangements.

1.3 Resource Enhancement

Chairperson: Dr. Kee Chai Chong (Consultant)

Presenter: Dr. Yuttana Theparoonrat (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Amrit Bart (AIT), Mr. Glenn Blackwood (MI), Mr. Somsak Chullasorn (Thailand) and Dr. Yasubisa Kato (SEAFDEC)

Rapporteur: Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsa-nga (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Rupert W. Elstow (SEAFDEC)

Inshore and coastal aquatic habitats have become increasingly degraded due to human intervention, resulting in loss of feeding, spawning and nursery grounds for fish, and consequent declines in fish stocks. Well-planned installation of artificial structures, such as artificial reefs, aquaculture facilities, jetties, and fixed nets can help restore inshore habitats. Restocking exercises replenishing the fisheries with artificially-bred seeds can also be considered, particularly for sedentary organisms. These initiatives need to be closely linked with the establishment of user rights and careful coastal zone planning.

1.4 Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices

Chairperson: Dr. Takafumi Arimoto (TUF)

Presenter: Mr. Bundit Chokesanguan (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Mr. Rosidi Bin Ali (SEAFDEC), Mr. Jonathan Dickson (Philippines), Mr. Steve Eayrs (AMC), and Mr. John Valdemarsen (FAO)

Rapporteur: Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsa-nga (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Rupert W. Elstow (SEAFDEC)

Over-exploitation and the use of illegal and destructive fishing gears, including non-selective fishing gears, are serious threats to the sustainability of fisheries resources and the integrity of the aquatic environment. The reliance of ASEAN Member Countries on fish and fishery products means they must strive for greater collaboration and commitment toward resource sustainability through promotion of responsible fishing technologies and practices.

1.5 Inland Fisheries Development and Management

Chairperson: Mr. Tan Cheng Kiat (Consultant)

Presenter: Mr. Raja Bidin Raja Hassan (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Peter Gardiner (ICLARM), Dr. Dominique Gréboval (FAO), Dr. Kitjar Jaiyen (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Nicolaas Van Zalinge (MRC)

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmad Ali (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Ku Kassim (SEAFDEC)

Inland fisheries in the ASEAN region provide substantial opportunities to supplement the supply of fish to meet the growing food needs of the people, especially of the rural poor. Partly due to a lack of information on scattered inland fisheries production, compared to marine fisheries the potential of inland fisheries has not been appropriately evaluated. Collection and analysis of additional information is required for planning and management purposes, combined with an approach which recognizes the role of inland fisheries within a multiple use water management system, and fosters restoration of critical habitats including fish migration routes.

PANEL 2: SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT II

Master of the Panel: Mr. Ibrahim Saleh and Mr. Yoshikazu Nakamura

Overview

The provision of “fish for the people” requires that greater production be derived from the fisheries resources in the region. To help achieve this goal, there must be better management of capture fisheries to ensure sustainable yields and further development of new resources and under-exploited fisheries. A decentralized management framework and the allocation of fishing rights are part of a proposed package of innovative options designed to effectively manage these resources in the new millennium. Combined with effective management of fishing capacity, the application of indicators of sustainability and improved analysis of fisheries data, appropriate steps will be taken towards the sustainable development and management of fisheries for both present and future generations.

2.1 Harvesting of Under-exploited Resources

Chairperson: Mr. John Valdemarsen (FAO)

Presenter: Mr. Ismail Taufid b. Md. Yusoff (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Mansor b. Mat Isa (SEAFDEC), Dr. Tsutomu Nishida (Japan), Dr. Geronimo Silvestre (ICLARM) and Dr. Somboon Siriraksophon (SEAFDEC)

Rapporteur: Mr. Kamarruddin Ibrahim (SEAFDEC) and Ms. Tengku Rozaina T. M. (SEAFDEC)

There is some potential to develop new fisheries and expand under-exploited fisheries resources in the ASEAN region and adjacent waters. These resources could potentially be a vital source of food security, employment and wealth generation, however a range of practical, operational and economic impediments currently prevents further exploitation. ASEAN Member Countries need to take steps to increase the exploitation of these resources in a

precautionary manner, using responsible fishing technologies and practices, and rights-based management plans.

2.2 Management of Fishing Capacity

Chairperson: Dr. Dominique Gréboval (FAO)

Presenter: Mr. Ibrahim Saleh (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Yasubisa Kato (SEAFDEC), Dr. Taupek b. Mohd. Nasir (SEAFDEC), Mr. Doug Wilson (IFM) and Mr. Marc Wilson (AMC)

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmad Ali (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Ku Kassim (SEAFDEC)

Marine capture fisheries in the ASEAN region are increasingly under threat due to excessive fishing capacity and fishing effort. Immediate action is therefore required to ensure that fishing effort is commensurate with a level that maintains sustainable yields. The unique characteristics of fisheries in the region limit the application of classic stock assessment models and alternative management options for the region must be sought. The control of fishing capacity coupled with the development of rights-based managed fisheries is suggested as a suitable and effective strategy to regulate fishing effort in these fisheries.

2.3 Indicators for Sustainable Fisheries

Chairperson: Dr. Peter Gardiner (ICLARM)

Presenter: Dr. Satoshi Ishikawa (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Steen Christensen (ALMRV), Dr. Dominique Gréboval (FAO), Dr. Mala Supongpan (Thailand), Dr. Taupek b. Mohd. Nasir (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Doug Wilson (IFM)

Rapporteur: Mr. Kamarruddin Ibrahim (SEAFDEC) and Ms. Tengku Rozaina T. M. (SEAFDEC)

The use of indicators of sustainability is suggested as a suitable tool to monitor and control the development of fisheries in the ASEAN region. A range of indicators is available depending on the specific requirements of the fishery, but they should reflect the well-being of the fisheries resource, as well as broader ecological, social, economic and institutional objectives. ASEAN Member Countries need to develop suitable indicators and critically evaluate their use for fishery management purposes.

2.4 Fishery Statistics

Chairperson: Dr. Veravat Hongskul (FAO)

Presenter: Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Steen Christensen (ALMRV), Mr. Romeo Recide (Philippines), Dr. Sutham Sitthichaikasem (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Tadashi Yamamoto (Japan)

Rapporteur: Dr. Mala Supongpan (SEAFDEC) and Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsang (SEAFDEC)

The present system of collection, compilation and analysis of fisheries data and statistics can be substantially improved to provide reliable and timely information for management and policy decision-making. The structural problems of the present fishery statistical systems are identified, and improvements suggested in terms of clear objectives, timely analysis, decentralization processes, linkage to indicators, and use of statistical data at local level. The need for regular compilation of key regional statistics is also highlighted.

PANEL 3: SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE

Master of the Panel: Dr. Rolando R. Platon and Mr. Susumu Ito

Overview

Aquaculture will undoubtedly be of increasing importance in the sustainability of the fisheries and food security within the ASEAN region. In recent times the rapid expansion of the industry has overwhelmed society's ability to manage the growth. The key to sustainable growth is an ability to develop the sector in an environment friendly manner. It must be ensured that aquaculture is integrated into, and harmonized with, other rural activities to produce a continuing supply of food that is healthy and wholesome.

3.1 Supply of Good Quality Seeds

Chairperson: Dr. Toong Jin Lam (Singapore)

Presenter: Dr. Luis Maria B. Garcia (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Simon Funge-Smith (FAO), Dr. Graham Charles Mair (AIT), Dr. Uthairat Na-Nakorn (Thailand)

Rapporteur: Dr. Arnil C. Emata (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Corazon B. Santiago (SEAFDEC)

Aquaculture development requires a sufficient and stable supply of high quality seed. This can best be achieved through hatchery production. Parent stocks must possess the necessary quality attributes to ensure that their seeds grow and survive when nursed and grown in captivity or released in the wild to enhance natural stocks. Four critical issues that constrain the full development of the culture potentials of many species remain unresolved. These are seasonality and inconsistency of seed supply production; inadequate support for seed production; deterioration of quality seed stocks; and unknown impacts of releases of cultured seed stocks.

3.2 Environment-Friendly Aquaculture

Chairperson: Dr. Michael J. Phillips (NACA)

Presenter: Dr. Aurelio A. de los Reyes, Jr. (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Simon Funge-Smith (FAO), Dr. C. Kwei Lin (AIT), Dr. Rolando R. Platon (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Rudolf S. Wu (Hong Kong)

Rapporteur: Dr. Oseni M. Millamena (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Wilfredo G. Yap (SEAFDEC)

The growth of the aquaculture sector is currently constrained by real and perceived negative impacts on the environment. There is now overall concern regarding increasing competition between multiple users for land, water and other resources and due regard for maintaining environmental integrity. The major environmental issues that need to be addressed to facilitate further aquaculture development are: the degradation of ecosystems; the effects on the genetic and biological diversity of wild populations; the release of pollutants and other wastes; and resource-use conflicts.

3.3 Getting out of the 'Fish Meal Trap'

Chairperson: Dr. Ulf Wijkström (FAO)

Presenter: Dr. Oseni M. Millamena (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Mr. Nigel V. Allen (MI), Dr. Mali Boonyaratpalin (Thailand), Dr. Corazon B. Santiago (SEAFDEC), Dr. Shuichi Satoh (TUF) and Dr. Amararatne Yakupitiyage (AIT)

Rapporteur: Dr. Aurelio A. delos Reyes, Jr. (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Felix G. Ayson (SEAFDEC)

With few exceptions the growing of fish requires an input of feed. These feeds generally constitute the major cost of production and are the principal contributor to organic pollution. Many cultured fish species are carnivorous and require fish proteins as an essential dietary component. Aquaculture currently finds itself in a situation whereby there is increasing demand for and dependence upon a dwindling supply of fish meal. This is what defines the term “fish meal trap”. Escaping from this ‘trap’ will require addressing the issues of; high feed conversion ratios; the continued reliance on fish meal and fishery products; and the search for suitable fish meal substitutes.

3.4 Healthy and Wholesome Aquaculture

Chairperson: Dr. Mohamed Shariff (Malaysia)

Presenter: Ms. Celia R. Lavilla-Pitogo (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Supranee Chinabut (Thailand), Dr. Timothy Williams Flegel (Mahidol University), Dr. Yasuo Inui (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Melba B. Reantaso (NACA)

Rapporteur: Dr. Teodora U. Bagarinao (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Arnil C. Emata (SEAFDEC)

Infectious diseases continue to threaten the sustainability of aquaculture. The application of some chemicals and antibiotics to control diseases may at times be essential. Appropriate protocols are needed for the effective and safe use of drugs to ensure food safety and to protect the environment. It is therefore necessary to develop technology to support the diagnosis and control of diseases, control the spread of pathogens, continuously pay due regard to public health and the environment, and improve the overall capabilities of aquaculture practitioners in all aspects of fish health at local, national and regional level.

3.5 Biotechnology for Aquaculture

Chairperson: Mr. Daniel Fegan (Thailand)

Presenter: Dr. Felix G. Ayson (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Amrit Bart (AIT), Dr. Timothy Williams Flegel (Mahidol University), Dr. Simon Funge-Smith (FAO) Prof. Hew Choy Leong (Singapore) and Dr. Marco Nemesio E. Montaña (Philippines)

Rapporteur: Ms. Celia R. Lavilla-Pitogo (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Luis Maria B. Garcia (SEAFDEC)

The rapid advances being made in biotechnology suggests that at some point in the future we may be better able to understand and manipulate the biology of the fish we farm. In Southeast Asia the application of biotechnology for improved food production is in its infancy. There are widespread concerns over the safety to human health and the environment of some types of biotechnology. Before there is broad-based application of biotechnology in commercial aquaculture a through risk-benefit analysis is required to assess its effects on sustainability.

3.6 Aquaculture for Rural Development

Chairperson: Dr. Peter Edwards (AIT)

Presenter: Dr. Teodora Bagarinao (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Dr. Harvey Demaine (AIT), Dr. Simon Funge-Smith (FAO), Dr. Nguyen Van Hao (Vietnam), Dr. Ruben C. Sevilleja (Philippines) and Mr. Wilfredo G. Yap (SEAFDEC)

Rapporteur: Ms. Didi B. Baticados (SEAFDEC) and Dr. Susana V. Siar (SEAFDEC)

There is a need for Southeast Asian governments to take all necessary action to ensure food security, employment and alleviation of poverty for those living in rural areas. Enhancement of the levels of aquaculture activities has been demonstrated to be an effective vehicle for rural development. However, aquaculture is rarely considered in multi-sectoral rural development strategies. A structured approach for the growth and harmonized integration of this sector is required to further advance the desired results of socio-economic benefits and improved food security.

PANEL 4: SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS

Master of the Panel: Mr. Tan Sen Min and Mr. Nobukazu Shibata

Overview

A series of coordinated actions and processes from harvesting to marketing is essential to achieve maximum utilization and derive optimal benefits from utilization fish and fishery products. A range of measures are required both on-board and on-shore to “optimize” catch utilization, value-added and improved products. Particular attention is needed to foster production and use of traditional products, reduction of post-harvest losses, and develop management and control systems for assuring quality and safety of fish and fishery products.

Achieving sustainable fish production is the basis for ensuring sustainable fish trade. In this regard, the need to harmonize sanitary and phytosanitary measures across the ASEAN region and with those of importing countries is of paramount importance, especially for trade in traditional fish products. Although the use of subsidies is common in the region, there is little knowledge of their impact on sustainable development and trade. This needs to be addressed and a common ASEAN policy position established, particularly given international concerns over the potential above mentioned impacts of subsidies. The trade in ASEAN fish products could also be influenced by the use of eco-labels.

4.1 Maximizing Utilization of Fish Catch

Chairperson: Dr. Lahsen Ababouch (FAO)

Presenter: Mr. Leonard G. Limpus (Consultant)

Panelists: Mr. Nazori Djazuli (Indonesia), Mr. Tan Sen Min (SEAFDEC), Dr. Poonsap Virulhakul (Thailand) and Mr. Yeap Soon Eong (SEAFDEC)

Rapporteur: Mrs. Tan-Low Lai Kim (SEAFDEC) and Mrs. Esther Yoo-Choeng Choy Loo (SEAFDEC)

Most of the world’s fishing areas have reached their maximum potential for capture fisheries production, and many ASEAN fish stocks are already heavily exploited. Maximum utilization of the existing catch will greatly improve food security. Issues that must be addressed include the low economic value and poor quality of underutilized portions of the catch. Efforts to maximize utilization can also be targeted at the processing operations.

4.2 Improved Traditional Fish Products

Chairperson: Mr. Tan Sen Min (SEAFDEC)

Presenter: Mr. Leonard G. Limpus (Consultant)

Panelists: Dr. Lahsen Ababouch (FAO), Ms. Consuelo C. Baltazar (Philippines) and

Ms. Wan Rabimah Wan Ismail (Malaysia).

Rapporteur: *Mrs. Tan-Low Lai Kim (SEAFDEC) and Ms. Fadhlina bte Subaimi (SEAFDEC)*

Traditional Fish Products are vitally important to food security in the ASEAN region, amounting to about 30 – 45 % of landed catch. Traditional products are usually of low-value, making any change in their use/utilization difficult. To improve traditional fish products the processors need assistance in securing stable supplies of good quality materials, improved infrastructure, better processing and marketing techniques, and training, particularly to meet food safety requirements. However. Any efforts to improve traditional fish products must ensure that the authenticity and diversity of traditional fish products are maintained.

4.3 Fish Quality, Safety and Management Systems

Chairperson: *Dr. Lahsen Ababouch (FAO)*

Presenter: *Mr. Leonard G. Limpus (Consultant)*

Panelists: *Ms. Sunwimon Keeratviriyaporn (Thailand), Dr. Setia Mangunsong (Indonesia), Ms. Consuelo C. Baltazar (Philippines) and Mrs. Tan-Low Lai Kim (SEAFDEC)*

Rapporteur: *Mr. Yeap Soon Eong (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Norman Kok (SEAFDEC)*

In order to compete for international markets for fish and fish products and ensure the production of safe products for domestic consumption, ASEAN Member Countries must have effective fish quality/safety management systems. Some of the issues that need to be addressed are the application and audit of control systems and in particular for SMEs, education and training, application of appropriate legislation and coordination between various government bodies, and development of equivalency between management systems.

4.4 Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Chairperson: *Ms. Christina Schröder (WTO),*

Presenter: *Ms. Nor Ainy Mahyudin (SEAFDEC)*

Panelists: *Dr. Lahsen Ababouch (FAO), Mr. Leonard G. Limpus (Consultant) and Dr. Poonsap Virulbukul (Thailand)*

Rapporteur: *Mr. Severino Escobar, Jr. (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Nguyen Lam Anh (SEAFDEC)*

The basic rights and obligations for applying sanitary measures with regard to food safety and animal health are spelled out in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS). Since the SPS Agreement may have important implications for the ASEAN region, a balanced regional view needs to be taken, based on the understanding of the opportunities and threats that may be created. The major issue to be addressed is how to facilitate harmonization of standards and collaboration on control measures.

4.5 Fisheries Subsidies

Chairperson: *Dr. Ulf Wijkström (FAO)*

Presenter: *Mr. Severino Escobar, Jr. (SEAFDEC)*

Panelists: *Mr. Nilanto Perbowo (Indonesia), Dr. Somying Piumsombun (Thailand), Dr. Kamaruzaman Salim (Malaysia) and Ms. Christina Schröder (WTO)*

Rapporteur: *Mr. Myint Pe (SEAFDEC) and Ms. Nor Ainy Mahyudin (SEAFDEC)*

There is growing recognition that fisheries subsidies promote over-fishing, distort trade and impede sustainable development. There are many different kinds of subsidies, not all of which have negative impacts. With respect to fisheries subsidies, there are two principle issues that need to be addressed. The first is the need to evaluate subsidies in terms of their effects on sustainable development and trade and the second focuses on the establishment of an ASEAN policy position and guidelines on fisheries subsidies.

4.6 Eco-labelling

Chairperson: Mr. Marc Wilson (AMC)

Presenter: Mr. Severino Escobar, Jr. (SEAFDEC)

Panelists: Mr. Nik Ab. Wabab Mat Diab (Malaysia), Dr. Yasuhisa Kato (SEAFDEC) and Ms. Christina Schröder (WTO)

Rapporteur: Mr. Myint Pe (SEAFDEC) and Mr. Nguyen Lam Anh (SEAFDEC)

Eco-labelling means the identification of fish products so that consumers can choose to purchase products produced in a sustainable, or environment-friendly manner, without causing serious ecosystem effects. While the concept of eco-labelling is consistent with sustainable use of resources, the practice of eco-labelling presents both advantages and disadvantages to ASEAN fish producers and consumers. The discussion of this theme will center on the establishment of a common ASEAN position on the issue.

PLENARY 2: FISHERIES COOPERATION POLICIES IN THE ASEAN REGION

The following participating organizations presented their policies and programs, stressing the importance of fisheries in the region and their interest in supporting the plans, programs and activities initiated through the Conference process:

- Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) Video Presentation
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)
- Assessment of the Living Marine Resources in Vietnam (ALMRV)
- Australian Maritime College (AMC)
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM)
- INFOFISH
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)
- Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland (MI)
- Mekong River Commission (MRC)
- Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA)
- Southeast Asian Programme in Ocean Law, Policy and Management (SEAPOL)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
- Tokyo University of Fisheries (TUF)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)

The full texts of the presentations are provided in Annex 9 of the Technical Report (Proceedings, Volume II).

ANNEX 4
The Second ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Official Meeting



The Best Drawing from Myanmar

THE SECOND ASEAN-SEAFDEC SENIOR OFFICIAL MEETING

AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

22 November 2001 (*Thursday*)

0830-0900	Registration
0900-0915	1. Opening of the Meeting
	2. Election of Chairman
	3. Adoption of the agenda
0915-0930	4. Business Arrangements
0930-1000	5. Report of the Technical Session
1000-1030	6. Adoption of the 'Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region'
1045-1130	7. Preparation for the Ministerial Session
	7.1 Program for the Ministerial Session
	7.2 Review of the Final Draft 'Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region' and make recommendation to the Ministers
	7.3 The Joint Ministerial Press Release
	7.4 Report of the Chairman of the 2 nd SOM to the Ministerial Session
1130-1145	8. Other Matters
1145-1200	9. Closing of the Meeting

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF ASEAN-SEAFDEC SENIOR OFFICIAL MEETING

(presented at the Ministerial Session of the Conference)

Your Excellency, Shuchep Hansaward, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, Your Excellencies, ASEAN Ministers for Fisheries, Your Excellency, Senior Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present, on behalf of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Officials, the report on the activities of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People" which was held here from 19 to 23 November 2001, as well as the key conclusions and recommendations reached at the Technical Session of the Conference and the Second Senior Official Meeting, held on 22 November 2001.

Your Excellencies,

With the view to achieving sustainable fisheries and increasing supplies of fish and fishery products in the ASEAN region, I would like also to take this opportunity to report the preparation and development of a proposed Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region and our discussion at the Senior Official Meeting.

Your Excellencies,

Since the introduction of modern fishing technology in the 1960s, fish production in Southeast Asia has steadily increased and fisheries have grown into one of the region's most important economic contributors. According to trade data collected by the ASEAN Secretariat up to September this year, the total export value of fish, crustaceans, molluscs, etc. from the older six Member Countries of ASEAN (namely, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand) was approximately US\$ 4.16 billion, while the total import value was US\$ 1.32 billion. These export and import values would be much higher when including trade values for processed fisheries products and values from the newer ASEAN Members.

Over the past years, however, fisheries resources have become overexploited. The comparison between the export values of 1994 and 2000, although showing increasing trends for exports from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia, those from the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand were decreasing during the period. The overall total export value for all ASEAN Member Countries also shows a similar declining trend from US\$ 5.08 billion in 1994 to US\$ 4.16 billion in 2000, while the import value over the same period was rather erratic.

The growing demand for fish and fishery products as well as the increasing pressure on ASEAN's aquatic environment and fisheries resources are posing a threat to regional food security as well as having serious implications for regional trade, employment, income generation, poverty alleviation, and livelihoods of the people.

In order to evaluate fisheries problems and discuss issues of concern to the ASEAN region, as well as to help formulate regional policies to ensure sustainable fisheries and promote collaboration among the concerned parties, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People" is jointly organized by ASEAN and SEAFDEC in collaboration with FAO as well as other organizations, and hosted by the Department of Fisheries of Thailand to promote awareness on sustainable fisheries and its implications to food security in the region.

The overarching theme of the Conference is "Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security", and this reflects the ASEAN Vision 2020 of "sustainable and equitable growth ... (etc)... in an ASEAN where hunger, malnutrition, deprivation and poverty are no longer basic problems". The Conference also draws on the Hanoi Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN Vision 2020 in food and agriculture to "enhance food security and global competitiveness of ASEAN's food products", while "protecting the environment and promoting sustainable development".

Your Excellencies,

Prior to the conduct of this six-day Conference, series of national and regional preparatory works and meetings had been undertaken since March 2000 in order to provide background information and facilitate discussion at the Conference.

The Technical Session of the Conference, held from 19 to 23 November attended by more than 700 participants, many of whom had participated-actively in the Technical Panel discussions. These Technical Panels were: (i) Sustainable Fisheries Management I; (ii) Sustainable Fisheries Management II; (iii) Sustainable Aquaculture; and (iv) Sustainable

Utilization of Fish and Fishery Products. The Technical Session has been successfully conducted, and the major outcome is the **Report of the Technical Session of the Conference**, which appears as **Reference Document No. 01** presented to this Ministerial Session.

The Report contains key recommendations that formed the basis of the **Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region**, which the Senior Officials have prepared for consideration and endorsement by this Ministerial Session.

The Resolution, which appears as **Working Document No. 03** will be used as the foundation for an improvement in national fisheries policies and a national commitment toward the achievement of sustainable and stable supply of fish and fishery products.

Your Excellencies,

I would like to report that the Senior Official Meeting has also prepared a **Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region**, appears as Reference Document No. 02, which has been developed based on the issues and topics that have been deliberated through various preparatory works including series of Regional Technical Consultations and National Seminars. The Plan of Action has been considered by all ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries and has taken into consideration the views and inputs from all Member Countries. This Plan of Action will provide the support to the proposed Resolution for the implementation of programs/projects/activities on ASEAN sustainable fisheries development.

Thus, the Senior Official Meeting recommends that the Ministerial Session considers and endorses the Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region.

Your Excellencies

As your Excellencies are already aware, concurrent to this Conference, an ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Fisheries Exhibition is being held at the Bangkok Convention Center, and has been officially opened on the 21 November 2001. Your Excellencies have visited it yesterday evening. The Exhibition is pivotal to the future of the commercial fishing industry in the region. It also provides opportunities for both private and public sectors to demonstrate new technologies in fisheries and fisheries management.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Finally, on behalf of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Officials, I would like to express our esteemed appreciation to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, various international/regional organizations and technical experts from within and outside the region for the support and inputs in realizing the Conference. I further would like to convey our thanks to the Government of Thailand, for the warm hospitality extended to all participants and for the excellent arrangements made for this Meeting and to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference Secretariat and the ASEAN Foundation for their invaluable support and effective contributions to the Meeting.

Thank you.

ANNEX 5
Ministerial Session



The Best Drawing from the Philippines

MINISTERIAL SESSION

WELCOME REMARKS

*by Mr. Dhammarong Prakobboon
Director-General, Department of Fisheries, Thailand*

Your Excellency, the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, Your Excellencies, distinguished Ministers, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me very great pleasure to extend to you all the warmest possible welcome to this most hospitable nation, Thailand.

The Government of Thailand is most happy to host this Conference not only because Thailand is a member nation of ASEAN-SEAFDEC, but also because the discussions at this Conference will have a far-reaching and beneficial effect upon fisheries in Southeast Asia.

We are indebted to the far-sighted thinking of the ASEAN Foundation and the work of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center for bringing about this meaningful dialogue. The magnificent support of the Government of Japan, the support and expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the many other bodies which have contributed to the Conference are also deeply appreciated. Without the supports, this conference could not have come about at all.

Your Excellencies,

While the support for this conference is a vital factor, of even greater significant are the pronouncements of the Technical Session that proceeded in the last four days. In those pronouncements lie the seeds which, with the dedication that exists in the corridors of fisheries expertise, can herald a new era in our predominantly small-scale fisheries. "Fish for the People" is a very apt title.

With growing populations, the greater industrialization of the region, and increasing demand for fish and fishery products in the worldwide market, the pressures on our fisheries resources will surely grow and environmental and ecological impacts will increase. We must plan and work now so that there will be no further degradation.

This Conference allows us to fashion the building blocks of the future of regional fisheries and gives us the foundation for this and future generations to continue the work. "Fish for the People" is no idle speculation but a pressing and vital necessity for the well-being of our food security. The road ahead will not be easy, but you have my assurance that Thailand will work hard to achieve the objectives of the conference.

This is why this conference is so important and timely. We must grasp the opportunity of this Conference to agree upon frameworks and strategies for managing our living marine and aquaculture resources within the context of a viable and expanding ecosystem.

Your Excellencies,

I now wish to commend wholeheartedly the great efforts made by those attending the plenary session in their presentation of papers and in the sharing of their experience. I would also like to acknowledge the steering committees, the technical consultations and most particularly the work that goes on in the back-rooms to make the conference like this one successful. All of the people who contributed to this Conference have contributed to our fisheries and to the enhancement of the environments of our nations. Their works has paved the way and laid foundations of great value.

At the beginning of this Session the challenge was made to all the distinguished national representatives and participants to contribute to a result we may all be proud of. You have responded magnificently.

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen;

I wish now to invite H.E. Mr. Shucheep Hansaward, the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand to deliver the Opening Address and declare the Ministerial Session of the Conference open.

OPENING ADDRESS

*by H.E. Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward
Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand*

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies & Gentlemen;

It is indeed an honour for me to be here among the distinguished delegates who are responsible for fisheries in the ASEAN region. You are ASEAN's finest captains of fisheries since your decisions, your deliberations will determine and influence the direction and policies on fisheries in the ASEAN Member Countries in the future. I am, therefore, most appreciative to have this opportunity to share with you some of my thoughts on Thailand's policy on fisheries for food security.

I note with appreciation the detailed report provide by the Director-General of Fisheries on the initiative efforts as well as budget contributed in increasing supplies of fish and fishery products in the ASEAN region. I understand that many decisions we have taken during the past five days have gone beyond our expectations.

The Draft Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region and the Draft Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region, which were considered and adopted at the meeting of SEAFDEC Council Directors and ASEAN Senior Officials to be presented for the consideration and adoption at this Ministerial Session will clearly spell out ASEAN's agenda in fisheries in the future. What it shows is that we are prepared and ready to move with the new trends for the improvement of our policies in fisheries. I may say that it is a new chapter for better management of fisheries in ASEAN.

Excellencies,

My government has placed great emphasis on sustainable fishery resources management. In this regard, I have much pleasure to inform you all that under the present Constitution which is entered into force in the year 1997, the government agencies have to decentralize selected management authority, responsibility and functions to local communities or resource users. As for fisheries sector, some management authority has been gradually decentralized to give people responsibility to manage their fisheries sustainability as well as the environmental issues and enjoy a sense of participation. This type of public and local cooperation is considered as the most effective as it combines the efforts and capabilities of both sectors for maximum results.

I wish to reiterate that the Government of Thailand is well aware the important role of fisheries in the food security scheme, which requires the urgent plans of action for the benefit of mankind. In this regard, annual budget has been allocated for various projects to increase fish production for local consumption and export since the demand for fish and fishery products are continuously increased. This is due to the growing of our population and the increase of fish and fishery products in their diet. We have pushed through a number of major projects such as the increase of fish population in natural waters, the exploitation of under-exploited fisheries resources since these resources may be a vital source of food security, the maximum utilization of existing catch, which will greatly improve food security. More importantly, concentration has been placed on the aquaculture, which will undoubtedly be increasing importance in the sustainability of the fisheries and food security.

Excellencies,

We are very concerned of the sustainable fisheries and its significant as the contributor to food security for the region. We intend to play our part to live up to our responsibility and are ready to work with countries, international and regional organizations because we understand that the management of sustainable fisheries in order to maintain supply of food requires cooperation from all. No one nation can tackle the issue successfully on its won. Thailand will honour the international obligations and will continue to participate and constructively engage in regional fisheries policies as a responsible member of ASEAN.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all those responsible for organizing this Conference, particularly to SEAFDEC, ASEAN Foundation, the Government of Japan and Conference Secretariat. I wish you all the best in this Conference and look forward to receiving reports of your dynamic and fruitful debate and discussion.

Thank you.

**STATEMENTS OF ASEAN-SEAFDEC MEMBER COUNTRIES
ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES
FOR FOOD SECURITY FOR THE ASEAN REGION**

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

*Statement by H.E. Mr. Idris Belaman,
Permanent Secretary
representing the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources*

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Honorable Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First and foremost I would like to thank H.E. Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward, the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand for the invitation to this Ministerial Session. At this juncture, I would also like to convey my Minister's best wishes and his regrets for not being able to be with you today due to unavoidable domestic commitments.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To begin with I would like to commend the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Officials on the job well done and the comprehensive reporting on the outcome of the Senior Officials Meeting as well as the Technical Sessions of the Conference.

From the reports presented, it is clear to me that the products from our fisheries have become ever more relevant to the people of Southeast Asia.

Indeed the supportive role that fisheries resources will play in enhancing the economic, social and quality of life of our population can only grow in importance as our population increases and as we turn more and more to the marine world for our food supply and as a source of income.

It is because of this ever increasing importance of our fisheries resources that we cannot overstate the relevance of this Conference and the urgency of its theme of 'Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: Food for the People'.

In the last decade or so, we have seen annual fish production rates for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC countries increase by over 40% in response to high regional population growth, ever increasing regional demand for fish and fish products and of course to the increases in the global demand for seafood.

But as we all know, we find ourselves facing the most inevitable dilemma of demand outstripping supply. There is no doubt in my mind that, we should endeavor to fully realize the economic benefits of our fisheries resources.

However, there is particular danger that in the race to meet the ever-growing demand and to cash into the globally lucrative seafood market, we will be doing irreparable damage to our know marine fish stocks which will in the long term be detrimental not only to the economic

well being of our people but may also have terrible consequences for our vital marine ecosystems and the health of our coastal populations.

It is therefore clear that we need to pay more than just lip-service when we speak of "efficiency" and "sustainability" in the management of our fisheries resources. The two terms must interact together because whilst "efficiency" may allow us to achieve optimum economic returns from fisheries, "sustainability" will allow us to ensure and indeed enhance both the economic and social future of the fisheries industries and our marine environment.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In this regard I note with great satisfaction that this Conference has gone to considerable lengths in emphasizing the inseparable interaction and linkages between efficiency and sustainability. I am also very encouraged to see that our experts from all ASEAN-SEAFDEC countries participated in discussing these important issues. This is a reflection of our awareness and commitment to the importance of ensuring the sustainability of our fisheries resources, not only for the sake of the people whose livelihoods depended on fisheries, but also for the economic and social well being of the region as a whole.

I am further delighted that the report shows that various relevant and critical aspects that contribute to ensuring achievability of our goal towards sustainable fisheries resources in the region are being comprehensively looked into and considered in the formulation of the Resolution and the proposed Plan of Action. The Resolution and the Plan of Action will no doubt help us to further strengthen our efforts in this area and provide guidance towards more appropriate future fisheries related policy directions.

To my mind, however, the key success factor of any programs, projects or activities arising from this Conference will very much hinge upon whether the aspirations outlined in the draft Resolution and proposed Plan of Action, CAN reach and subscribe to at all levels not only the policy makers and the managers but also the fishermen, fish farmers, fish traders, fish processors and so on.

More often than not, it is very difficult if not impossible, to translate plans and aspiration into practice. It has been proven time and again that overall, programs fail because the "normal", run-of-the-mill awareness and educational programs, fail to achieve the desired goals of changing the attitude and way of life of the people concerned towards more sustainable fisheries practices and outlook.

We must recognize that great efforts are required to change our people's mind-sets and that these efforts cannot be successful overnight nor can they be achieved through short term one-time projects. Therefore we will not only require patience, perseverance and time, but also the vital concerted efforts and commitment from all concerned, if we are to realistically avoid failure.

We need to act now if not yesterday, to ensure our future generations will still be able to benefit from our fisheries resources. And indeed in formulating appropriate strategies we should look to our future generations by focusing our awareness and educational programs on our younger generations, as they will be the implementers who will inherit our aspiration in shaping the future of our fisheries. Their commitment is not only crucial for ensuring the

continuity of our efforts but is also absolutely necessary if we are to realize any of our long-term goals.

The ASEAN-SEAFDC governments and institution must maintain a continual emphasis on putting more efforts and resources into research and development oriented programs in areas of resource enhancement, resource re-habilitation as well as post-harvest and product development and improvement. The continual development of human resources capability in these areas should also be further strengthened, as human resources are the key to ensuring the self-sustainability of our projects whilst also addressing our need for expertise to continuously monitor the status of our resources as well as maintaining our seafood safety and quality.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Last 25 years has seen much encouraging regional development of our fisheries. Much of this development can be attributed to the dedicated efforts of the SEAFDEC and its 4 technical arms throughout Southeast Asia. Indeed, I could say that in our region SEAFDEC has become synonymous with fisheries development and they should be congratulated for their achievements. I would also be remiss of me if I did not take this opportunity to than the Government of Japan for the endless support to SEAFDEC in ensuring the success of our work. In sincerely and very much hope that the Government of Japan will continue its support for SEAFDEC, even in these less than ideal economic times.

Finally, I like to take this opportunity to once again thank the Government of Thailand for the warmth and hospitality accorded to me and my delegations in attending this session.

Thank you.

CAMBODIA

*Statement by H.E. May Sam Oeun
Secretary of State,
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries*

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Cambodian delegates would like to extend our warm welcome to all your excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen participating in the " Conference on Sustainable Fishery for the Food Security in the New Millennium: Fish for the People" aiming to develop a regional policy and action plan on the sustainable fisheries contribution to the food security in the ASEAN region.

The fisheries resources and the environment in Cambodia are a great common natural asset of our people since ancient time. As the fisheries resources are important, fishes and the fisheries is carved on the wall of our historical Angkor Wat Temple. Fish is our preferred food consumed daily and therefore the sustainable supply of fish has to be paid attention.

However as the rapid increase of the Cambodian population, especially in the last two decades, have accelerate the pace of exploitation of these natural resources which have led to the decline of the resources and the environmental degradation. The experience of fishery development and management in Cambodia we have seen many of the current practices on the fisheries including aquaculture had to be rectified in order to minimize adverse impact on the aquatic environment. Implication of the appropriate fisheries management for the establishment of the sustainable fisheries development in Cambodia as well as in the region should be pursued.

The conference being organized is an important opportunity for us to meeting here for formulating plan for actions and the regional fisheries policy for the sustainable fisheries. This is also an excellent opportunity for us to establish our close cooperation and joint effort between the ASEAN-SEAFDEC member countries and other organizations for the sustainable development and management of the fisheries ensuring the stable supply of fish and fisheries products.

The conference is an important step to promote the awareness on sustainable fisheries and its implication to direct participation and solidarity among the countries in the region. We principally support "***the Plan of Action and Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region***" that we have jointly made. We hope for the excellent outcome from the participation from all ASEAN-SEAFDEC member countries, other organizations, and stakeholders to implement this plan and to achieve our whole goals.

It is my hope that the cooperating countries and international organizations will provide the ASEAN countries under the coordination of the SEAFDEC the most substantial support and assistance, thus contributing to the Southeast Asian Region the increasingly prosperous and sustainability of the resources.

On this important occasion, I wish to extend my deep appreciation to SEAFDEC, ASEAN, FAO and other organizations for jointly organizing this important ASEAN-SEAFDEC event. We would also like to thank SEAFDEC and Japan for the sponsorship and the Department of fisheries Thailand for hosting this conference and their warm hospitality.

In closing, allow me to convey the best wishes of the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Cambodian delegates, and our people to your Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen. I look forwards to the relation, friendship, cooperation and joint effort between the SEAFDEC-ASEAN member countries and other organizations for the sustainable fisheries development in the region.

To everyone, my good wishes and thanks for your kind attention.

INDONESIA

*Statement by Dr. Rokhmin Daburi
Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries*

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I acknowledge with great appreciation the report of the Senior Official Meeting as has just been presented by its Chairman. In particular I would like to:

- Support the conclusion and recommendation of the Technical Session of the Conference;
- Endorse the “Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region”, as already adopted by the Senior Official Meeting;
- Accept with appreciation the draft “Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region”.

Indeed, food security is our great concern and therefore the limited fishery resources we have should be utilized in a sustainable manner. Fisheries should contribute not only to economic growth and betterment of our fishermen and fish-farmers families but also to the conservation and management of fishery resources and quality of the aquatic ecosystems. In this context Excellencies, I would like to draw our attention to the alarming threat of illegal, unreported and unregulated or IUU fishing which are potentially detrimental towards sustainability of fishery resources as well as to the viability of fisheries contribution to the economy in the region. According to the various valid sources, a quarter of the present worlds’ fish catch are derived from IUU fish.

Indonesia fisheries are also vulnerable to IUU fishing for many years. Therefore, the Government has put fierce efforts to minimize IUU fishing. In this connection, I would like to stress the importance of strengthening cooperation among the countries in the region to prevent, combat and eliminate IUU fishing. I trust if such cooperation is properly tailored, it would help to optimize the utilization of fishery resources in a sustainable fashion and at the same time would facilitate proportional share of the economic benefits accrued from such resource utilization.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The declining trend of marine fishery resources in the region in recent years has prompted us to embark and strengthen our venture in aquaculture as a better alternative not only to sustain our economic growth, but also to better ensure food security. In this context I strongly support the conclusion of the Conference to promote rural aquaculture primarily to improve access of low income group of the population. I would like to propose therefore, that cooperation in aquaculture development would be further strengthened in the coming years. However, precautions have to be taken so that such a noble effort would not create detrimental effects to the environment. In addition, with the increasing concerns pertaining to the potential hazards of hormone and antibiotics residues in aquaculture products, preventive measures have to be taken.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I believe that the Resolution which is being discussed now would substantially contribute to facilitate sustainable utilization of fisheries resources in our region. Both the Resolution and the Action Plan would be of prime important as a guideline for the formulation and implementation of programs and projects in the region. To effectively implement the Resolution and the Action Plan I would like to suggest:

1. Since the Resolution is not a legally binding document, the Resolution should be submitted to AMAF in accordance with the ASEAN protocol;
2. The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Working Group should follow up the Resolution and the Action Plan to formulate implementable collaborative programs and projects for the region;
3. The ASEAN should strengthen its joint standing position in regional and international for a as a reflection of this Resolution;
4. On the basis of ASEAN spirit, should strengthen a cooperation among member countries to prevent, combat, and eliminate IUU fishing in the region.

With this remark, I would like to support and endorse the Resolution.

Thank you,

Dr. Rokhmin Dahuri

JAPAN

*by H.E. Mr. Takeshi Noma,
Senior Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries*

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,
Mr. Chairman, thank you for your giving me a chance to make an address.

First of all, on behalf of the Government of Japan, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Government of Thailand, the host country, that led the Conference to a great success.

As all of you who have presented here are aware of, the Millennium Conference had its inception in the "Strategic Plan" adopted during the 30th Anniversary Meeting of the SEAFDEC held in Bangkok in December 1997. And as an occasion to integrate all the enthusiastic discussions that have so far taken place at various regional and technical meetings, we are now holding this Millennium Conference. I would like to express my deep respect to those of you who have involved with enormous amount of preparatory works, and at the same time I firmly believe that the sustainable fisheries in the ASEAN region will be attained.

Under the current situation where difficult issues such as excessive fishing capacity lie in piles, it is confidently expected that this Resolution, when implemented, will pave the way to resolve these problems.

I emphasize the importance of unilaterally adoption of the Resolution at this Ministerial Session and at the same time express myself clearly that in order to materialize the Resolution, Japan will extend as much cooperation as possible despite its severe economic and financial situation.

In concluding my remark, I would once again like to congratulate all the effort exerted by the ministers and experts who have so far taken part in this Conference in the respective countries, and the experts and staff members of the ASEAN and SEAFDEC.
Thank you very much.

LAO P.D.R.

*Statement by H.E. Mr. Singkham Phonvisay
Senior Representative of the Government of Lao PDR.*

Honorable Mr. Chairman, H.E. Shucheeep Hansaward, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Allow me to join the previous speakers and also commend Thailand for hosting in a very effective way this first ASEAN- SEAFDEC Ministerial Meeting and for the successful organization of the conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium "Fish for the People".

It is indeed a honour and privilege for the Lao delegation to be part of this Milestone event in the history of ASEAN - SEAFDEC Cooperation .

The Millennium Conference serves as an important International and Regional platform for stakeholders at different levels and from different domains of responsibilities in fisheries development and management to meet and exchange valuable lessons and experiences in the sustainable use of increasingly limited fisheries resources in the region. This constructive exchange of lessons and experiences will help, we believe to shape in a collective and more effective way the future directions for more sustainable management of the Regions Fisheries Resources.

Lao PDR strongly support the constructive recommendations that emanated from the Millennium Conference and would like to give "its endorsement to the proposed Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region".

Lao PDR is in Strong belief that ASEAN support to the Resolution will about enhancement of cooperation in the Region for food security and for the improved livelihoods of the People within ASEAN Countries.

Finally we would like to call for collaboration of all concerned parties, industries the ASEAN Secretariat to give full effect to the Resolution and proceed with the necessary actions to translate the Resolution into a consolidated framework to guide in formulating concrete collaborative programs, projects and activities.

Allow me to thank, once again, Thailand for the warm hospitality extended to all of us.

Thank you

MALAYSIA

*Statement by H.E. Dato' Seri Haji Mohd. Shariff b.Hj. Omar
Deputy Minister of Agriculture*

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Hon. Ministers, Ladies & Gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Malaysian Government, I would like to thank the Government of Thailand, Government of Japan, ASEAN Foundation, Food And Agriculture Organization and the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference Secretariat for organizing this special conference.

Malaysia fully supports the Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries For Food Security for the ASEAN Region which will promote sustainable fisheries in the region.

One particular area which is of concern to Malaysia is on the impact of aquaculture development on the environment. In Malaysia, aquaculture industrial zones have been allocated and environmentally-friendly aquaculture model are being developed. On the promotion of responsible aquaculture, a Code of Practice For Aquaculture has been developed and is implemented on a voluntary basis at the initial stage. The principles of "Good Aquaculture Practices" has been promoted. The Aquaculture Regulations are in the final drafting stage and a Farm Certification Scheme has also been initiated.

We acknowledge the good work done by SEAFDEC in promoting sustainable fish production and development through the regionalization of the Code of Conduct For Responsible Fisheries. To be meaningful, the Code of Conduct For Responsible Fisheries must not be merely understood by all but it has to be implemented by all. Therefore, the Code has to be translated into the local languages. Malaysia has since translated the said code into her national language, Bahasa Malaysia for the benefit of the stakeholders.

Malaysia hopes that SEAFDEC will look into the possibility of enhancing human resource development capacity particularly in the areas of technical expertise on responsible fisheries, fish quality control and safety and policy assessment and development. ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries should also make use of this platform to discuss and harmonise policies and technical requirements for example, in the prevention of the spread of trans-boundary fish pathogen and pests by reviewing individual quarantine system and come up with a common quarantine procedure.

On the subject of fish trade, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries should utilize this platform to discuss trade policies and technical issues to enhance trade. In addition, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member countries should use this forum to study on the impacts of globalisation on fish trade, projected views and to have a common stand during negotiations on international fish trade. In this respect, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries will have more voice in international negotiations. It is widely known that Malaysia supports the concept of free but fair trade. However, there is no compromise on the quality and safety of the fish or fish products imported. The exporter must comply with the quarantine and food safety requirements.

I am very optimistic that through the resolution and plan of action agreed upon in this conference, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries will become more committed. Assuming each Member Countries can significantly and successfully implement the plan of action, I am sure it should lead to an increase in fish production, in terms of quantity and quality; improved food security; improved sustainability; reduced variability; improved economic performance; and reduced social conflicts in the long run. I believe that we can achieve something meaningful at the end of the day if we strive and work harder as a team.

Thank you.

MYANMAR

*Statement by H.E. U Aung Thein
Deputy Minister of Livestock and Fisheries*

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Honorable Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen

A very good morning to you all! First of all, on behalf of the Myanmar Government, I would like to thank the Government of Thailand, Government of Japan, ASEAN Foundation, Food and Agriculture Organization and the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference Secretariat for their great endeavor in carrying out this Conference into effect.

Since fish is an important staple food for us, we Asian countries are responsible to produce fish on the basis of sustainable guidance.

This Millennium Conference is understood as forum to set up national and fishery policies and to help identify future activities to be undertaken by ASEAN Member Countries to promote sustainable fisheries and to maintain food security for our coming generations; in someway, for their Tomorrow we gave our Today.

Extensive awareness and consensus-building programs and various issues were also identified and series of technical preparatory tasks leading to this Conference have been conducted at both regional and national to this process.

In these circumstances, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express our commitment to follow up the resolution and Plan of Action.

Lastly but not the least, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Department of Fishery of Thailand, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Secretariat for their wonderful task to make this conference a fruitful one. I also would like to thank to the Government of Thailand for the warm hospitality extended to all of us.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE PHILIPPINES

*Statement by the Honourable Cesar M. Drilon, Jr,
Undersecretary of the Department of Agriculture*

Salutations

First, let me warmly congratulate the organizers of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference for the success of this event. It is apparent from the huge attendance of participants from every corner of the region and from Europe, Australia, Africa and the Americas how important this gathering is, in collectively mapping out the future of our fisheries. It is indeed very encouraging to see peoples of very diverse social and cultural backgrounds come together to explore the spectrum of fisheries issues in the region and develop options to promote resource sustainability against the backdrop of the world's changing social and economic landscape. In this respect, you will agree with me that the objective of promoting awareness on sustainable fisheries and its implications to food security in the region has been successfully addressed. The very efficient and systematic manner by which the Conference was handled particularly the conduct of the technical sessions clearly reflects the two years of hard work and effort that went into organizing this landmark event.

I believe the different technical sessions and the various officials' meetings have generated the necessary technical and logistical inputs that will help translate the Conference Resolution and our collective Plan of Action into practical, area-specific activities. Vital to this effort is the increased cooperation well beyond the Conference between and among member countries and international organizations. This includes an active sharing of actual experiences, research results and other vital information. The Philippines, for one, has amassed a wealth of experience, including many lessons learned, on community-based resource management, and is more than willing to share with other countries in the formulation and implementation of their own CBRM plans. There is no doubt that other ASEAN nations share and support this recommendation. By doing so, we achieve yet another objective of this Conference that is, to build closer collaboration through increased direct participation and solidarity among countries in the region. We look forward to the conduct of future meetings and collaborations arising from the Millennium Conference. Please be assured of our continuous support.

In closing, I again wish to thank the host country, for the hospitality in the past four days.

SINGAPORE

*Statement by H.E. Mr. Calvin Eu
Ambassador of Singapore in Thailand
representing the Minister for National Development, Singapore*

Your Excellency Mr Shucheep Hansaward, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of the Kingdom of Thailand, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

First of all, allow me to congratulate H. E. Mr Shucheep Hansaward on his election to the Chair of this important Meeting.

I would also like to congratulate the Chairman of the 2nd ASEAN-SEAFDEC SOM and all the Senior Officials for their excellent work prior to our arrival.

Though the fisheries sector is a small sector in Singapore’s economy, we recognise the importance of fish as a major source of protein for the 500 million people in ASEAN including Singapore. In 1999, the total supply of fish in ASEAN was about 15 million mt, which is 11.8% of the world production. Trade in fish and fishery products is also an important foreign exchange earner for ASEAN and help to increase the income of the rural population. In 1999, ASEAN imported 1,8 million mt (US\$ 1.8b) and exported 2.5 million mt (US\$7.5b) of fishery products. Singapore is a major importer of fish and fishery products from our ASEAN neighbours and we also export to other countries.

Though Singapore is not endowed with fisheries resources, we have shared the vision for the development of sustainable fisheries development with our ASEAN and SEAFDEC member countries. Singapore is one of the founding members of ASEAN and SEAFDEC. We have, since 1969, hosted the Marine Fisheries Research Department (MFRD) of SEAFDEC in Singapore. We believe that the work done by MFRD in fisheries post-harvest technology will contribute to sustainable fisheries development and utilisation in the region for the benefit of our people.

We also recognise that that there is a need for regional organisations to work closely together pool their resources so that programmes could be more efficiently developed, implemented and managed to achieve our goals for sustainable fisheries in the region. I am pleased that the effort initiated by Singapore in 1998 to forge closer collaboration and linkages between ASEAN and SEAFDEC has now been further strengthened with the organisation of this joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security, and this ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministerial Session. I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Japan for her strong support for SEAFDEC and for ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation.

I would like to express Singapore’s support for the “Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries For Food Security For the ASEAN Region”. The Resolution will provide a blueprint to help and guide the ASEAN and SEADFEDEC member countries to realise our collective vision for sustainable fisheries in this region. The 500 million people in ASEAN, and our future generations will be the beneficiary of this collective effort.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank his Excellency, Mr Shucheeep Hansaward , the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, and the Government of Thailand for hosting this important Meeting and for the excellent arrangements and kind hospitality accorded to my delegation and me.

Thank you.

THAILAND

*Statement by Mr. Dhammarong Prakobboon
Director-General, Department of Fisheries, Thailand*

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen;

I wish to have permission from the floor to let me take out my hat as the chairman and allow me to make a statement on behalf of Thai delegations, to express our position on the 'Resolution on sustainable fisheries for food security'.

On the outset, Thailand is very much commend the hard effort of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Secretariat and Senior officials that have spend a lot of time working towards the achievement of this Resolution and Plan of Action which highlighting our today meeting.

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen;

Thailand is very pleased for having today when the Ministers responsible for fisheries of ASEAN and SEAFDEC have met to share views on fisheries matters, which are the great concerns not only in ASEAN region, but also at global level. Thailand believes that this is one of not many occasions that Fisheries Ministers are present at the same fora, therefore this precious opportunity has allowed us to make something happened to mark the unity and solidarity of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC regarding to the fisheries cooperation.

ASEAN region has been playing an important role in the world fisheries sectors. The total ASEAN fisheries and aquaculture production is over 14 million tonnes, accounted for 12.0% of world total. ASEAN is also major exporter of fisheries commodities to the international markets at value of nearly 8 billion US\$, sharing almost 15% of world total exporting value. In term of food balance, a fishery has contributed as high as 10 million tonnes annually to ASEAN people or providing averaging 20 kg. of fish per capita supply.

These figures seem quite impressive; however, fisheries of ASEAN is now in recession; marine fisheries have faced with the depletion of its resource due to overexploitation and environmental degradation. The promise of aquaculture in supplementing the supply from marine sector is uncertain as long as there are environment problems, limits of technology and capacity required for managing aquaculture sustainably.

At this point of time, sound management strategies and measures need to be applied to prevent further decline in fishery resource, or at least maintain the number of fish supply. Concrete actions have to be taken in order to make fisheries sustainable for food security and the livelihoods and well-being of the ASEAN people. The great effort of ASEAN and SEAFDEC member countries in drafting the Resolution is our first step to take an action in achieving the goal. As the Resolution is necessary and will serve as a guideline to manage fishery resource and make it sustainable, I, therefore, would like to take this opportunity to affirm Thailand's position in supporting this Resolution.

Thank you.

VIETNAM

*Statement by H.E. Dr. Ta Quang Ngoc
Minister of Fisheries*

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Delegation of Vietnam, I would like to take this opportunity to present our highly appreciation to the Government of Thailand, ASEAN, SEAFDEC for giving me and our Delegation excellent conditions for participating in this important Millennium Conference and share our view with you.

From the experience of development of fisheries in Vietnam, we learned that the more the fisheries sector has its important role in the socio-economic system of the country, especially in food security, the more need we have to find out the right way for its further development – the way of sustainability.

So, the Government of Vietnam in the past 5 years has issued and implemented a number of policies towards the sustainable way of development of fisheries.

For example, for aquaculture development, the Government put emphasis on aquaculture by adopting the National Aquaculture Development Program to the year 2010 with the plan for development of our sustainable aquaculture in fresh water, brackish and marine water, in the way for friendly with environment and with agriculture, especially rice-farming development also. Our government considers that fisheries sector, especially aquaculture can provide good contribution for poverty alleviation. Aquaculture now is sharing with rice-farming in sound zoning in the process of change in structure of agriculture and rural development in Vietnam.

For marine fishing activities, we are implementing new program for changing the structure between utilization and reservation, between off-shore and inshore fisheries. Our Government approved the program for off-shore fishing in order to reduce the pressure of fishing in coastal waters and promote harvesting of under-exploited fisheries resources. We also reduce the number of small fishing boats in coastal waters through vessel registration system with promoting selective fishing gear and applying good practices, and support small-scale fishers for transferring to aquaculture through fisheries extension policies.

I would like to take this opportunity to present our highly appreciation to the results of the Technical Sessions at the Senior Official Meeting as well as the preparation and development of the proposed Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the ASEAN Region, and the Plan of Action for implementing of the Resolution.

For the sustainable development of fisheries in our ASEAN region, I would like to emphasize following points:

Firstly, we need to formulate and implement policies for innovative management based on current conditions of the region as well as conditions of individual country. These policies should support for introduction of rights-based fisheries management, enhancement of fisheries resources and protection of environment.

Secondly, we should share our experiences in development of aquaculture in sustainable and responsible way such as:

- Environmental and ecological friendly aquaculture,
- Agriculture friendly aquaculture

Further more, aquaculture should become a good mean for hunger reduction and poverty alleviation in our ASEAN region.

Lastly, human resources development for sustainable fisheries is vital important. So, one of the key issues we have to emphasize in our cooperation that is exchanging experiences, on-going training in different ways and different profiles.

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies,

I do hope that the Resolution and Plan of Action agreed upon in this Ministerial Session will contribute important part for sustainable development of fisheries in our ASEAN region in the New Millennium.

So, our Delegation strongly supports for adopting the Resolution and we do hope that it will be guide for formulating and implementing programs, projects, and activities quite soon in our ASEAN region.

Once again, we highly appreciate the valuable and effective contributions for organizing this Millennium Conference by the Government of Thailand, Government of Japan as well as ASEAN, SEAFDEC organizations.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and Delegates for your kind attention and cooperation.

STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MINISTERIAL SESSION

by H.E. Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward
Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

(JOINT PRESS RELEASE)

1. His Excellency Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of the Kingdom of Thailand officially opened and delivered the Opening Address for the Ministers of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries who are responsible for fisheries on the occasion of the Ministerial Session of *The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People" (the Millennium Conference)*, in Bangkok, Thailand on 24 November, 2001. The Ministerial Session was attended by:

H.E. Mr. Idris Belaman, Permanent Secretary representing the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam

H.E. Mr. May Sam-Oeun, Secretary of State of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia

H.E. Dr. Rokhmin Dahuri, Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia

H.E. Mr. Takeshi Noma, Senior Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan

H.E. Mr. Singkham Phonvisay, Senior Representative of the Government of Lao PDR

H.E. Dato' Seri Haji Mohd. Shariff b.Hj. Omar, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Malaysia

H.E. U Aung Thein, Deputy Minister of Livestock and Fisheries, Myanmar

H.E. Mr. Cesar M. Drilon Jr., Undersecretary of Department of Agriculture, Philippines

H.E. Mr. Calvin Eu, Ambassador of Singapore in Thailand representing the Minister for National Development, Singapore

H.E. Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

H.E. Dr. Ta Quang Ngoc, Minister of Fisheries, Vietnam

Honorable Dr. Azmi Mat Akhir, Director, Bureau of Functional Cooperation, the ASEAN Secretariat, and their respective delegations

2. The Ministers of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries who are responsible for fisheries, met for the first time, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Shucheeep Hansaward, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand.

3. The Ministers recognized the growing demand for fish and fishery products and the need to obtain sustainable fish supplies for food security as well as the increasing pressure on ASEAN's aquatic environment and fisheries resources. The Ministers underlined the

increasing role of fisheries including aquaculture that could play in supporting food security primarily as source of animal protein, expanding job opportunities, improving the incomes of small-scale fishermen and fish-farmers families and to the better attainment of economic growth as a whole, and should be further promoted in a sustainable manner.

4. The Ministers emphasized the importance of *the Millennium Conference* and their first ministerial Meeting in opening up the new venues for dialogue on fisheries issues at the ASEAN-SEAFDEC ministerial level with the aim to promoting and enhancing cooperation in the region for food security and the livelihoods and well-being of the ASEAN people.

5. The Conference theme is “Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security”, and this reflects the ASEAN Vision 2020 of “*sustainable and equitable growth ... in an ASEAN where hunger, malnutrition, deprivation and poverty are no longer basic problems*”. The Conference also draws on the Hanoi Plan of Action to “*enhance food security and global competitiveness of ASEAN’s food products*”, while “*protecting the environment and promoting sustainable development*”.

6. During the Conference, problems of fisheries resource decline were discussed and analyzed to formulate harmonized regional policies to achieve the goal of sustainable fisheries production. The Technical Session of the Conference dealt on issues related with fisheries management, aquaculture and utilization of fish and fishery products focusing on the unique context and nature of the region’s fisheries in interpreting global fisheries issues and identifying appropriate regional responses.

7. Preceded and reported by the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Official Meeting, held on 22 November 2001, and the Technical Session, held for five days on 19- 23 November 2001, the Ministers considered the outcomes of the two meetings which were used as a basis for the development of the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region.

8. Having considered the conclusions and technical recommendations, deliberated through series of national and regional participatory processes in preparation for *the Millennium Conference*, together as a result of the deliberations in the Ministerial Session on 24 November 2001, the Ministers agreed to adopt a ***Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region***, for implementation, through individual and collective efforts, among ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries to promote sustainable fisheries in the region.

9. The Ministers calls for due attentions and collaborations of all concerned parties to give full effect to the Resolution, and tasked the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Senior Officials to proceed with the implementation of the ***Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region***, adopted on 24 November 2001, in Bangkok, Thailand, as a guideline for formulating and implementing programs, projects, and activities through appropriate ASEAN-SEAFDEC mechanisms.

10. The Ministers expressed appreciation to Japan for her continuing support for the fishery development in the region. Since the establishment of SEAFDEC in 1967, Japan has been closely involved with the fishery development in the region and has provided generous support and technical expertise for all its Members.

11. The Ministers recognized the importance of this event and commended the collaboration between ASEAN and SEAFDEC for the success of the Conference. The importance of collaboration between ASEAN and SEAFDEC has long been realized by the AMAF, and the initiative to organize this Conference arose during the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) to ensure sustainable fisheries production and promote collaboration on the global initiatives.

12. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the support and assistance given by the various international and regional organizations including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as well as the technical experts from within and outside the region who have conducted series of preparatory work leading to this successful *Millennium Conference*. Special thanks were extended to the ASEAN Foundation who is a major financial support for the organization of this event.

13. The delegations of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Viet Nam, and the ASEAN Secretariat expressed their appreciation to the Government and the people of Thailand, especially the Department of Fisheries of Thailand for the warm hospitality accorded them and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

Attachment:

The adopted 'Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region'

**STATEMENT FROM SENIOR VICE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY AND FISHERIES, JAPAN**

H.E. Mr. Takeshi Noma,

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,
Mr. Chairman, let me give you a brief address on behalf of the Government of Japan.

First of all, I would like to express my heart-felt gratitude to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Government of Thailand, the host country, that have so successfully organized this wonderful Conference.

As the only one member nation of the SEAFDEC outside the ASEAN region, Japan has been extending cooperation during the last 30 years to develop fisheries, in promoting surveys and research for the objective of sustainable development of fisheries industry in the Southeast Asian countries. You can count upon our continuous cooperation in future in implementing the Millennium Resolution and Plan of Action adopted at this occasion even though the economic and financial situation of Japan is very tight.

As you are aware of, the FAO has stressed that most of the world fisheries resources are being utilized either at the maximum level or at excessive level. As such, we, the responsible fishery nations must strengthen activities of the regional fisheries organizations and tackle the problems such as to enable more effective conservation and management of tuna and other fisheries resources, and analyze the impact of predation of enormous amount of fish by marine mammals.

I express my strong belief that the information, techniques and policy guidelines acquirable when implementing the Resolution and Plan of Action adopted this time will greatly contribute to resolving these global issues.

I also believe that it is necessary to keep a closer relationship among the ASEAN-SEAFDEC nations and with other countries outside the region, as well as with other international organizations.

Lastly, once again I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Fisheries Ministers of the respective countries and to everyone who has participated in this Millennium Conference. Thank you very much for your attention.

**STATEMENT FROM THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

*by Dr. Ulf Wijkstrom
Chief, Fishery Development and Planning Service,
Fishery Policy and Planning Division, FAO*

Honorable Ministers, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a privilege for me to address you on behalf of Mr. Ichiro Nomura, Assistant Director-General of FAO in charge of FAO's Fisheries Department.

I congratulate all those who have contributed to the process that now has resulted in the ***Resolution and Plan of Action on sustainable fisheries for food security for the ASEAN region***. In particular I congratulate you, Excellencies, for having promoted and encouraged this work and for having adopted the Resolution and Plan of Action earlier today.

I am convinced that FAO member nations as well as my colleagues in the FAO Fisheries Department will come to see the Resolution and the Plan of Action as a landmark achievement. I will highlight three reasons for this belief.

First - the two documents are an expression of political will, both for better management and for appropriate development of fisheries and aquaculture. In FAO we strongly believe that good governance and political will are absolutely essential. Without them the world will not experience sustainable capture fisheries and an expanding aquaculture sector. And as you know the world expects and needs growing supplies of fish. My colleagues and I see the work that you now have accomplished as a very valuable contribution. It provides a platform - or guide if you like - from which to launch ASEAN member countries towards achieving sustainable growth of fish production.

Second - Political will is important. But, so are unity, and a spirit of compromise. The Resolution and Plan of Action exemplify both of these. Compromise and unity are necessary also at the level of the fishing industry and in fishing communities if capture fisheries are to be sustained and aquaculture is to grow. In this respect, the declaration is an example; not only for governments and fishermen in ASEAN member countries but also for their counterparts and colleagues outside ASEAN.

Third - The Resolution and the Plan of Action demonstrate that ASEAN is speaking with one voice on fisheries and aquaculture issues. This is a signal to the rest of the world. It will be noted. It is an important signal in view of future WTO negotiations on fishery subsidies and as international fishery instruments come into force. The next in line is the UN Agreement on Straddling Stocks and Highly Migratory Stocks. It will come into force in two weeks time as 30 countries now have either acceded to, or ratified, the agreement.

Honorable Ministers, under section D of the Plan of Action that you have just adopted the second of the three activities aims to "assess the impact of government subsidies on fisheries, in particular on small scale fisheries", and to do so in collaboration with FAO.

My colleagues in Rome and I are now stepping up preparations for the second FAO expert consultation on subsidies. The consultation is planned to take place in Rome, no later than a year from now. It will focus on assessing the impact of fisheries subsidies, in particular these impacts on artisanal and small-scale fisheries. So during the first half of next year we will gather information on impact of fisheries subsidies through collaboration with national and regional institutions worldwide. We believe information on the effects of fisheries subsidies will facilitate the negotiations in the WTO. So far there is very little information available about effects. In fact, it seems to be almost completely missing in particular as it concerns fisheries in developing countries. But, without information about the effects of fishery subsidies also in developing countries, government representatives asked to argue the case of fisheries in developing countries would have a very difficult task to accomplish in the forthcoming WTO negotiations on subsidies. Honorable Ministers, it would be most helpful if staff in national and regional institutions undertakes and cooperates with studies aiming to assess the impact of subsidies. We in FAO look forward to a close collaboration on this matter with ASEAN members, through SEAFDEC and other regional and national organizations.

Your Excellencies, as you know FAO's overriding priority is to work for a reduction in poverty and for increased food production. Our aim is that those amongst us who do not have enough to eat soonest should be in a situation to enjoy adequate diets. Much to the regret of all FAO member nations the information available to the FAO secretariat indicates that the number of undernourished in the world, estimated to about 800 million men, women and children in 1996, has not diminished at the rate that all of us were hoping for. So in June next year FAO members will gather in Rome to review progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action that was adopted at the FAO World Food Summit in 1996. We in the FAO secretariat share with Mr. Jacques Diouf, the Director General of FAO, a wish that member nations be represented in June at the highest level of Government.

Honorable Ministers,

In concluding I would like to thank you for asking FAO to be part of this conference and its preparation. I believe that the conference will be looked at as a landmark. It will be associated with the confirmation of ASEAN as a presence on the world's fisheries scene.

Thank you – and good luck to all.

**REPORT OF THE 11TH COUNCIL MEETING AND BUSINESS CONFERENCE
OF THE ASEAN FISHERIES FEDERATION (AFF)**

*by Mr. Somkiat Anuras,
Secretary-General, ASEAN Fisheries Federation of Thailand*

Your Excellencies, I am Somkiat Anuras, Secretary-General of ASEAN Fisheries Federation of Thailand, I am here on behalf of the Chairman of ASEAN Fisheries Federation, feel very honor to present the resolutions of the ASEAN Fisheries Federation Eleventh Council Meeting and Business Conference during 21-22 November 2001, to Your Excellencies, as follows:

The Meeting reiterated the importance of ASEAN Governments' support and involvement in AFF activities to cope with the rapidly changing economical and political conditions of the world. The resolutions derived from the previous 10th AFF Council Meeting and Business Conference are still valid and should be maintained. The Meeting therefore, agreed to adopt the following resolutions:

- a) ASEAN Governments should support and actively participate in all activities and meetings of AFF;
- b) Vigorously campaign for the recognition and support of the AFF by the respective Government Agencies of each member country, Ministry or Directorate General of Fisheries of each member country;
- c) The Meeting agreed to establish **AFF Policy and Strategic Planning Committee** to strengthen the spirit of AFF and to monitor AFF action plans;
- d) The Meeting requested the member governments to take action and dialogue with EU and USA to reduce the unfair trade practices especially on the canned tuna trade they offer to ACP and ANDEAN countries²;
- e) The Meeting requested the respective governments to negotiate with EU in two important issues as follows:
 - 1) Inspection standard on shrimp products must be one single standard to all countries;
 - 2) Zero tolerance on chloram is inapplicable. The Meeting proposed to allow the chloram content up to 2.5 ppb; and
- f) The Meeting agreed to set up a standing committee to carry out the feasibility study on the establishment of **ASEAN Fisheries Corporation** dealing with marine capture and fisheries related industries.

Your Excellencies, on behalf of the private sectors in all ASEAN nations, I should like to reveal you our suffer and pain from the inequality in trade and unfair trade practices we received from EU and USA such as tariff on canned tuna to ACP and ANDEAN countries at

² ACP means the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific countries which are included in the Lome Agreement with the EU. The Andean countries are: Bolivia, Columbia, Ecuador, and Peru.

zero percent while Thailand and Myanmar, for instance, have to pay at 14 percent. In case of shrimp trade, EU has imposed different inspection standard to different exporting countries and also imposed zero tolerance on chloram which is inapplicable. I strongly believe that this is a new type of non-tariff barrier to our products. I do beg your Excellency to assist us in alleviating these difficulties and hardship to our industries, so we can survive and continue to develop our fisheries industries in the year to come.

Thank you for your attention.

**STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION
FROM THE CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT**

*by Mr. Panu Tavarutmaneegul
Secretary-General, SEAFDEC
on behalf of the Conference Secretariat*

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates and honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Conference Secretariat, I would like to express our highest appreciation to all ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries as well as regional and international organizations for the generous support extended to us for the preparation and organization of the Conference.

Among several preparatory works for the Conference, I would like to highlight the National Seminars organized by each ASEAN Member Countries of which the outcomes has substantially contributed to the success of the Conference. And also the Drawing Contests on “Fish and the Culture”, promoted by each ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries have widely promoted the importance of sustainable fisheries for food security across the region.

Your Excellencies, I must also take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all ASEAN people, who in one way or another, contribute to the preparation and organization of the Conference. In addition, efforts of the Conference Secretariat staff who have made this Conference a fruitful and successful one.

Your Excellencies, with my high hope, I am certain that all efforts contributing to the Conference should be further kept as a momentum for a change towards your given directives in ensuring sustainable fisheries for food security in the ASEAN Region in the near future and the years to come.

In showing our gratitude to the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries as well as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, I would like to present to Your Excellencies, the reports of the results of the National Seminars and the Drawing Contests as well as certificates of appreciation to all winners of the Drawing Contest.

Your Excellencies, Thank you very much.

CLOSING REMARKS

*by H.E. Shucheep Hansaward
Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives,
Thailand*

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

As my final duty as the Chairperson of this Ministerial Session, I would like to express my appreciation to all Ministers for your kind cooperation to this meeting which enables me to successfully complete my task as the Chairperson of the meeting. I would like also to extend my thank to the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, the Secretariat of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for your support in organizing this successful Conference. My special thank will go to the ASEAN Foundation and the Japanese Government for your kind financial support to the Conference as well as sponsoring organizations who one way or another provide technical assistance to the Conference. Lastly, I wish to thank the Conference Secretariat for their efforts in making all arrangement for this Conference.

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

With that, I then hereby declare the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People" closed.

Thank you.

ANNEX 6
Drawing Contests: 'Fish and the Culture'



The Best Drawing from Singapore

DRAWING CONTESTS: 'FISH AND THE CULTURE'

BACKGROUND

Fisheries have performed the important role as fundamental of life and culture of the ASEAN people. In order to promote awareness on the importance of fishery activities, the Drawing Contest on the theme of "Fish and the Culture" was initiated as part of the preparation for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference. In this connection, prior to the Conference, each ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Country organized a Drawing Contest for children under the age of 18, with the main objective to conserve fishery resources through the promotion of public awareness, especially among the young generations, on the importance and the relationship of fishery activities to the living pattern and the culture of people in each country. Ten best entries were selected by each country and were displayed at the Conference.

LIST OF WINNERS OF THE DRAWING CONTESTS

Brunei Darussalam

First Prize	<i>Siti Normala Hj Awg Damit</i> Maktab Sains Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan, Kg Rimba
Second Prize	<i>Normasyitah Hj Mattassim</i> Maktab Sains Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan, Kg Rimba
Third Prize	<i>Nur Sadrina Hj Marsidi</i> Maktab Sains Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan, Kg Rimba

Cambodia

First Prize	<i>Khem Sambo</i> , 17 Years Faculty of Fine Art, Royal University of Fine Art, Phnom Penh
Second Prize (1)	<i>Buth Chan Anochea</i> , 17 Years Faculty of Fine Art, Royal University of Fine Art, Phnom Penh
Second Prize (2)	<i>Chhun Chandy</i> , 16 Years Faculty of Fine Art, Royal University of Fine Art, Phnom Penh

Indonesia

First Prize	<i>Yohames Tenggara</i> , 13 Years GSLTP Kristen 4 BPK Penabur KLP Gading, Jakarta Utara
Second Prize	<i>Zerlinda Cahya Swastika</i> , 13 Years SSLTP NV Yogyakarta, Kelas: III, Yogyakarta
Third Prize	<i>Fithri Islamiah S.R.</i> , 15 Years SMU 5 Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta

Japan

First Prize	<i>Manami Kai</i> , 9 Years Hososhima Primary School, Hyuga City, Miyazaki Prefecture
Second Prize	<i>Aiko Sugiyama</i> , 14 Years Nishio Junior High school, Nishio City, Aichi Prefecture
Third Prize	<i>Satoshi Okamoto</i> , 11 Years Kabuto Primary school, Anamizu, Ishikawa Prefecture

Lao P.D.R.

- First Prize *Chansawang Soneana*, 14 Years
Vientiane High School
- Second Prize (1) *Soullaya Phoumivong*, 17 Years
National Artist College
- Second Prize (2) *Vilayphone Balamy*, 13 Years
Nongbone School

Malaysia

- First Prize *Hua Kia Ling*, 16 Years
SMK Infant Jesus Convent, Melaka, Malaysia
- Second Prize *Cheong Gin Yong*, 16 Years
SMK St. Francis, Jalan Parameswara, Melaka, Malaysia
- Third Prize *Yow Wei Teng*, 16 Years
SMK (P) Methodist, Melaka, Malaysia

Myanmar

- First Prize *Mg. Kyaw Zay Lin* (or) *Mg. Kyaw Zay Hun*, 14 years
(Age: 14-18 yr.) Institute of Education Practising High School, Yangon
- First Prize *Ma Su Pan Sin*, 10 Years
(Age: 10-13 yr.) NO. (4) B.E.M.S., Mingalardone Township, Yangon
- First Prize *Mg Nay Myo Oo*, 9 Years.
(Age: 8-10 yr.) NO. (6) Basic Education Primary School, Kyauktada Township, Yangon,

The Philippines

- First Prize *Alex Ordoyo*
Sta. Barbara National Comprehensive High School, Sta Barbara, Iloilo
- Second Prize *Jude P. Carnable*
Abellana National High School, Cebu City
- Third Prize *Ariel Solamo*
University of Southern Philippines, Cebu City

Singapore

- First Prize *Zhang Xingru Cara*, 14 Years
St. Margaret's Sec. School, 364 Commonwealth Avenue
- Second Prize *Ng Sui Ling Deborah*, 14 Years
St. Margaret's Sec. School, 364 Commonwealth Avenue
- Third Prize *Yeang Xian Wei*, 12 Years
Henry Park Primary School, 1 Holland Grove Road

Thailand

- First Prize *Poonyika Whangnibing*, 10 Years
Surao Bandon School, Bangkok
- Second Prize (1) *Theerapong Sangkeaw*, 17 Years
Bajarakitiyabha 3 Surat Thani Province Secondary School, Surat Thani
- Second Prize (2) *Kittisarn Choice-Anurak*, 12 Years
Trokchan Wittaya School, Bangkok

Vietnam

- First Prize *Vo Thi Bich Ngoc*, 9 Years
- Second Prize *Nguyen Thi Ha Phuong*, 11 Years
- Third Prize *Dao Thi Nguyet Minh*, 7 Years

ANNEX 7

List of the Collaborative Organizations



The Best Drawing from Thailand

LIST OF COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

Organization	Participation to the Conference				Remarks
	Technical Panels	Plenary 2	Ministerial Session	Exhibition	
Asian Development Bank (ADB)		✓	✓		-
Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)	✓	✓		✓	-
Assessment of the Living Marine Resources in Vietnam (ALMRV)	✓	✓	✓		ALMRV in collaboration with the Ministry of Fisheries in Vietnam has hosted the 'RTC on Indicators for Sustainable Fisheries Management in ASEAN Region' in May 2001. ALMRV funded by DANIDA also supported participation of 10 Vietnamese to the Conference.
Australian Maritime College (AMC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	AMC has sent a staff (Mr. Steve Eayrs) to be seconded to the Secretariat in August 2001 for the preparation of Technical Papers and draft Resolution and Plan of Action of the Conference.
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)		✓			CIDA has supported the participation of a Conference consultant (Ms. Devon Knight).
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	✓	✓	✓		FAO, as one of the co-organizers of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference, has provided financial as well as technical contribution to the Conference. FAO has sponsored participation of FAO staff to RTCs on Fish Trade, the Outlook of Future Fish Supply and Demand, and Fishery Statistics in ASEAN Region. FAO has also co-organized the RTC held in Haiphong, Vietnam. FAO has also sponsored the participation of 6 staff including the ADG of Fisheries Department, Rome office (Mr. Nomura) and ADG of RAP office.
International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM)	✓	✓	✓		ICLARM has supported the participation of Dr. Kuperan Viswanathan to the RTC on the Indicators for Sustainable Fisheries Management held in Haiphong, Vietnam.
INFOFISH		✓	✓		-
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)		✓	✓	✓	-
Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)		✓			-

Memorial University of Newfoundland (MI)	✓	✓	✓	✓	MI has sent two staff to be seconded to the Secretariat between July – August (Mr. Nigel Allen & Mr. Edward Durnford) to assist preparation of the Technical Documents and the draft Resolution and Plan of Action.
Mekong River Commission (MRC)	✓	✓		✓	MRC has sponsored the participation of Dr. Nguyen Van Hao as a panelist for Aquaculture for Rural Development.
Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA)	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Southeast Asian Programme in Ocean Law, Policy and Management (SEAPOL)		✓			-
Swedish Agency for Development Cooperation (SIDA)		✓	✓		-
Tokyo University of Fisheries (TUF)	✓	✓			Dr. Takafumi Arimoto has participated in the Regional Workshop on Responsible Fishing Technology held in December 2000, as a resource person.
World Food Program of the United Nations (WFP)	✓				-
World Trade Organisation (WTO)	✓	✓	✓		Ms. Christina Schröder has participated in RTCs on Fish Trade, Outlook of Future Fish Supply and Demand, and Fishery Statistics in ASEAN Region, as a resource person.

ANNEX 8
List of Participants



The Best Drawing from Vietnam

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