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32nd SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting held back-to-back with the 12th FCG/ASSP Meeting

From 16 to 18 November 2009, SEAFDEC /MFRDMD in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries Malaysia and the Department of Fisheries Sabah hosted the 32nd SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. The main focus of the Meeting placed on scrutinizing the SEAFDEC Program Implementation for the Year 2009 and Proposed Programs for 2010. In addition, the Meeting also took note of the progress of the

planned ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 as well as the

recommendations of the Second Meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RAC) in order to streamline the recommendations from RAC with the future SEAFDEC programming exercises.



Participants of the 32nd SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting

During the Meeting, one of the important recommendations was on the need for SEAFDEC to conduct an analysis of available data based on the existing activities and available information from the previous projects of SEAFDEC, in
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SEAFDEC takes progressive steps towards 2011 Conference

On 15 November 2009, SEAFDEC held the first Organizing Committee Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 with the participation of the representatives from the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments, the ASEAN Secretariat and the FAO/RAP in their capacity as Committee members. During the Meeting, the organization structure and required preparatory works for the Conference, both on the technical and administrative aspects, were discussed among the Committee members. In addition, the required support for the preparatory works, the conduct of the Conference, and the collaboration with member countries particularly Thailand as the host government as well as other potential regional/international organizations and stakeholders, were also explored.

The ASEAN and SEAFDEC jointly organized in 2001 the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People". Based on the "Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region" adopted during the said Conference, ASEAN and SEAFDEC have made significant progress in the implementation of



The 1st Organizing Committee Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Toward 2020

priority actions to support sustainable fisheries development and food security of the region. However, with the deteriorating state of the fishery resources and the emerging fisheries-related issues and initiatives during the past decade, ASEAN and SEAFDEC are now planning to organize a follow up Conference targeting to address the emerging situations and priority issues that are envisaged to impede the sustainable contribution of fisheries to food security of the region.

The priority fisheries issues to be discussed at the "Fish for the People 2020" could include: Enhancing Governance in Fisheries Management; Sustainable Aquaculture Development; Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management; Post-harvest and Safety of Fish and Fisheries Products; Sustainable Fish Trade/ Certification; Climate Change;

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EDITORIAL

During this quarter, SEAFDEC organized the 32nd SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting held back-to-back with the 12th FCG/ASSP Meeting, of which the focus was placed on scrutinizing the SEAFDEC programs implemented during the Year 2009 as well as those planned for 2010. Considering the close linkages between the issues under discussion by the Regional Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RAC) with the future SEAFDEC programming exercises, the recommendations from the 2nd RAC Meeting was also shared with the Program Committee.

SEAFDEC also organized the First Meeting of the Andaman Sea Sub-region, where discussions were made on the initiatives in ensuring long-term sustainable management of fisheries in the sub-region, *i.e.* management of fishing capacity, combating IUU fishing, and vessel registration, among others.

In addition, as SEAFDEC is planning to organize the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference "Fish for the People 2020" in June 2011, several preparatory processes are being undertaken by SEAFDEC were also discussed. These include consultations and discussions convened by Committee/Sub-Committees established for the Conference, as well as technical consultations that are envisaged to form the technical fundamentals for the Conference. It is also planned that the Press Conference for the Conference would be convened in the coming January 2010 to officially announce the Conference. ☒

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SEAFDEC takes progressive steps towards 2011 Conference

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Adaptation and Mitigation towards Food Security; Enhancement of Monitoring System on Social Aspects, Economy and Labour Mobility; and Integrated Inland Fisheries. The Conference would also come up with the policy framework and guiding principles in achieving sustainable fisheries for food security towards 2020. In addition, it is also expected that the participants would gain awareness on the importance of sustainable fisheries and food security,

and enhance the closer cooperation among ASEAN, SEAFDEC, Member Countries, as well as other regional/international organizations in enhancing the contribution of fisheries to food security in the years to come.

The Conference is tentatively scheduled on 13-17 June 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand. Further information could be obtained from www.ffp2020.org.



AQD assists in rural aquaculture training in the Philippines, Indonesia and Cambodia

AQD assisted in the conduct of human resource development (HRD) on-site training courses on rural aquaculture in three SEAFDEC member countries - Philippines, Indonesia and Cambodia. The training series is part of the SEAFDEC project on HRD for poverty alleviation and food security by fisheries intervention in the ASEAN Region funded by the Japan-ASEAN Solidarity Fund of the ASEAN Foundation. Graduates of the HRD training of trainers in aquaculture that was conducted by AQD in 2008 helped facilitate the training and demonstration sessions for small-scale fishers, farmers and other stakeholders in their respective countries.

In the Philippines, 21 trainees participated in the course on abalone farming held 28 September to 2 October in Catbalogan, Samar. The



On-site training course on rural aquaculture in Cambodia



On-site training course on rural aquaculture in Indonesia

course had lectures on abalone culture, socioeconomics and financial analysis, followed by hands-on and demonstration sessions. Other topics included siganid culture in cages, aquasilviculture, and identification of seaweeds. AQD staff Mr. Vincent Encena II and Ms. Dianne Hope Tormon were the resource persons while BFAR training center head Ronnie Berida provided the logistical support.

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AQD guests are from Malaysia, China and Micronesia

On 19-21 October, eleven visitors from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) dropped by AQD to tour the different facilities and explore possible fields for research collaboration. The group was composed of two professors and nine graduate and undergraduate students from the Faculty of Biosciences and Engineering of UTM led by Associate Professor Dr. Fahrul Zaman Huyop. The visitors were toured around the different facilities at AQD's Tigbauan and Dumangas stations. An informal poster exhibit was also held, which allowed UTM students to interact with AQD staff. The visitors also presented papers - Dr. Huyop's was on the use of 3-chloropropionic acid dehalogenase gene as selection marker for *Escherichia coli*; Mr. Salehuddin

Hamdan discussed the effect of effective microorganisms on catfish aquaculture, while Mr. Azzmer Azzar Abdul Hamid's paper was on the identification of *Pseudomonas sp.* strain S3 using PCR.

On 24 November, guests from the Freshwater Fisheries Research Centre (FFRC) of the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences (CAFS), composed of



FFRC Deputy Director Prof. Ge Xianping, Chief of Research & Development Prof. Zhu Jian, and Chief of External Relations Prof. Min Kuanhong, visited AQD. They discussed with AQD officials recent research developments at FFRC and AQD; transfer of new research technologies; and strategies on effective and efficient exchange of knowledge between the two institutions. The FFRC guests were particularly interested in carp culture.

On 9 November, Mr. Donald David, administrator of the Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Micronesia, toured AQD. Mr. David visited the facilities of Tigbauan and Dumangas stations, as well some private hatcheries within the vicinity. ✂

32nd SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting held back-to-back with the 12th FCG/ASSP Meeting

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order to come up with outcomes and recommendations from such activities, e.g. status and profile of the fishery resources in the particular areas/waters in the region, etc., as well as the possible impacts of such achievements to the fisheries development in the Member Countries. Moreover, departmental program, SEAFDEC shared also be enhanced in order that the benefits would trickle down not only countries hosting the departments but to the other member countries as well.

In addition to the program committee members from the respective Member Countries, the 32nd SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting was also participated in by representatives from regional/international organizations, i.e. the ASEAN Secretariat, the Colombo Plan Secretariat, and the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP), where the areas of mutual interests and possible collaboration were expressed and explored throughout the discussion and program scrutiny processes. It was therefore envisaged that the collaboration between SEAFDEC and other relevant organizations would be

further enhanced to contribute to the sustainable development of fisheries in the region.

From 19 to 20 November, SEAFDEC also organized the 12th Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) back to back with the 32nd SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting. The Meeting discussed the ASEAN-SEAFDEC programs under the FCG Mechanism which have been previously scrutinized by the SEAFDEC Program Committee during the earlier meeting.

In addition, the progress of other proposals implemented under the ASSP Framework were also presented and discussed. These include the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) Portal Website, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Cooperation in the Implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework, the ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF), the Climate Change and Its

Impacts on Fisheries and Aquaculture, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Cooperation in the Implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of the Fisheries Sector, and the ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASA).

Other policy considerations on issues of importance to the fisheries sector of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries were also discussed, i.e. those on Port-State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, CITES/COP15- Listing Proposal on Commercially Exploited Marine Species, and the issue on Fisheries Subsidies.

The outcomes from the 32nd Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee, and the 12th Meeting of the FCG/ASSP would be submitted to the 42nd Meeting of SEAFDEC Council and to the next Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries, respectively, for consideration and endorsement, as well as policy support in the implementation of future activities. ✂

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Collaborative research between TD and Partners

TD researchers joined the research and training cruise using the training ship T/S KOYO MARU of the National Fisheries University (NFU). The joint research and training cruise using the training ship T/S KOYO MARU of NFU of Japan was conducted by NFU, TD and the Research Institute for Marine Fishery Vietnam (RIMF), in the central part of Vietnam. The research cruise was in conjunction with the 15th training cruise of T/S KOYO MARU from 5 to 17 November 2009, which was originally provided for NFU students. Two TD researchers and two RIMF researchers participated in the joint research, which aimed to assess the distribution and abundance of small pelagic fishery resources by means of hydro-acoustic survey, particularly in the Exclusive Economic Zone

(EEZ). In addition, biological samplings by Mid-water trawl, Frame trawl (MOHT), Multiple Opening/Closing Net and Environmental Sampling System (MOCNESS), and oceanographic survey using the CTD and XBT were also undertaken to support the hydro-acoustic survey.

A total of 9 lines of hydro-acoustic surveys were conducted by using frequency 18, 38, 70 and 120 kHz and a total of 6 mid-water trawl operations were done mainly for collecting the adult fish, 6 MOHT operations were also done for collecting the larvae and juvenile fishes, and 6 MOCNESS operations were done mainly for collecting the planktons. For



Researchers from RIMF, SEAFDEC/TD and students of NFU participating in the joint research and training cruise using the T/S Koyo Maru

the oceanographic survey, a total of 27 CTD operations and 17 XBT operations were conducted. The result from the mid-water trawl showed that the small pelagic fishery resources are micronekton, especially the lantern fish and others such as the bluenose sea bass, black gemfish, Pacific barrelfish, the frigate tuna, and the oceanic squid. ❖

10th ISEP Meeting

From 12 to 14 October 2009, SEAFDEC Training Department hosted the Tenth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Information Staff Exchange Program (ISEP) in Ayutthaya Province, Thailand. The ISEP Meeting aimed to review the progress and discuss the future plan in the implementation of activities in line with the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication.



Since the adoption of the Information Strategies in 2006, SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments have made significant progress in the implementation of the SEAFDEC Information Strategies. Due to, some difficulties encountered in monitoring and documenting the status of implementation of the Information Strategies. The Meeting therefore discussed and agreed on certain areas that need improvements in

the Information Strategies. In addition, the Meeting also recommended that the revised Information Strategies should be used by the Secretariat and Departments as framework for the planning and implementation of information-related activities starting from 2010.

The ISEP Meeting also discussed the preparation and enhancement of the existing SEAFDEC information tools and activities, e.g. the SEAFDEC publications, websites, etc. In addition the new initiatives were also raised, e.g. the production of organizational video, the use of E-learning in enhancing HRD in fisheries, the promotional activities/materials for publicizing the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference 2011, etc. ❖



AQD joins Agrilink 2009 and Pinoy aquatic fair

AQD set up its booth to showcase its expertise, technologies, and information materials during the yearly Agrilink/Foodlink/Aqualink 2009 held at the World Trade Center - Manila on 8-10 October. AQD provided free consultation, and distributed publications at the fair, dubbed as the “most influential trade fair on agriculture, food and aquaculture” in the Philippines. AQD staff also gave seminars on koi (carp) breeding & farming and freshwater prawn & white shrimp farming.

In another fair, the Second Pinoy Aquatic Fair held 18 to 20 September in Quezon City, AQD was given an



award certificate for having the best aquatic technology (private sector). The fair was a project of the Agri Aqua Network International, Inc. (AANI) in collaboration with DA-BFAR, among others. ❖

TD promotes reducing post-harvest losses in fishing boats

TD promoted the transfer of appropriate technologies to reduce post-harvest losses in fishing boats. With the aim of maintaining the freshness and quality of tuna catch, the Fishery Marine Engineering Team of TD in collaboration with the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), visited General Santos in the Philippines from 30



October to 6 November 2009 to promote the improvement of fish holds onboard tuna longliners. Improved freezing system was installed in the tuna longliner and used as the model for further modification by BFAR as the case may be, in consultation with the tuna longline fishers. Consequently, in collaboration with DOF-Thailand, the Engineering Team of TD also went to Satun Province in Thailand on 7-14 December 2009 to introduce a chilling system for luring light squid fishing boats. The system will be used for on-site-training program of squid fishers in the future to reduce post-harvest losses. ❖

TD joins the resource survey with DOF, Thailand

SEAFDEC staff observed the undulated surf clam resource survey by dredge fishing onboard the EMDEC research vessel, the R/V Pramong 12, from 20 to 25 December 2009. The research was carried out as a collaborative effort between the Upper Gulf Marine Fisheries Research and Development Center (UMDEC) and the Eastern Marine Fisheries Research and Development Center (EMDEC) of Rayong Province, with the objective of investigating the undulated surf clam fishing ground around the coastal areas of Petchburi and Prachuab Kirikarn



Hauling operation of undulated surf clam dredge during the survey

Provinces. The observation was useful for SEAFDEC/TD in its effort to strengthen its research on mitigating the impacts of fishing activities to the ecosystem. ❖

Visits by the new SEAFDEC Secretary General to MFRDMD

The new SEAFDEC Secretary General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri made a courtesy call to SEAFDEC-MFRDMD and the Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DoFM) during his two days official visit to Malaysia after the closing of the SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. He visited MFRDMD on 22 November 2009 and the Department of Fisheries Malaysia in Putrajaya on 23 November 2009.

During his visit, he remarked that there have been a lot of developments and changes on the role of MFRDMD in implementing research activities in the Southeast Asian region. He also encouraged MFRDMD should continue implementing research programs and establishing international linkages and partnerships especially on sea turtles conservation. He hoped that with the continuing support, efforts and cooperation from all, MFRDMD will continue to contribute to the sustainable fisheries management of the resources, thus contributing towards both economic and social benefits to the fishery communities in this region.

Dr. Chumnarn reminded all the MFRDMD officers and staff of the need to strengthen the research program activities with regards to the basic objectives and strategies. He also advanced the need to protect and conserve our marine aquatic resources as they are nature’s gift, and that it is also important to ensure the life cycle of each aquatic species in their natural habitat will be conserved.

Besides the need to increase the incomes of the fishermen, there is also the important task of placing more effort on the need to maintain the ecosystem and natural habitats of these aquatic gifts. ❖

Tailor made training course for Ubonratchathani University

TD organized a six-day Tailor Made Training Course on Fishery Resource and Utilization in Estuarine from 26 to 31 October 2009 at the Training Department in Samut Prakarn, Thailand based on the request from Ubonratchathani University. The training course was opened on 27 October 2009 by Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, the SEAFDEC Secretary-General and TD Chief. Twenty students from Ubonratchathani University who are studying in fisheries participated in the training course.

The lectures focused on oceanography for fisheries, and fishery resources in estuarine and utilization. Moreover, practical fishing operation at sea was



Students from Ubonratchathani University observe and practice on bottom longline operations

also conducted for the students to gain new experience and develop skills in responsible fishing operations. ☒

TD establishes collaboration with NATC

On 23 November 2009, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, SEAFDEC Secretary-General and Chief of the SEAFDEC Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD), and Dr. Muhamad Sopian bin Johar, Director of the National Agriculture Training Council (NATC) Malaysia, signed the Agreed Minutes on the Technical and Training Collaboration between SEAFDEC/TD and NATC.



Exchange of the Agreed Minutes between SEAFDEC and NATC

NATC is a government agency under the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry of Malaysia. The Agreed Minutes, which was the result of the discussion between TD and NATC on 26-27 October 2009, included the possible areas of collaboration in the field of capture fisheries training and technical assistance for the development of the Schools of Fisheries under the College of Agriculture Malaysia. Specifically, the HRD activities for NATC would focus in the development of a "Train the Trainers" program in the areas of: i)

fishing gear technology; ii) navigation; iii) marine engineering; iv) post-harvest technology; v) food technology; and vi) aquaculture. In addition, other relevant areas which could also be covered in future collaboration were also discussed between NATC and SEAFDEC/TD, e.g. audio-visual and media development, fisheries management, fishery resources enhancement, fishery extension methodology, oceanography, fisheries information system and database development, simulator systems in capture fisheries, among others. ☒

AQD researchers garner best paper awards

Congratulations to AQD researchers for receiving recognition of their hard work. During the 2009 DA-BAR National Research Symposium last 9 October in Quezon City, AQD researcher Ms. Maria Rovilla Luhan and technical assistant Ms. Hannaniah Sollesta were given the AFMA (Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act) Best Paper Award (basic research category) for their work on growing the reproductive cells (carpospores) of the seaweed,

Kappaphycus striatum, in the laboratory until outplanting in the field and maturation to tetrasporophyte.

Also honored were Dr. Yolanda Garcia of UP Los Baños and her co-author, AQD associate scientist Dr. Nerissa Salayo, for their paper on the role of infrastructure developments on market price formation of major aquaculture species in the Philippines. It won them the Best R&D Paper (socioeconomics category). ☒

AQD assists in rural aquaculture training in the Philippines, Indonesia and Cambodia

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In Indonesia, 15 trainees attended the course on catfish culture given by AQD researchers Dr. Ma. Lourdes Aralar and Ms. Antonietta Evangelista. The course was held in Boyolali Regency, Central Java from 20 to 24 October, and focused on seed production and grow-out of the Dumbo catfish. The Indonesian Departmen Kelautan dan Perikanan (Ministry of Marine Affairs

and Fisheries) helped organize and facilitate the course.

Meanwhile, in Cambodia, 20 persons took part in the course covering nursery and grow-out of high value fish species such as grouper, snapper and seabass. Coordinated by Mr. Neang Sovuthdy of the Cambodian Fisheries Administration (FiA). The course was held in Tomnok

Rolok, Sihanoukville from 11 to 17 November. AQD researcher Didi Baticados and AQD's Igang Station Head Mr. Albert Gaitan were the resource persons. Additional topics discussed included disease management, marketing of aquaculture products and participatory resource assessment. ☒

Cooperation between SEAFDEC and University in Japan

The T/S Koyo Maru, a training vessel of National Fishery University (NFU) of Japan was docked at the TD pier from 25 to 30 November 2009. On this occasion, the signing ceremony of the arrangement for academic and educational cooperation between SEAFDEC and the NFU was arranged on 27 November 2009. The Arrangement of Cooperation between SEAFDEC and the NFU has been on going since 2005 and considering that such arrangement would end in early

2010, SEAFDEC and NFU mutually agreed to renew the cooperation for another five years from 2010 to 2015



while the T/S. Koyo Maru was in the Southeast Asian waters. Moreover, on 26 November 2009, NFU students and staff visited TD and were given a tour of the TD training facilities especially in the fishing simulator room, fishing workshop, engine simulator room and the M.V. SEAFDEC. ❏

Visitors from the Fishery National University of Japan observe TD facilities

Training course for fishery college students

The SEAFDEC Training Department in collaboration with the Vocational Education Commission of Thailand organized a four-month Training Course on Fishing Vessel Operation from 6 October 2009 to 26 February 2010. Sixteen students from Tinsulanonda Fisheries College, Songkhla Province attended the Training Course on Fishing Vessel Operation at TD in Samut Prakarn, which was opened by Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, the Secretary-General and Training Department Chief of SEAFDEC on 6 October 2009. The training course, which aimed to provide skills to students and share experiences which they can use for their work in the future, consisted of six subjects, namely: Ship Construction and Stability, Marine



Communication, Laws and Regulations of Navigation, Navigation Technology Practices, Marine Machinery Technology and Practices, Fishing Gears Technology and Practices. Moreover, as part of their practical training, the students took part in the hands-on practice onboard the M.V. SEAFDEC and M.V. Plalung, and went on a study tour as part of the course. ❏

Human resource development for university students

TD organized the University Students Training Course on Utilization and Sustainable Fishery Resource from 12 to 22 October 2009 at the Training Department in Samut Prakarn, with



University students operate collapsible crab trap on M.V.Plalung

45 students in fisheries from seven universities attending the training course. The training course aimed to develop the skills of the students in responsible fishing operations. As part of the training course, the students participated in the study tour and studied the various aspects of the utilization of fishery resources and sustainable development. Moreover, practical sessions on fishing operations using gill net, collapsible crab trap and oceanography were done at sea in Rayong Province. TD hopes that the students can apply the new experience from the training course to their work in the future. ❏

Survey on fishing gear that claimed sea turtle by catch

TD in collaboration with MFRDMD and the Eastern Marine Development Center of Thailand carried out a survey on small-scale fishing gear and practices that possibly contribute to sea turtles mortality along the coast of Rayong Province, Eastern Gulf of Thailand, from 1 to 4 December 2009. Results of



EMDEC staff trying to convince some local fishermen to reveal some information on large-mesh bottom gill net

the survey revealed that large-meshed bottom gill net and sting ray longline are considered as the main causes of the sea turtles mortality. In this regard, TD plans to strengthen its collaboration with agencies concerned on sea turtle by-catch including the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) of Thailand, the DOF of Thailand and local fishers, considering that reducing sea turtle by-catch will be one of the activities which TD would continue to pursue in 2010. ❏

SPECIAL REPORT

Addressing International Fisheries Related-issues: The Role of SEAFDEC in Supporting the Southeast Asian Countries

by Somboon Siriraksophon, Policy and Program Coordinator of SEAFDEC

Since the beginning of the 1990s, the international community has made several attempts to enhance and develop the legal framework for fisheries management as laid down in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982 Convention). Such attempts have included the 1992 Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development; the 1993 Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas (Compliance Agreement); the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (Code of Conduct); the 1995 Rome Consensus on World Fisheries; the 1995 Kyoto Declaration and Plan of Action on the Sustainable Contribution of Fisheries to Food Security (Kyoto Declaration and Plan of Action); the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provision of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stock (UN Fish Stocks Agreement); and the 2001 International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IPOA-IUU), which is a voluntary instrument that applies to all States and entities and to all fishers. These measures focus on all State responsibilities, flag State responsibilities, coastal State measures, port State measures, internationally agreed market-related measures, research and regional fisheries management organizations.



Moreover, international fish trade is one of areas where related issues such as traceability, certification, labeling, fisheries subsidies, and welfare of fishing crew and fishing labor could affect the sustainable development of fisheries and aquatic resources in the region. While the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) had endorsed a set of technical guidelines intended to promote responsible international trade in fish and fishery products, it also calls on governments to take a number of steps “to ensure that international trade in fish and fishery products does not compromise the sustainable development of fisheries and responsible utilization of living aquatic resources.” However, international fish trade seems to involve a more complex negotiation between the importers and exporters, making it sometimes difficult for States to make international trading “transparent and in accordance with internationally agreed rules” as called for by the FAO. In 2007, The World’s exports of fish reached 92 billion US Dollars. During that same year, the total world production of fish was 145 million tons of which about 38% or 55 million tons was exported. Considering that a big chunk of the fish production comes from the developing countries including the Southeast Asian region, it is therefore no wonder that issues on trade in fish and fishery products could really impact the sustainable development of fisheries in many countries of this region.



SEAFDEC Ad-hoc Meeting of Shark Experts in the Southeast Asia

To date, the fishery issues generally referred to in the aforementioned instruments as well as those related to fish trade include excess fleet capacity; by-catch and discards; monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of fishing vessels; measures to enhance data collection; and application of the



precautionary approach. The increasing attention and the number of discourses on fisheries issues by the international society have been focused on one hand, on the need for greater attention by policy makers and administrators to address how sustainable development of fisheries could be better achieved through rationale/responsible utilization and improved management. On the other hand, concerns have been registered to a number of issues and the direction of the discussions, considering that many of such issues are being addressed by a wide range of international fora/agencies, which, in many cases, have no competence in fisheries, and thus, could be perceived as “disguised” trade distortions. It is therefore important that the countries in Southeast Asia are fully aware of such movements and should be prepared to put in place measures to address such issues in order to complement to, without creating unnecessary confusion and obstacles to, the on-going regional efforts in achieving sustainable fisheries development through improved management practices. In addition, addressing such fisheries issues should not be made in isolation and should consider all the relevant linking factors in the fisheries development arena.


To address the international fisheries and fish trade related issues, the SEAFDEC Council and the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) adopted in 2007, a new modality for regional cooperation in addressing international fisheries issues. The modality outlines roles and functions of Parties concerned, recognizing the strong leadership of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries with support from SEAFDEC as well as the mechanism for cooperation. Since then, SEAFDEC has provided a forum through the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation on the International Fisheries and Fish Trade-related Issues, in order to discuss the global situation and policies/directions, which could have impact one way or another, on the fisheries development of the region. The Consultation also aims to promote the formulation of a regional coordinated positions on the respective international fisheries and fish

trade-related issues including emerging issues, that could be given due consideration in future formulations of relevant international instruments. Furthermore, an executive report of the Consultation is submitted to the SEAFDEC Council of Directors and the ASWGFi on an annual basis as stipulated in the new modality. The executive report summarizes the background and context of the identified issues together with policy considerations/ recommendations, and most importantly, the proposed common coordinated positions of the Member Countries for each respective issue.

Currently, many issues related to international measures and fish trade including environment-related and emerging issues are of main interest by the Southeast Asian countries. These include issues related to the Implementation of the EC Regulation to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate IUU Fishing; the FAO Legally-binding Instruments on Port State Measures (PSM) for Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing; the proposed listing of aquatic species into the CITES Appendices; the WTO Fishery Subsidies Negotiations;



FAO Aquaculture Certification; Climate change-Fisheries, among others. Through the ASEAN Modality for Regional Cooperation in addressing international fisheries related issues, SEAFDEC will work closely with the Member Countries in order that the issues are properly discussed and would assist the Member Countries in developing the common coordinated positions to safeguard and promote regional common interests, and ensure the sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture in the region. Furthermore, SEAFDEC would also support the Member Countries in putting forward such common coordinated positions during relevant international fora.

For further information can contact directly to Dr.Somboon Siriraksophon, Policy and Program Coordinator of SEAFDEC at e-mail: somboon@seafdec.org 

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

CFM and extension training course in the region

TD organized the International Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management (CFM) and Extension Methodology from 24 November to 17 December 2009 at Training Department, Samutprakan, Thailand. It is widely recognized that small-scale and coastal fisheries are crucial in ensuring food security for people in the region, and are important sources of livelihood for rural and coastal communities, but fish stocks and other coastal resources are under immense pressure due to over-fishing caused by high fishing pressure and open access, environmental degradation and habitat destruction taking a toll on fish populations and other coastal resources. Fast growing population, economic and industrial development, urban growth and tourism are among the many factors that are in conflict in the coastal areas. Responsible coastal fisheries management as one component

of integrated coastal management is therefore being promoted by SEAFDEC. In this regard, fisheries and coastal resource managers need to facilitate consensus building processes between the growing numbers of various agents active in coastal areas.

While taking up the aforementioned challenges, the Training Department (TD) which is committed to assist the SEAFDEC Member Countries in



On site study trip in Chumphon Province, Thailand

building up and developing capacity for integrated coastal management approaches, organized a 27-day training course on Coastal Fisheries Management and Extension Methodology. The training course was attended by 20 fisheries extension officers from SEAFDEC member countries and non-member countries such as Sri Lanka and Maldives. The course focused on the innovative approaches to coastal fisheries management, essential skills for small-scale and coastal fisheries management, media production, excursion and other related activities. The training is envisaged to expand the participants' skills beyond traditional fisheries management concepts and provide them with the mediation, facilitation and conflict resolution skills needed to become agents of responsible coastal change. ✕

AQD conducts training on abalone, milkfish, algae, fish health, marine fish and seaweeds

Seven training courses were conducted by AQD from October to November. The trainees included a Tanzanian, a Singaporean, two Malaysians, and Filipino nationals from the government and private sectors.

From 5 to 16 October, four staff from the Southern Negros Coastal Development Management Council (SNCDMC) in Negros Occidental, Philippines underwent a 12-day Special training course on abalone hatchery and grow-out. The trainees attended

comprehensive lectures on abalone biology, aquaculture, feeding, and economics, as well as intensive practical sessions in the actual hatchery and grow-out operations. The training course is part of SNCDMC's livelihood diversification program, which involves the establishment of abalone farms as well as seaweed farming and pen culture of mud crabs in mangroves.

From 8 to 9 October and 26 to 27 October, a total of 122 fisherfolk from four communities in Guimaras attended the last two modules of their season-long training course on milkfish farming. The early October module was on fish health management, fish cage culture, business planning, financial analysis, and cooperatives; while the late October one covered post-harvest and marketing. The closing ceremony of the course was held on 10 December where the fisherfolk were given the profits of their training-demonstration milkfish cage culture



amounting to US\$ 490. The training is part of the Petron-Citi-AQD project for oil-spill affected villages.

From 9 to 13 November, the training on isolation techniques for algae was attended by two staff from a Cebu-based feed company while a Tanzanian national, Ms. Salome Shayo, underwent a month-long course on fish health management that started 9 November. Topics in the latter course were disease development in aquaculture, viral diseases, bacterial diseases, fungal diseases, cell culture
(To be continued on Page 13)



AQD presents papers at international gatherings

From 27 September to 2 October, AQD researcher Dr. Nerissa Salayo attended the UNITAR workshop in Hiroshima, Japan together with DENR Region V Director Felix Mendoza. They presented the results of the UNITAR-Bannai Small Grants project at AQD and DENR, that is, the two training workshops on sea and human security that were held in Masbate City and Culasi, Antique in 2009. The UNITAR panel commended the practical application of the project activities and its linkage to the integrated coastal management being promoted.

On 3-6 November, researcher Ms. Jocelyn Ladja represented AQD to the Asia-Pacific Aquaculture Conference held at Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Ms. Ladja presented her paper on the Nursery culture of Asian seabass *Lates calcarifer* in cages in pond: evaluation of diets for growth, survival, protein efficiency and

feed conversion ratios. The event was hosted by the Malaysian Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro Based Industries and organized by the Asia-Pacific chapter of the World Aquaculture Society, Malaysia Fisheries Society and University Putra Malaysia.

On 8-12 November, AQD scientist Dr. Emilia Qunitio participated in the International symposium on aquaculture biology, and management of commercially important crabs (ISABMC) at Shanghai Ocean University, Shanghai, China. Dr. Qunitio presented a paper on the domestication of mud crab *Scylla serrata* which she co-authored with Dr. Ma. Rowena Eguia, Dr. Fe Dolores Estepa, Ms. Joana Joy dela Cruz, Mr. Eduard Rodriguez, and Mr. Gaudioso Pates. As a scientific committee member of the ISABMC, Dr. Qunitio chaired and co-chaired sessions on genetics & breeding and hatchery & larval culture, respectively.

On 23-27 November, AQD participated in the East Asian seas congress held in Manila. Present during the event were AQD Chief Dr. Joebert Toledo, scientist Dr. Ma. Rowena Eguia, associate scientist Dr. Nerissa Salayo, and training & information head Mr. Renato Agbayani. The congress was organized by Partnership in the Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA).

From 27 to 30 November, AQD training head Ms. Kaylin Corre and development communication head Ms. Milagros Castaños represented AQD in the International Symposium on Aquaculture & Fisheries Education (ISAFE) held in Pathumthani, Thailand. Ms. Corre and Ms. Castaños, who made the trip with support from AquaFish CRSP and AQD, gave an oral presentation on “Experiential learning and book development: the case of SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department.”

Resource enhancement in Lao PDR

SEAFDEC/TD in collaboration with the Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Lao PDR organized a stakeholder consultative workshop to discuss and define the principles, criteria and proper ways of strengthening local/indigenous institutions in Nam Ngum Reservoir at Koe Oudom District, Vientiane Province on 12-15 October 2009. The objectives of the workshop were to strengthen fishing community organizations and institutions for the fishermen to take the leading role in practicing right-based fisheries and co-management for inland fisheries management and to establish fish conservation zone through co-management at Nam Ngum Reservoir. The meeting agreed to establish the fish conservation zones as demarcated identified by the groups of fishermen from 4 villages. Agreement of the demarcation was made among the fishermen groups and each group of fishermen was requested to be

responsible for surveillance, patrol and control in the fish conservation area. A bottom topography survey was made prior to the marked buoys installation during 10-12 November 2009 to locate the proper depths and areas. Preparation of the materials was made by SEAFDEC and transported to the Nam Ngum Reservoir. The marked buoy for the fish conservation zones was installed in Nam

Ngum Reservoir, Lao PDR on 21-25 December 2009.

The installation of a total of 28 marked buoys to demarcate the fish conservation zones, namely: Ban Donchai Udom, Ban Hmai, Ban Hauy Prung and Ban Sangsawang has been successfully carried out in collaboration with the SEAFDEC staff, the Fishery officers from the Department of Livestock and Fisheries of Lao PDR and the local fishermen. Official declaration of the demarcated fish conservation areas would be made by the local government, while further activities and management in each zone would be discussed and finalized afterwards.



The marked buoy for the fish conservation zones to be installed in Nam Ngum Reservoir, Lao PDR

Co-management training course

The Regional Training Course on Co-management Using Group User Rights for Enhancing Small-scale Fisheries Development and Management was organized from 26 October to 4 November 2009 at the Training Department in Samut Prakarn, Thailand. The Training Course was opened on 26 October 2009 by Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, the SEAFDEC Secretary-General and TD Chief. Ten participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam attended the training course. The training is envisaged to strengthen the capacity of fisheries officials to comprehensively implement and promote co-management using group user rights in the development of their respective small-scale fisheries and institution management. The training course covers lectures and preparation



Participants discussed with local fisherman on co-management during the study trip

of research proposal design on co-management including field study trip to areas that practice co-management, as well as areas having small-scale fisheries or community fisheries institutions. The expected outputs of this training included the enhanced understanding of the regional guidelines of coastal fisheries management for application in actual practice in the ASEAN Member Countries and strengthened participants' capacity in using the guidelines in the development of small-scale fisheries and institutions for coastal fisheries management. ☒

SEAFDEC takes part in the development of aquaculture statistics handbook and Regional Workshop on aquaculture statistics

On 10-18 November 2009, Ms. Saivason Klinsukhon represented the SEAFDEC Secretariat in the drafting exercise for the Coordinating Parties on Fishery Statistics (CWP) Handbook on Standards of Aquaculture Statistics and the Regional Workshop on Capacity Building Need for Improving Aquaculture Statistics and Data Collection in Asia. The two events were jointly conducted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) in Halong Bay, Vietnam, and were attended by participants from several Asia-Pacific countries, as well as the experts and officers from the international/regional fisheries organizations.

The main focus of the events include identifying the potential data needs to support effective management and sustainable development of aquaculture, indicating the standard classifications for aquaculture statistics, providing advice on possible data sources and data collection procedures, and identifying the minimum requirements of national aquaculture statistics in order to create comparable statistics between neighboring countries, and enable regional and global analysis on the status and trends in aquaculture. In addition, the Meeting also encouraged the integrated use of databases and information, as well as the sharing of data collection and experiences in the data collection and record from various groups of stakeholders. ☒



Participants of the Regional Workshop on Capacity Building Need for Improving Aquaculture Statistics and Data Collection in Asia

AQD specialists conduct prawn training in Brunei

AQD researchers Dr. Ma. Rowena Eguia and Mr. Manuel Laron conducted an on-site training on breeding and larval rearing of freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* in Negara, Brunei Darussalam. The training was held at Sg Jambu Fish Farm from 12 October to 14 November. The 25 trainees attending were Brunei Fisheries Department staff and local fisheries vocational school faculty.

Brunei Fisheries Department Director Yang Mulia Hajah Hasnah Ibrahim expressed their need for AQD's technical assistance on freshwater aquaculture technologies and their plans for the Sg Jambu Fish Farm to become a lead center for aquaculture training, production, and research of freshwater species in Brunei Darussalam. ☒

Cooperation Workshop with FAO

TD in cooperation with FAO organized the 2nd Workshop on the Assessment of Fishery Stock Status, and Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards in Trawl Fisheries. As part of a global effort to improve information on the state of the fishery resources, FAO and SEAFDEC jointly organized the 2nd Workshop on the Assessment of Fishery Stock Status from 5 to 9 October 2009, to identify and develop the methodologies that are better suited and applicable to conditions of high uncertainty and poor data availability, thereby contributing to an improved knowledge base for fisheries management at the national level. The Workshop was attended by 34 participants from 10 countries, SEAFDEC, the Worldfish Centre and FAO. Moreover, the FAO/GEF Inception Workshop on Bycatch Management

and Reduction of Discards in Trawl Fisheries (REBYV II) was organized at the Training Department, Thailand from 3 to 6 November 2009. This was meant as a follow-up activity of the FAO/UNEP/GEF Project on Reduction of Environmental Impact from Tropical Shrimp Trawling through the Introduction of Bycatch Reduction Technologies and Change of Management (REBYC I) which was implemented from 2002 to 2003 with the Philippines and Indonesia as the participating countries and SEAFDEC serving as the project's collaborating partner. The objectives and expected outputs of the Workshop will be the follow-up project on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards in Trawl Fisheries (REBYC II) ❖

AQD conducts training on abalone, milkfish, algae, fish health, marine fish and seaweeds

(Continued from Page 10)

based detection/titer assay of virus, disease prevention and control, and nutritional diseases.

From 3 to 14 November, a specialized training course on Grouper and pompano seed production was conducted for a Singaporean national, Mr. Govindasamy Prabhagar. Lecture topics included broodstock management and spawning, larval rearing, feed formulation and preparation, diseases of marine fish, and disease prevention and control. In addition, Mr. Prabhagar also trained on milkfish deboning and on freshwater aquaculture.



Review of GOJ-TF funded projects at AQD

On 9-10 December, the Annual progress meeting of Government of Japan-Trust Fund programs in AQD was held in Iloilo. A total of 32 studies comprising three projects were evaluated during the meeting.

The three projects were (1) Development of fish disease surveillance system; (2) Development of technologies and human capacity building for sustainable aquaculture; and (3) Stock enhancement for threatened species of international concern.

Dr. Motohiko Sano and Dr. Koichi Okuzawa of the Fisheries Research Agency (Japan) evaluated the projects. Mr. Tadahiro Kawata from the SEAFDEC Secretariat was also present to give his comments. Participants included scientists and research staff from AQD, University of the Philippines Visayas, the Department of Fisheries Administration (Cambodia), Department of Fisheries (Myanmar), Research Institute for Aquaculture 2 and 3 (Vietnam), Research Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture (Indonesia), and Inland Aquatic Animal Health Research Institute (Thailand). ❖



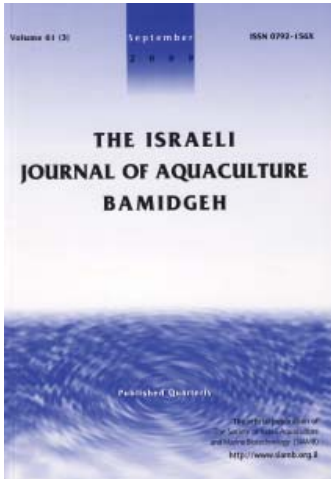
The Annual progress meeting of Government of Japan-Trust Fund programs in AQD

From 16 to 23 November, seven Filipinos and two Malaysians took part in the international training course on Seaweed farming. Training fees of the two Malaysians and one Filipino were shouldered by the GOJ-Trust Fund. The participants were able to learn from lectures and hands-on sessions, which included an overview of the seaweed industry; taxonomy and identification of *Kappaphycus* and *Gracilaria*; cultivation, disease, crop management and post-harvest; land-based nursery management; economics of seaweed farming; and preparation of feasibility study. ❖

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Date	Venue	Title	Organizer
2010			
4-8 January	Binangonan, Philippines	Training Course on Tilapia Hatchery & Grow-out Operations	AOD
18-22 January	Samut Prakarn, Thailand	Regional Training/Workshop on Identification of Deep-Sea Fish	TD
19-21 January	Bangkok, Thailand	Regional Technical Consultation on Fishery Information and Statistics	Secretariat
26-27 January	Bangkok, Thailand	Regional Seminar on Integrated Coastal Resources Management Approach in southeast Asia: Review on Project ICRM-SV	TD
2-4 February	Bangkok, Thailand	Regional Technical Consultation on International Fisheries-Related Issues 2010	Secretariat
5 February	Bangkok, Thailand	Technical Sub-Committee Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020	Secretariat
8-19 February	Samut Prakarn, Thailand	Short-term Training Program on Marine Fisheries Resource Surveys, Stock Assessment and Co-management in Thailand	TD
15-19 February	Rome , Italy	Technical Consultation on the Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification	FAO
15-26 February	Binangonan, Philippines	Training Course on Carp Hatchery & Grow-out Operations	AOD
22-26 February	Tasmania, Australia	23 rd Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) and 6 th Session of FIRM Steering Committee	FAO
8 - 6 March	Tigbauan, Iloilo, Philippines	Training Course on Cage/Pond Culture of Selected Marine Species	AOD
13-25 March	Doha, Qatar	15 th Meeting of Conference of the Parties of the Convention on International trade in Endangered species of world Flora and Fauna	COP-CITES
15-19 March	Binangonan, Philippines	Training Course on Freshwater Prawn Hatchery & Grow-out Operations	AOD
17-19 March	Bangkok, Thailand	Regional Technical Consultation on Aquaculture	AOD
22-26 March	Chiangmai, Thailand	2 nd Regional Technical Consultation on the Promotion of "One Village, One Fisheries Products" (FOVOP) in the ASEAN Region	Secretariat
5-9 April	Luang Prabang, Lao PDR	42 nd Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council	Secretariat
6-13 April	Tigbauan, Iloilo, Philippines	Training Course on Mangrove Ecology, Taxonomy & Community Structure	AOD
12-16 April	Binangonan, Philippines	Training Course on Catfish Hatchery and Grow-out Operations	AOD
14 April-5 May	Tigbauan, Iloilo, Philippines	Training Course on Crab Hatchery & Grow-out	AOD
20-23 April	Samut Prakarn, Thailand	2 nd Regional Technical Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats	TD
26-30 April	Buenos Aires, Argentina	12 th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade	FAO
17 May-4 June	Binangonan, Philippines	Training Course on Freshwater Aquaculture	AOD
20-22 May	Bangkok, Thailand	11 th INFOFISH World Tuna Trade Conference & Exhibition	INFOFISH
26 May-1 July	Tigbauan, Iloilo, Philippines	Training Course on Marine Fish Hatchery	AOD
9-12 June	Bangkok, Thailand	Global Conference on Aquaculture	FAO
14-18 June	Bangkok, Thailand	5 th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture	FAO

New conference proceedings



The Israeli Journal of Aquaculture Vol. 61, No. 3 was entirely dedicated to the Proceedings of the SEAFDEC International Workshop on Emerging Fish Diseases in Asia, which was held last 6-7 December 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand. The issue was guest-edited by AQD scientist Dr. Gilda Lio-Po. ✕

The First Meeting of the Andaman Sea Sub-region

(Continued from Page 16)

The Meeting agreed that a network on *Refugia* should be initiated for the Andaman Sea Sub-region taking into consideration the refugia network of the ASEAN under the UNEP/GEF/South China Sea Project, the efforts of India (in the Andaman-Nicobar Islands) as well as those of BOBLME and MFF in the development of refugia in the Andaman Sea area. Moreover, the Meeting agreed that the MCS Network should be developed for the Andaman Sea Sub-region, where each relevant country should identify the institutions working on M, C and S, respectively and provide information on the relevant laws and regulations. From such information, the common concern, concept, practice or common legal framework would be synthesized to form a basis for the development of the MCS Network for the Andaman Sea Sub-region. The Meeting was further informed that at the onset of this SEAFDEC-Sida Project, efforts could be built upon information exchange and capacity building under joint arrangements (cross-country) or individual countries as the case may be. Through the establishment of focal points (focal persons) from the participants (participating countries) in this First Meeting, efforts should be made to provide inputs into the matrix for the M, C, and S as well as on the forms provided during the Meeting. Such inputs would be used as working documents during the series of on-site training sessions which could be conducted at the provincial, national and sub-regional levels. ✕

Note for contributors

The SEAFDEC Newsletter publishes quarterly news on all aspects of fisheries in Southeast Asia. The Editors reserve the right to accept and/or abridge articles based on available space. Anyone wishing to submit an article to the SEAFDEC Newsletter is requested to send it to the Editor in Chief or Editors at the given addresses.

Information in this Newsletter may be quoted only if reference is made to SEAFDEC.

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The First Meeting of the Andaman Sea Sub-region

The First Meeting of the Andaman Sea Sub-region was organized by SEAFDEC with support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) in Phuket, Thailand from 20 to 22 October 2009. The Meeting was attended by representatives from the relevant countries in the Andaman Sea Sub-region, namely: India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Thailand as well as representatives from the collaborating partners for the SEAFDEC-Sida Project on the development and management of fisheries in the Andaman Sea Sub-region such as the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project, Food and Agriculture Organization Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP), International Collective in Support of Fish Workers (ICSF), Mangrove for the Future (MFF) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Asia Regional Office, and the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SBF).

The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri noted the need to supplement regional management mechanisms for the whole ASEAN with arrangements at sub-regional levels in order to better address area-specific issues such as habitats, fish species and trans-boundary potential conflicts and opportunities.

The meeting aimed to provide a venue to explore options to lay the foundation for the introduction of larger fisheries resources conservation areas (refugias) and the protection against natural hazards built up around the Andaman Sea; capacity strengthened and system improved to monitor, record and

control active fishing effort as basis for development for coordinated plans for management actions on fishing capacity around the Andaman Sea and among ASEAN-SEAFDEC member countries; to provide support to policy development and the process to establish a regional fisheries management mechanism and sub-regional agreements for/in the ASEAN region including reached consensus on key issues of regional concern such as habitat management, fishing capacity, IUU fisheries, vessel registration, among others.

The meeting was very important to deliver a great deal in fisheries management around the Andaman Sea region to achieve long-term sustainability of fisheries and reduced vulnerability to impacts of climate change. During the meeting, the participants discussed on how to follow up and build upon local initiatives and to share experiences on good practices among Local Governments, Districts, People's committees, Community Fisheries, etc., as applicable in countries around the region.



Participants of the First Meeting of the Andaman Sea Sub-region

(To be continued on Page 15)

Japanese Trust Fund II Program on 'Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries' End-of-Activity Workshop on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for Traditional Products Processing Establishments (TPE), 6-7 October 2009, Singapore

The End-of-Activity (EOA) Workshop on GMP for TPE was successfully conducted from 6 to 7 October 2009 in Singapore. A total of 25 participants comprising of two participants from each ASEAN member country, MFRD staff and the Assistant Japanese Trust Fund Manager from the SEAFDEC Secretariat participated in the workshop.

The two-day workshop program included presentations on GMP developed by ASEAN member countries for their selected TPE and case studies on GMP implementation in Pre-Processing

Establishments (PPE) or TPE in ASEAN Member Countries. The workshop also held discussions on the GMP drafts which would be considered for the publication of the handbook on GMP for TPE. ☒



Participants of the Workshop on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for Traditional Products Processing Establishments