

**REPORT OF THE FORTIETH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**Bali, Indonesia
7-10 April 2008**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At the invitation of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia, the Fortieth Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was held from 7 to 10 April 2008 in Bali, Indonesia.

2. The Meeting was attended by the Council Directors for Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam together with their respective delegations. The SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, SEAFDEC Department Chiefs and senior officials of SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments also attended the Meeting. The Meeting was also attended by the observers from the ASEAN Secretariat, the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP), and the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SBF). The representative of the official auditors of SEAFDEC also attended the Meeting. The list of participants appears as **Annex 1**.

1.1 Inaugural Ceremony

3. The Inaugural Ceremony of the Fortieth Meeting of SEAFDEC Council was held on 7 April 2008, and was presided over by Prof. Dr. Widi Agoes Pratikto, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia.

4. The SEAFDEC Council Director and Director-General of the Fisheries Administration of Cambodia, Mr. Nao Thuok, in his capacity as the outgoing Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council, welcomed the participants to the Meeting. He congratulated SEAFDEC for the major accomplishments made during the year 2007, which also marked the 40th anniversary of the Center. He then expressed his sincere gratitude to the other Council Directors as well as the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments for their support during his Chairmanship of the SEAFDEC Council in 2007. His Statement appears as **Annex 2**.

5. The Director-General of Aquaculture, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia, Dr. Made Nurdjana, welcomed all Council Directors and participants of the Meeting. He congratulated SEAFDEC for the achievements in promoting responsible fisheries in Southeast Asia, which have been globally recognized when SEAFDEC was awarded the Margarita Lizárraga Medal by FAO in November 2007. He then emphasized the importance of fisheries and aquaculture activities specifically in Indonesia, and encouraged SEAFDEC to implement activities to support fisheries development and address the declining fishery resources, particularly the initiatives to combat IUU fishing and promotion of the Coral Reef Triangle Conservation initiatives. He then expressed his appreciation to the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia for providing support to the arrangements of the 40th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. His Welcome Remarks appears as **Annex 3**.

6. In his opening remarks, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia extended his warm welcome to the Council Members and the delegates to the Council Meeting. He expressed appreciation to SEAFDEC for the implementation of several activities to ensure sustainable fisheries in the region. While highlighting the success and accomplishments of SEAFDEC in promoting responsible fisheries, he emphasized the need for regional cooperation to further combat IUU fishing in order to achieve sustainable fisheries. He

also acknowledged the efforts of SEAFDEC in addressing international fisheries related issues, and identified some other important issues which SEAFDEC could also explore the possibility of providing assistance to the Member Countries to tackle such issues. He then expressed his appreciation to all committee members involved in the preparatory works for this Council Meeting. He declared the Fortieth Meeting of SEAFDEC Council open. His Opening Remarks appears as **Annex 4**.

1.2 Election of the Chairman

7. The Council Director for Indonesia was unanimously elected the in-coming Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council for the year 2008.

1.3 Adoption of the Agenda

8. The Council adopted the Agenda of the Meeting, which appears as **Annex 5**.

II. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

9. The Council welcomed Dr. Made Nurdjana, as the new Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council, and expressed its appreciation to Mr. Nao Thuok, the Council Director for Cambodia for his Chairmanship and contribution to SEAFDEC during the year 2007 which has brought several significant achievements to the Center. The Council also welcomed Dr. Wimol Jantarotai as the new Alternate Council Director for Thailand; and approved the reappointment of Mr. Hideki Tsubata as the Deputy Chief of the Training Department and concurrently the Deputy Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, the appointment of Ms. Hajah Mahyam Mohd. Isa as the Chief of the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD), and the re-appointment of Dr. Joebert Toledo, as the Chief of the Aquaculture Department (AQD).

10. The Council acknowledged with appreciation the accomplishments of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments during the year 2007 which have contributed to sustainable development of fisheries in Southeast Asia as presented by the Secretary-General and the respective Department Chiefs. The Council then approved the SEAFDEC Annual Report 2007 for publication and dissemination.

11. The Council Director for Myanmar informed the Meeting that Myanmar is proposing to nominate a representative as member of the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) to be stationed at SEAFDEC Secretariat in order to strengthen the capacity of the officer and facilitate sharing of experiences with other Member Countries.

III. NOTE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE ON THE RESULT OF THE THIRTIETH MEETING

12. The Council took note of the outcome of the Thirtieth Meeting of Program Committee (**Annex 6**) held from 26 to 28 November 2007 in Iloilo, the Philippines, as presented by the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of the Program Committee.

13. While also noting that several programs, i.e. Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries, Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries, and Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries, may no longer be continued in 2008 due to budgetary constraints, the Council requested SEAFDEC to secure funds in the future to support programs that contribute to food safety and food security.

14. The Council also suggested that in addition to the programs previously scrutinized by the Program Committee, other emerging challenges should also be addressed by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries, i.e. finding alternative technologies/approaches that would reduce the impact of the increasing prices of several commodities such as fuel and feeds for aquaculture, and the US dollar depreciation in the operations of small-scale fisheries and aquaculture, monitoring of the effect of climate change to fisheries, etc. In this regard, SEAFDEC and the Member Countries should consider securing funding support from non-traditional sources for the possible implementation of such activities, taking into consideration the mandate and competence of SEAFDEC.

15. The Council also requested SEAFDEC to implement more activities on inland fisheries considering that very little focus had been given to this sub-sector. In addition, the Council Director for Thailand further encouraged SEAFDEC to continue conducting activities to promote and transfer appropriate freshwater aquaculture technologies in the rural community areas. In response, SEAFDEC would consider the possibility of continuing the implementation of such activities within its programming exercises.

16. With regards to inland fisheries, the Council Director for Cambodia shared the initiative and experience of his country on the establishment of community fish refuge pond (sanctuary) in rice fields with support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Cambodia is planning to extend this initiative to other areas as it has shown very positive results, specifically because the fish in the refuge pond could serve as broodstock for the next spawning season.

17. On the promotion on the use of the Juvenile and Trash Excluder Devices (JTEDs), the Council requested TD to consider sharing the successful experiences of JTEDs in the Philippines to fishermen groups in other Member Countries. In this regard, the Council was informed that while the use of JTEDs is being incorporated into the Fisheries Administrative Order of the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), national consultations will be organized in May and June 2008 to disseminate the JTEDs technology and obtain feedback from fishermen who have already implemented the JTEDs. Outcomes from the consultations could be shared with other Member Countries to encourage the implementation of JTEDs in the region.

18. With regards to the development and promotion of on-board fish handling technologies, the Council Director for Thailand suggested that TD should investigate the use of appropriate technology for medium and commercial-scale fishing vessels as means of saving fuel costs and improving the quality of fish. He also suggested that AQD could collaborate with MFRD in the implementation of activities aimed at removing the off-flavor from freshwater and brackishwater fish flesh in order to improve the quality of fish for the export market.

19. In response to the elucidation sought by the Council Director for Singapore regarding the program on “Cetacean Research in Southeast Asian Waters: Whale Watching Program” to be implemented by TD in 2008, it was clarified that there were large cetaceans found in the coastal areas in the region such as Myanmar, Malaysia and in the Gulf of Thailand. As most of large cetaceans are predators and the coastal habitats need to be conserved for securing the future fish stock, information on the existing and migrating cetaceans are therefore necessary. In this regard, TD proposed to conduct such program aimed to document/inventory all existing cetaceans in the region to support resources management. However, taking into consideration budgetary constraints, the activity would focus only on cetacean sighting survey based on the existing operation plan of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2.

20. The Council Director for Indonesia expressed his country’s appreciation to SEAFDEC for conducting activities particularly those implemented in the coastal areas of tsunami affected countries. He also reiterated the importance of activities in monitoring the migratory route for fish stocks as this would provide important basis for management of the fisheries resources, stock

enhancement, and follow-up of research on deep sea fisheries through the development of technical guidelines of deep sea fisheries management.

21. The Council requested SEAFDEC to consider incorporating the above recommendations into the future program implementation, then approved the programs implemented in 2007 and the proposed programs for 2008, as well as the recommendations made at the Program Committee Meeting for future implementation.

IV. NOTE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG) ON THE RESULT OF THE TENTH MEETING

22. The Council took note of the results and endorsed the recommendations of the Tenth Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) (**Annex 7**), which was held from 29 to 30 November 2007 in Iloilo, Philippines as presented by Dr. Wimol Jantararotai on behalf of the Council Director for Thailand, as the ASEAN Co-Chairman for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG.

V. POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

5.1 Promotional and following up program on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia

23. The Council acknowledged the activities undertaken by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), as well as the recommendations for future implementation of the CCRF, which have been concluded at the Seminar on Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia (22 October 2007, Bangkok, Thailand). The Council also congratulated SEAFDEC for receiving the Margarita Lizárraga Medal Award for the biennium 2006-2007 from FAO for its initiative and efforts in supporting the implementation of the CCRF in Southeast Asia.

24. The Council supported the activities to be further undertaken by SEAFDEC in relation to the implementation of CCRF specifically with regards to combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, particularly the program on “Supporting Implementation of the CCRF” to be supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), as well as the other programs implemented by SEAFDEC. The detailed information appears as **Annex 8**.

25. The Council Director for Thailand emphasized that although the fisheries laws of ASEAN Member Countries contain almost similar principles in sustainable fisheries development and management, such laws could also be diverse to some extent. He therefore suggested that SEAFDEC consider organizing a consultation meeting on Fisheries Laws in the region under the CCRF program framework in order to facilitate the compilation and exchange of information on the development and improvement of laws/legislations to support responsible fisheries and combat IUU fishing. In response, SEAFDEC Secretariat would consider incorporating the suggestion in the SEAFDEC program subject to availability of funds.

5.2 International Fisheries Related Issues

26. The Council was briefed on the updated information and proposed regional coordinated positions on the important international fisheries related issues which have been identified at the 10th Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG, and subsequently discussed at the Regional

Technical Consultation on the International Fisheries Related Issues (12 to 14 February 2008, Chiang Mai, Thailand). These include the issues on 1) Port State Measures, 2) Traceability, Certification and Labelling, 3) Small-scale Fisheries Issues, 4) Fisheries Subsidies, 5) Endangered Aquatic Species under CITES, and 6) other issues, i.e. Welfare of Fishing Crew and Fishing Labour, and Climate Change and its Impacts to Fisheries.

27. With regards to Port State Measures, the Council Director for Japan while supporting the Convention on Port State Measures to be prepared by FAO stated that the specific measures should be applied regionally through the RFMOs.

28. The Council was also informed of the outcomes and recommendations from the Regional Workshop on Port State Measures in Southeast Asian Countries and China (31 March - 4 April 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand), and the Draft Agreement on Port State Measures to Deter, Eliminate the IUU Fishing (**Annex 9**) which accommodated the results of the discussions and comments made at the Workshop.

29. While supporting the joint approach on Port State Measures, the Council commented that the Draft Agreement and the FAO Model Scheme especially for the regional application for the Southeast Asian Countries including the RFMOs may not properly reflect the views of the governments. As it appears too onerous to implement, the Member Countries were therefore urged to carefully study the Draft Agreement and the FAO Model Scheme, and prepare inputs and to actively participate in the future negotiation process. The Council also expressed concerns that the Port State Measures have implications, not only to the port States, but also to the flag States. A concern was therefore expressed that some concerned countries may not be involved in the ratification process.

30. On Traceability, Certification and Labelling, the Council Director for Thailand emphasized the importance of the establishment of certification body for aquaculture products in the region, and requested SEAFDEC to seek the possibility of collaborating with other regional organizations, such as NACA, in order to support the establishment of such certification body. SEAFDEC was also requested to consider conducting a program to support the development of traceability system particularly for capture fisheries which could be a basis for further development of a product certification scheme.

31. The Council noted that SEAFDEC and the Department of Fisheries, Thailand will jointly organize a Regional Technical Consultation on Small-Scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia from 29 April to 2 May 2008 in Thailand in order to develop regional coordinated position to ensure that the regional specificity and concerns on small-scale fisheries be properly reflected at the Global Conference on Small-scale Fisheries to be organized in October 2008. The Meeting was also informed that SEAFDEC would support the participation of one participant from each Member Country to the Consultation; while the Member Countries were encouraged to support the participation of more participants/experts to provide inputs for the development of such regional coordinated position.

32. The Council Director for Japan while supporting the organization of the RTC on Small-Scale Fisheries with partial support from the Japanese Trust Fund, emphasized that the Member Countries should also take their own initiatives in addressing the concerns on small-scale fisheries issue.

33. With regards to Fisheries Subsidies, the Council Director for Malaysia supported by the Council Director for Indonesia, requested SEAFDEC to continue providing support to this issue and requested all SEAFDEC Member Countries to thoroughly study and provide comments on the Draft Consolidated Chair Texts of the Anti Dumping and Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Agreements. Focus has been placed on issues pertaining to fisheries management as a condition to grant subsidy and the definition of small scale fisheries under the Special and

Differential Treatment (S&DT). Along this line, the Council requested SEAFDEC to consider organizing a consultation meeting on Fisheries Subsidies to provide opportunity for Member Countries in discussing such issue and coming up with regional common/coordinated position to be used as inputs to the WTO negotiations. In response, SEAFDEC would further explore the possibility of providing such forum for the discussion. However, the Council agreed that the Member Countries should shoulder the costs for participation of their representatives in such forum.

34. While noting that the Member Countries has established a coordinated position on fisheries subsidies, the Council Director for Japan suggested that SEAFDEC and the Member Countries should carefully examine the issues in order that the coordinated position of the Member Countries would be consistent with the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration. He also expressed the concern that only subsidies that contribute to over fishing and over capacity should be prohibited, while those on development of fishing ports and infrastructures should be exempted. He also emphasized that the provision of S&DT to developing countries should take into account sustainable resources management. In addition, the importance of small-scale fisheries contribution to livelihood of people particularly in the remote rural areas in all countries should be given consideration.

35. In connection with the Endangered Aquatic Species under CITES, the Council Director for Japan urged SEAFDEC to continue conducting research and information collection on relevant species to prevent the listing of such species in the CITES appendices even without clear scientific evidence. He also called for early preparations for the next COP-CITES since submissions of the proposals for listing of species under the CITES appendices are done six months before the COP.

36. With regards to Climate Change, the Council urged SEAFDEC to implement activities aimed to gather information on the impact of climate change to fisheries and aquaculture activities as well as to the ecosystem and the environment; and provide assistance to the Member Countries to minimize such impact.

37. While congratulating SEAFDEC in taking a leading role to tackle a number of international fisheries-related issues which have been increasing over the years, the Council requested SEAFDEC to continue undertaking activities to support the understanding of Member Countries and the development of common/coordinated positions on the issues. All Member Countries were also urged to express the regional common/coordinated positions and agreed views during their participation in relevant international fora.

38. The Council then requested SEAFDEC to incorporate the above recommendations into the Draft Executive Report on International Fisheries Related Issues (2007-2008) which appears as **Annex 10**. The Council then endorsed the Executive Report for further submission to higher authorities of the ASEAN for consideration and to be used as basis for ASEAN Member Countries participation and intervention at relevant international fora.

5.3 Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RSAC)

39. The Council took note of the progress in the establishment of the Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RSAC) in line with the policy directives given at the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council. In 2007, two Expert Consultations were organized and the draft proposal for the establishment of RSAC was developed. The draft proposal was discussed and adopted at the 30th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee. The Council at this Meeting also noted certain issues that require policy guidance from the SEAFDEC Council, i.e. the demarcation between the RSAC and the Program Committee, the nomination of RSAC members, and the financial requirement for establishment of RSAC.

40. Regarding the demarcation between the RSAC and the Program Committee, it was clarified that no duplication exists in the two mechanisms as the Program Committee is mandated to ensure that the priorities and needs of Member Countries are accommodated in SEAFDEC programming exercises, while the RSAC would focus on providing technical advice on fisheries management issues or as requested by the SEAFDEC Council. The Council agreed that the title of the RSAC should be changed to “Regional Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia or RAC”.

41. With regards to the membership in RAC, the Council suggested that the Member should be nominated by Member Countries, with a two-year fixed tenure and with a possibility for reappointment. The Council also noted that the RAC Members with technical background on fisheries management could be nominated either from agencies responsible for fisheries or other capable institutions in the Member Countries. In addition, the SEAFDEC Secretariat should serve as the Secretariat for RAC. The Council also suggested that the RAC could be dissolved upon the directive of the Council.

42. As for the financial requirements of RAC, the Council suggested that the meetings should be partially funded through the minimum regular contribution (MRC) in order to ensure that the establishment of RAC would not affect the sustainable operation of SEAFDEC. Under this condition, a certain amount of the money would be used annually for the meeting cost and participation of members from SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat to the RAC meetings; while the Member Countries would bear the cost for their participation to the RAC meetings.

43. The Council also requested the Secretariat to accommodate the above directives to the proposal (**Annex 11**); then endorsed the proposal for establishment of the Regional Advisory Committee as a subsidiary body to the SEAFDEC Council.

5.4 Involvement of SEAFDEC in the Preparation of the Implementation of the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA)

44. The Council took note of the progress of the involvement of SEAFDEC in the preparation for the implementation of the “Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in the Region¹” (**Annex 12**) which was endorsed by Ministers responsible for fisheries from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, East Timor and Vietnam during the Ministerial Meeting in Bali in 2007. Following-up on the Ministerial meeting, SEAFDEC participated in a series of meeting to discuss the implementation of the RPOA: on 13 August 2007 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; from 13-15 November 2007 in Bangkok Thailand; and from 3-5 March 2008 in Bali, Indonesia. At the Meeting held in Bali, SEAFDEC was also requested to collaborate with the RPOA Coordination Committee to organize a workshop on vessel licensing and registration in September 2008.

45. While noting the importance to effectively combat the IUU Fishing; and the need to give equal emphasis on the roles and responsibilities of flag States, coastal States, and port States, the Council supported SEAFDEC in its efforts to continue its involvement in the implementation of the RPOA, considering that the RPOA is envisaged to also contribute to the combat of IUU fishing and sustainable fisheries management in the Southeast Asian region. With regards to the involvement of SEAFDEC in the RPOA, the Council recommended that SEAFDEC should be involved in providing advice to the Coordination Committee of the RPOA.

¹ Refers to the South China Sea, Sulu-Sulawesi Seas (Celebes Sea) and the Arafura-Timor Seas

46. With regards to the need for SEAFDEC to source funds to support the activities of the RPOA, the Council requested that under the existing SEAFDEC program framework, relevant activities such as the implementation of CCRF could be mobilized to implement activities to combat IUU fishing, and provide relevant technical inputs to the RPOA. In particular, the Council took note of the planned Regional Expert Meeting on Fishing Vessel Registration to be tentatively organized in July 2008, of which the outcomes could also be used as inputs for the RPOA Workshop. The Council also noted that such Meeting should involve not only the agencies responsible for fisheries, but also the agencies responsible for vessel licensing and registration, such as Ministry of Transportation, etc.

47. The Council Director for Vietnam requested SEAFDEC to provide technical support, and the other Member Countries to share their experiences with his country, in the implementation of fisheries-related global instruments, such as the UN Fish Stock Agreements and relevant instruments issued by RFMOs.

5.5 Following up on the activities under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)

48. The Council was informed that the Letter of Understanding (LOU) for the establishment of the ASSP was signed by the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj, on behalf of SEAFDEC, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN H.E. Mr. Ong Keng Yong, on behalf of the ASEAN on 2nd November 2007 during the 29th AMAF and 7th AMAF + 3 Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand in the presence of the ASEAN and Japan (MAFF) Ministers. The Council was also informed of the outcome and recommendations of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC regional workshops on “The Concept for the Establishment of an ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism” and “Implementing the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector” held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 6-8 November 2007 and 16-18 January 2008, respectively. The output of the two workshops will provide support and assist the ASEAN in the formulation and establishment of an ASEAN regional fisheries management mechanism, and the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap. The detailed information appears as **Annex 13**.

49. In the discussion, the Council commended SEAFDEC for its efforts in implementing activities under the ASSP framework, particularly in providing technical support to the establishment of the ASEAN Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism (ARFMM), the development of common positions/stands on international issues that may have impact on fisheries activities of the region, and the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of the Fisheries Sector.

50. With regards to the ARFMM, the Council Director for Thailand expressed his appreciation for the support extended by SEAFDEC and Sida in the organization of the Workshop, and informed the Meeting that Thailand plans to incorporate the regional fisheries management mechanism into the ASWGFi framework during the Meeting of ASWGFi in 21 to 23 May 2008.

51. As regards the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of the Fisheries Sector, the Council Director for Myanmar informed the Meeting that consultative activities were organized in Myanmar, in which the Member Countries were invited to participate in order to successfully implement the measures contained in the Roadmap. He also requested SEAFDEC to provide assistance to all ASEAN Member Countries in the further implementation of the Roadmap measures.

52. While expressing satisfaction on the signing of the ASSP/LOU during the 29th AMAF and 7th AMAF + 3 meeting for the establishment of the ASSP, and the progress made in SEAFDEC-ASEAN cooperation, the Council agreed that SEAFDEC would continue to work with ASEAN under the ASSP framework to assist ASEAN/ASWGFi in: (a) formulating and

establishing the ASEAN regional fisheries management mechanism; (b) developing common position/stands on international issues that will have impact on fisheries development in the ASEAN region; (c) assisting ASEAN in the integration of the fisheries sector (i.e. ASEAN Roadmap); and (d) continuing and expanding the existing collaborative and cooperation projects/activities under the ASSP-FCG mechanism aimed to enhance capacity building, information collection and exchange, human resource development, and provide support for important fisheries policy issues.

5.6 Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia and Streamline Reporting

53. The Council endorsed the Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia which is considered as a minimum requirement for fishery statistics to be achieved at the national level to facilitate development planning and management of fisheries. The Framework is envisaged to be used as a new framework for the compilation of fishery statistics of Southeast Asia. In addition, the Framework would also form a basis for regional inputs for the development of international norms and standards; and to facilitate sharing of fishery statistics and information both within and outside the region. The Council also endorsed the Streamlined Reporting of Fishery Statistics from the Member Countries to SEAFDEC and FAO through the harmonized questionnaire, focal points, and submission process. The detailed information appears as **Annex 14**. The Council also endorsed the supporting action plan in order to provide technical assistance to Member Countries in the implementation of the Framework.

54. In response to the clarification sought by the Council on the necessity for SEAFDEC to compile separate statistics since the same statistics are compiled by FAO, it was clarified that although major data items compiled by both organizations are the same, however, fisheries statistics compiled in the region cover a more detailed information that will meet the requirements for regional fisheries management purpose.

55. In response to the query by the Council on the coverage of the Bulletin which does not include Japan, it was emphasized that the Framework was developed based on the directives made by the Council at its 37th Meeting in 2004 to accommodate new geo-political set up of the ASEAN and changing fisheries situation. The Framework aims to be a minimum requirement for collection of fishery statistics to support fishery management in the Southeast Asian region. This is in line with SEAFDEC mandate to compile fishery statistics of Southeast Asia. Since the fishery statistics items of Japan are different from those of Southeast Asia, Japan was therefore not included in the Statistical Framework. The Council was also informed that the fishery statistics of Japan are submitted regularly to FAO and are readily accessible to the public.

56. In response to the request made by the Council Director for Indonesia for SEAFDEC to provide assistance in the collection of data on migratory fish species in the region; it was clarified that currently the collection of Tuna statistics by SEAFDEC has been discontinued. However, SEAFDEC is conducting activities to collect the information on migratory species, e.g. tuna and tuna-like species, in the region starting in 2008 to support the management of the species.

57. In response to the inquiry made by the Council Director for Japan on the demarcation with the on-going program regarding statistics under the Japanese Trust Fund, i.e. the utilization of budget for activities in improving fishery statistics, it was clarified that appropriate delineation is assured such that those activities related to the compilation, development and production of fishery statistical bulletin are supported by the MRC, while the activities in providing assistance to Member Countries on the use of statistics for development planning and management are supported by the Japanese Trust Fund. The detailed demarcation with Japanese Trust Fund Program would further be discussed between Japan and SEAFDEC.

VI. COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL/ REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-MEMBER GOVERNMENTS

58. The representative from the ASEAN Secretariat congratulated SEAFDEC for the achievements made in 2007. He informed the Meeting on the ASEAN Charter, which is an agreement to establish the legal and institutional framework for ASEAN. The Charter reaffirms the ASEAN's commitment to establish an ASEAN Community comprising the ASEAN Security, Economic and Socio-Cultural Communities, of which the fisheries sector cuts across these ASEAN Community's pillars. He stressed on the importance of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaboration as echoed in various ASEAN bodies' meetings and resulted in the signing of the Letter of Understanding for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) in 2007. He underlined the importance of cooperation on areas of mutual interests particularly in the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of the Fisheries Sector and the Concept of an ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism. He expressed his appreciation and sought continued collaboration with SEAFDEC on various issues including small-scale fisheries and for technical support on international fisheries related issues in future meetings of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF_i). His statement appears as **Annex 15**.

59. The representative from the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP) expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC for inviting FAO to the Council Meeting, and congratulated SEAFDEC for the achievement that significantly contributes to sustainable development of fisheries in the region, which has been recognized when SEAFDEC was awarded the Margarita Lizárraga Medal. FAO has undertaken several collaborative activities with SEAFDEC throughout the past years. These include activities on reduction of by-catch and improvement of fishery statistics, the implementation of Port State Measures, and the organization of the Global Conference on Small Scale Fisheries. He then informed the Council on the second phase of the project on "Reduction of ByCatch" to be supported by FAO/GEF, and encouraged the SEAFDEC Member Countries to participate in the project. He also congratulated SEAFDEC for its initiatives in promoting the implementation of international instruments on fisheries, including the RPOA and the port States measures, to combat IUU fishing; and look forward to the establishment of regional management mechanism in the Southeast Asian region. FAO looked forward to further collaborate with SEAFDC on issues of mutual interest, and expressed his appreciation to the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia for the arrangement and hospitality for this Meeting. His statement appears as **Annex 16**.

60. The representative from the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SBF) reiterated the close collaboration between Sida and SEAFDEC in the implementation of activities during the past few years. He expressed the strong interest of Sida in SEAFDEC activities, particularly in promoting the implementation of responsible fisheries, establishment of regional fisheries management mechanism, and integration of habitat management with fisheries management. In addition, Sida also acknowledged the initiative and efforts of SEAFDEC in the management of fishing capacity and monitoring of coastal fisheries, as well as those aimed to combat IUU fishing and contribute to the development of Port State Measures. He then expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC and the Member Countries for sharing information envisaged to form a dialogue for closer collaboration between the SBF and SEAFDEC as well as all with the SEAFDEC Member Countries in the area of fisheries management. His statement appears as **Annex 17**.

61. The Council expressed its appreciation to the support and collaboration between SEAFDEC and the international organizations, and look forward for a closer cooperation between SEAFDEC and other organizations in the future.

VII. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Proposal on Development of Eco-system-based Fisheries Management in the Southeast Asian Countries

62. The Council supported the proposal on the “Development of Eco-system-based Fisheries Management in the Southeast Asian Countries” (**Annex 18**) prepared by the Secretariat for possible financial support from the unspent budget of the Global Environmental Facilities (GEF) under the agency responsible for environment of the Member Countries. The Council also suggested the Secretariat to finalize the proposal in close consultation with the Member Countries, and suggested that the agencies responsible for fisheries in Member Countries should further communicate with their respective agencies responsible for environment to submit the proposal by June 2008 for funding support.

7.2 Celebrating Ten Years of Sustainable Fisheries Development in the ASEAN via the Japanese Trust Fund Program

63. The booklet “Celebrating Ten Years of Sustainable Fisheries Development in the ASEAN via the Japanese Trust Fund Program: JTF Achievements in SEAFDEC (1998-2007)” was officially launched during this Council Meeting. The Secretary-General expressed the appreciation of SEAFDEC to the continued support of the Government of Japan through the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF) since 1998. The number of JTF supported programs implemented by SEAFDEC in collaboration with the ASEAN Member Countries, have contributed to the sustainable development of fisheries in the Southeast Asian region. To commemorate the ten years of continued support to SEAFDEC by the JTF Program, SEAFDEC published the booklet where the outcomes and achievements from the JTF supported programs are summarized in the booklet.

64. SEAFDEC Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Hideki Tsubata, in his capacity as the Japanese Trust Fund Manager reiterated that the contribution from the Government of Japan through the Japanese Trust Fund Program since 1998 which has been utilized to support the implementation of several regional activities covering various aspects by SEAFDEC in close collaboration with the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries. These include the regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the improvement of responsible fishing operation, the responsible aquaculture development, the promotion of safe and wholesome fishery products as well as the conservation and management of marine resources. He reaffirmed the JTF commitment to continue its support to SEAFDEC to ensure the sustainable development of fisheries in the region, and in mainstreaming of the outcomes from the activities in the development of regional fisheries policies in Southeast Asia.

65. The Council Director for Cambodia, Mr. Nao Thuok on behalf of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, congratulated the JTF Program for the achievements made through the JTF supported programs in SEAFDEC which have significantly contributed to the promotion of sustainable and responsible fisheries in the region, particularly the development of the Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia.

66. The Council Director for Japan expressed his appreciation to the efforts made by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries for the successful and efficient implementation of the Japanese Trust Fund programs.

67. On behalf of the Council, the Chairman expressed the Council’s appreciation for the support extended by the Government of Japan through the JTF Program to SEAFDEC. Such support has enabled SEAFDEC to conduct regional activities that helped the Member Countries in the development of responsible fisheries.

VIII. SEAFDEC FUTURE OPERATION

8.1 Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC)

68. The importance of Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) was reiterated as prerequisites to sustain the operation of SEAFDEC taking into consideration the current financial situation of SEAFDEC (**Annex 19**). In addition, the SEAFDEC Secretariat informed the Council that payments have been received from some of the Member Countries after the 39th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. The Council then reaffirmed its commitment to provide financial support to SEAFDEC through the MRC and agreed on the payment schedule and the basis for calculation as presented at the 38th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council.

69. The Council took note that in 2007, the MRC was used for the operation of SEAFDEC, particularly for the organization of SEAFDEC annual meetings, the information programs, the operation of SEAFDEC Secretariat, and the operation and maintenance of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2. The Council agreed that the level of MRC should be reviewed every 5 years and appropriately adjusted in order to ensure the sustainable operation of SEAFDEC.

8.2 Areas for Improvement of SEAFDEC Operation

70. The Council endorsed the progress of implementation of the “Strategies for Improving SEAFDEC Information Tools and Enhancing Visibility of Communication” in the year 2007. The detailed information appears as **Annex 20**.

71. The Council took note of the operations of the SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels undertaken in 2007 under the cost sharing schemes. With regards to the fishery resources survey utilizing the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2008, the Council took note of the resources survey in Myanmar which would be postponed to 2009. In addition, the Council Director for Thailand proposed to use the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for the conduct of fishery resources survey for two weeks in October 2008. The Council then endorsed the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 operation plan for the year 2008. The detailed information appears as **Annex 21**.

72. The Council also endorsed the revision of the AQD’s Structure and Strategic Plan which has been developed based on the exercises conducted by the Department in response to the current fisheries situation and the available resources for implementation of its activities. The detailed information appears as **Annex 22**.

IX. MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTER

9.1 Collaboration Arrangement between SEAFDEC and Other Organizations

73. The Council was informed on the establishment of collaborative arrangements between SEAFDEC and other organizations in 2007. These include the collaboration with ASEAN, the Maejo University (Thailand), the UNEP/GEF, the Action for Empowerment Association Inc (Philippines), the Chinese Academy of Fisheries Sciences, the Petron Foundation Inc. (Philippines), and the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA). The detailed information appears as **Annex 23**.

X. FINANCIAL MATTERS

10.1 Adoption of Auditor's Financial Report for 2006

74. In accordance with Article 6, paragraph 2 (ii) of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the Council endorsed the audited consolidated financial statement of the Center for the year ended 31 December 2006 including those of the Secretariat and the four Departments for the year 2006 (**Annex 24**) as audited by the Center's official auditors.

75. The Council also took note that the budget for the operations and implementation of SEAFDEC activities are deposited in fixed and saving accounts. The interest accrued from the bank accounts is used for the operating costs of the Departments.

10.2 Unaudited Financial Report for the 2007 and Status of Financial Situation of the Year 2008

76. The Council took note of the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Report for the year 2007 (**Annex 25**), which includes the contribution (In-cash and In-kind) received from the Member Countries and other sources, the total expenditures, and the unaudited statement of fund balances at the end of 2007. The Council also took note that in the Financial Report for the year 2007 and onwards, MFRD and MFRDMD would submit only their unaudited financial reports for the preparation of the consolidated audited financial Report by the Secretariat.

77. The Council also took note of the status of the financial situation for the year 2008 (**Annex 26**), which includes the unaudited fund balance at the end of 2007, the actual amount received through the 2008 MRC from the Member Countries and contributions from Japan and other international organizations.

78. The Council suggested that in the future conduct of the SEAFDEC Council Meeting, the Council Directors should be given the full set of financial documents to study at least two weeks prior to the Council Meeting, while the presentation on the financial report at the Meeting should be simplified. The Council Director from Japan while noting the substantial savings from travel costs in the year 2007, encouraged SEAFDEC to continue such efforts to effectively utilize the budget.

79. The Council also noted that as MFRD activities have been implemented by the Postharvest Centre of Singapore as collaborating Center of SEAFDEC, Singapore's contributions are not reflected under MFRD in the SEAFDEC financial reports.

10.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirement for 2009

80. The Council endorsed the proposed budgetary requirements of the Center for 2009 (**Annex 27**) and approved the revised 2008 budget (**Annex 28**).

81. The Council also noted that since the budgetary requirement is proposed almost one year ahead, revisions in the figures could be expected in the following Council Meeting. However, any drastic change in the proposed budgetary requirements should be properly clarified in the working papers and proposed for consideration by the Council Meeting.

XI. CONCLUDING MATTERS

11.1 Date and Venue of the Forty-first Meeting of the Council

82. In considering the date and venue of the Forty-first Meeting of the Council, the Council Director for Japan informed the Council that the Government of Japan would accept the responsibility of hosting the next Council Meeting in Fukuoka City, Japan in the year 2009.

83. The Council expressed its appreciation of the offer to host the next Council Meeting in Japan, and requested the Secretary-General to discuss this further with the Council Director for Japan for the finalization of the exact date and venue of the next meeting.

11.2 Vote of Thanks to the Host Government

84. The Council Director for Thailand on behalf of the Council Directors expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Indonesia, particularly the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, for hosting the Fortieth Meeting of the Council. The Council also thanked the Chairman for the effective conduct of the Meeting as well as the staff of the Ministry for their hospitality and efficient arrangements of the Meeting.

11.3 Adoption of the Report

85. The Council adopted the Report of the Fortieth Meeting of the Council and the Press Statement (**Annex 29**) on the results of the Meeting on 9 April 2008.

XII. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

86. The Chairman expressed his appreciation to the Council Directors and their delegations as well as Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Chiefs of Departments and SEAFDEC staff for their support and cooperation during the Meeting. He therefore declared the Fortieth Meeting of the Council closed. His Statement appears as **Annex 30**.

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Muhammad Rofiq
Ikhsan Kamil
Sayoko Setyowibi
Firman Maulana
Muh Yusron

Head of the Committee
Secretary of the Committee
Treasurer
Meeting & Protocol Coordinator
Accommodation & Consumption Coordinator
Travel support & Field Trip Coordinator
Administration Coordinator
Documentation and Press Release
Meeting & Protocol
Meeting & Protocol
Administration staff
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Diky Suganda
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Edi Hartono
A. Agung Raka
Suartan Napis
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Diana R. (Mrs.)

Travel & Field trip staff
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Travel & F. Trip staff
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STATEMENT

*By Mr. Nao Thuok
The Council Director for Cambodia
and Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council*

Honorable Secretary-General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia,
The SEAFDEC Council Directors, Secretary-General,
Honorable guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to welcome you all to this 40th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. SEAFDEC has just celebrated the 40th year of its existence at the end of last year, and we are happy to report its continued activities, which have been implemented in line with the policy directives and priority actions as identified during our Council Meetings.

During my term as Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council, we saw to it that the principle policy frameworks were continuously taken into consideration in the development and implementation of SEAFDEC program and activities.

Specifically, SEAFDEC continued to promote responsible fisheries by actively advancing the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries through human resource development. As you might be already aware of, the efforts of SEAFDEC in promoting CCRF in the region have been globally recognized when SEAFDEC was awarded the Margarita Lizarraga Award for 2006-2007 by FAO. This is considered as another milestone in the history of SEAFDEC, of which I on behalf of the SEAFDEC Council Directors would like to congratulate SEAFDEC on this achievement, and thank the Member Countries for embracing the Code.

During the year 2007, we have continued our activities in responsible fishing operations, fisheries management, aquaculture and fisheries post harvest technologies. We have strengthened further our cooperation and collaboration with the ASEAN through the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership or the ASSP, which was formalized in November 2007. The ASSP provides the framework for closer ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation to strengthen the common goals on sustainable fisheries develop for food security and poverty eradications.

SEAFDEC also continued to assist the Member Countries in addressing international/regional issues and problems that may affect fish trade and the development of fisheries sectors of the region. By closely monitoring emerging international fisheries issues, SEAFDEC with the ASEAN conducted a series of Regional Consultation in International Fisheries Related Issues.

As the end of 2007 marked the 40th Year of SEAFDEC establishment, I am sure that SEAFDEC will continue to take steps forward and play an important role in facilitating regional cooperation in fisheries in the region.

As the member of the SEAFDEC Council, I can assure the Member Countries that SEAFDEC will continue to provide means of policy and technical advisory support to Member Countries towards sustainable development of fisheries in the region. SEAFDEC will continue to link fisheries and other sectors in a broader principle of “sustainable development for food security” in the region.

As we move on to another year, allow me to thank the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia for hosting the 40th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council.

Lastly, I would like to thank the SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj, the Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Hideki Tsubata, the Department Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs, Advisors, and all the SEAFDEC staff for their hard work and providing support to my work as the SEAFDEC Council Chairperson.

I would also like to express my sincerest gratitude and appreciation to my fellow Council Directors for their support during Cambodia's term as the Council Chairperson. I really consider the year that passed a fruitful one for SEAFDEC.

Thank you again and good day!

WELCOMING REMARK

*By Dr. Made L.Nurdjana
SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director and Director General of Aquaculture
for The Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of The Republic of Indonesia*

Honorable Secretary General of Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries;
Honorable Council and Alternate Council Directors;
Honorable SEAFDEC Secretary General;
SEAFDEC Department Chiefs;
Distinguished Delegates;
Ladies and Gentlemen.
Om Swasti Astu.
Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb.
Good Morning.

As the Alternate Council Director for Indonesia, I would like to express my warm welcome, and gratitude, for your presence here in Bali.

I am pleased to address the Council Meeting because it gives me a chance to applaud efforts have been made by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries in the promotion of responsible fisheries in Southeast Asia, as it is reflected, in the Margarita Lizarraga Medal Award, received by SEAFDEC, in the year of 2007. I would like to congratulate SEAFDEC for the success of receiving this medal.

In this opportunity, I myself and as a Council Member would like to give appreciation for the government of Cambodia for holding the last Council Meeting very nicely. Now, I am as Alternate Council Director on behalf of Council Director for Indonesia and the Meeting Organizers would like to serve you all here in Bali as best as we can.

I should also inform you that among of us here there are twelve heads of Aquaculture Development Centers participating in this meeting as observers. If any of you interests to know more about their activities, I welcome you to contact each of them directly. In brief, I would like to mention that some of them have reached good achievements in culturing certain species, for examples, Marine Aquaculture Development Center in Lampung and Brackishwater Aquaculture Development Center in Situbondo as well as Coastal Research Institute of Gondol have successful in Grouper Culture. While Shrimp Culture have been well developed in Brackishwater Aquaculture Development Center in Jepara. For freshwater aquaculture especially for Nile Tilapia and freshwater Shrimps have been well developed in Freshwater Aquaculture Center in Sukabumi. Finally, Silver Pompano has been cultured successfully, in Marine Aquaculture Development Center in Batam.

Also with us here there are resource persons, who will join the meeting. They are Aquaculture Inspector Directors within Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries.
Honorable Councils, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As Alternate Council member for Indonesia I encourage a number of SEAFDEC initiatives because it will help, to address the current declining trends both in the resources and environment. In this regards, I would like to highlight that our government need further supports from SEAFDEC on the initiatives of the development of Regional Plan of Action on Promoting Responsible Fisheries, especially in combating IUU Fishing, and the Coral Reef Triangle initiatives.

As many of you have already acknowledged that Indonesian Government plan to host the World Ocean Conference in Manado North Sulawesi in 2009 I invite SEAFDEC to participate on this event.

Last but not least, I would like to reiterate the full support of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia for this meeting. It is indeed a great pleasure and honor for my colleagues and I to have worked together with SEAFDEC Secretariat to organize “This Fortieth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council”. I am confident that this four days meeting will be fruitful. Lastly, I wish you all a pleasant stay in Bali.

Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti Om
Wasallamu ‘alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Thank you very much for your attention!

OPENING REMARK

*By Prof. Dr. Widi A. Pratikto
Secretary General, Ministry of the Marine Affairs and Fisheries
of The Republic of Indonesia*

Honorable SEAFDEC Council and Alternate Council Directors;
Honorable SEAFDEC Secretary General;
SEAFDEC Department Chiefs;
Distinguished Guests;
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Om Swasti Astu.
Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb.
Good Morning.

It is indeed a great honour and pleasure on behalf of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia to extend my warmest welcome to all SEAFDEC Council Members and delegates, who join the 40th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in Bali, which is known as one of the most beautiful islands and wonderful cultures in Indonesia.

I greatly appreciate the SEAFDEC mandate and framework to promote sustainable fisheries development in this region. For many years we have undertaken numerous activities in order to promote responsible fisheries development to secure food supply and alleviate poverty. The outstanding achievement of the regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) was an important step towards the sustainability of fisheries.

I would like to highlight that fishing activities have been played an important role for economic growth in the region. However, if not being monitored appropriately it will lead to overfishing and overcapacity. Meanwhile, illegal fishing practices in the region profoundly speed up the resource depletion. Therefore, the collaborative efforts to combat IUU Fishing need to be encouraged.

Regional cooperation is critical for the long-term sustainability of fisheries resources. In this conjunction, may I recall the collective efforts to follow-up the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) on Promoting Responsible Fishing Practices that was endorsed by the Ministers Responsible in Fisheries in Bali, 2007.

Honorable Councils, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

I acknowledge that SEAFDEC activities over the years have provided a regional forum to address emerging international fisheries related issues and to enable the region to remain competitive in international trade. It is notified the issues covered so far including small scale fisheries, endangered aquatic species, fisheries trade, fisheries subsidy, traceability, certification and labelling, and management of fish diseases.

As the world concerns in climate change issues, SEAFDEC should put a greater attention to adapt actions in order to mitigate the more-adverse impact of the climate change to the fisheries. The Indonesian government has a strong national commitment to address this climate change issue, as reflected by organizing The Climate Change Conference in Bali, 2007.

Other world emergence issue that needs to be addressed collectively is related to significant increase of the world oil price, which in turns hampered fisheries and aquaculture activities. Therefore, I seek SEAFDEC technical assistance to find out the alternative solutions to resolve it.

Honorable Councils, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

In this opportunity, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all SEAFDEC Secretariat and the 40th Council Meeting Organizers for excellent preparation and to ensure smooth organization of the meeting.

Finally, on behalf of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries may I officially declare the 40th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council is opened.

Thank You!

Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti Om
Wasallamu 'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

AGENDA

- Agenda 1 Procedural Matters
1.1 Opening of the Meeting
1.2 Election of Chairman
1.3 Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Meeting
- Agenda 2 Report of the Secretary-General
- Agenda 3 Note of the Chairman of the SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting on the Result of the Thirtieth Meeting
- Agenda 4 Note of the Chairman of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) on the Result of the Tenth Meeting
- Agenda 5 Policy Consideration on Important Issues
5.7 Promotional and Following up program on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia
5.8 International Fisheries Related Issues
5.9 Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RSAC)
5.10 Involvement of SEAFDEC in the Preparation of the Implementation of the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA)
5.11 Following up on the activities under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)
5.5.1) ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism
5.5.2) ASEAN Roadmap for Economic Integration on Fisheries
5.12 Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia and Streamline Reporting
- Agenda 6 Cooperation with International/ Regional Organizations and Non-member Governments
- Agenda 7 Other matters
7.1 Proposal on Development of Eco-system-based Fisheries Management in the Southeast Asian Countries
7.2 Celebrating Ten Years of Sustainable Fisheries Development in the ASEAN via the Japanese Trust Fund Program
- Agenda 8 (Closed Session) SEAFDEC Future Operation
8.1 Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC)
8.2 Areas for Improvement of SEAFDEC Operation
8.2.1) Improvement of SEAFDEC Information tools and enhancing visibility of communication
8.2.2) Operation of Training and Research Vessels and cost sharing schemes.
8.2.3) Revision of the SEAFDEC/AQD's Organization Structure and Strategic Plan
- Agenda 9 (Closed Session) Management of the Center
9.1 Collaborative Arrangement between SEAFDEC and other organizations

- Agenda 10 (Closed Session) Financial Matters
 - 10.1 Adoption of Auditor's Financial Report for 2006
 - 10.2 Un-audited Financial Report for the 2006, and Status of the financial situation for the year 2007
 - 10.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirement for 2009
 - 10.4 Other financial matters

- Agenda 11 Concluding Matters
 - 11.1 Adoption of the Report and Press Statement
 - 11.2 Date and Venue of the Forty-first Meeting of the Council
 - 11.3 Vote of Thanks to the Host Government

- Agenda 12 Closing of the Meeting

**NOTE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE ON
THE RESULT OF THE THIRTIETH MEETING**

**26-28 November 2008
Iloilo City, the Philippines**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Thirtieth Meeting of the Program Committee of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was held in Iloilo City, the Philippines from 26 to 28 November 2007, and hosted by the Aquaculture Department.

2. The Meeting was attended by the National Coordinators from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam as members of the Program Committee together with their respective delegates. The SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Department Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs as ex-officio members also attended the Meeting together with officers from the Secretariat and the Departments.

II. PROGRAM MATTERS

2.1 Progress and Achievements of the Program Implementation in the year 2007

3. SEAFDEC Programs for the year 2007 were formulated based upon the framework of SEAFDEC Strategic Plan and the Resolution and Plan of Action concluded at the 2001 ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference. SEAFDEC Programs for the year 2007 can be categorised into: (i) Departmental Programs; (ii) Programs under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Mechanism. The programs are listed in as **Appendix 1**.

2.1.1 Departmental Programs in 2007

4. SEC, AQD, TD and AQD carried out totally 9 Departmental Programs in 2007, including:

- 1) Center-wide Information Network (SEC)
- 2) Information and Communications Technology (TD)
- 3) Integrated Mollusk Production (AQD)
- 4) Mud Crab and Shrimp Domestication (AQD)
- 5) Marine Fish (AQD)
- 6) Small-holder Freshwater Aquaculture (AQD)
- 7) Seaweed Strain Improvement (AQD)
- 8) Aquatic Ecology (AQD)
- 9) Other Research & Development Activities

5. The Meeting suggested that although the SEAFDEC Departmental Programs are supported by the Governments hosting the Departments and non-traditional sources of funds, such programs should be regional in nature, reflecting regional priority and providing benefits to the Member Countries.

6. The progress and major achievements of the Departmental Program implemented in the year 2007 are as follow:

2007 Departmental Program – SEC

7. The Program under *Center-wide Information Network* aims at: keeping the public well informed of SEAFDEC activities, through various medias/publications such as reports of SEAFDEC's events, magazine "Fish for the People", Fisheries Statistical Bulletin, SEAFDEC Integrated Website, etc. Information Exchange Program Meetings were conducted to monitor the progress of activities implemented. In addition, the Regional Fisheries Policy Network was also included. Under this program, information on global/regional small-scale fisheries will be available through websites. This information would be useful for the development of small-scale fisheries in the region and as reference for the forthcoming Small-scale Fisheries Conference to be convened in Bangkok in 2008.

8. Noted that the new framework of fishery statistics in Southeast Asia would be finalized during the forthcoming Regional Technical Consultation in December 2007 under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism Program on *Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region*. In addition, the questionnaires for the compilation of fishery statistics in Southeast Asia will be harmonized and streamlined with those of the FAO to lessen the burden of the Member Countries in providing fishery statistics to SEAFDEC and FAO.

2007 Departmental Program – TD

9. In 2007, TD strengthened public relations of TD's organization and activities through various exhibitions, integrated information and extension packages, etc. 2007 Activities include: Public relation; Information and Communication Development; Development and Production of Multimedia Packages; and Human Resource Development.

10. Noted that TD and the Australian Maritime College are coordinating to develop/finalize a Master's Degree Program through e-learning program at TD. The progress includes formulation of its curriculum focusing on Responsible Fishing, Coastal Fisheries Management, and Ecology. Noted also that merit of program is that the estimated cost would be only about one third as compared to the same course in Australia. Subsequently, a certain number of scholarships may be provided to the Member Countries.

11. Suggested that since many activities related to data and information are implemented under several programs, the overall framework and linkages of such relevant programs should be provided to the Committee Members. In this regard, the forthcoming *Workshop on Fisheries Information and Database* to be organized by TD could be an appropriate opportunity to discuss this matter.

12. The Committee Member from the Philippines suggested that the issue on climate change and its impacts to fisheries, aquaculture and the ecology should also be given due consideration. He requested TD to compile/disseminate information on this under the program on *Information and Communications Technology*. Regarding other related issue, noted that information related to global warming and its effect on fisheries is in the process of a video production by TD in collaboration with the UNEP/GEF South China Sea environment program.

2007 Departmental Programs – AQD

13. The activities under these have focused on research and verification of aquaculture technologies in support of the intensified ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG programs in the ASEAN region. In 2007, AQD implemented following Departmental Programs:

- a) Mollusk
- b) Mud crab and shrimp
- c) Marine fish
- d) Small-holder freshwater aquaculture
- e) Seaweeds
- f) Aquatic Ecology
- g) Other Research and Development

14. With regards to the Departmental Programs of AQD, the Committee Member from Myanmar requested AQD to extend again its assistance to Myanmar, i.e. technical assistance for conservation and management of mud crab, technology transfer on mud crab fattening, Good Aquaculture Practice for freshwater species, e.g. tilapia to meet the requirements of importing countries, and on culture of high value species of marine fishes, e.g. grouper. In response, AQD suggested to provide assistance in 2008 under the *Sustainable Aquaculture Development* project in Myanmar considering the same level of assistance as that of 2007, which was suspended due to the US sanction imposed on Myanmar.

2.1.2 ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism Programs in the year 2007

15. Programs under ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism can be grouped into four categories: fisheries management, aquaculture, post-harvest and processing, trade and environment. The Meeting reviewed the following programs that carried out in 2007:

2007 FCG Programs – Fisheries Management (by SEC, TD, and MFRDMD)

16. There are 11 programs under this grouping:

- 1) *Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (SEC)*
- 2) *Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region (SEC)*
- 3) *Support to Tsunami Rehabilitation of Affected Countries in the ASEAN Region (SEC)*
- 4) *Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries Management through the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management (TD)*
- 5) *Capacity Improvement of Fisheries community for Fisheries Management and Alleviation of Poverty (TD)*
- 6) *Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices (Fishing in Harmony with Nature) (TD)*
- 7) *Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement (TD)*
- 8) *Sustainable Utilization of Potential Fisheries Resources and Reduction of Post-harvest Losses (TD)*
- 9) *Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for M.V. SEAFDEC 2 (TD)*
- 10) *Deep Sea Fisheries Resources Exploration in the Southeast Asia (TD)*
- 11) *Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea (MFRDMD)*

17. Programs under this grouping highlight on the needs for innovative management for sustainable fisheries through consultation, demonstration, and dissemination of relevant approaches, at the same time to minimize disparities of the Member Countries and to achieve coordinated efforts towards sustainable fisheries.

18. Generally, activities of the program include: organization of technical policy consultation/meetings; development of technical guidelines; organization of trainings and demonstration; dissemination of publications, proceeding and reports; participation to

regional/national/international related events; and resources investigations and assessment of the resource status.

19. The important meeting, which implemented under Program on *Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries* with the support by Sida in 2007, was the regional technical consultation on the concept for development and establishment of an ASEAN Fisheries Management Mechanism. Major result from the consultation was that SEAFDEC should continue to take a lead, together with Department of Fisheries Thailand on conceptual points for consideration to be identified with the recommendations on scope and focus to be applied in the continued process. And the result of the consultation will be presented to ASEAN and ASWGF.

20. Regarding the program on *Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries Management through the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management*, the Meeting was informed that the program will be replaced by the program on *Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management Towards Institutional Building and Participatory Mechanism for Coastal Fisheries Management* starting in 2008.

21. On the *Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices* program, noted that Philippines completed a series of experiments on the use of JTEDs in the country, and policy on the use of JTEDs has been drafted in consultations among stakeholders. The Philippines would also conduct experiment of a new gear for shrimp trawlers, which are used by small-scale fishermen. The outcomes of this experiment would be reported during the forthcoming meetings of the Program Committee and be disseminated to all Member Countries.

22. The Committee Member from the Philippines also commended the success of TD in implementing the program on *Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement*, which are now replicated in several areas of the Philippines, and requested that the activities under this program should be continued.

23. With regards to the program on *Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for M.V. SEAFDEC 2*, the Committee Member from Myanmar requested TD to conduct a bottom vertical long-line survey in the untrawlable fishing grounds in Myanmar.

24. The Committee Member from the Philippines expressed his appreciation of the activities implemented under the program on *Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea*, and informed the Meeting that the Philippines would further communicate with MFRDMD and TD on the activities to be proposed by the Philippines for 2008.

2007 FCG Programs – Aquaculture (by AQD)

25. There are 2 programs under this grouping:

- 12) *Development of Technologies and Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture*
- 13) *Establishment of Disease Surveillance System of Aquatic Animals*

26. These programs aim to: (i) address regionally relevant technology needs for sustainable aquaculture in various areas (broodstock, genetic improvement, seed production, and culture systems of priority species, etc.); and (ii) develop a surveillance system for diseases of aquatic animals in South East Asia through establishment of the network of resources and facilities for fish health diagnosis.

27. With regards to the *Development of Technologies and Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture*, the Committee Member from Vietnam requested that funds to support the participation of the Member Countries in such training courses should also be provided, e.g. from the Japanese Trust Fund.

28. With regards to the program on *Research and Development of Stock Enhancement of Species under International Concerns*, the Committee Member from Thailand suggested that the involvement of the Member Countries in the program should be intensified through the conduct of a regional workshop to assess the existing methodologies.

29. The Committee Member from Myanmar informed/requested AQD to transfer technology on mud crab fattening that would be an effective way to sustainable use of mud crab in the country. He added that technical assistance could be in the form of experts visit, training for trainers, etc. which could be essential to address the concerns of the country's mud crab industry.

30. To strengthen the implementation of activities on sustainable aquaculture development, the Meeting suggested AQD to coordinate closely with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) on areas of common interest.

2007 FCG Programs – Post-harvest and processing including quality and safety aspects (by MFRD)

31. There are 2 programs implemented in 2007 under this grouping as follow:

- 14) *Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries*
- 15) *Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia*

32. Overall objectives of the programs under this grouping is to develop an integrated fisheries post-harvest technology program that would address food security and sustainable development of fish resources in the region, and strengthen collaboration amongst ASEAN Member Countries.

33. With regards to the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector specifically on food safety, the Department of Fisheries of Myanmar has been tasked to effectively implement laws, updated regulations, and standards in line with the requirements of importing countries for fish and fishery products as well as for traditional fishery products for local consumption. In order for Myanmar to comply with such requirements, he therefore requested MFRD to provide technical assistance, e.g. dispatch the expert specifically on the harmonization of food safety practices in the ASEAN region as well as in the implementation of management systems such as the Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points (HACCP) and Good Manufacturing Practices/Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (GMP/SSOP) guidelines.

2007 FCG Programs – Trade and Environment (by SEC, AQD and MFRDMD)

34. There are 4 programs under this grouping:

- 16) *Assistance of capacity building in the region to address international trade related issues(SEC)*
- 17) *Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast Asia (SEC)*
- 18) *Research and Development of Stock Enhancement of Species under International Concerns (AQD)*
- 19) *Research for Stock Enhancement of Sea Turtles (MFRDMD)*

35. Objectives of the programs under this grouping were to: (i) safeguard Member Countries interests and welfare against unfair treatment, which may jeopardize the national or regional fisheries resources sustainability; (ii) to provide necessary information on concerned aquatic species under CITES and put effort in conservation and management of sharks, sea turtles and sea cucumbers; (iii) review past/present stock enhancement programs, develop ecologically sound strategies for stock enhancement, encourage participation of local communities in stock enhancement, and develop method and criteria for monitoring and evaluation of stock enhancement; and (iv) promote/support the reduction of sea turtle mortality in fishing operation.

36. With regards to the program on *Research for Stock Enhancement of Sea Turtles*, the Committee Member from the Philippines suggested that follow-up actions be conducted on the interaction between sea turtles and fisheries, and that the Philippines intend to participate in the satellite telemetry and turtle tagging programs conducted by SEAFDEC. While agreeing with the suggestion, the Committee Member from Brunei Darussalam suggested that this turtle program should be implemented in all Member Countries. The Committee Member from Myanmar requested that activities on the installation of Platform Transmitter Terminals (PTTs) should be continued in Myanmar for Olive Ridley Turtle and Green Turtle in order to observe their nesting and foraging habitats. He informed the Meeting on the need to conduct awareness and educational program for the local people and the fishermen in various sites of the country to make them aware on the importance of sea turtles and for them to avoid killing the sea turtles.

37. There are inactive programs but considered important for fisheries development of the region. The Meeting requested SEAFDEC to seek funding support from possible donors e.g. the Asian Development Bank, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, etc. The Meeting agreed that tailor-made activities may be arranged to address the priorities/needs of the Member Countries, if funding is available/provided. The Meeting also agreed that to secure these financial supports, the forthcoming Department Chiefs' Meeting (DCM) will explore the potential sources of funds through the arrangement of one day special seminar on the issue.

38. The Meeting therefore recommended dropping the following programs until funding becomes secured:

- The Use of Indicators for sustainable Development and Management of Capture Fisheries in the ASEAN Region (MFRDMD);
- Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries (MFRDMD);
- Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries (MFRD); and
- Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries (MFRD).

2.1.3 Other Programs in 2007

39. The Meeting took note on Other Programs in 2007, namely "*Information Collection for Economical Important Species: as Surimi Raw Materials*" (having only one implemented by TD). Activities of this program included information collection, organization of the regional workshop, and information dissemination. Approximately 40-70 % of the progress of implementation was achieved in 2007.

40. With regards to this program, the Meeting suggested that investigation on new species as Surimi raw materials should also be included and conducted; and the use of species from inland capture fisheries and aquaculture for Surimi production should also be studied. Subsequently, TD was requested to further collaborate with relevant Departments for the appropriate implementation of such requested activities.

2.2 Proposed Programs of Activities in the year 2008

41. In 2008, most of the programs will be implemented as the continuation of the existing program activities from the previous years, considering the response to areas of importance and priority need of the Member Countries. The list of the proposed programs/activities, comprising of Departmental Programs and Programs under ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG in the year 2008 appears also as **Appendix 1**.

2.2.1 Departmental Programs in the year 2008

42. The Secretariat, Training and Aquaculture Departments proposed totally 10 Programs including 9 existing (continued programs from 2007, see also the list under item 2.1.1) and 1 new programs, namely *Tailor-made Training and Study Tour*.

43. For SEC and TD, the Departmental Programs aim to: maintain and updating SEAFDEC integrated homepage; produce/disseminate; produce/disseminate various information to be initiated by SEAFDEC in format of publications, brochures, exhibitions, video, etc.; strengthen collaboration among SEAFDEC and other organizations. In the case of AQD, the activities initiated in 2007 will be continued. A new Departmental Program that proposed by the Training Department aims at to provide a wide range of tailor made training courses and study tour programs in the field of fisheries.

44. After endorsement of the proposed Departmental Programs for 2008, the Meeting provided comments to ensure that the Programs address the needs of the Member Countries. Noted that MFRD and MFRDMD did not implement Departmental Program in 2007 nor propose for 2008 due to the unavailability of funding.

45. In response to the request from Committee Member from Vietnam on the mechanism regarding AQD's *Agree-Build-Operate-Transfer* (ABOT) project and that such mechanism should be extended to other Member Countries, AQD agreed to communicate with Vietnam on the procedures and necessary arrangements of the ABOT project.

46. While supporting the proposed new Departmental Program on *Tailor-made Training and Study Tour*, noted that the program will be funded from extra-budgetary sources, and suggested that the regional requirements should be accommodated in the activity.

2.2.2 Programs under ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism in the year 2008

47. In 2008, most of the programs activities under this grouping will be implemented as to follow up and continuation of works from over the past years. Major objective of these programs is to ensure long-term sustainable management and development of fisheries/aquatic resources in the region. Process of the program activities includes: organization of consultations/meeting to develop policy guidelines for sustainable development and management in fisheries; organization of survey/research that based upon the need/request of the Member Countries and the region priority; and dissemination o the outputs from the events/activities.

48. In the year 2008, the programs consist of 22 existing programs (see the list appears under the item 2.1.2), and 3 new proposed programs (to be placed under the sub-category of ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Programs related to Fisheries Management).

49. New proposed ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Programs for the year 2008 are listed as follows:

- 1) Promotion of “One Village, One Fisheries Products (FOVOP)” System to Improve the Livelihood for the Fisheries Communities in ASEAN Region (SEC);
- 2) Development of Regional Database for Fishery Management (TD); and
- 3) Information Collection of Highly Migratory Species in Southeast Asia Waters (TD)

50. Recommendations by the Committee on the Department Programs are the following:

2008 FCG Programs – Fisheries Management

(see also the list under the item 2.1.2 and above list of the new proposed programs)

51. While noting that in 2008, the program on *Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries* will be renamed to *Support to the Implementation of the CCRF in the ASEAN Region*, the Meeting complimented the efforts made by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries in implementing the program and congratulated SEAFDEC for receiving the Margarita Lizarraga Medal Award (2006-2007) for its efforts in the promotion of responsible fisheries in Southeast Asia. The Meeting requested SEAFDEC to continue to provide assistance to the Member Countries in the implementation of the CCRF, including the development of regional guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU fishing in the Region.

52. With regards to the program on *Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region*, Thailand expressed the willingness to be one of the pilot countries for the development of the National Status and Trends of Fisheries and Aquaculture in 2008.

53. With regards to the new program on *Promotion of FOVOP*, the Meeting was informed that the Project Inception Meeting will be organized in early 2008, and that the detailed activities under the program would be discussed during the Meeting.

54. Noted that International Small-scale Fisheries Conference will be organized by FAO and co-hosted by Thailand in collaboration with SEAFDEC and WorldFish Center. The tentative themes for discussion are: 1) Human Rights, 2) Fishing Rights, and 3) Post-harvest Technology and Trade. In this regard, the Meeting requested SEAFDEC to deliver the keynote speech at the Conference, arranging small panel discussions, and putting up of exhibition booths and disseminating information materials.

55. Regarding the program on *Information Collection of Highly Migratory Species in Southeast Asian Waters*, Committee Member from Vietnam requested that TD should try to collect information from all countries bordering the South China Sea in implementation of the program.

56. As for the new program on *Development of Regional Database for Fishery Management*, Thailand supported the development of a regional database system/directory which is envisaged to be very useful for fisheries management. The Member Countries could agree on minimum data requirements and provide their list of databases to the directory. In addition, Thailand could serve as the lead country for database directory establishments.

2008 FCG Programs – Aquaculture

(see also the list under the item 2.1.2)

57. With regards to the program on *Research and Development (R&D) of Stock Enhancement of Species under International Concerns*, the Committee Member from Thailand suggested that

the involvement of the Member Countries in the program should be intensified through the conduct of a regional workshop to assess the existing methodologies.

58. With regards to the *Development of Technologies and Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture*, the Committee Member from Vietnam requested that funds to support the participation of the Member Countries in such training courses should also be provided, e.g. from the Japanese Trust Fund.

59. Regarding the aquaculture related programs, the Committee Member from Myanmar requested for the transfer of technology on mud crab fattening as this would be an effective way to nurse the under-sized mud crab collected from the landing sites into marketable size.

60. In order to strengthen the implementation of activities on sustainable aquaculture development, the Meeting suggested AQD to coordinate closely with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) on areas of common interest.

2008 FCG Program – Post-harvest and processing including quality and safety aspects

61. There is no new program to be implemented in 2008 under this grouping. The list of the existing programs that will be continued in 2008 appears under above item 2.1.2.

62. Under program on *Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries*, it is envisaged that a manual on GMP for selected PPE will be published by the end of the first quarter of 2008. An End-of-Activity Workshop will be then organized to disseminate the results of the development work.

63. With regards to the program on *Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia*, the project activities would be completed by the end of 2008. The Meeting requested MFRD to explore possibility to extend the program beyond 2008. Committee Member from the Philippines informed the Meeting of their interests to collaborate, as activities on analysis of antibiotic residues in aquaculture products are currently being implemented by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

2008 FCG Programs – Trade and Environment

64. There will be 4 continued programs from the previous years as appears under the item 2.1.2.

65. On the program on *Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues*. The Meeting was informed that a Regional Technical Consultation on International Fisheries-Related Issues would be organized by SEAFDEC in early 2008. The outcomes of the Consultation would be submitted to the forthcoming SEAFDEC Council and the ASWGF Meetings, and to be used as a basis for the Member Countries' participation to the FAO Sub-Committee on Fish Trade to be organized in June 2008.

66. The Meeting suggested that important fisheries-related issues i.e. climate change, fishery subsidies, traceability, small-scale fisheries as well as other issues to be discussed at the FAO Sub-Committee on Fish Trade and Sub-committee on Aquaculture in 2008 should be incorporated in the program.

67. Regarding the program on *Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast Asia*, the Committee Member from Japan requested SEAFDEC to continue its activities on the conservation and management of sharks and support the development of NPOA-Sharks by the Member Countries, as shark species may be subjected for listing in appendices at the next

Conference of Parties of the CITES in 2010. In line with this, the Committee Member from Vietnam also requested SEAFDEC to provide assistance in organizing a national planning meeting to draft the National Plan of Action on Conservation and Management of Sharks.

68. Under the program on *Research for Stock Enhancement of Sea Turtles*, expected outcome of the project by the end of 2008 include reports on: research for stock enhancement of the green and hawksbill turtles in SEA region; interaction between sea turtles and fishing operation; and comparison study between the use of circle hooks and J-hook in pelagic/bottom long-line.

2.2.3 Other Programs in the year 2008

69. Under this grouping, there will be totally 5 programs, including 1 new program and 4 existing/continued programs as follow:

- 1) Promotion of Set-Net; an Eco-friendly Fishing Gear of Sustainable Coastal Fisheries Management (TD, established since 2003)
- 2) Collection of Information about International Support in the Region (TD, established since 2003)
- 3) Information Collection for Economical Important Species: as Surimi Raw Materials (TD, established since 2006)
- 4) Promotion of Sustainable Freshwater Aquaculture for Rural Communities (SEC in collaboration with AQD, established since 2007)
- 5) Cetacean Research in Southeast Asian Waters: Whale Watching Program (new) (TD, new program)

70. With regards to the program on *Promotion of Set-Net an Eco-friendly Fishing Gear of Sustainable Coastal Fisheries Management*, noted that a Workshop on Set Net would be organized by the Department of Fisheries of Thailand in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and TD in December 2007, in Rayong Province, Thailand. In addition, TD has planned to conduct a fellowship training on eco-friendly fishing gear for representatives from the Member Countries in April 2008.

71. With regards to the program on *Cetacean Research in Southeast Asian Waters: Whale Watching Program*, noted that scientific information collection on Cetacean species composition will be carried out by using the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 based on her existing cruise plans. Committee Member from Cambodia requested SEAFDEC to also include the collection of information on freshwater porpoises for conservation purposes.

72. The Meeting took note of the program on *Promotion of Sustainable Freshwater Aquaculture for Rural Communities*, which has been implemented by the Secretariat as an ad-hoc project to reduce development disparity among Member Countries, with emphasis given to countries that inland fisheries and freshwater aquaculture are important for rural development. The Meeting was also informed that the nature activities implemented focuses mainly on coordination and mobilization of expertise and experience from AQD, the Member Countries and relevant international/regional organizations in the region. The Meeting supported the program and the suggestion of the Committee Members from Thailand and Indonesia as there are limited number activities at present focusing on inland and freshwater fisheries. The Committee Member from Cambodia also reiterated that inland fisheries and freshwater aquaculture play very important roles in many countries in the region, e.g., Lao PDR and Cambodia. The Meeting therefore suggested that programs aiming at development of rural communities e.g. aquaculture and fisheries in inland waters could be proposed under the ASSP framework to the forthcoming ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG and ASWGFi Meetings for consideration.

2.3.4 Overview of Japanese Trust Fund Programs for 2008

73. While noting that the implementation of the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF) projects and activities is in line with priorities and needs of the Member Countries. According to the result of the Program Planning Meeting held in June 2007, some of the proposals submitted to the Planning Meeting were considered to meet the JTF criteria and the objectives of relevant JTF components. These have been accommodated in the SEAFDEC regional programs to be implemented in 2008 under the new JTF2 and JTF3 and JTF4.

3 PIPELINE PROJECTS AND EMERGING NEEDS FOR PREPARATION OF FUTURE PROJECT PROPOSALS

74. There are totally 4 pipeline projects, which can be grouped under programs related to fisheries management that proposed and endorsed by the Committee. The projects are still under discussion and negotiation process with donor agencies, as follow:

- 1) *Community Fisheries – Strengthening Organization of Communities for Sustainable Livelihoods in Coastal Areas* (to be implemented as SEC/Islamic Development Bank-IDB program)
- 2) *Human Resource Development (HRD) on Poverty Alleviation and Food Security by Fisheries Intervention in the ASEAN Region* (to be implemented as SEC/ASEAN Foundation program)
- 3) *Awareness Building on Sustainable Development of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region* (to be implemented as Secretariat/ASEAN Foundation program)
- 4) *Transboundary Collaborative Arrangement Supporting Aquatic Resources and Habitat Management for Sustainable Fisheries* (to be implemented as TD/Wetland Alliance program)

75. With regards to the program on *Community Fisheries – Strengthening Organization of Communities for Sustainable Livelihoods in Coastal Areas*, the Concept Proposal has been prepared by the Secretariat. Committee Member from Indonesia was requested to submit the proposal to IDB and appoint the focal point to follow-up this matter. The Meeting suggested that in the elaboration of the project proposal, activities in inland areas could also be looked into.

76. With regards to the program on *Human Resource Development (HRD) on Poverty Alleviation and Food Security by Fisheries Intervention in the ASEAN Region*, the proposal is under finalization process by the ASEAN Foundation and the project agreement is expected to be signed by the end of 2007 or early 2008. However, the detailed project activities would be discussed and finalized at the Project Inception Meeting to be held in 2008.

77. With regards to the program on *Awareness Building on Sustainable Development of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region*, the Meeting noted that the proposal has been prepared upon the request of the ASEAN Foundation, and will be submitted to the ASEAN Foundation for comments and consideration.

78. The Meeting suggested that in order to seek more funding support from donor agencies, the issues of human resources development, poverty alleviation, and gender issues, etc. should be given more emphasis.

4 OTHER MATTERS

4.1 Establishment of Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RSAC)

79. The Meeting reviewed the draft proposal on Establishment of Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RSAC), however stressed that RSAC is not part of the Program Committee although the outcome of the discussion on the proposal at this Meeting would be submitted to the forthcoming Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council for consideration.

80. Since there was no consensus on the proposal to include in the Terms of Reference of RSAC “to advise on the delineation and coordination among the SEAFDEC programs related to fisheries management”, the Meeting suggested that such proposal will be subject to further reviews by the SEAFDEC Council.

81. The Meeting noted the concern expressed by some Member Countries on the potential implication of RSAC to existing SEAFDEC Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) and therefore requested the Secretariat to prepare a detailed information to facilitate discussion and consideration at the Council Meeting including the amount of financial requirement from the MRC for the organization of RSAC meetings, both under option 1 (to be fully fund by the MRC) and option 2 (to be partially funded by the MRC). The Meeting adopted the Draft Proposal on Establishment of Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia.

4.2 Others

82. The Committee Member from Thailand suggested that in order that all programs are implemented in a holistic approach and to facilitate sourcing of funds for the implementation of the activities, a clear SEAFDEC program framework (or guiding principle), outlining directions or thrusts for the formulation of programs/activities should be established. The program framework should take into consideration the technical competence of SEAFDEC as well as the priorities and needs of the Member Countries in fisheries development and management. Along this line, RSAC can be considered as a program thrust for fisheries management to comprehensively review the existing management related programs/projects to find duplicated and/or missing priority area to have a holistic view of SEAFDEC fisheries management related programs. The Meeting requested that the draft SEAFDEC program framework be submitted to the next meeting of the Program Committee for consideration.

5 SUGGESTION BY THE COUNCIL

83. The Council is requested to consider and endorse the results of the programs implementation for the year 2007 and proposed programs for 2008, also including the recommendation made at the 30th Meeting of the Program Committee.

84. The Council is invited to provide directives for the Secretariat and all Departments on the important areas for improvement of the program formulation, monitoring and evaluation fro its effective implementation in order to increase benefit to the Member Countries in the future.

Appendix 1 of Annex 6

LIST OF SEAFDEC PROGRAMS ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008

I. Departmental Programs

Departmental Programs	Responsible Department	2007	2008
1. Center-wide Information Network	SEC	X	X
2. Information and Communications Technology	TD	X	X
3. Tailor Made Training and Study Tour (New)	TD	-	X
4. Integrated Mollusc Production	AQD	X	X
5. Mud Crab and Shrimp	AQD	X	X
6. Marine Fish	AQD	X	X
7. Small-Holder Freshwater Aquaculture	AQD	X	X
8. Seaweed Strain Improvement	AQD	X	X
9. Aquatic Ecology	AQD	X	X
10. Other Research and Development Activities	AQD	X	X

II. Programs under the ASEAN SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism

Programs under the ASEAN SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism	Lead Country	Lead Department	2007	2008
1. Support to the Implementation of Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in the ASEAN Region <u>Component I: Mainstreaming Regional Guidelines</u> <u>Component II: Capacity Building for Implementation of the CCRF in the ASEAN Region</u>	Indonesia	SEC	X	X ¹
2. Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues	Thailand	SEC	X	X
3. Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management towards Institutional Building and Participatory Mechanism for Coastal Fisheries Management	All Member Countries	TD	X	X ²
4. Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region	Thailand	SEC	X	X
5. Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices (Fishing in Harmony with Nature)	Thailand	TD	X	X
6. Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement	Thailand	TD	X	- ³
7. Sustainable Utilization of Potential Fisheries Resources and Reduction of Post-harvest Losses	Thailand	TD	X	X

¹ The program in 2007 was previously referred to as Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

² The program in 2007 was previously referred to as Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries Management through the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management.

³ The program is deferred until funding available.

8. The Use of Indicators for Sustainable Development and Management of Capture Fisheries in the ASEAN Region	Malaysia	MFRDMD	-	- ⁴
9. Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries	Malaysia	MFRDMD	-	- ^d
10. Development of Technologies and Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture	Philippines	AQD	X	X
11. Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries	Singapore	MFRD	X	X
12. Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries	Singapore	MFRD	-	- ^d
13. Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries	Singapore	MFRD	-	- ^d
14. Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast Asia (in collaboration with the Departments)	Malaysia	SEC	X	X
15. Establishment of Disease Surveillance System of Aquatic Animals	Philippines	AQD	X	X
16. Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia	Singapore	MFRD	X	X
17. Research and Development (R&D) of Stock Enhancement for Species under International Concerns	Philippines	AQD	X	X
18. Research for Stock Enhancement of Sea Turtles (in collaboration with TD)	Malaysia	MFRDMD	X	X
19. Capacity Improvement of Fisheries Community for Fisheries Management and Alleviation of Poverty	Thailand	TD	X	X
20. Support to Tsunami Rehabilitation of Affected Countries in the ASEAN Region	TBD ⁵	SEC	X	X
21. Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for M.V. SEAFDEC 2	All Member Countries	TD	X	X
22. Deep Sea Fisheries Resources Exploration in the Southeast Asia (in collaboration with MFRDMD)	TBD	TD	X	X
23. Tagging program for economically important pelagic species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea (in collaboration with TD)	TBD	MFRDMD	X	X
24. Promotion of "One Village, One Fisheries Products (FOVOP)" System to Improve the Livelihood for the Fisheries Communities in ASEAN Region (New)	TBD	SEC	-	X
25. Information Collection of Highly Migratory Species in Southeast Asia Waters (New)	TBD	TD	-	X
26. Development of Regional Database for Fishery Management (New)	TBD	TD	-	X

Remark: Programs no. 3-13 previously were under the Special 5-year Program

⁴ The programs have been suspended and dropped in 2008 until availability of fund.

⁵ TBD = To be determined by the ASWGF.

III. Other Programs

Other Programs	Responsible Department
1. Promotion of Set-Net; an Eco-friendly Fishing Gear of Sustainable Coastal Fisheries Management	TD
2. Information Collection for Economical Important Species: as Surimi Raw Materials	TD
3. Cetacean Research in Southeast Asia Waters: Whale Watching Program	TD
4. Collection of Information about International Support in the Region	TD
5. Promotion of Sustainable Freshwater Aquaculture for Rural Communities (in collaboration with AQD)	SEC

IV. Pipelines Programs

Pipelines Programs	Responsible Department
1. Community Fisheries – Strengthening Organization of Communities for Sustainable Livelihoods in Coastal Areas	SEC/IDB
2. Human Resource Development (HRD) on Poverty Alleviation and Food Security by Fisheries Intervention in the ASEAN Region	SEC/ASEAN Foundation
3. Awareness Building on Sustainable Development of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region	SEC/ASEAN Foundation
4. Transboundary Collaborative Arrangement Supporting Aquatic Resources and Habitat Management for Sustainable Fisheries	TD/WAP

Annex 7

NOTE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON THE RESULT OF THE TENTH MEETING

**Iloilo City, the Philippines
29-30 November 2007**

1. The Tenth Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) was held from 29 to 30 November 2007 in Iloilo City, the Philippines with the main objective of discussing the ASEAN-SEAFDEC fisheries collaborative programs, the progress and activities under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership, as well as policy considerations on important issues.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE DIRECTIVES GIVEN AT THE MEETINGS OF SEAFDEC COUNCIL AND THE ASEAN SECTORAL WORKING GROUP ON FISHERIES

2. The Meeting took note of the follow-up actions on several important policy directives given at the 39th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council and the 15th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF_i) as well as actions related to program matters that have been accommodated in the programs under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group for the year 2007 and 2008.

3. The Meeting was informed on the initiatives on ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASA), which has been endorsed at the 29th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) in November 2007. Activities under the ASA cover 1) information sharing 2) formulation and harmonization of shrimp standard, creating platform for discussion among experts, and establishing network among the relevant private sectors. The Meeting agreed that the ASA be placed under the ASSP Program. The Meeting also supported that SEAFDEC be a collaborating partner to provide technical support to the ASA, of which the cost for the operation of ASA Secretariat including the development of ASA Website will be the responsibility of Thailand.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008

4. The Meeting endorsed the progress and achievements of activities undertaken by SEAFDEC under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism in 2007 and the new proposed programs for 2008, which are 1) Promotion of “One Village, One Fisheries Products (FOVOP)” System to Improve the Livelihood for the Fisheries Communities in ASEAN Region; 2) Development of Regional Database for Fishery Management; and 3) Information Collection of Highly Migratory Species in Southeast Asia Waters.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP)

➤ **Status of ASSP**

5. The Meeting took note that the ASSP has been established with the signing of the Letter of Understanding (LOU) on 2 November 2007 during the 29th AMAF and 7th AMAF+3 Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. The Meeting noted that existing projects and activities under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism could be consolidated under the ASSP Program. The Meeting agreed that future FCG meetings will be referred to as “the Meeting of Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership Program (FCG/ASSP)”. ASEAN and SEAFDEC will actively seek funding to support the implementation of ASSP Program, e.g.

SEAFDEC from Sida, FAO, etc. and ASEAN from the ASEAN-dialogue partners, AMAF+3, and etc.

6. If funding support for ASSP activities is requested to AMAF+3 Meeting, which is usually attended by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, it is suggested that such proposal be submitted to the Fisheries Agency during the SEAFDEC meetings.

➤ **Progress of the Proposals Implemented under ASSP**

7. With regards to the *ASEAN-SEAFDEC Cooperation in the Implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of the Fisheries Sectors*, the Meeting was informed that the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Consultation on the ASEAN Roadmap for the Integration of the Fisheries Sector will be co-organized by FAO, NACA, WorldFish Center, and SEAFDEC and hosted by the Department of Fisheries Thailand from 15 to 17 January 2008. It is envisaged that the Workshop would come up with supporting mechanism for the implementation of the Roadmap, and follow up actions, and identify future collaboration with other organizations in the implementation of the Roadmap.

8. The proposal on *Concept for the Establishment of a Regional Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism for Southeast Asia* has been discussed during the Workshop on the Concept for the Establishment of an ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism held in Bangkok, Thailand from 6 to 8 November 2007 and will be submitted to the next meeting of ASWGFi under ASSP Program.

9. The development of the Regional Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism will be conducted independently from that of the SEAFDEC Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RSAC). It was noted that the first will be implemented under the ASEAN Framework while the latter be developed as an advisory body under the SEAFDEC Framework. Within the ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative spirit, the ASWGFi will take into consideration and receive advice from SEAFDEC/RSAC as well as from other organizations, e.g. FAO, NACA, etc.

POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

➤ **Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia**

10. The Meeting congratulated SEAFDEC for the international recognition received for its initiatives in implementing the CCRF as SEAFDEC was elected as a Vice Chair on Small-scale Fisheries by the Regional Fisheries Bodies for the biennium 2005-2006 and 2007-2008, and was awarded the Margarita Lizarraga Medal for the biennium 2006-2007 by FAO.

11. The Meeting agreed that SEAFDEC could assist the Member Countries in the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action on Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region subject to policy support from the SEAFDEC Council.

12. The Meeting suggested that the Member Countries should copy the returned FAO Questionnaire evaluating the implementation of the CCRF on the biennial basis to SEAFDEC for consolidation and further circulated during the next SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting. The Meeting also requested SEAFDEC to provide the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) to Member Countries in order to standardize the countries' evaluation exercise.

➤ **International fisheries-Related Issues**

13. The Meeting also noted the important international fisheries-related meetings to be organized in 2008, and the international issues which are envisaged to have implication to

fisheries in the region, i.e. Fisheries Subsidies, Endangered Aquatic Species, Port State Measures, Traceability, Certification and Labeling, and Climate Change, Welfare of Fishing Crew and Fishing Labour, Emerging Fish Diseases, ASEAN Shrimp Alliance, EU Catch Documentation Scheme for Importation of Capture Fisheries Products from Foreign Countries, and Small-scale Fisheries.

14. The Meeting suggested that SEAFDEC should look into the issue on *welfare and safety of fishing crew and fisheries labour*, under International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Labor Organization (ILO) during the planned SEAFDEC-Sida Regional Technical Consultation on the implications of international conventions and their implementation as relevant to fisheries in the Member Countries, planned to be organized by SEAFDEC in 2008.

15. FAO, APFIC and SEAFDEC will co-organize a Regional Workshop on *Port State Measures* in Southeast Asian Countries and China at the end of March 2008, with the introduction of a draft legally binding instrument on Port State Measures as one of the Agenda. The Meeting requested SEAFDEC Secretariat to coordinate with FAO to circulate the Draft Legally-binding Instrument on Port State Measures to Member Countries when the document is available. The Member Countries are encouraged to attend this workshop to seek clarification from FAO on the definition of fishing vessels under the Measures, and the implication of these Measures to the Member Countries in the region.

16. In this connection, the Meeting requested Member Countries to carefully investigate the applicability of the draft binding instrument and prepare their inputs for discussion and finalization of the instrument at the FAO Technical Consultation on drafting of a legally-binding instrument on Port State Measures, scheduled in June 2008.

17. With regards to *Small-scale Fisheries*, the Meeting took note of development of small-scale fisheries related initiatives, including the International Conference on small-scale fisheries to be organized in October 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand.

18. The Meeting requested SEAFDEC Secretariat to prioritize the issues as agreed at this Meeting and communicate with all Member Countries on their willingness to take the leading role on each of the issues as well as conduct in-depth review including outlining proposed common/coordinated positions and policy recommendations for discussion at the RTC on International Fisheries-related Issues 2008.

➤ **Policy Recommendations for Sustainable Fisheries Development in the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Region**

19. The Meeting supported the recommendations and considerations for future fisheries development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to be further submitted to the meetings of the SEAFDEC Council and the ASWGFi for endorsement.

PROMOTIONAL AND FOLLOWING UP PROGRAM ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

BACKGROUND

Over the past four decades, SEAFDEC has been assisting Member Countries in developing their fisheries potentials towards sustainable directions, taking into consideration relevant global concerns and initiatives. With the adoption of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) by the FAO members in 1995, responsible approach has been immensely taken up by SEAFDEC, with the essence of the CCRF being embedded in planning and implementation of activities. In 1998, SEAFDEC has initiated a series of activities to promote the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF). The regionalization process of the CCRF covered a wide range of sub-sectors such as fishing technology and practices, aquaculture, post-harvest technology and trade, and fisheries management, which was completed in 2006 with a series of regional guidelines published, disseminated, and used by Member Countries as framework for the promotion of responsible fisheries. Up to the present, various activities have been conducted by SEAFDEC to support Member Countries in implementation of the CCRF.

In November 2007, SEAFDEC was awarded the Margarita Lizárraga Medal for the biennium 2006-2007 for its efforts in promoting the CCRF in Southeast Asia. This is considered a milestone in the history of SEAFDEC for having its efforts and achievements in promoting responsible fisheries in the region during the past decade globally recognized. The efforts would be continued to ensure that fisheries development in the region is harmonized with global initiatives as well as with the sustainable and responsible approaches.

Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

SEAFDEC concurs that the implementation of responsible fisheries is a very important step to ensure the sustainability of the fisheries sector. However, this could only be achieved if clarification with regards to the regional specific situation, scenario and issues, especially those related to the multi-species coastal and small-scale nature of fisheries, is defined. Towards this end, the program on the Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (RCCRF) was initiated and implemented by SEAFDEC from 1998 to 2006. The first phase of the program addressed regional specificity, scenario and issues and produced a set of Regional Guidelines for responsible fisheries as reference materials for the Member Countries. The latter phase focused on enhancing capacity building of the Member Countries for the implementation of the Guidelines. RCCRF has therefore been recognized as an important milestone in bridging the gaps between internationally adopted initiatives and the actual implementation of the Code at the regional, national and local levels.

- **Responsible Fishing Operations**

The Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fishing Operations clarify the issues corresponding to the Article 8 of the CCRF. The guidelines describe duties of all states, flag states and port states; fishing operations; gear selectivity; energy optimization; protection of environment and atmosphere; harbors and landing places for fishing vessels; abandonment of structures and other materials; and artificial reefs and fish aggregating devices.

- **Aquaculture Development**

The Regional Guidelines for Responsible Aquaculture was prepared corresponding to Article 9 of the CCRF, with consideration of the Southeast Asian traditions and culture, structure of the aquaculture industry and the ecosystems. The guidelines cover responsible development of

aquaculture; including culture-based fisheries under national jurisdiction and within transboundary aquatic ecosystem, use of aquatic genetic resources for aquaculture; and responsible aquaculture at the production level.

- Fisheries Management

The Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries Management was developed corresponding to Article 7 of the CCRF. In addition to the original CoC, the regional guidelines also address the importance of decentralization of management authorities, rights-based fisheries, use of statistics, information and indicators for fisheries planning and management, use of underutilized resources, conservation and management of species under international concerns, and resources enhancement.

- Post-harvest Practices and Trade

The Regional Guidelines for Responsible Post-Harvest Practices and Trade clarify issues and areas in regional fisheries context addressed in Article 11 of the CCRF. These include responsible fish utilization (post-harvest technology, safety and quality of fish, traceability of products' origins, etc.), responsible international trade (trade policies and barriers, trade of endangered species, etc.), and laws and regulations related to fish trade.

- Co-Management Using Group User Rights, Fishery Statistics, Indicators and Fisheries Refugia

The Supplementary Guidelines elaborate on particular issues contained in the Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries Management. The guidelines is envisaged to further assist Member Countries in developing the most practical national system in various aspects to improve their fisheries management towards responsible approach.

Progress in the Implementation of the CCRF in Southeast Asia

In line with the globally adopted CCRF and the Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries initiated activities, and intensified their efforts in the implementation of the CCRF. Specifically, the CCRF principles have been generally incorporated into their national policy and legal documents such as in fisheries laws (revision and/or updating) as well as in their plans and programs in fisheries management. The progress and achievements made by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) in Southeast Asia are summarized as follows:

Brunei Darussalam for example, has used the CCRF as policy and technical framework in updating the country's fisheries acts. Its National Plan of Action (NPOA) on Responsible Fisheries with emphasis on Elimination of IUU Fishing is being undertaken to boost its MCS and enforcement making it more systematic and effective. The country also addresses excess fishing capacity through zoning, mesh size regulation and limiting the number of fishing vessels.

The global CCRF has been translated into the Khmer language through the efforts of the Fisheries Administration of **Cambodia** and distributed to all agencies involved in the development of its fisheries sector. The set of regional guidelines have been used by Cambodia in the development of the Cambodian Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CamCode), carried out through a series of consultations with key stakeholders.

Indonesia's Fisheries Laws have been formulated focusing on responsible fisheries. Later on, the global CCRF and the regional guidelines have been used as guiding principles in the establishment and/or revision of its legislations in fisheries and aquaculture. Combating IUU has been continually promoted with significant achievements in the Indonesian EEZ waters, while the drafts NPOAs for fishing capacity, shark management and management of shared stock of red snappers are being prepared.

While complying with the CCRF, **Japan** makes use of the IPOA-IUU Fishing as a framework in imposing a sanction on trade with IUU fishing nations and conducted information collection for the development of NPOA-IUU Fishing. Japan also implemented research activities and educational programs for the implementation of NPOAs on Sharks and Seabirds.

Focusing on freshwater fisheries and aquaculture, **Lao PDR** has used the global CCRF and the regional guidelines as policy and legal framework for the country's plans and programs on fisheries development and management.

Malaysia has introduced the principles of the CCRF to all stakeholders through dialogues, seminars, training sessions and meetings, and has integrated the thematic issues outlined in the CCRF in a number of related national programs. The series of regional guidelines have been translated into Bahasa Malaysia (national language) for dissemination in November 2007 in order that all stakeholders understand and comply with the CCRF in a more responsible manner.

Complying with the provisions in the global CCRF and the regional guidelines, **Myanmar** promulgated a number of laws and directives (e.g. Law Relating to Aquaculture). Specifically, the regional guidelines have been used as basis for the development of its fisheries plans, aquaculture and food sanitation policies (post-harvest practices) as well as other directives formulated by the Department of Fisheries of Myanmar.

The **Philippine** Fisheries Code (Republic Act 8550) reflects the thematic issues in the CCRF. The global CCRF and the regional guidelines have been used as framework in the formulation of programs such as the Philippines' Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan, and in the formulation of the NPOAs for sharks and IUU fishing (still ongoing).

As a coastal state (both flag and port state), **Singapore** endorsed the RPOA to promote Responsible Fisheries Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region and contributed inputs in the drafting of the Guidelines on Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Health Certification and Quarantine Measures for Responsible Management of Live Food Finfish harmonizing the transboundary movement of aquatic animals. Specifically, Singapore serves as lead country for the ASEAN Roadmap Measure 46 on Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments (SMEs).

As early as 1999, **Thailand** has promoted awareness and understanding of the CCRF through the nation-wide distribution of the translated (Thai language) and child-friendly version of the CCRF. Since then Thailand has been adopting measures for long-term conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources with the framework of the CCRF as guiding principles. The country has established a committee to develop the NPOA-IUU fishing.

The global CCRF and regional guidelines have been used as framework in policy and legal improvements (i.e. Fisheries Law (2005) and other decrees, directives and regulations) on the fisheries development of **Vietnam** (e.g. Fisheries Resources Protection and Exploitation, Aquaculture Development, and Post-harvest Practices and Trade). Vietnam is still on its planning stage for the development of NPOA in IUU fishing and capacity, and sharks.

Recommendation for Future Promotion of the CCRF

On 22 October 2007, SEAFDEC organized the “**Seminar on Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia**” to review the progress and achievements of SEAFDEC and the Member Countries in the implementation of the CCRF. While SEAFDEC has been fully supporting the Member Countries in the implementation of the CCRF in the region for the past 10 years, it is necessary that the CCRF framework through the regional guidelines be integrated further into the country's national policies. In order to facilitate and continue

mainstreaming the CCRF in their respective programs, the Member Countries identified priority needs for the future implementation of CCRF in Southeast Asia and requested SEAFDEC to continue providing support in order to achieve the further implementation of CCRF in the region.

The Seminar also suggested the areas that SEAFDEC should provide support to Member Countries in the future implementation of the CCRF in the Southeast Asia, as follows:

- (1) Conduct in-depth study to identify the common areas of concerns in the Member Countries related to the implementation of CCRF;
- (2) Integrate human resource development (HRD) requirements in the SEAFDEC programs and develop regional package to support the implementation of the CCRF at local and grassroots levels;
- (3) Further promote fisheries management through the Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management (RSAC) serving as a forum where SEAFDEC could provide support to the Member Countries;
- (4) Carry-out regular evaluation of the compliance by the Member Countries with the CCRF by developing Key Performance Indicators (with quantitative measurements); and
- (5) Develop information packages on the principles and importance of CCRF for promotion at national and local levels, particularly targeting the high ranking policy levels to ensure policy support in the national implementation of the CCRF.

The progress in implementation of the CCRF by SEAFDEC and Member Countries, and the outcomes from the “Seminar on Implementation of the CCRF in Southeast Asia”, as well as the priority needs and recommendations for futures implementation of the CCRF as identified during the Seminar, have been reported to the **30th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee** (26-28 November 2007, the Philippines), and subsequently to the **10th Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG)** (29-30 November 2007, the Philippines).

In addition to the support to be provided to Member Countries in the overall implementation of CCRF, SEAFDEC was requested SEAFDEC to assist the Member Countries in the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action on Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region subject to policy support from the SEAFDEC Council. SEAFDEC was also requested to provide assistance in reducing the gap among Member Countries in the implementation of IPOAs on IUU fishing and Over-Capacity.

In response to the request from the Member Countries, SEAFDEC plans to implement a program on “Supporting Implementation of the CCRF in the ASEAN Member Countries” with support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), and the program on “HRD for Poverty Alleviation” with support from the the ASEAN Foundation. Implementation of these two programs would start in early 2008.

PROMOTIONAL AND FOLLOWING UP PROGRAM ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CCRF IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Supporting the Implementation of the CCRF in the ASEAN Member Countries

The program activities for Swedish support were formulated with the objectives to: 1) support the establishment of a regional fisheries management body/mechanism in Southeast Asia; 2) improve capacity for the management of fisheries and important coastal fisheries (refugia), and the protection against natural hazards built up and improved in Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand; and 3) understand the size and structure of large-scale (or industrial) fisheries, and strengthen capacity to monitor and record active fishing efforts in coastal fisheries as basis for the development and implementation of coordinated plans for management action on fishing capacity among the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries (both for large and small scale fisheries). The activities focus on the the following:

- Establishment of Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism

From 6 to 8 November 2007, SEAFDEC organized a “Regional Technical Consultation and Workshop on the Concept of the Establishment of an ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism”. It is expected that in 2008, through the SEAFDEC-Sida project, and in close consultation with the ASEAN Member Countries, the scope and framework of the Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism would be further clarified; while the required establishment process, i.e. through the ASEAN Ministers, would be further explored and undertaken.

- Integration of Habitat Management and Fisheries Management

The activity focuses on integrating habitat management with fisheries management, with particular emphasis on Cambodia, Vietnam and the border provinces of Thailand. In 2007, the criteria to determine the size of national, sub-regional and trans-boundary areas of significance was developed. From 6-9 August 2007, an “On-site training/workshop on the Integration of Fisheries Management into Habitat Management” was organized in Koh Kong Province, Cambodia; where the idea on large management areas and boundaries was discussed. Following the workshop, information, i.e. available maps, location and size of management areas, etc. were collected, starting with Cambodia and Thailand.

- Incentive for sustainable fisheries through promotion of eco-labelling

In 2007, the program identified three major candidate areas for the pilot activities on eco-labels, i.e. 1) mangrove crabs in Trat (Thailand), Koh Kong and Kampot (Cambodia); 2) mackerel and other species in Chumpon (Thailand) and Eastern Gulf of Thailand; and 3) Prara/Prahok (fermented fish) in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand. The critical elements in the certifying body, the role of the governments, and the appropriate certification schemes for the region have been discussed. In 2008, SEAFDEC would continue to explore ways to use eco-labelling in order to provide incentives for fishermen who fish in a responsible manner.

- Collection of Information on Size and structure of Large-scale Fisheries

Currently, there is no reliable or aggregated information on the size and structure of large-scale fisheries especially in the Southeast Asian region. SEAFDEC through the SEAFDEC-Sida project would therefore review the available information on the size and structure of large-scale fisheries in the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, and assess the status of large-scale fisheries over time relative to small-scale fisheries. The project would also review and recommend revisions on MCS practices, and compile information on IUU fishing by large-scale vessels and their conflicts with small-scale fisheries. Based on the information, the project expects to provide inputs, i.e. management options for large-scale fisheries, to the ASEAN policy making mechanisms.

- Monitor and record coastal fisheries

This activity has particular emphasis in Koh Kong, Kampot (Cambodia), Trat (Thailand), and Kien Giang, Quang Binh, and Haiphong (Vietnam). Active fishing capacity in the coastal areas will be recorded; and based on that the recording system this would be reviewed and verified. The project would also place emphasis in improving the management of fishing capacity in the area as key element in the process of establishing an ASEAN Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism.

- Local knowledge and safety at sea

The project aims to initiate a process to improve or establish a vessel registration systems in Cambodia, Vietnam, Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia; and to carry out survey on local knowledge and actions among the ethnic groups and coastal communities in Cambodia, Vietnam, the Philippines through desk studies and review of available information.

Human Resource Development (HRD) on Poverty Alleviation and Food Security by Fisheries Intervention in the ASEAN Region

The program's development goal is to enhance human capacity of both relevant fisheries government agencies and selected rural fishery communities by virtue of development of regional policy on the poverty alleviation by the fisheries intervention, so as to alleviate the identified poverty status covering the areas of co-management, responsible fishing practices, backyard fishery post-harvest and processing, rural aquaculture and inland fisheries development.

At the regional level, regional consultations is identified as way to develop the regional policy on the role of fisheries for poverty alleviation reflecting and identify the technical issues which will be critical fro the poverty alleviation as well as clarification the role of small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs) with respect to the poverty alleviation of the rural poor. Technical experiences and facilities of SEAFDEC Departments and the Member Countries will be mobilized to conduct series of HRD activities for the government official, who is responsible for the extension work of ASEAN Member Countries and representative from the fishery community both at regional and local level. Areas of development include local/indigenous institution and co-management, responsible fishing technology, backyard fishery post-harvest technology, rural aquaculture, and inland fisheries development.

At the end of HRD activities, it is expected that the existing regional policy frameworks and priority actions in fisheries and HRD particularly the "Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region" adopted in 2001 and the "Strategy for Human Resource Development in Fisheries in the ASEAN Region", adopted in 2004, will be strengthen with the emphasize given to policy directions on fisheries for poverty alleviation.

After the whole process of project activities, it is expected that regional policy for poverty alleviation will be developed, including enhancement of fisheries officials, who responsible for extension work particularly at local community and fishers capacity as well as strengthening of national and local government cooperation. It is also envisaged that the effective implementation of the HRD activities on thematic issues at the local level will be the key to develop the cooperation mechanism within the ASEAN Member Countries.

**DRAFT AGREEMENT ON PORT STATE MEASURES
TO DETER, ELIMINATE THE IUU FISHING**

PREAMBLE

The Parties to this Agreement:

Deeply concerned about the continuation of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and its detrimental effect upon fish stocks and the livelihoods of legitimate fishers, and the increasing need for food security on a global basis;

Recognizing that strong and harmonized port State measures provide a powerful and cost-effective means of preventing, deterring and eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

Appreciating the benefits of deterrent action as a result of taking port State measures, including preventing the entry of illegal, unreported and unregulated caught fish into international trade and addressing serious violations;

Conscious of the focal role of port State measures in the effective implementation of a range of complementary compliance tools agreed at international, regional and national levels including reporting, documentation, vessel monitoring systems and trade measures;

Aware of the need for increasing coordination at regional and interregional levels to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing through the strengthening and harmonization of port State measures;

Reaffirming the essential role of flag States, coastal States and market States in ensuring the effectiveness of port State measures;

Acknowledging the rapidly developing communications technology, databases, networks and global records that support strengthened and harmonized port State measures;

Recognizing the need for assistance to developing countries to adopt and implement port State measures;

Taking note of the calls by the international community through the United Nations System, including the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, the United Nations General Assembly and the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereafter FAO) for a binding international instrument on port State measures, based on the 2001 FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and the 2005 FAO Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and the relevant provisions of the FAO Compliance Agreement of 24 November 1993, the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement of 4 December 1995 and the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

Have agreed as follows:

PART 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 *Use of terms*

1. For the purposes of this Agreement:
 - (a) “arrangement” means a cooperative mechanism established in accordance with the Convention and the UN Fish Stocks Agreement by two or more States for the purpose, *inter alia*, of establishing conservation and management measures in a subregion or region for one or more fish stocks;
 - (b) “conservation and management measures” means measures to conserve and manage one or more species of living marine resources that are adopted and applied consistent with the relevant rules of international law as reflected in the Convention;
 - (c) “Convention” means the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982;
 - (d) “FAO Compliance Agreement” means the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas of November 1993;
 - (e) “fish” means all species of living marine resources, whether processed or not;
 - (f) “fishing” means:
 - (i) the actual or attempted searching for, catching, taking or harvesting of fish; and
 - (ii) engaging in any activity which can reasonably be expected to result in the locating, catching, taking or harvesting of fish;
 - (g) “fishing related activities” means any operation in support of, or in preparation for, fishing, including the processing, transshipment or transport of fish that have not been previously landed and offloaded at a port, as well as the provision of personnel, fuel, gear and other supplies at sea;
 - (h) “illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing” has the same meaning as set out in paragraph 3 of the 2001 FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and applies to all marine fisheries;
 - (i) “Party” means a State or regional economic integration organization that has consented to be bound by this Agreement and for which this Agreement is in force;

- (j) “port” includes offshore terminals and other installations for landing, transshipping, processing, refuelling or resupplying;
- (k) “port State measures” means measures set forth in this Agreement to be taken by a port State;
- (l) “regional economic integration organization” means a regional economic integration organization to which its member States have transferred competence over matters covered by this Agreement, including the authority to make decisions binding on its member States in respect of those matters;
- (m) "regional fisheries management organization" means an intergovernmental fisheries organization or arrangement, as appropriate, that has the competence to establish conservation and management measures;
- (n) “UN Fish Stocks Agreement” means the Agreement of 4 December 1995 for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks; and
- (o) “vessel” means any vessel, ship of another type, boat and other craft used for, equipped to be used for, or intended to be used for, fishing or fishing related activities.

Article 2
Objective

The objective of this Agreement is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources through strengthened and harmonized port State measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

Article 3
Application

1. Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this Article, each Party shall, in its capacity as a port State, apply this Agreement in respect of vessels that are not flying its flag that are seeking access to its port(s) or are in one of its ports.
2. Each Party shall take all necessary measures to ensure effective jurisdiction and control over the fishing and fishing related activities of vessels flying its flag. To the greatest extent possible, such measures shall include *mutatis mutandis* the port State measures set forth in this Agreement in respect of such vessels.
3. This Agreement shall be applied and implemented in a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory manner, consistent with international law.

Article 4

Relationship with international law and other international instruments

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall prejudice the rights, jurisdiction and duties of Parties under international law, including but not limited to the Convention and other relevant international instruments. In particular,
 - (a) nothing in this Agreement affects the exercise by States of their sovereignty over ports in their territory in accordance with international law, which includes the right of States to regulate access to their territory, including their ports, as well as to adopt more stringent port State measures consistent with international law;
 - (b) nothing in this Agreement affects the competence of regional fisheries management organizations to adopt more stringent port State measures consistent with international law.
2. This Agreement shall be interpreted and applied in the context of and in a manner consistent with the Convention and other relevant international instruments.

Article 5

Integration and coordination

To the greatest extent possible, Parties shall:

- (a) integrate port State measures into a broader system of port State controls;
- (b) integrate port State measures with other measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; and
- (c) take measures to share information among relevant national agencies and to coordinate the activities of such agencies in the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 6

Cooperation and exchange of information

1. In the implementation of this Agreement and with due regard to appropriate confidentiality requirements, Parties shall cooperate and exchange information with relevant States, regional fisheries management organizations, international organizations and other entities, including, as appropriate, by:
 - (a) requesting information from, and providing information to, relevant databases;
 - (b) providing information on the implementation of this Agreement; and
 - (c) requesting and providing cooperation to promote the effective implementation of this Agreement.
2. Parties shall cooperate, at the subregional and regional levels, in the effective and harmonized implementation of this Agreement through regional fisheries management organizations or otherwise.

PART 2

REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO ENTRY INTO PORT

Article 7 Designation of ports

1. Each Party shall designate and publicize ports to which vessels may be permitted access.
2. Each Party shall, to the greatest extent possible, ensure that every port designated and publicized in accordance with paragraph 1 has sufficient capacity to conduct inspections and take other measures in accordance with this Agreement.

Article 8 Advance notification

1. Each Party shall, before granting access to a vessel to its port require the vessel to provide advance notification that includes, as a minimum standard, the information set out in Annex A.
2. Each Party shall require the information referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article to be provided sufficiently in advance to allow adequate time for the port State to investigate the required information.

PART 3

USE OF PORTS

Article 9 Denial of use of port

1. A Party shall not allow a vessel to use its ports for landing, transshipping or processing of fish if the vessel:
 - (a) at the relevant time was engaged in fishing in an area and for fish under the competence of a regional fisheries management organization and was not flying the flag of a State that is a member or cooperating non-member of that organization; or
 - (b) has been sighted as being engaged in, or supporting, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the area of competence of a relevant regional fisheries management organization or in areas under the national jurisdiction of a relevant coastal State,

unless the vessel can establish that the catch was taken in a manner consistent with relevant conservation and management measures.

2. A Party shall not allow a vessel to use its ports for landing, transshipping or processing of fish if the vessel is included in a list of vessels having engaged in, or supported, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing adopted by a regional fisheries management organization in accordance with the rules and procedures of such organization.
3. A Party shall not allow a vessel to use its ports for landing, transshipping or processing of fish where there are reasonable grounds for believing that the vessel does not have a valid and applicable authorization to engage in fishing and fishing related activities required by a relevant regional fisheries management organization for its area of competence or by a coastal State for areas under its national jurisdiction.
4. A Party shall, in appropriate situations, deny a vessel referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 or 3 of this Article, access to port services, including, *inter alia*, refuelling and resupplying but not including services essential to the safety, health and welfare of the crew.
5. Where a Party has denied the use of its ports in accordance with this Article, it shall promptly notify the flag State and, as appropriate, relevant coastal State(s), regional fisheries management organization(s) and other relevant organizations of such action.

Article 10
Withdrawal of denial of use of port

1. A Party may withdraw its denial of the use of its port in respect of a vessel only if the Party is satisfied that there is sufficient proof to show that the grounds on which use was denied were inadequate or erroneous or that such grounds no longer apply.
2. Where a Party has withdrawn its denial pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article, it shall promptly notify those to whom a notification was issued pursuant to this Agreement.

PART 4

INSPECTIONS AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

Article 11
Levels and priorities for inspection

1. Each Party shall endeavour to inspect a number of vessels in its ports required to reach an annual level of inspections necessary to achieve the objective of this Agreement.
2. In determining which vessels to inspect, a Party shall give priority to:
 - (a) vessels that have been denied the use of a port in accordance with Articles 9 or 17 of this Agreement; and
 - (b) requests from other relevant States or regional fisheries management organizations that particular vessels be inspected.
3. Parties shall seek to agree, through regional fisheries management organizations or otherwise, on minimum levels for inspections of vessels, with a view to reaching a coordinated level of inspections necessary to achieve the objective of this Agreement.

Article 12
Conduct of inspections

1. Each Party shall ensure that the inspection procedures in Annex B are implemented as a minimum standard.
2. Each Party shall, in carrying out inspections in its ports:
 - (a) ensure that inspections are carried out by properly qualified persons authorized for that purpose, having regard in particular to Article 16 of this Agreement;
 - (b) ensure that, prior to an inspection, inspectors are required to present to the master of the vessel an appropriate document identifying the inspectors as such;
 - (c) ensure that the inspector examines all areas of the vessel that are required, fish on board, the nets and any other gear, equipment, and any document or record which the inspector deems necessary to verify compliance with relevant conservation and management measures;
 - (d) ensure that the master of the vessel is required to give the inspector all necessary assistance and information, and to present relevant material and documents as may be required, or certified copies thereof;
 - (e) subject to appropriate arrangements with the flag State of the vessel, invite the flag State to participate in the inspection;
 - (f) make all possible efforts to avoid unduly delaying the vessel and ensure that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that unnecessary degradation of the quality of the fish is avoided;
 - (g) ensure that an inspector is able to communicate with the master or senior crew members of the vessel, or that the inspector is accompanied, where possible and where needed, by an interpreter;
 - (h) ensure that inspections are not conducted in a manner that would constitute harassment of any vessel; and
 - (i) ensure that the result of an inspection is presented to the master of the vessel for review and signature, and that the report is completed and signed by the inspector. The master shall be given the opportunity to add any comment to the report and, as appropriate, to contact the relevant authorities of the flag State, in particular when the master has serious difficulties in understanding the contents of the report. A copy of the report shall be provided to the master for retention on board the vessel.

Article 13
Results of inspections

Each Party shall, as a minimum standard, require the information set out in Annex C to be included in the report of the results of each inspection.

Article 14
Transmittal of results by Party

Each Party shall take measures to transmit the results of each inspection to the flag State of the inspected vessel and, as appropriate, to:

- (a) other relevant States;
- (b) relevant regional fisheries management organizations; and
- (c) FAO and other relevant international organizations.

Article 15
Electronic exchange of information

1. To facilitate implementation of this Part of the Agreement, each Party shall, where possible, establish a communication mechanism that allows for direct electronic exchange of messages between relevant States, entities and institutions, with due regard to appropriate confidentiality requirements.

2. Each Party shall handle information to be transmitted through any mechanism established under paragraph 1 in a standardized form consistent with Annex D.

Article 16
Training of inspectors

Each Party shall ensure that requirements are established for the certification of its inspectors. Such requirements shall take into account the guidelines for the training of inspectors in Annex E.

Article 17
Port State actions following inspection

1. When, following an inspection, there is reasonable evidence for believing that a vessel has engaged in, or supported, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing which can include, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) fishing without a valid licence, authorization or permit issued by the flag State or the relevant coastal State;
- (b) serious failure to maintain accurate records of catch and catch-related data;
- (c) serious misreporting of catch;
- (d) significant fishing in a closed area, during a closed season or contrary to applicable effort or quota requirements;
- (e) directed fishing for a stock which is subject to a moratorium or for which fishing is prohibited;

- (f) using fishing gear that is significantly inconsistent with authorized gear;
- (g) falsifying or concealing the markings, identity or registration of the vessel;
- (h) concealing, tampering with or disposing of evidence relating to an investigation;
- (i) serious failure to comply with requirements for vessel monitoring systems (hereafter VMS);
- (j) taking or landing significant amounts of undersized fish in contravention of relevant conservation and management measures; or
- (k) committing multiple violations which together constitute a serious disregard of relevant conservation and management measures,

the Party shall promptly notify the flag State of the vessel and, as appropriate, other relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and other relevant organizations and shall deny use of its port to the vessel for landing, transshipping or processing of fish, if these measures have not already been taken in respect of the vessel.

2. A Party shall, in appropriate situations, deny a vessel referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, access to port services, including, *inter alia*, refuelling and resupplying but not including services essential to the safety, health and welfare of the crew.

3. A Party may take measures in addition to those specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article that are consistent with international law where there is evidence that a vessel has engaged in one or more of the activities set forth in paragraph 1, provided that:

- (a) the measures are provided for in its national laws and regulations;
- (b) the flag State of the vessel has consented to the taking of such measures or requested such measures to be taken, or a relevant coastal State has requested the taking of such measures in respect of a violation that has occurred in an area under its national jurisdiction;
- (c) the vessel is without nationality; or
- (d) the additional measures gives effect to a decision of a regional fisheries management organization or is taken pursuant to other international agreements.

Article 18
Appeals concerning actions by the port State

A Party shall ensure that the owner, operator or representative of a vessel that has been the subject of port State measures taken pursuant to Articles 9 and 17 of this Agreement may appeal the decision. An appeal will not cause such measures to be suspended while the appeal is pending. The master of the vessel shall be informed of the right of appeal.

Article 19
Compensation

Each Party shall ensure that the owner or operator of a vessel is entitled to compensation for any loss or damage suffered as a consequence of undue delay. In any instance of alleged delay, the burden of proof lies with the owner or operator of the vessel.

Article 20
Force majeure or distress

Nothing in this Agreement affects the access of vessels to port in accordance with international law for reasons of force majeure or distress.

PART 5

ROLE OF FLAG STATES

Article 21
Role of flag States

1. Each Party shall, in its capacity as a flag State, cooperate with port States and relevant coastal States, regional fisheries management organizations and other international organizations in the implementation of this Agreement.
2. When a Party has reasonable grounds to believe that a vessel flying its flag has engaged in or supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and is seeking access to or is in the port of another State, it shall, as appropriate, request that State to inspect the vessel or to take other measures consistent with this Agreement.
3. Each Party shall ensure that vessels entitled to fly its flag land, transship and process fish, and use other port services, in ports of States that are acting in accordance with, or in a manner consistent, with this Agreement. Parties are encouraged to develop, through regional fisheries management organizations, fair, transparent and non-discriminatory procedures for identifying States that are not acting in accordance with, or in a manner consistent with, this Agreement.
4. Each Party shall, in its capacity as a flag State, report to relevant port States and, as appropriate, other relevant States, regional fisheries management organizations and FAO on actions they have taken in respect of vessels flying their flags that, as a result of port State measures taken under this Agreement, have been determined to have engaged in, or supported, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

PART 6

REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES

Article 22 Requirements of developing States

1. Each Party shall give full recognition to the special requirements of developing States in relation to the implementation of port State measures. To this end, Parties shall, either directly or through FAO and other specialized agencies of the United Nations and other appropriate international and regional organizations and bodies including regional fisheries management organizations, provide assistance to developing States in order to:
 - (a) enhance the ability of developing States, in particular the least-developed among them and small island developing States, to develop a legal basis and human capacity for the implementation of effective port State measures;
 - (b) facilitate the participation of developing States in any subregional, regional and international organizations that promote the effective development and implementation of port State measures; and
 - (c) facilitate technical assistance to strengthen the implementation of port State measures by developing States, in coordination with relevant regional and international measures and mechanisms.
2. In implementing this Agreement, Parties shall give due regard to the need to ensure that a disproportionate burden is not transferred directly or indirectly onto developing port States.
3. Parties shall cooperate to establish special funds to assist developing States Parties in the implementation of this Agreement. These funds shall be directed specifically towards:
 - (a) developing national, regional and international port State measures;
 - (b) developing human capacity, including for fisheries managers, inspectors, monitoring, control and surveillance and legal personnel, including training and capacity-building at national and regional levels;
 - (c) monitoring, control, surveillance and compliance activities relevant to port State measures; and
 - (d) assisting developing States Parties to meet the costs involved in any proceedings for the settlement of disputes that results from action they have taken pursuant to this Agreement.

PART 7

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Article 23

Peaceful settlement of disputes

1. Any Party may seek consultations with any other Party or Parties on any dispute with regard to the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Agreement with a view to reaching a mutually satisfactory solution as soon as possible.
2. In the event that the dispute is not resolved through these consultations within a reasonable period of time, the Parties in question shall consult among themselves as soon as possible with a view to having the dispute settled by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement or other peaceful means of their own choice.
3. Any party to a dispute of this character not so resolved may refer the dispute for settlement to the International Court of Justice, to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea or to arbitration.

PART 8

NON-PARTIES

Article 24

Non-Parties to this Agreement

1. Parties shall encourage non-Parties to this Agreement to become Parties thereto and to adopt laws and regulations consistent with its provisions.
2. Parties shall take fair, non-discriminatory and transparent measures consistent with this Agreement and international law to deter the activities of non-Parties which undermine the effective implementation of this Agreement.

PART 9

MONITORING AND REVIEW

Article 25

Monitoring and review

Parties shall, within the framework of FAO and its relevant Bodies, ensure the regular and systematic monitoring of the implementation of this Agreement and the assessment of the progress made towards achieving its objective.

PART 10

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 26

Signature

This Agreement shall be open for signature at ** from ** until **, by all States and regional economic integration organizations as referred to in Article 1(m).

Article 27

Ratification, acceptance or approval

1. This Agreement shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatories.
2. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Depository.

Article 28

Accession

1. This Agreement shall be open for accession, after its closure for signature, by any State or regional economic integration organization.
2. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Depository.

Article 29

Regional Economic Integration Organizations

1. When a regional economic integration organization becomes a Party to this Agreement, it shall notify any change regarding its distribution of competence as may be relevant to this Agreement. Any Party to this Agreement may, at any time, request a regional economic integration organization that is a Party to this Agreement to provide information as to which, as between such Organization and its Member States, is responsible for the implementation of any particular matter covered by this Agreement. The regional economic integration organization shall provide this information within a reasonable time.
2. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval, amendment or withdrawal deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by its Member States.

Article 30

Entry into force

1. This Agreement shall enter into force ** after the deposit with the Depository of the ** instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with Article 27 or 28.

2. For each signatory which ratifies, accepts or approves this Convention after entry into force, this Agreement shall enter into force [** days after/upon] the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

3. For each State or regional economic integration organization which accedes to this Agreement after its entry into force, this Agreement shall enter into force [** days after/upon] the deposit of its instrument of accession.

Article 31
Reservations and exceptions

No reservations or exceptions may be made to this Agreement.

Article 32
Declarations and statements

Article 31 does not preclude a State or regional economic integration organization, when signing, ratifying or acceding to this Agreement, from making a declaration or statement, however phrased or named, with a view to, *inter alia*, the harmonization of its laws and regulations with the provisions of this Agreement, provided that such declarations or statements do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of this Agreement in their application to that State or regional economic integration organization.

Article 33
Provisional application

Before its entry into force, this Agreement may be applied provisionally by States or regional economic integration organizations which consent to its provisional application by so notifying the Depositary in writing. Such provisional application shall become effective from the date of receipt of the notification.

Article 34
Amendments

1. This Agreement may be amended by a [two-thirds majority of the Parties].
2. Any Party may propose an amendment to the Agreement by providing to the Depositary the text of a proposed amendment.
3. Amendments to this Agreement shall enter into force [ninety (90)] days after notification of acceptance or approval to the Depositary by [two-thirds] of the Parties.
4. States or regional economic integration organizations that become Parties after the entry into force of amendments to this Agreement shall be considered to be Party to the Agreement as amended.

Article 35
Annexes

1. The Annexes form an integral part of this Agreement, and a reference to this Agreement shall constitute a reference to the Annexes.
2. The Annexes may be revised from time to time by Parties. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 34, if a revision to an Annex is adopted by consensus at a meeting of Parties, it shall be incorporated in this Agreement and shall take effect from the date of its adoption or from such other date as may be specified in the revision. If a revision to an Annex is not adopted by consensus, the amendment procedures set out in Article 34 shall apply.

Article 36
Withdrawal

Any Party may withdraw from this Agreement at any time after the expiry of [two years] from the date upon which the Agreement entered into force with respect to that Party, by giving written notice of such withdrawal to the Depositary. Withdrawal shall become effective [** days/months] after receipt of the notice of withdrawal by the Depositary.

Article 37
The Depositary

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations shall be the Depositary of this Agreement. The Depositary shall:

- (a) transmit certified copies of this Agreement to each signatory and Party;
- (b) register this Agreement, upon its entry into force, with the Secretariat of the United Nations in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations;
- (c) promptly inform all signatories of and Parties to this Agreement of all:
 - (i) signatures and instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval and accession deposited under Articles 26, 27 and 28;
 - (ii) the date of entry into force of this Agreement in accordance with Article 30;
 - (iii) proposals for amendment to this Agreement and their entry into force in accordance with Article 34;
 - (iv) proposals for amendment to the Annexes in accordance with Article 35; and
 - (v) withdrawals from this Agreement in accordance with Article 36.

Article 38
Authentic texts

The Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts of this Agreement are equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, having been duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention.

DONE at **, on this ** day of **, 200*, in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, [Russian] and Spanish, all six texts being equally authentic.

ANNEX A

Information to be provided in advance by vessels

1. Intended port of call				2. Country				
3. Estimated date and time of arrival				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>MM</i>
4. Purpose(s)		<i>LAN</i>	<i>TRX</i>	<i>PRO</i>	<i>OTH (specify)</i>			
5. Port and date of last port call				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
6. Port and date of next port call				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
7. Name of the vessel								
8. Flag State		9. Type of vessel			10. IRCS			
11. Global Record ID				12. IMO ship ID				
13. External ID				14. Other ID				
15. MMSI ID				16. Home port				
17. LOA				18. Moulded depth				
19. GT				20. Beam				
21. Engine(s) power				22. Construction year		<i>YYYY</i>		
23. Construction place								
24. Vessel owner(s)								
25. IMO company ID(s)								
26. Vessel beneficial owner(s)								
27. Vessel operator(s)								
28. Master								
29. Fishing master								
30. Vessel agent								
31. VMS		<i>No</i>	<i>Yes: National</i>		<i>Yes: RFMOs</i>			
32. AIS		<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	33. LRIT		<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	
34. Previous name(s)				<i>Date(s)</i>				
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
35. Previous flag(s)				<i>Date(s)</i>				
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
36. Previous owner(s)				<i>Date(s)</i>				
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
37. Fishing license reference				<i>Issue date(s)</i>				
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		

ANNEX B

Port State inspection procedures

The inspector(s) shall:

- a) verify that the vessel identification documentation onboard and information relating to ownership is true, complete and correct, including through appropriate contacts with the flag State or international records of vessels if necessary;
- b) verify that the vessel's flag and markings (e.g. name, external registration number, IMO ship identification number, international radio call sign and other markings) are consistent with information contained in the documentation;
- c) to the extent possible, verify that the authorization(s) for fishing and fishing related activities is/are true, complete and correct and consistent with the information provided in accordance with Annex A;
- d) to the extent possible, review all other relevant documentation and records, including those in electronic format and VMS data. Relevant documentation may include logbooks, catch and trade documents, crew lists, stowage plans and drawings, descriptions of fish holds, and documents required pursuant to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);
- e) inspect all gear onboard, including any gear stowed out of sight, and to the extent possible verify that it is in conformity with the conditions of the authorization(s). The fishing gear shall, to the extent possible, also be checked to ensure that features such as the mesh and twine size(s), devices and attachments, dimensions and configuration of nets, pots, dredges, hook sizes and numbers are in conformity with applicable regulations and that the markings correspond to those authorized for the vessel;
- f) to the extent possible, examine whether the fish on board was harvested in accordance with the applicable authorization(s);
- g) examine the catch in the hold or during or after the landing to determine the quantity and composition of all catch onboard, including by sampling. In doing so, the port inspector(s) may open cartons where the catch has been pre-packed and move the catch or cartons to ascertain the integrity of fish holds. Such examination may include inspections of product type and determination of nominal weight. The inspector(s) may also examine any catch retained onboard;
- h) evaluate whether there is reasonable evidence for believing that a vessel has engaged in, or supported IUU fishing;
- i) provide the report containing the result of the inspection to the master of the vessel, to be signed by the inspector and the master. The master's signature of the report shall serve only as acknowledgment of the receipt of a copy of the report. The master shall be given the opportunity to add any comments to the report, and
- j) where necessary, arrange for an official translation of relevant documentation.

Report of the results of the inspection

1. Inspection report No		2. Country			
2. Inspecting Authority					
3. Name of Inspector				ID	
3. Name of Inspector				ID	
4. Place of inspection					
5. Commencement of inspection		YYYY	MM	DD	HH MM
5. Completion of inspection		YYYY	MM	DD	HH MM
6. Advanced notification received		Yes	No		
7. Purpose(s)	LAN	TRX	PRO	OTH (specify)	
8. Port and date of last port call				YYYY	MM DD
9. Port and date of next port call				YYYY	MM DD
10. Name of the vessel					
11. Flag State		11. Type of vessel		12. IRCS	
13. Global Record ID			14. IMO ship ID		
15. External ID			16. Other ID		
17. MMSI ID			18. Home port		
21. LOA			22. Moulded depth		
23. GT			24. Beam		
25. Engine(s) power			26. Construction year		YYYY
27. Construction place					
28. Vessel owner(s)					
29. IMO company ID(s)					
30. Vessel beneficial owner(s)					
31. Vessel operator(s)					
32. Master					
33. Fishing master					
34. Vessel agent					
35. VMS		No	Yes: National	Yes: RFMOs	
36. AIS		No	Yes	37. LRIT Yes No	
38. Previous name(s)				Date(s)	
				YYYY	MM DD
39. Previous flag(s)				Date(s)	
				YYYY	MM DD
				YYYY	MM DD

40. Previous owner(s)						<i>Date(s)</i>		
						<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>
						<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>
41. Activities in RFMO areas			<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>				
42. RFMO		43. Flag State status		<i>CP</i>	<i>NCP</i>	<i>NP</i>		
42. RFMO		43. Flag State status		<i>CP</i>	<i>NCP</i>	<i>NP</i>		
44. Vessel in authorized list		RFMO			<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>		
44. Vessel in authorized list		RFMO			<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>		
45. Vessel in IUU list		RFMO			<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>		
45. Vessel in IUU list		RFMO			<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>		
46. Fishing license reference				<i>Issue date(s)</i>				
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
				<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>		
47. License scope		<i>Period of validity</i>						
<i>Quota</i>					<i>Effort</i>			
<i>Issuing authority</i>						<i>Country(ies)</i>		
<i>Target Species</i>						<i>Gear</i>		
<i>Fishing area(s)</i>								
48. Transshipment documents								
<i>Species</i>	<i>Product</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>TRX from</i>	<i>TRX to</i>	<i>Date</i>		
						<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>
						<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>
49. Transshipping authorizations								
<i>Issued by</i>					<i>Number</i>		<i>Date</i>	<i>YYYY</i> <i>MM</i> <i>DD</i>
50. Trip starting		<i>Date</i>	<i>YYYY</i>	<i>MM</i>	<i>DD</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>HH</i>	<i>MM</i>
51. Fish onboard at start of trip								
<i>Species</i>		<i>Product</i>		<i>Quantity</i>				
<i>Species</i>		<i>Product</i>		<i>Quantity</i>				
52. Areas visited								
53. Total fish onboard (weight declared by master - Kg)								
<i>Species</i>	<i>Product</i>	<i>Catch area</i>	<i>TRX/LAN</i>	<i>Nominal</i>	<i>Processed</i>	<i>Conv. Fac.</i>		
54. Total fish onboard (weight declared by inspectors - Kg)								
<i>Species</i>	<i>Product</i>	<i>Catch area</i>	<i>TRX/LAN</i>	<i>Nominal</i>	<i>Processed</i>	<i>Conv. Fac.</i>		
55. Comments by inspectors								

56. Fishing logbook		<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	
57. Production/processing logbook		<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	
58. Catch receiver (landed)				
59. Catch receiver (landed)				
60. Catch receiver (transshipped)				
61. Catch destination				
62. Catch documentation scheme				
63. Trade information scheme				
64. Type of gear used				
65. Gear marked	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	66. Unused gear securely stowed	<i>Yes</i> <i>No</i>
67. Number of hooks			68. Hook size	
69. Gear configuration				
70. Gear dimension				
71. Gear length				
72. Gear dept				
73. Mesh measurement of gear used (mm)				
74. Average mesh size		75. Legal mesh size		
76. Comments on gear				
77. Violations				
78. Action taken				
79. Comments by inspectors				
80. Comments by master				

ANNEX D

Information systems on port State inspections

In implementing this Agreement, Parties shall:

- a) seek to establish computerized communication in accordance with Article 6, paragraph 1 and Article 15 of this Agreement;
- b) to the extent possible, establish websites to publicize the list of ports designated in accordance with Article 7 of this Agreement and the actions taken in accordance with Article 9 of this Agreement;
- c) ensure that inspection reports include as a minimum the information required in Annex C. Each inspection report should be identified by a unique reference number starting with 3-alpha country code of the port State and identification of issuing agency;
- d) to the extent possible, utilize the international coding system below and shall translate any other coding system into the international system.

countries/territories:	ISO-3166 3-alpha Country Code
species:	FAO 3-alpha code
vessel types:	FAO alpha code
gear types:	FAO alpha code
devices/attachments:	FAO 3-alpha code
ports:	UN LO-code

Guidelines for the training of inspectors

Elements of a training programme for port State inspectors should include at least the following areas:

1. Ethics
2. Health, safety and security issues
3. Applicable laws and regulations, areas of competence and conservation and management measures of relevant regional fisheries management organizations, and applicable international law
4. Collection, evaluation and preservation of evidence
5. General inspection procedures such as report writing and interview techniques
6. Analysis of information, such as logbooks, electronic documentation and vessel history (name, ownership and flag), required for the validation of information given by the master of the vessel
7. Vessel boarding and inspection, including hold inspections and calculation of vessel hold volumes
8. Verification and validation of information related to landings, transshipment, processing and catch remaining onboard, including utilizing conversion factors for the various species and products
9. Identification of fish species and the measurement of length and other biological parameters
10. Identification of vessels and gear and techniques for the inspection and measurement of gear
11. Equipment and operation of VMS and other electronic tracking systems
12. Actions to be taken following an inspection
13. Relevant languages, particularly English

EXECUTIVE REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES ISSUES (2007-2008)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Under globalization, achieving sustainable development of fisheries has become more complex and challenging. Over the years, increased attention and discourses on fisheries issues by the international society have on one hand called 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 direction of discussion, as they are perceived as “disguised” trade distortion, and being addressed by a wide range of international fora/agencies, which, in many cases, have no competence in fisheries.

2. Over the recent years, international discourses on fisheries issues – sustainable resource utilization, improved management and governance, responsible market and trade, and balanced eco-system treatment – have shown close inter-relationship. The recent movement towards trade and market measures for sustainability has set a new agenda of global debates on sustainable development. It is therefore important that countries in Southeast Asia are fully aware of such a movement and prepared to put in place measures to address it so as to complement to, without creating unnecessary confusion and obstacles to, the on-going regional efforts in achieving sustainable development through improved management practices. In addition, fisheries issues should no longer be addressed in isolation but considered their linkages.

3. To address the above concern, SEAFDEC Council and the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) adopted a new modality for regional cooperation in addressing international fisheries issues in 2007. The modality outlines roles and functions of Parties concerned, recognizing strong leadership of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries with support from SEAFDEC as well as mechanism for the cooperation. An executive report on international fisheries related issues to be formulated and submitted to SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi on an annual basis forms an important element of the modality. The executive report summarizes background and context of the identified issues together with policy consideration/recommendations and proposed common/coordinated positions by the Member Countries.

4. The Draft Executive Report on International Fisheries Issues (2007-2008) was prepared based on the identified issues and the recommendations obtaining from the 10th Meeting of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) held in the Philippines from 29 to 30 November 2007 and the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on International Fisheries Related Issues (2008) held in Chiang Mai, Thailand from 12 to 14 February 2008, respectively. This paper intends to provide comprehensive information and regional perspectives on substantive issues for submission to the 40th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in April 2008, and the 16th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) in May 2008, respectively.

II. ISSUES AND CONTEXT

2.1 A Legally-binding Instrument on Port State Measures

5. Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is regarded as a serious global challenge threatening efforts in achieving sustainable fisheries. IUU fishing represents a major loss of revenue, particularly to the poorest countries and developing ones in the world where dependency on fisheries for food, livelihoods and revenue is high. Illegal fishing takes places where vessels

operate in violation of the laws of a fishery. This can apply to fisheries that are under the jurisdiction of a coastal state or high seas fisheries regulated by regional organizations. IUU fishing respects neither national boundaries nor international attempts to manage high seas resources. It thrives where governance is weak and where countries fail to meet their international responsibilities.

6. As part of international efforts in combating IUU fishing, several initiatives including *Port State Measures* have been developed over the past years. At the 27th Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) held in March 2007, there was support given to the development of Port State Measures as a legally binding instrument, which is considered as an important initiative to combat IUU fishing particularly in the high seas. Meanwhile, at the regional level, the *Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing* in the Region also echoes the needs to implement Port State Measures. The RPOA also calls for actions by the signatory states to take actions in the implementation of such measures.

7. It should be noted that FAO has prepared the “Draft Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing” based on an outcome of the FAO Expert Consultation to draft a Legally-Binding Instrument on Port State Measures organized from 4 to 8 September 2007 in the USA. In addition, FAO, APFIC and SEAFDEC will co-organize the Regional Workshop on Port State Measures in Southeast Asian Countries and China from 31 March to 4 April 2008, to enhance regional awareness of the importance of the port State measures, update on the FAO Model Scheme on Port State Measures and the progress in the development of the Draft Agreement. The Draft Agreement on Port State Measures and the outcome of FAO- APFIC-SEAFDEC Regional Workshop will be used as inputs for the FAO Technical Consultation on Port State Measures to be held in June 2008.

8. In the course of implementing the International Plan of Action (IPOA) on IUU Fishing in general, and the development of a legally-binding instrument on Port State Measures in particular, scope, practicability and applicability of the measures are perceived unclear. The issue was addressed by the 10th ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG meeting and the RTC on International Fisheries Related Issues 2008 that the Port State Measures should only complement other measures such as the Flag State Measures in combating IUU fishing in the high seas, and it should be focused only in the high sea areas. In addition, definition or scope of fishing vessels and the implication of these measures to the Member Countries in the Region should be given clarification by FAO.

9. The concerns was also made that implementation of any measure that is legally bound would involve awareness and capacity building, legislative and administrative arrangements, and so on. To prepare readiness, inputs and contributions from the Member Countries at the FAO-APFIC-SEAFDEC Workshop (March 2008) and the FAO Technical Consultation (June 2008), a following joint approach on issues and context to contribute to the development of a Legally Binding Instrument on Port State Measures was agreed:

- the Member Countries to carefully investigate the applicability of the draft binding instrument and prepare their inputs to the development process of such an instrument;
- the Member Countries to actively participate in the FAO-APFIC-SEAFDEC Workshop by providing inputs to ensure that the Agreement is acceptable and applicable for the region;
- the Member Countries to convey to their respective responsible ministries and national representatives concerned, the outcomes from the discussions at this Consultation in order that these would be reflected during the discussions at the forthcoming FAO-APFIC-SEAFDEC Workshop

10. The Consultation therefore suggested that, when the final version of the Draft Agreement on Port State Measures is available, i.e. after the June 2008 FAO Technical Consultation on Port

State Measures or before the next FAO COFI Meeting in 2009, further discussion among the Member Countries should be conducted to come up with the regional common/coordinated position on the measures.

Suggested Actions by the Council

11. The Council is invited to take note of the international/regional initiatives in combating IUU fishing. The Council is also requested to endorse a joint approach on issues and context to contribute to the development of a Legally Binding Instrument on Port State Measures and provide further regional directive and recommendations in response to the development of a legally-binding instrument for port State measures

2.2 Traceability, Certification and Labelling (including EU Catch Documentation Scheme)

12. Due to the increase in demand for fish supplies as a healthy source of animal protein, international trade in fish and fishery products has been progressively becoming complex, dynamic and competitive. Under the consumer protection policy of many importing countries, safety standards and assurance systems i.e. traceability and certification have been over the years developed and well-accepted worldwide. Use of voluntary market incentives i.e. eco-labeling has been well recognized by the consumers and subsequently accepted by the fish producers who wish to dominate in this market.

13. However, the recent global trend has shown that concepts and tools like traceability, certification and labeling could also be applied to address sustainability issues in fisheries i.e. combating IUU fishing. The trend has been considered as a “protectionism” policy of importing countries’ domestic producers as well as with the anticipation that such concepts and tools could influence the improvement of management regime and practices of fisheries in the exporting countries. As a consequence, Southeast Asian region; where supply a major fish and fishery product to the world market, should give attention on these international trade/market measures that the region have being imposed or going to encounter in the near future.

14. ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries therefore should closely monitor traceability development especially binding with sustainable fisheries and environmental practices which mostly required by developed countries. Potential impacts of application of traceability that goes beyond safety requirements and its difficulty for fisheries sector should be assessed and considered, particularly on:

- Gaps and enhancement of technical capacity in compliance with traceability information requirements;
- Exchange of knowledge, experience, and lessons learnt in compliance with such traceability requirements within the region;
- Needs and concerns from fisheries sector especially small-scale and artisanal fisheries; and
- Priorities for improving management regime and practices in the region.

15. With regards to a very high cost of the third-party certification process of aquaculture products, the RTC on International Fisheries Related Issues 2008 viewed that the establishment of a certification body for the Southeast Asian region may be considered in the future. For the certification of capture fisheries products, the Member Countries agreed in principle that government agencies directly involved in fisheries management should take part in the certification process. Moreover, a fair certification scheme which is acceptable by both importing and exporting countries should be developed and take into consideration of its applicability for small-scale fisheries.

16. Regarding the EU Catch Documentation Scheme on imports of all fisheries products, which is expected to take effect in the near future, fisheries products (excluding aquaculture) to be exported to EU would need to be accompanied with Catch Documentation to be issued by the government of the respective country or authorized representatives. Since the development of the measure is still not complete, the Member Countries suggested that SEAFDEC should further monitor the progress on this measure. In addition, the Member Countries were also requested to provide any available information to SEAFDEC in order that such information could be shared with the other Member Countries to prepare their readiness on the said measure.

Suggested Actions by the Council

17. The Council is invited to take note of information on the issue and provide directives for future follow-up actions by the Member Countries and SEAFDEC. The focus might be given to preparation of regional inputs to the 11th Session of FAO Sub-committee on Fish Trade, scheduled to be held from 2 to 6 June 2008 in Bremen, Germany.

2.3 Small-scale Fisheries Issues

18. Over the years, efforts at international level to progress sustainable development of fisheries have been focusing in the high seas and on commercial fisheries. Until recently, international society has started to address issues related to small-scale fisheries considering their socio-economic importance and multi-functionality to food security and development. At the 27th Session of FAO COFI, significant attention was given to issues of small-scale fisheries. The attention was also echoed at the 1st Meeting of Regional Fishery Bodies' Secretariat Network (RSN) held right after the COFI-27. The two fora highlighted the need to raise profile of small-scale fisheries and development of global dedicated program to support this sub-sector of fisheries.

19. As an important follow-up, FAO and Thailand in collaboration with SEAFDEC and WorldFish Center will organize a global conference on Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries: Bringing Together Responsible Fisheries and Social Development, from 13 to 17 October 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Conference will focus on three main themes: Securing social, economic and human rights, Securing sustainable resource use and access rights, and Securing post-harvest benefits. As also a parallel process, SEAFDEC was requested by the RSN-1 to initiate a global website on small-scale fisheries. The website aims at raising profiles and importance of small-scale fisheries both in inland and coastal waters and providing platform for collection of inputs for the development of a global dedicated program on small-scale fisheries. It is envisaged that outcomes of the two processes will be used as inputs for consideration at the next COFI, scheduled in March 2009.

20. Thus, for the FAO global conference, the Consultation identified several concerns and considerations relevant to small-scale fisheries in the regional context that include the following:

- Small-scale fisheries is very important in the Southeast Asian region particularly in the coastal areas, as the sector involved a large number of people contributing to a significant amount of national fisheries production.
- The characteristics of small-scale fisheries, definition of small-scale fisheries, fishing practices, relevant laws and legislations as well as national priorities vary among the countries as such a single solution for the management of all small-scale fisheries would be difficult. However, regional common ground for management would still be necessary.
- Due to the multi-functionality of small-scale fisheries, various aspects, i.e. political, socio-economic, environment, etc., should be balanced.

- As the small-scale fisheries is very vulnerable and involves mainly the poor, consideration should be given on how to prepare the people involved in the sub-sector to the changing situations, i.e. the declining resources and the possible impacts from natural disasters.
- Since small-scale fisheries also contribute to the exploitation of the marine resources, an effective management scheme is required, e.g. management of small-scale fisheries based on bottom-up approach in Thailand.

21. In drawing small-scale fisheries in Southeast Asian aspect to the international development process, it was highlighted that issues related to common characteristics of small-scale fisheries; national experiences and views on small-scale fisheries; mainstreaming co-management and group-user rights in national policy and plan; and strengthening small-scale fisheries livelihoods through “one village – one fisheries product (FOVOP), could be further discussed. The Member Countries are encouraged to provide this information to SEAFDEC for compilation and can also be used in supporting the initiative of SSF Global Website

22. Along this line, SEAFDEC in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries (DoF), Thailand will organize the Regional Technical Consultation on Small-scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia from 29 April to 2 May 2008, to facilitate discussion among the Member Countries and come up with regional common/coordinated approach for small-scale fisheries as inputs for the FAO global conference (**Appendix 1**).

Suggested Actions by the Council

23. As a preparation on issues related to small-scale fisheries for the FAO Global Conference in October 2008 and the 28th Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries in 2009, the Council is invited to provide directives pertaining to a joint regional approach and input from the Member Countries and SEAFDEC. The Council may wish also to guide on future follow-up actions by the Member Countries and SEAFDEC in supporting global initiatives on small-scale fisheries.

2.4 Fisheries Subsidies

24. The Draft Consolidated Chair Texts of the Anti Dumping and Subsidies and Controversial Measures Agreements is already available. At the RTC on International Fisheries Related Issues 2008, the Member Countries were informed of the Malaysia’s views regarding the disciplines on fisheries subsidies according to the current draft NGR Chairman’s Texts and the Indonesia’s Comprehensive Legal Texts. The initiatives of Malaysia and Indonesia could be used as basis for other countries to conduct their own review exercises to ensure that the NGR Chairman’s Texts would be practical for Southeast Asian fisheries.

25. The RTC 2008, in particular, expressed its views on fisheries subsidies, as follows:

- Subsidies that contribute to over fishing and over capacity should be prohibited;
- With regards to the Exception Provision, other non-capacity enhancing subsidies should be identified;
- Conditionality attached to Special and Differential Treatment for developing countries should not be too stringent instead it should be more flexible to allow developing countries to pursue their development objective;
- Stock assessment-based management condition set out in the Draft Texts is not appropriate and applicable to Southeast Asian region due to the multi-species nature of its fisheries. Alternatively, the implementation of fisheries management system based on internationally-recognized best management practices is sufficient;

- Subsidies that *contribute to poverty reduction and food security should also be exempted particularly for small-scale fisheries that are highly dependent on the fishery resources, provided that the fisheries resources are managed and that subsidies do not contribute to over capacity.*

26. At the RTC in February 2008, the Member Countries are strongly encouraged to promote close communication between their respective home ministries and the Geneva-based missions or national trade-relevant authorities on inputs and concerns as well as among the Member Countries throughout the negotiation process at the WTO, with the emphasize given to fisheries subsidies that contribute to improved management of sustainable fisheries and livelihoods of fishers should be taken into consideration.

Suggested Actions by the Council

27. The Council is invited to consider the progress of the issue and provide directives for the follow-ups of the progress of WTO negotiation and coordination mechanism of fishery agency in the process of policy coordination for WTO negotiations as well as suggestions on mechanism for provision of technical inputs based on scientific evidence to trade negotiators.

2.5 Endangered Aquatic Species under CITES

28. As part of regional seriousness in management and conservation of aquatic resources, SEAFDEC has supported the Member Countries in implementation of activities related to conservation and management of commercially-exploited species including research and study on sea turtles, development and formulation of NPOA-sharks, and study on sea cucumbers, these regional efforts are delivered and reflected at the relevant the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) and FAO meetings. Obviously, several CITES proposals go beyond its mandate to control trade in endangered species and by expanding the issues pertinent to fisheries management. It is important the Member Countries and SEAFDEC should continue monitor the issues and take action on management of commercially-exploited species as well as conducting research and study.

29. As outcomes of the 14th Session of Conference of Parties (CoP) of CITES, there were several aquatic species proposed for listing in CITES Appendices but not adopted, e.g. red and pink coral, Porbeagle Shark, Spiny Dogfish, Bangai Cardinal Fish. These proposals would be probably raised again at the next CoP and therefore careful consideration should be given to them. The CoP14 had produced a conservation and management plan on Sharks, which also requires careful study by the Member Countries and SEAFDEC as implementation of such measures would affect fisheries of the region. Moreover, note has been taken on the proposals made by CITES Secretariat on establishment of a Fisheries Working Group and a new post of a fisheries officer, which were rejected.

30. During the COP14-CITES, SEAFDEC and fisheries representatives from several ASEAN Member Countries, i.e. Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, actively participated in the Session. In this connection, the RTC in February 2008 encouraged SEAFDEC and the Member Countries to continue monitoring the relevant issues and take appropriate actions on the management of commercially-exploited species in order to prepare the region in the event that some relevant and economically important species are raised for discussion specifically at the forthcoming COP 15-CITES,

31. At the CITES environment, best scientific evidence and management plan in action are considered as a key to find resolutions, which accepted by both conservationist and fishery manager. The Member Countries at the RTC in February 2008 agreed that in the forthcoming CoP-CITES, the Member Countries should support the view of FAO recommendation of the FAO Ad-hoc Expert Panel as regards the listing proposals of commercially-exploited species under the

CITES. SEAFDEC was requested to consider conducting studies in order to come up with technical and scientific information on regionally important species that would support the debates at future CoPs.

32. For sharks, SEAFDEC has been providing support to Member Countries in the development of National Action Plans on Conservation and Management of Sharks; while for sea cucumber, results of the Regional Study on Fisheries Utilization and Trade of Sea Cucumbers in the region are being compiled for discussion at the forthcoming ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Expert Meeting in March 2008.

Suggested Actions by the Council

33. The Council is invited to take note of the progress development of issues relevant to endangered aquatic species under CITES and provide directives for the Member Countries to be raised at the Sixth Meeting of the ASEAN Expert Group (AEG) on CITES which will be held from 21 to 23 May 2008 in Bangkok as well as preparation of regional readiness for the CoP15-CITES in 2010.

2.6 Other Issues

34. With regards to the progress of the discussion on the issue of ***Welfare of Fishing Crew and Fishing Labour*** following the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention. The Convention covers fishing vessels which remain at sea for more than 3 days, having lengths of over 24 meters or navigating at distances exceeding 200 nautical miles from the coastline of the flag State or beyond the outer edge of its continental shelf. The Convention has already been adopted by ILO members including some ASEAN Member Countries and that the Convention would be in force once it is ratified by 10 countries, including 8 coastal nations. Although the Convention has not yet been ratified by any country, the ASEAN Member Countries were encouraged to conduct further investigation on the Convention before this is implemented into force in the future. However, the Member Countries at the RTC in February 2008 expressed their concerns that the issue is not completely under the purview of their respective Departments of Fisheries.

35. With regards to the ***Climate Change and its Impacts to Fisheries*** sector as well as mitigation measures, the Member Countries viewed that it is considered as environmental issue and may not be under the direct responsibility of fisheries-related agencies. However, to prepare the region for any possible adverse effects, the Member Countries and SEAFDEC were encouraged to closely monitor and document any information on climate change and its impact to fisheries sector, i.e. flooding and sea water rises, change of water temperature, change in species composition and distribution, coral bleaching, etc.

Suggested Actions by the Council

36. The Council is invited to consider and take note of the progress of respective issues and provide directives for future follow-up actions by Member Countries and SEAFDEC.

37. The Council is invited to take note and advice on roles and inputs of regional/SEAFDEC at the following regional/international fora, in order to voice the common concerns and safeguard the regional fisheries interests particularly at the:

- 23rd Meeting of CITES Animal Committee, Geneva, Switzerland (21-24 April 2008);
- Regional Technical Consultation on Small-scale Fisheries
- 16th Meeting of ASWGFi (21-23 May 2008)

- 6th Meeting of ASEAN Expert Group on CITES, Bangkok, Thailand (21-23 May 2008);
- 11th Session of FAO Sub-committee on Fish Trade, Bremen, Germany (2-6 June 2008);
- Technical Consultation on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing, Rome, Italy (23-27 June 2008);
- 4th Session of FAO Sub-committee on Aquaculture, Puerto Varas, Chile (6-10 October 2008);
- FAO/Norway International Conference on Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries: Bring together responsible fisheries and social development, Bangkok, Thailand (13-17 October 2008)



PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS OF THE SEAFDEC REGIONAL TECHNICAL CONSULTATION ON SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Introduction

Over the past years, SEAFDEC has been implementing series of activities to promote sustainable development of fisheries in Southeast Asia. In 1998, SEAFDEC started implementation of the program on regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF). The regionalization process of the CCRF has been completed in 2006, and up to present, various activities have been conducted by SEAFDEC to support Member Countries in the implementation of the CCRF. The effort of SEAFDEC in the implementation of the CCRF has been recognized at a global level, and in 2007, SEAFDEC was awarded with the Margarita Lizárraga Award Medal for the biennium 2006-2007 for the initiatives and efforts in promotion of responsible fisheries in Southeast Asia.

In 2001, SEAFDEC organized an ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People”, where the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the ASEAN Region was adopted and used as framework and priority areas for fisheries development of the region. In 2003, a Seminar on ASEAN-Japan Cooperation for Sustainable Fisheries through SEAFDEC” commemorating ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003 was also organized, and the ASEAN ministers adopted “To be the leader in sustainable tropical fisheries for the people” as ASEAN Vision for fisheries development. Towards these regional initiatives and policy framework documents, SEAFDEC has been undertaking various regional programs, with particular consideration given to the regional specific characteristics of fisheries, which are dominated by small-scale tropical fisheries.

Taking into consideration the importance of small-scale fisheries sub-sector in Southeast Asia, the issue of small-scale fisheries has been raised for discussion among SEAFDEC Member Countries at the Regional Technical Consultations on international Fisheries-Related Issues in 2007 and 2008. The Member Countries highlighted the importance of small-scale fisheries particularly in the coastal areas, as the sector involved a large number of people and contribute to a significant amount of national fisheries production. Member Countries also agreed that despite there are differences in the characteristics of small-scale fisheries, definition of small-scale fisheries, fishing practices, relevant laws and legislations as well as national priorities among countries in the region; regional common ground for management of small-scale fisheries is necessary.

The importance of small-scale fisheries is widely recognized not only in the Southeast Asian context, but worldwide. Although in the past, efforts at international level to progress sustainable development of fisheries have been focusing in the high seas and on commercial fisheries; recently, international society has started to address issues related to small-scale fisheries considering their socio-economic importance and multi-functionality to food security and development. At the 27th Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI), the importance of and the need for greater support to small-scale fisheries was raised by Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam, and was echoed by other countries. The attention was also reiterated at the 1st Meeting of Regional Fishery Bodies’ Secretariat Network (RSN) held right after the COFI-27. The two fora highlighted the need to raise profile of small-scale fisheries and development of global dedicated program to support this sub-sector of fisheries. In this regard, SEAFDEC was requested by to initiate a global website on small-scale fisheries. The website aims at raising

profiles and importance of small-scale fisheries both in inland and coastal waters and providing platform for collection of inputs for the development of a global dedicated program on small-scale fisheries.

As an important follow-up to the COFI-27, FAO and Thailand in collaboration with SEAFDEC and WorldFish Center plan to organize an international conference on Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries: Bringing Together Responsible Fisheries and Social Development, from 13 to 17 October 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Conference will focus on three main themes: 1) Securing social, economic and human rights, 2) Securing sustainable resource use and access rights, and 3) Securing post-harvest benefits.

As the Global Conference is envisaged to be a good opportunity for the Southeast Asian region to raise the profile and reflect the importance of small-scale fisheries, SEAFDEC Member Countries during the RTC on international Fisheries-Related Issues (February 2008) expressed a strong requirement to prepare regional inputs for the Global Conference, and requested SEAFDEC to consider the possibility to organize the preparatory meeting for the above-mentioned global conference. The representative from Thailand expressed her country's willingness to host and also share the cost of organizing the Consultation; while all Member Countries are encouraged to consider mobilizing resources and inputs in order to be able to actively participate in the Consultation.

In addition to this, in 2008, SEAFDEC Training Department plans to implement a program on "Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management towards Institutional Building and Participatory Mechanism for Coastal Fisheries Management" which has direct linkage to the issue on small-scale fisheries. As the project sharply focus on the promotion of co-management using group user rights based on the "Regional Guidelines for Co-management Using Group User Rights for Small-scale Fisheries in the Southeast Asia", technical part of the project activities, which is expected to be implemented in close cooperation with Member Countries, also need to be discussed.

In this connection, SEAFDEC therefore plans to organize a Regional Technical Consultation on Small-scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia" from 29 April to 2 May 2008. The Consultation is expected to be participated by all SEAFDEC Member Countries.

Date and Venue

The "Regional Technical Consultation Small-scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia" will be organized for 4 days, from 29 April to 2 May 2008 in Bangkok Thailand

Expected Participants

It is envisaged that the participants for the Meeting will be the following:

1. Representatives from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries: Two representatives* from each Member Country who have experience and/or are responsible for small-scale fisheries issues, i.e. coastal/inland fisheries management particularly co-management and rights-based fisheries, poverty alleviation, etc.;
2. Representatives from FAO/RAP, MRC, WorldFish, NACA; and
3. Representatives from SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments that involved in activities relevant to small-scale fisheries

* *SEAFDEC would bear the cost for participation of one country representative (a round-trip economy air ticket of international, accommodation and daily subsistence allowance); while Member Countries are requested to bear the cost for another representative.*

Objectives

The Consultation aims to prepare the readiness of Member Countries to actively participate and take leading role at the Global Conference on “Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries: Bringing Together Responsible Fisheries and Social Development”. The Consultation would discuss the regional and national experiences in promotion of small-scale fisheries in various aspects in line with the scopes of the Global Conference, i.e. 1) social, economic and human rights, 2) sustainable resources use and access rights, and 3) post-harvest benefits. It is expected that the Consultation would come up with common issues and coordinated position for promotion of sustainable small-scale fisheries, as the Southeast Asian countries’ inputs to the Global Conference.

The Consultation also aims to discuss and come up with the detailed project activities to be implemented under the program on “Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management towards Institutional Building and Participatory Mechanism for Coastal Fisheries Management” by SEAFDEC Training Department in 2008.

Expected Outcomes

It is expected that the Consultation would contributed to:

1. Preparation of Member Countries’ readiness to actively participate and provide inputs at the Global Conference on “Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries: Bringing Together Responsible Fisheries and Social Development”
2. Preparation of the Southeast Asian common issues and coordinated position for promotion of sustainable small-scale fisheries

The outcomes and deliberation from the Consultation would be used as a basis for formulation of the “*Draft Statement on Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia*”, to be prepared by SEAFDEC after the Consultation, and circulated for confirmation with Member Countries. After confirmation, the Statement would be submitted through the Department of Fisheries, Thailand as the main inputs from the Southeast Asian countries for the Global Conference to be organized by FAO.¹

In addition, the outcomes from this Consultation, together with the outcomes from the Global Conference would also be used as inputs for the Global Dedicated Website, and Regional Website on Small-Scale Fisheries currently developed by SEAFDEC.

3. Planning of Activities and demarcation of responsibilities of SEAFDEC and Member Countries in implementation of the project on “Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management towards Institutional Building and Participatory Mechanism for Coastal Fisheries Management”

Pre-Requisites for the Meeting

As preparatory work for the Consultation, all Member Countries are requested to prepare a “National Synthesis on Small Scale Fisheries” and make short statement under the **Agenda 4**. The National Synthesis should be submitted to the Secretariat by 16 April 2008.

¹ To be confirmed at the Consultation

In addition, representatives from Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam should also prepare and submit a document on “the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management Group Using User Rights” undertaken by the respective country by 16 April 2008.

For the **Agenda 5** on Initiatives and Experiences on Small-Scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia, in addition to the proposed topics (*Agenda 5.1-5.3*), Member Countries are encouraged to propose other important initiatives relevant to sustainable small-scale fisheries (*Agenda 5.4*). Additional topics should be confirmed to the Secretariat by 1 April 2008, and working papers should be submitted by 16 April 2008.

Tentative Agenda

1. Opening of the Consultation
 - 1.1 Introductory Remarks by the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC
 - 1.2 Opening Remarks by the Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand
2. Background and Objectives of the Consultation
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. National Synthesis on Small Scale Fisheries (10-minute statement by each country)
5. Review of Initiatives and Experiences on Small-Scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia
 - 5.1 Issues Related to Social, Economic and Human Rights
 - Strengthening of Fisheries Community for Poverty Alleviation
 - 5.2 Issues Related to Sustainable Resources Use and Access Rights
 - Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
 - Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management Using Group User Rights
 - 5.3 Issues Related to Post-harvest Benefits
 - Sustainable Utilization of Fish and Fishery Products in Southeast Asia
 - 5.4 Others (to be identified by countries)
6. Southeast Asian Common Issues and Coordinated Position for Promotion of Small-Scale Fisheries
7. Future Activities of SEAFDEC Project on the Promotion of Co-management Using Group User Rights in Southeast Asia
 - 7.1 Discussion on Promotion of the Guidelines on Co-management Using Group User Right for Small-scale Fisheries
 - 7.2 Discussion on Capacity Building Activities for stakeholders and fisheries officials through Regional Training Course
 - 7.3 Others
8. Others
9. Conclusion and Recommendation
10. Closing of the Meeting

SEAFDEC REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (RAC)

I. Background and Rationale

1. In response to the current declining state of world fishery resources due to unsustainable utilization, there has been concern expressed by international society for the need to improve current fisheries management framework and practices. Echoing the international concern, countries in Southeast Asia have over the years discussed ways to strengthen the fisheries management in the region through both individual country's effort and regional cooperation.

2. Over the last few years, concern and need for improving fisheries management in the region particularly addressing issues related to fishing capacity and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing have been discussed¹. Countries in the region also discussed the usefulness of the regional mechanism to regulate fishing capacity at sub-regional level (Gulf of Thailand, Malacca Strait, Andaman Sea, South China Sea and Sulu or Celebes Sea (purpose of establishing the RAC is not only facilitating the information for the management.) The countries requested SEAFDEC Secretariat to formulate a proposal, clarifying Terms of Reference, linkages with existing regional collaborative mechanism, and financial implication and arrangement^{2,3}.

3. The countries met at the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council held in Siem Reap, Cambodia from 3 to 7 April 2007, considered and supported in principle the proposal for Regional Advisory Committee⁴ for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RAC). This initiative is envisaged to signal the seriousness and commitment of the region in improving fisheries management and should be made to move towards long-term establishment of a regional fisheries management mechanism. Support by the countries was echoed at the 15th Meeting of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries held in Singapore from 16 to 18 May 2007.

4. In line with the above views, two ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Expert Consultations on Future Roles of SEAFDEC in Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia were convened in Bangkok, Thailand during 26 to 28 June and 23 to 25 October 2007. The two-consultation emphasized on its advisory role as well as clarified and discussed various issues as guided by the SEAFDEC Council. However, the Consultations could not conclude the discussion and decided to defer the discussion.

5. As a follow-up to the Consultations, the Draft Proposal on Establishment of RAC was again deliberated at the Thirtieth Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee held in Iloilo City, the Philippines from 26 to 28 November 2007. However, there was no consensus regarding Terms of Reference (TOR) of RAC, organizational structure, and its financial arrangements; the Program Committee therefore agreed to submit the proposal to SEAFDEC Council for their consideration and decision.

¹ 29th Session of the Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 21 to 23 August 2006

² 29th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee, Bangkok, Thailand from 4 to 6 December 2006

³ ASEAN-SEAFDEC "Regional Technical Consultation on International Fisheries Related Issues (2007)", Chiang Mai, Thailand 5-7 February 2007

⁴: Regional Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RAC) was discussed under the name of Regional Scientific Advisory Committee (RSAC) on Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (RAC)

6. As a consequent, the proposal was submitted to the Fortieth Meeting of SEAFDEC Council held in Bali, Indonesia from 7 to 10 April 2008. The Council endorsed the proposal with clear identification of TOR, membership under organizational structure and its financial arrangements.

II. Objectives of RAC

7. RAC is established to assist the SEAFDEC Member Countries in achieving sustainable utilization of fisheries resources through improved fisheries management for food security, sustainable livelihoods of the people, and economic development and integration in Southeast Asia.

III. Guiding Principles of RAC

8. Guiding principles of RAC are generally based on the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Although, nature of the Code is voluntary but it was formulated in a manner consistent with the relevant provisions and rules of international laws. These are, inter alia, the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, 1995 (UN Fish Stock Agreement 1995), the 1992 Declaration of Cancún, the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, in particular Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 and the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1994.

9. In addition to the above international instruments, guiding principles of RAC also recognize existing regional policy frameworks and collaborative arrangement for fisheries in Southeast Asia. These are the 1995 Agreement on Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin (Mekong River Commission), the 2001 Resolution & Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region (RES & POA), Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries (RCCRF), the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) for the ASEAN Cooperation in Fisheries (2005-2010), and the 2007 Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region.

10. Key guiding principles of RAC include:

- The right to fish and the obligation to do so in a responsible manner so as to ensure effective conservation and management of the living aquatic resources;
- Rationale and responsible utilization, and maintenance of resources in sufficient quantities for present and future generations in the context of food security, poverty alleviation and sustainable development;
- Management decisions for fisheries should be transparent and based on the best scientific evidence available, also taking into account traditional knowledge of the resources and their habitat, as well as relevant environmental, economic and social factors;
- Protection and rehabilitation of critical fisheries habitats and integration of fisheries into multiple aquatic resources use planning, development and management;
- Cooperation among the Member Countries within their respective competences and in accordance with international law, at sub-regional, regional and global levels through fisheries management organizations, other international agreements or other arrangements to promote conservation and management, ensure responsible fishing and ensure effective conservation and protection of living aquatic resources, taking into account the need for compatible measures in areas within and beyond national jurisdiction; and
- Involvement of and consultation with stakeholders, through awareness and capacity building, in the policy formulation and implementation process, and the conservation and management of the fishery resources on which they depend.

IV. Roles of RAC

11. The role of RAC is to provide technical/scientific advice to the SEAFDEC Council for the improvement of fisheries management in Southeast Asia.

V. Scope of RAC's Advice

12. The advice provided by RAC will cover management of fisheries generally conducted in marine waters within the EEZs and inland waters in Southeast Asia including fisheries with particular attention to transboundary fish stocks.

VI. Terms of Reference (TOR) of RAC

13. Terms of Reference of RAC include:

- To review and assess the current status of the fishery resources in particular transboundary fish stocks, the status of fishing industries, and fisheries management measures and administrations in the region;
- To provide advice on priority fisheries management issues including policy considerations, coordinated fisheries management actions, and human and institutional capacity building, in order to formulate recommendations for improved fisheries management;
- To facilitate addressing the identified issues, including assessment and in-depth studies, possibly through ad-hoc technical working group(s);
- To collaborate with international/regional organizations, programs or projects concerned with fisheries management and sustainable use of fisheries resources in formulating advice.

VII. Organizational Structure of RAC

14. RAC is established as a subsidiary body of the SEAFDEC Council. RAC may, as and when required, identify and recommend the setting up of ad-hoc technical working group(s).

15. RAC comprises one standing member representing each SEAFDEC Member Country by nomination with two-year fixed tenure of members and possibility for reappointment. The Terms of Reference (TOR) of RAC form as the guidelines for such nomination.

16. RAC will be chaired by a representative of SEAFDEC Member Countries on an annual rotational basis.

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

18. SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with relevant Departments serve as the RAC secretariat.

VIII. Nature of RAC Activities and Financial Arrangement

19. RAC is scheduled to meet at least once a year. The timing of the meeting(s) should be set in accordance with SEAFDEC annual working cycle.

20. Inter-sessional activities (i.e. meetings of technical working groups) as identified by RAC may be conducted, subject to availability of funds.

21. The RAC meetings will be partially funded by SEAFDEC Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC). Under this condition, annually a certain amount of the money would be used for the meeting cost and participation of members from SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat

to the RAC meetings; while the Member Countries would bear the cost for their participation to the RAC meetings.

22. The cost for attendance of the resource persons during RAC meeting (s) or during the inter-sessional activities should be from extra budgetary sources, while the cost for the experts/representatives from international/regional organizations will be shouldered by their respective organizations.

23. The cost for the implementation of activities of the ad-hoc technical working group(s) will be funded from extra-budgetary sources⁵.

24. SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with the Member Countries and the Departments is responsible for sourcing extra-budgetary funds for RAC.

25. Based on RAC's advice, the SEAFDEC Council will decide on how such advice should be considered and followed-up (by the Member Countries and/or SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments) including imparting the advice to the ASEAN (through ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries), the Coordination Committee of RPOA on Responsible Fishing Operations including Combating IUU Fishing, and countries outside the region operating fisheries in the region.

⁵ On matters of urgency and when extra budgetary sources is not available, funding support from participating countries of the Technical Working Group could be explored.

Annex 12

INVOLVEMENT OF SEAFDEC IN THE PREPARATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION (RPOA) TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE FISHING PRACTICES INCLUDING COMBATING ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING IN THE REGION

SUMMARY

The SEAFDEC Council Director for Indonesia has requested that SEAFDEC be involved in the preparation of the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to promote responsible fishing practices including combating Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the region. The RPOA was drawn up during the ministerial meeting, which was initiated by Australia and Indonesia and convened in Bali, Indonesia in May 2007, and attended by 10 countries in the Asia and Pacific.

The ministers have agreed on the common and collaborative approach to promote responsible fishing practices and to combat illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing in the region, in particular, in the South China Sea, the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas, and the Arafura-Timor Seas. The RPOA is voluntary and takes its principles from established international fisheries instruments for promoting responsible fishing practices.

Aside from the ministers of Australia, Papua New Guinea, and Timor-Leste, ministers from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam also attended the meeting.

Having been involved and having attended the workshops and meetings of the RPOA as observer, SEAFDEC is planning to nominate a representative to be a member of the RPOA Coordinating Committee. SEAFDEC has also been requested to collaborate with the RPOA members to organize a workshop on vessels licensing and registration.

The Council is invited to consider the request and decide on the involvement of SEAFDEC in the Coordinating Committee and technical workshops as well as meetings of the RPOA. The Council may also wish to give policy guidance on following-up actions related to this matter to be undertaken by the Secretariat and Departments.

BACKGROUND

The RPOA was initiated by Australia and Indonesia during a Ministerial Meeting from 2 to 4 May 2007 in Bali, Indonesia. Aside from Australia and Indonesia, the ministers of Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam also attend the meeting. The ministers agreed on the common and collaborative approach to promote responsible fishing practices and combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the region, in particular, in the South China Sea, the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas, and the Arafura-Timor Seas. The RPOA is voluntary and takes its principles from established international fisheries instruments for promoting responsible fishing practices. Among these international covenants are the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the United Nations of Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) and the Food and Agriculture Organization's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The ministers from 10 Asia-Pacific countries were encouraged to work toward the ratification, accession and acceptance and full implementation of UNCLOS and UNFSA. The meeting also agreed to promote collaboration in determining the fish stocks in the region to ensure that fish harvests do not impede reproduction sustainability. The RPOA includes the call for the states to develop measures that would regulate fishing vessels accessing their countries for transshipment and landing of catch, and to collect and exchange relevant data. It also encourages member states

to put up monitoring control and surveillance (MCS) system both at national and regional levels. Member states should also establish suitable and relevant inter agency arrangements to develop their networks and quickly share information such as locations, name of vessels, ports used and species targeted.

REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION (RPOA) TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE FISHING PRACTICES INCLUDING COMBATING IUU FISHING IN THE REGION

Fishing activity makes an important contribution to the food security and economic well-being of the region. However, increasing overexploitation and illegal fishing practices hastened the depletion of many fish stocks. For this reason, fishery resources must be managed sustainably, and responsible fishing practices need to be promoted.

Regional cooperation is critical for the long-term sustainable protection of the living marine resource and the marine environment. Whilst some of the root causes of the depletion of fisheries resources can be addressed at the national level, many can only be successfully addressed through regional actions. This is particularly true for the case of areas with interdependent marine ecosystems, adjoining maritime boundaries and shared fish stocks.

The objective of this RPOA is to enhance and strengthen the overall level of fisheries management in the region, in order to sustain fisheries resources and the marine environment, and to optimize the benefit of adopting responsible fishing practices. The actions cover conservation of fisheries resources and their environment, managing fishing capacity, and combating illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the areas of the South China Sea, Sulu-Sulawesi Seas (Celebes Sea) and the Arafura-Timor Seas.

The RPOA is a voluntary instrument and takes its core principles from already established international fisheries instruments for promoting responsible fishing practices, including the 1982 'United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea' (UNCLOS), in particular Articles 61 through 64, 116-119 and 123, the 'United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement' (UNFSA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 'Compliance Agreement' and the FAO 'Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries'. The RPOA is consistent with existing treaties, agreements and arrangements and all other plans and programmes relevant to the sustainable management of the region's living marine resources.

This RPOA also draws upon the FAO International Plan of Actions (IPOA) for the Conservation and Management of Sharks', the 'IPOA for the Management of Fishing Capacity', and the 'IPOA to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing', the 'IPOA for Reducing and Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries', which contain internationally agreed measures, applicable to national and regional plans to promote responsible fishing practices, and more recently, the FAO 'Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing'.

CURRENT RESOURCE AND MANAGEMENT SITUATION IN THE REGION

The RPOA notes and affirms that the shared fish stocks are a very important source of food for people in the region, utilized by countries in the region and also traded both in and outside the region. However, over fishing and illegal fishing practices are seriously depleting the region's fish stocks. In this regard, the promotion of responsible fishing practices, and prevention, deterrence and elimination of illegal fishing are essential to ensure food security and poverty alleviation in the region. Countries in the region should work together in compiling an overview of artisanal and industrial fishing, the current status of fish stocks, trade flow and markets.

IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL INSTRUMENTS

International instruments contain structures and measures on which long-term sustainable fisheries could be built upon. The key global instruments that countries should consider when implementing responsible fishing practices include the 1982 'United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea' (UNCLOS), the 'United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement' (UNFSA), the FAO 'Compliance Agreement', the FAO 'Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries', the 'International Plan of Action (IPOA) to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing', the 'IPOA for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries', the 'IPOA for the Conservation and Management of Sharks' and the 'IPOA for the Management of Fishing Capacity'. Relevant regional instruments include the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention (WCPFC) and the Agreement Establishing the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). To support these measures, countries in the region are encouraged to:

- work toward ratification, accession, and/or acceptance and full implementation of UNCLOS and UNFSA;
- work towards ratification and/or acceptance of regional fisheries management instruments, where appropriate; and
- work toward acceptance and full implementation of relevant regional and multilateral arrangements, where appropriate.

ROLE OF REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS

Implementing responsible fishing practices and combating IUU fishing are issues that concern the whole region. Specifically, Articles 63, 64, and 116-119 of the UNCLOS, require countries to cooperate in the conservation and management of shared stocks and highly migratory species. The management expertise and technical capacity built upon over the years by regional organizations should be harnessed to assist in addressing the problems of the region.

- Countries should work closely and collaboratively with regional organizations to develop conservation and management measures for fish stocks to promote optimum utilization.

The participating countries acknowledge the important roles of regional organizations in strengthening fisheries management and conservation in the region including the FAO/APFIC, WCPFC, IOTC, and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), ASEAN, INFOFISH, the South East Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), and World Fish Center. The measures promoted by these organizations which may be applicable to this RPOA should be supported by all participating countries where relevant.

- Countries should encourage relevant regional organizations to provide assistance in technical support and development of guidelines for conservation and fisheries management, capacity building, sharing data and information on fisheries and trade, and strengthening networking for the purpose of enhancing participation and ensuring implementation of conservation and management measures in the region.

COASTAL STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

The collection, management and availability of accurate and timely information are essential in managing fishery resources and combating illegal fishing. Accurate data on the number of fishing vessels and fishing activity is required to assess responsible fishing practices, hence the importance of maintaining comprehensive and up-to-date vessel registers as well as catch and effort information by all States, both coastal and flag. To help address this concern, countries in the regional should:

- work together to improve their data collection systems and to share information about vessels, fishing effort, catch levels, fish landings and sales of fish and fish products, as appropriate, and;
- work on the development of a regional approach to identify, compile and exchange information on any vessel used or intended for use for the purpose of fishing including support ships, carrier vessels and any other vessels directly involved in such fishing operations in the region, and straddling and migratory stocks and across national jurisdictions.

Control of fishing capacity and fishing effort are fundamental elements of fisheries management. When the capacity of fishing fleets to harvest a resource exceeds the sustainable level, it results in unsustainable fishing activity and has the potential to ‘spill-over’ into illegal fishing activity. The RPOA acknowledges that countries should manage the fishing capacity of their fleets by:

- assessing the status of their fishery resources and furnishing fleet capacity;
- introducing management measures to help prevent fishing capacity from exceeding levels that could result in fast harvest rates that impede the ability of fish stocks to reproduce sustainably over a longer term;
- undertaking planning exercise to reduce over-capacity without shifting such capacity to other fisheries the resources of which may be already fished at the maximum sustainable rate or above that rate, taking into consideration potential socio-economic impacts;
- cooperating on the assessment, conservation and management of fishery resources where they straddle the national boundaries or occur both within EEZs and in an area beyond and adjacent to the EEZs;
- undertaking development efforts and implementing national plans of action to accelerate efforts in reducing over capacity and eliminating illegal fishing activity where these issues are known to occur;
- working on the collection, management and sharing of information on fisheries management, and management of fishing capacity; and
- respecting the traditional, artisanal and small-scale fisheries, and providing assistance for the management of these fisheries resources.

FLAG STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

Coastal States through their flag State responsibilities in the region are at the forefront in implementing sustainable fishing practices and combating illegal fishing. To address this need:

- all Coastal States, relevant flag States and fishing entities operating in the region should actively cooperate in ensuring that fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures, including engaging in or supporting illegal fishing.

PORT STATE MEASURES

Port States play a key role in combating illegal and unreported fishing in the region, given the need to land catch and support fishing activities. In this regard, regional countries and fishing entities should develop measures to regulate fishing vessels accessing their ports for transshipping and/or landing catch, and collect and exchange relevant data. To address this need, countries should consider:

- adopting port State measures, where appropriate, based on the FAO ‘Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing’

REGIONAL MARKET MEASURES

In order to minimize unreported and illegal catches, countries should collaborate for the implementation of regional market measures to identify and to track fish catches at all points in the marketing chain in a consistent way, with existing international trade laws.

- As a priority, countries in the region should standardize catch and landing documentation throughout the region and implement catch documentation or trade certification schemes for high value products.
- In addition, countries should work with organizations such as INFOFISH to produce regular and timely market reports allowing trade flows to be analyzed.
- Countries should check trade discrepancies regarding export of fish and fish products and take appropriate action, and as a minimum requirement, report such discrepancies to the flag State.

REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building in all aspects of fisheries management must be encouraged. Countries are aware that a fully effective system requires technically competent implementation and operation. Technical and administrative staff should have access to both formal and on-the-job training to build their experiences and competences in relevant matters such as fisheries resource assessment, introduction of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) measures, and development of fish product tracking systems. To build these capacities, countries should:

- continue developing the appropriate core competencies for fisheries research, management and compliance, including MCS systems;
- either individually or jointly, seek technical and financial assistance from relevant international development agencies and donors as well as other countries in the region; and
- ensure that flag States from outside the region that operate in the region be urged to cooperate with and to assist technically and financially, the countries in the region in whose waters they conduct their fishing operations.

STRENGTHENING MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS) SYSTEM

An MCS system, both at a national and regional levels, supports and underpins a robust fisheries management regime. A strong enforcement network can share data and information on enforcement strategies and provide advice and capacity building. To better coordinate efforts against any illegal activity, countries should establish suitable and relevant inter-agency arrangements to develop their networks to be able to quickly share information such as locations, names of vessels, ports used (home and/or unloading port) and species targeted, and other information as appropriate. To develop these capacities, countries should:

- enter into appropriate sub-regional MCS arrangements to promote the elimination of IUU fishing within the region;
- develop a regional MCS network to promote the sharing of information and coordinate relevant regional activities to support the promotion of responsible fishing practices, and where possible, to also participate in the work of the International MCS network;
- promote knowledge and understanding within their fishing industries about MCS activities to enhance sustainable fisheries management and to help combat IUU fishing; and
- develop as appropriate, observer programs including the requirements for the industry to adhere to inspection regimes and carry observers onboard when required.

TRANSSHIPMENT AT SEA

Transshipment outside the territorial sea should be regulated to prevent illegal fisheries from using such mechanism to launder their catches. A strong monitoring, control and surveillance of both fishing and carrier vessels is therefore a priority. To implement this, countries should:

- monitor and control the transshipment of fisheries resources; and
- establish control measures such as vessel registers, mandatory notification of the intention to transship and the application of vessel monitoring systems.

IMPLEMENTATION

The participating countries agreed to support the ongoing development of the cooperative arrangements embodied in this RPOA. The effective implementation of the RPOA will be reviewed as determined by a Coordinating Committee to comprise officials from each participating country and the development would be communicated to the FAO Committee on Fisheries and other regional bodies as appropriate.

THE INVOLVEMENT OF SEAFDEC IN THE RPOA

SEAFDEC was invited as an observer by the Council Director of Malaysia to attend the meeting which discussed the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practice including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in Region held on 13 August 2007 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting focused on the identification of key priorities to be pursued under the RPOA which includes the strengthening of the monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) Systems, Coastal State responsibilities focusing on information collection and sharing; regional capacity building; the current resources management situation; and port state measures.

The SEAFDEC representatives were also invited as observers during the workshop aimed to consider the priority actions for the implementation of RPOA on 13-15 November 2007 in Bangkok. The workshop discussed the lack of effective fishing vessel registration and licensing systems throughout the countries in the region and agreed to undertake a survey of all currently held data and information in order to enable the countries to identify gaps in the data and strategically develop actions that will fill these gaps.

The Workshop agreed to convene a MCS Workshop in Bali, Indonesia on 3-5 March 2008 to discuss common problems, issues and systems to implement the RPOA objectives. Since responses to IUU fishing need the engagement of all relevant agencies, the countries were requested to ensure the full representation of all relevant agencies in the March 2008 Workshop. The Workshop also agreed that it would be helpful to organize a specific workshop on vessel licensing and registration, and recommended that the Coordinating Committee explore the opportunities for possible collaboration with SEAFDEC to further develop the proposed workshop.

OUTCOME FROM THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL CONSULTATION AND WORKSHOP ON THE CONCEPT OF AN ASEAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT MECHANISM

Bangkok Thailand, 6-8 November 2007

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Regional Consultation and Workshop on the Concept of the Establishment of an ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism, was held in Bangkok 6- 8 November 2007.

This document aims to summarise presentations, discussions and recommendations as an input to ASEAN and the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi). It will also provide a basis for a proposal by the Department of Fisheries (DOF) of Thailand, with support from SEAFDEC, to ASEAN.

BACKGROUND

Since the ASEAN-SEAFDEC “**Regional Technical Consultation on Management of Fishing Capacity and Human Resource Development in Support of Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia**” held in **Phuket, Thailand from 19 to 22 September 2006** countries in the region has clearly been stating their wish to work in the direction of establishing a “**Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism**”. This ambition has been further emphasised during the 39th SEAFDEC Council Meeting in Siem Reap, Cambodia 2007, the Fifteenth Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) held on 16-18 May 2007 in Singapore, and at the Special Senior Officials Meeting of the 28th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (Special SOM-28th AMAF), 31 July – 2 August 2007, Singapore. To facilitate and establish a process it was agreed that event to look into the “concepts for establishment of a regional management mechanism” should be organised.

The endorsement of moving ahead with the process to establish an ASEAN Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism (RFMM), as proposed by Thailand, was further consolidated through decisions taken in support of the RFMM by Ministers during the 29th Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (29th AMAF), 1 November 2007 in Bangkok, and the preceding Preparatory Senior Officials Meeting (PREPSOM – 29th AMAF), 29 -30 November in Bangkok. The proposal by Thailand was made based on the view that it is timely for the ASWGFi to initiate discussions and explore the establishment of an appropriate collective mechanism for regional sustainable fisheries management and food security. Technical assistance from SEAFDEC will be sought to further develop the proposal. During the PREPSOM and the 29th AMAF Member Countries endorsed in-principle the initiative proposed by Thailand for ASWGFi to review and expand its ToR and scope of work to include regional fisheries management mechanism. In supporting the proposal Member Countries also requested that besides marine fisheries, management of inland fisheries and other fisheries sectors to be included in the mechanism.

On the issue of sub-regional or trans-boundary management, the Phuket Consultation promoted the usefulness of sub-regional arrangements to manage fishing, integrate fisheries management into habitat management, and to further address fishing capacity issues at sub-regional level such as the Gulf of Thailand, the Malacca Strait, the Andaman Sea, the South China Sea, the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas, and the Mekong River. The value of building upon work to be done at sub-regional level under a regional “umbrella” was further emphasised during the November 2007 Consultation.

Note: Experiences from other processes of developing regional management bodies, or regional conventions, underlines the importance of allowing the process to be parallel and “independent” from existing programmes and projects. The bottom line being that the region would be allowed to formulate their cooperative management mechanism. Once the framework and scope is in place the countries need to assess where to host a secretariat – not the other way around. Good example, from within the region, on those steps can be shown by provision in the 1995 Mekong Agreement and Protocol to the Agreement on the establishment of the Mekong River Commission.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND BASIC ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER – EXPERIENCES FROM OTHER REGIONS

The meeting was fortunate to be able to draw upon the experiences from APFIC, Baltic Sea, North Sea and the Mekong River Commission as well as from other areas as provided by participants during the discussion following the sequence of very informative presentations. This summary will not go into the details of the presentations (power point presentations are attached to the document) or a long version of the flow of discussion. Rather, focus will be on a number of points to bear in mind and consider when working towards the establishment of regional fisheries management mechanism:

- National EEZ's are areas of national jurisdiction: with the institutional scope being projected by ASEAN Ministers to build upon the ASWGF the geographical scope would be that of waters, inland and marine, of ASEAN Member Countries.;
- Do not make the process too complicated at the onset by including too many aspects – allow the cooperation and management to mature over time, even after the mechanism is established;
- “Management”, or “coordination of management interventions”, the choice of wording is to some extent merely semantic. The bottom line to bear in mind is that whatever is decided among parties to the Mechanism it has to be implemented under the framework of national laws of each participating country; and
- Given the multi-species function of tropical fisheries it is recommended to focus on boats, gear and people and not “fish” per se – this recommendation is further emphasised if the “management area” cover several large marine eco-systems (LME's) and inland waters, such as in the ASEAN region

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND BASIC ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER – IMPLICATIONS OF CONVENTIONS AND REGIONAL AGREEMENTS

Based on a well prepared and well presented introduction, the participants were able to highlight a number of general issues for further discussion. Similar to the section above, this summary will not go into the details of the presentations (power point presentation attached to the document) or a long version of the flow of discussion. Rather, focus will be made on a number of points to bear in mind and consider when working towards the establishment of a regional fisheries management mechanism:

- Conventions are international agreements binding to parties to the Convention. Note: that in several instances, such as with the Law of the Sea Convention (1982), provisions are accepted as common norms and thereby also binding to countries that are no parties to the Convention;
- To become effective and possible to implement, the rules and provisions embedded in the Convention(s) must be incorporated into the national legal system;
- To implement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries is voluntary to states. However, several of the provisions or recommendations in the Code are reflected in various ways in other, binding, Conventions and agreements and are thereby binding for signatory states to those instruments;

- In the process to promote the establishment of a Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism – it is important to revisit the international conventions and regional agreements to address the implications with respect to regional cooperation (an RTC could be planned for late 2008 or 2009);
- Conventions of relevance to fisheries management cover a range of different aspects ranging from questions on jurisdiction (UNCLOS 1982), migratory species (UN Fish Stock, 1995), rules for pollution from ships and vessel registration (IMO and IMO/FAO), Flag and Port State Measures (IMO/FAO), Biodiversity, Fish workers (ILO), Trade in fish Products (CITES, WTO), Human Rights, etc.

BASIC ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER IN FRAMING THE SCOPE AND FOCUS FOR THE ASEAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT MECHANISM

Fisheries management can no longer be done in isolation and coordination has to be sought with many other sectors, weighing in environmental, social, legal and economic aspects.

Geographical scope: ASEAN Member Countries, marine and inland waters within national jurisdiction.

Institutional scope: Build upon and expand the roles and functions of the ASEAN Sector Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF) with inputs being provided by SEAFDEC in the process under the ASEAN SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP).

Keep it as simple as possible!

POINTS TO CONSIDER BASED ON THE GROUP WORK

Scope

Over-riding thematic focus: Management of fishing capacity in the context of “all kinds of fishery resources utilisation”.

Priority/agreed issues/areas of common needs

- Fishing capacity
 - Mobility of fishing capacity
 - Mobility of labour in fisheries
- Trans-boundary issues and opportunities
- Monitoring (information sharing and reporting)
- Control – registration and licensing
- Zoning
- IUU
- Regional diseases control
- Capacity building
- Research coordination

Functions

- Information system/sharing
- Harmonisation and coordination of management measures
- Setting of common rules
- Support capacity building
- Provide an umbrella to promote and support sub-regional arrangements
- Provide a platform to develop common voice on fishery issues at international fora
- Provide a platform to develop common positions for dialogue partners
- Set up short/medium/long term goals

Institutional back-up to ASEAN and ASWGF

- Existing international and regional organisations i.e. APFIC/FAO, SEAFDEC, MRC for policy advise and technical support
- Regional networks i.e. research institutes, universities, NGO's
- Other line agencies i.e. environment, harbour, customs, coast guard, etc.

Forum

- Under ASEAN and ASWGF arrange for meeting at least once a year

Financial implications

- To be identified but kept in mind to avoid unnecessary costs

Other aspects

Port state measures – implications for “ports of convenience”

Flag state measures – implications for “flags of convenience”

Definitions

A set of definitions of central expressions such as: EEZ,

IUU, Port state measures – port of convenience, Flag state measures – flag of convenience, etc

Appendix 1 of Annex 13

Regional Workshop on Implementing the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector, 16-18 January 2008, Bangkok

Conclusions and Recommendations

A. General Recommendation

1. ASEAN standards must be aligned with international standards to gain recognition.
2. AMCs need to have national inter-agency working groups to implement measures.
3. National level to inform ASEAN regional level of implementation.
4. AMCs at national level need to commit funds and resources to build national human resources capacity, infrastructure *etc* to support implementation of the roadmap.
5. AMCs dependency on donors and sponsors for “projects” to support implementation of the road map is not a viable option.
6. For “quick” implementation of the roadmap, focus should be on up to three fishery commodities with economic impact. The meeting recommended:
 - a. Frozen shrimp
 - b. Frozen fish
 - c. Fish sauce
7. The roadmap measures and their action plans should be integrated along the following sectors: production, processing and post-harvest; and laboratory practices and control. The three should be further interlinked to enable traceability throughout the whole value chain.

B. Specific Recommendations on Road Map Measures¹

Measure 46 -*Develop and apply fisheries quality management system that ensure food safety and support competitive position of ASEAN Fisheries products on world markets through the implementation, validation, verification of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)-based systems and improved laboratories practices, and adopting quality and safety management systems so that they may be applied to small enterprises in ASEAN.*

The system for implementation of HACCP has been established in ASEAN and all Member countries have implemented the measure

- National governments should commit sufficient national budget for training of stakeholders and implementation

Measure 47: *Implement the Codex Code of Practice of Good Animal Feeding and Recommended International Code of Practice for Control of the Use of Veterinary Drugs and the Codex Guidelines for the Establishment of a Regulatory Programme for Control of Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods in ASEAN in order to reduce potential hazards in terms of chemical contamination, mycotoxins and veterinary drugs*

- Three member countries have been implementing two code of practice and other member countries should complete their implementation
- Implement the Codex Alimentarius:
 - Code of practice (COP) for good animal feeding.
 - The recommended International COP for the control of the use of veterinary drugs.

¹ Note that timescales and lead countries in some cases remain to be established

- AMC formulation of guidelines for the establishment of a regulatory programme for the control of veterinary drug residues in ASEAN should take into account:
 - National initiatives (Codes, certification schemes).
 - Results and recommendations of the FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on the Development of Antimicrobial Resistance in Aquaculture.
 - Work of the Codex task force on the development of antimicrobial resistance in foods.

Measure 48 - *“Prioritize international standards related to fisheries that would be **significant to trade value** and those with potential for ASEAN **trade in the future** and set specific targets for harmonization in ASEAN”*

- Select the minimum number of standards that specifically relate to trade under the approaches above, principally food safety and aquatic animal health. Report these responsibilities to ASEAN (indicating that no further elaboration will be made on “present” standards as they will be addressed under other Measures).
- Create mechanisms whereby ASEAN Member Countries can pro-actively contribute to the standard setting processes in the future.
- Define workable systems that would facilitate harmonisation of standards among ASEAN Member Country

There are standards that may be relevant to trade in fisheries but which would be better dealt with in other ASEAN fora or mechanisms (e.g. the ASWGF or the ASEAN/SEAFDEC Regional Management Mechanism).

- Identify those standards and conventions
- Future reporting on Measure 48 should focus on international standards that might have future significance to the value of ASEAN trade (internationally and regionally). This will bear in mind the emerging importance of issues relating to social, labour, climate change and other aspects not directly linked to food safety, but linked to the production systems.

Measure 49 - *Formulate guidelines for the use of chemicals in aquaculture and measures to eliminate the use of harmful chemicals*

- Lead Country (Malaysia) to send out survey to AMC on current national guidelines and practices on the use of chemicals in aquaculture and list of banned and permitted substances with their limits and withdrawal periods. Collation of existing guidelines and documents.
- Regional Technical Consultation. Lead country to organize and conduct a Regional Technical Consultation to report on the survey, share the information collated, form a Working Committee (WC) to draft common regional guidelines (list of banned substances, limits, withdrawal periods), establish work schedule and timeframe
- Strategy – Establish common guidelines by consensus; supported by scientific data; incorporate international and national guidelines where applicable
- WC draft and circulate common guidelines for national consultation
- WC Meeting to finalise common guidelines taking into consideration feedback from national consultations
- Lead country to circulate final draft to AMC’s for approval
- Publish common guidelines

Measure 50 *Promotion of GAP, GMP/GHP and HACCP for the fishery industry, especially SMEs*

- Harmonization should be initiated among AMC’s on national shrimp GAP regulations/standards with the ASEAN guidelines for responsible shrimp farming.
- Active participation in development of FAO guidelines on aquaculture certification and harmonization of AMCs national scheme with the guidelines.

- Harmonization should be initiated of AMCs own GMP/ GHP and HACCP regulations/standards based on Codex and ASEAN guidelines.
- Development of Manuals on GMP/SSOP application for certain commodities under PPEs and TPEs.
- Training programme for SMEs on development and implementation of GMP/GHP or SSOP.
- Exchange experts within AMCs and from donor countries.
- The meeting recommended to accept Viet Nam's offer to take the lead on Measure 50.

Measure 51: *Establishment of ASEAN Reference Testing Laboratories for fisheries products (Microbiology, mycotoxin, pesticide residues; Veterinary Drug Residues; Heavy Metals etc)*

- The need for reference testing laboratories is continually changing as a result of the dynamic nature of the fisheries sector. In order to meet the changing requirements due to emerging food safety hazards national governments are strongly recommended to continue work on strengthening their designated ASEAN reference laboratory testing capabilities.
- Identify the groups of substances for which AFRL's are required
- Criteria should be set up for the selection of fisheries laboratories as the AFRL.
- Evaluate the status and capacity of laboratories proposed as AFRL's
- Circulate the decision to all countries for agreement (in case of disagreement the lead country would organize a meeting for final decision)
- Assign additional countries in accordance with the established criteria to be AFRL for substance groups that are not included in the ARL.
- Appoint and AFRL according to Selection criteria (recognizing that only one country should be AFRL.
- All member countries should agree upon the country's purpose with scientifically basic. (Existing facilities, most appropriated Testing method using, activities to provide to the member countries and how do they develop Test method, equipments and facilities continuously).

Measure 52: *Encourage recognition by ASEAN domestic regulators for test reports issues by ASEAN Reference Testing Laboratories and those already accredited by national accreditation bodies who are signatories to ILAC, APLAC MRA*

- Encourage the national regulators who issue test certificates to be accredited with ISO/IEC 17025.
- It is recommended that the responsible ARL/AFRL provide technical assistance upon request to support accreditation.

Measure 53: *Identify and prioritize SPS and TBT measures related to fisheries products for harmonization in ASEAN*

and (combined with)

Measure 54: *Harmonize identified SPS and TBT measures including harmonization of import and export, labeling requirements and marketing compliance*

- Establish a working group to review the current constraints in regional trade and identify problems encountered in assuring quality and safety and take the necessary action.
- Secure sources of funding for improving inspection and lab capacity as well as harmonization activities.
- Acquire technical assistance from international agencies
- Improve capacities including in risk assessment
- Establish a consultative group to coordinate:

- contributions of ASEAN fisheries issues to relevant Codex committees and expert meetings and
- with trade people to highlight fisheries trade issues at SPS/TBT committees
- to coordinate with trade enquiry focal points
- Initiate the development of special and differential treatment scheme for meeting common ASEAN standards and codes of practice
- Initiate the adoption/adaptation of Codex guidelines on import/export certification in fisheries and aquaculture
- Initiate the adoption/adaptation of the Codex Code on GAP to ASEAN aquaculture systems
- Contribute ASEAN issues to the development of international guidelines for aquaculture certification
- Initiate the adoption/adaptation of the Codex guidelines on labeling to fisheries and aquaculture in ASEAN

Measure 55: *Development and implementation of MRAs in selected fishery products*

- Review of international trade on fish and fishery products
- Consult on costs and benefits for establishing an MRA
- Identify problems encountered in international trade and take action as needed.
- Identify parties interested in establishing an MRA (MRAs are developed by definition between trading partners (bilateral MRAs) or trading blocks)
- ASEAN countries that have been approved/harmonized for export to the EU should analyze how this can be turned into a multilateral MRA for specific commodities and/or horizontal issues. This will de facto lead to ASEAN harmonization
- A multilateral MRA can originally start with the countries currently ready and evolve to include other countries as they become ready
- ASEAN countries are encouraged to achieve bilateral MRAs as necessary

(The Guidelines for the Development of Equivalence Agreements regarding Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CAC/GL 34-1999) of Codex should guide the development of MRA's)

Measure 60: *Establish an ASEAN Early Warning System on Hazards and Outbreaks*

- Aquatic animal disease early warning system be further developed based on the existing NACA/OIE/FAO Asia regional system:
 - ASEAN should adopt/adapt global and regional reporting systems in view of the existing global (OIE) and regional QAAD reporting systems, and recognizing the value of information generated through reporting for the purpose of early warning.
 - Create a mechanism for providing inputs, that reflect ASEAN concerns, on aquatic animal diseases to OIE and NACA (e.g. proposal for listing/delisting of aquatic animal diseases for global and regional reporting)
 - Support national surveillance systems through implementation of national aquatic animal health strategies, so that quality of disease reports and compliance to global and regional reporting can be upgraded in ASEAN
 - Consider encouraging ASEAN organizations (e.g. SEAFDEC AQD, ANAAHC) to initiate mechanisms to develop early warning messages based on global (OIE) and regional reporting (QAAD, ARAHIS) systems and circulate to ASEAN Competent Authorities as appropriate.
 - In considering an early warning system, ASWGFi should consult ASWGL whether aquatic animal could be included in the ASEAN Regional Animal Health Information System (ARAHIS).

- The ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed initiative should be formally adopted by ASEAN and further enhanced to meet the needs of all the ASEAN member countries.

ASEAN Roadmap Implementation



Measure	Processed frozen shrimp	Processed frozen fish	Fish sauce
<p>46. Develop and apply fisheries quality management system that ensure food safety and support competitive position of ASEAN Fisheries products on world markets through the implementation, validation, verification of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)-based systems and improved laboratories practices, and adopting quality and safety management systems so that they may be applied to small enterprises in ASEAN.</p> <p><u>Lead country:</u> Singapore</p>	<p><u>HACCP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed. - ASEAN uses Codex HACCP for implementation. - HACCP certification and implementation done in AMC for export product. - ASEAN generic HACCP plan for fresh and frozen shrimp and aquaculture shrimp production developed (ASEAN-Canada Project). - ASEAN Hazard Guide developed (AADCP). - AMCs trained stakeholders on HACCP - ASEAN Training materials are available 	<p><u>HACCP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed. - ASEAN uses Codex HACCP for implementation. - HACCP certification and implementation done in AMC for export product. - AMCs trained stakeholders on HACCP - ASEAN Training materials are available 	<p><u>HACCP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ASEAN uses Codex HACCP for implementation. - ASEAN generic HACCP plan developed (JTFII). - ASEAN Hazard guide developed (AADCP). - ASEAN Guideline on GMP/SSOP for fermented fish sauce (will be completed by end 2009). - AMCs trained stakeholders on HACCP - ASEAN Training materials are available
<p>46. Develop and apply fisheries quality management system that ensure food safety and support competitive position of ASEAN Fisheries products on world markets through the implementation, validation, verification of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)-based systems and improved laboratories practices, and adopting quality and safety management systems so that they may be applied to small enterprises in ASEAN.</p> <p><u>Lead country:</u> Singapore</p>	<p><u>HACCP across the fish processing industry in ASEAN:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In all AMC, export oriented seafood processing establishments are HACCP certified i.e. have developed and implemented HACCP. - HACCP training conducted for government officers, field officers and stakeholders (industry). - ASEAN HACCP training materials available and used by AMC for training at national level. - ASEAN generic HACCP plan for various products established. - ASEAN Hazard Guide for various products established. - ASEAN currently focusing in developing GMP/SSOP for PPEs and TPEs as first step to beef up these small and medium establishments quality assurance systems so that they could eventually achieve HACCP. <p><u>HACCP Action plan (2008-2009):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop ASEAN Guideline for GMP/SSOP for small enterprises namely Pre-processing establishments (PPE) and traditional fish processing establishments (will be completed by end 2009). 		

	<p><u>Good Laboratory Practices (GLP):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competent Authorities are ISO/IEC 17025 accredited for Indonesia, Malaysia (?), Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. - AMC fisheries laboratories implement GLP to varying degrees. - SEAFDEC training material on good laboratory practices and methods validation available. - 4 Training Workshops on Good Laboratory Practices and Methods Validation were conducted. - 127 government laboratory officers from key ASEAN fish inspection and research laboratories trained. - 13 key ASEAN fish inspection and research laboratories participated in regional inter-laboratory proficiency testing for heavy metals in 2004. - 12 out of 16 laboratories completed their Laboratory Quality Management Manuals. - Key fish inspection and research laboratories from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam are ISO/IEC 17025 accredited. - National governments to set aside budget for fish inspection laboratories to implement GLP, achieve and sustain ISO17025 accreditation, human resource training, infrastructure development, and participate inter-calibration and inter-laboratory proficiency testing especially for seafood safety parameters (e.g. heavy metals, veterinary drug residues, malachite green and leuco-malachite green, histamine, 3-MCP, pesticide residues, microbiological parameters). 		
<p>47. Implement the Codex Code of Practice of Good Animal Feeding and Recommended International Code of Practice for Control of the Use of Veterinary Drugs and the Codex Guidelines for the Establishment of a Regulatory Programme for Control of Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods in ASEAN in order to reduce potential hazards in terms of chemical contamination, mycotoxins and veterinary drugs.</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Malaysia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes. Most countries have some form of control. - There is programme for good animal feeding for Malaysia (GAP), Singapore (GAP) and Thailand (shrimp feed sampling and monitoring programme and aquatic feed registration), and Vietnam (GAP). - Thailand has traceability system for aquaculture shrimp. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes. Most countries have some form of control. - There is programme for good animal feeding for Malaysia (GAP), Singapore (GAP) and Thailand (shrimp feed sampling and monitoring programme and aquatic feed registration), and Vietnam (GAP). - Vietnam developing traceability system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most countries have some form of control (e.g. histamine, mycotoxins, benzoic acid and 3-MCP).

<p>48. Prioritise international standards related to fisheries that would be significant for ASEAN trade value and those with potential for ASEAN trade in the future and set specific targets and schedules for harmonization in ASEAN</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Malaysia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should harmonize to Codex standards for frozen shrimp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should harmonize to Codex standards for frozen fish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fish sauce standard jointly developed by some AMCs and submitted to Codex?
<p>49. Formulate guidelines for the use of chemicals in aquaculture and measures to eliminate the use of harmful chemical</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Malaysia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMC have national guidelines and list of banned and restricted drugs and chemicals, as well as growth promoters. - Action Plan drafted to complete this Measure - Should use international list (Codex) of banned and restricted chemicals and drugs, growth promoters, as well as recommended MRLs and withdrawal practices when developing ASEAN Guideline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMC have national guidelines and list of banned and restricted drugs and chemicals, as well as growth promoters. - Action Plan drafted to complete this Measure - Should use international list (Codex) of banned and restricted chemicals and drugs, growth promoters, as well as recommended MRLs and withdrawal practices when developing ASEAN Guideline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMC have national guidelines and list of banned and restricted drugs and chemicals, as well as growth promoters. - Action Plan drafted to complete this Measure - Should use international list (Codex) of banned and restricted chemicals and drugs, growth promoters, as well as recommended MRLs and withdrawal practices when developing ASEAN Guideline
<p>50. Promotion of HACCP, Good Aquaculture Practice (GAP), Good Hygiene Practices (GHP) for fishery industry, especially SMEs</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Not defined</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HACCP– promoted and training of stakeholders conducted in AMCs - GAP – most AMCs have GAP or are developing GAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HACCP– promoted and training of stakeholders conducted in AMCs - GAP – most AMCs have GAP or are developing GAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HACCP– promoted and training of stakeholders conducted in AMCs

<p>51. Establishment of ASEAN Reference Testing Laboratories for fisheries products (Microbiology, mycotoxin, pesticide residues; Veterinary Drug Residues; Heavy Metals, etc)</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Myanmar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ARLs established under agriculture - Recommended ARLs for fish laboratories (under ASEAN-EU) as fish matrix is different from agriculture matrix – to be confirmed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Environmental contaminants by Veterinary Public Health Laboratory, Singapore o Biotoxins by NAFIQAVED Branch 6 (Can Tho), Vietnam o Microbiology by Department of Chemistry (DOC), Malaysia o Veterinary drugs / chemical residues – yet to be decided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ARLs established under agriculture - Recommended ARLs for fish laboratories (under ASEAN-EU) as fish matrix is different from agriculture matrix – to be confirmed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Environmental contaminants by Veterinary Public Health Laboratory, Singapore o Biotoxins by NAFIQAVED Branch 6 (Can Tho), Vietnam o Microbiology by Department of Chemistry (DOC), Malaysia o Veterinary drugs / chemical residues – yet to be decided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ARLs established under agriculture - Recommended ARLs for fish laboratories (under ASEAN-EU) as fish matrix is different from agriculture matrix – to be confirmed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Environmental contaminants by Veterinary Public Health Laboratory, Singapore o Biotoxins by NAFIQAVED Branch 6 (Can Tho), Vietnam o Microbiology by Department of Chemistry (DOC), Malaysia o Veterinary drugs / chemical residues – yet to be decided
<p>53. Identify and prioritise SPS and TBT Measures related to fisheries products for harmonization in ASEAN</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Thailand</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMCs have own SPS - To harmonize to Codex standards / guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMCs have own SPS - To harmonize to Codex standards / guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some AMCs producing fish sauce have SPS (Thailand and Vietnam?) - No international standard / guidelines available - Need to develop ASEAN SPS for fish sauce
<p>54. Harmonise identified SPS and TBTs measures including harmonisation of import and export, labelling requirements and marking of compliance</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Thailand</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMCs have own SPS - To harmonize to Codex standards / guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMCs have own SPS - To harmonize to Codex standards / guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No international standard / guidelines available - Need to develop ASEAN SPS for fish sauce for harmonisation

<p>55. Development and Implementation of MRAs in selected fisheries products</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Thailand</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Codex guidelines on equivalency for MRAs available - ASEAN to use this in their development and implementation of MRAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Codex guidelines on equivalency for MRAs available - ASEAN to use this in their development and implementation of MRAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Codex guidelines on equivalency for MRAs available - ASEAN to use this in their development and implementation of MRAs
<p>60. Establish an ASEAN Early Warning System on Hazards and Outbreaks</p> <p><u>Lead Country:</u> Not defined</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aquatic animal disease alerts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9 AMC participate in QAAD. o Under AADCP project – ASEAN livestock set up a disease monitoring system. Does it apply to fish disease (??) o ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food established. 6 AMCs are in the Network. Not officially endorsed and no agreement amongst AMCs to adopt this system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aquatic animal disease alerts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9 AMC participate in QAAD. o Under AADCP project – ASEAN livestock set up a disease monitoring system. Does it apply to fish disease (??) o ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food established. 6 AMCs are in the Network. Not officially endorsed and no agreement amongst AMCs to adopt this system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aquatic animal disease alerts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 9 AMC participate in QAAD. o Under AADCP project – ASEAN livestock set up a disease monitoring system. Does it apply to fish disease (??) o ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food established. 6 AMCs are in the Network. Not officially endorsed and no agreement amongst AMCs to adopt this system.

Appendix 2 of Annex 13

**REPORT ON STATUS OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP)
FOR THE 40TH SEAFDEC COUNCIL MEETING, 7-10 APRIL, BALI, INDONESIA**

1. The 39th SEAFDEC Council endorsed the signing of the Letter of Understanding (LOU) between SEAFDEC and ASEAN to establish the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP). The Council agreed that the ASSP will formalize and further strengthen the close cooperation between SEAFDEC and ASEAN. The LOU was signed by the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC Dr Siri Ekmaharaja, on behalf of SEAFDEC, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN H.E. Mr. Ong Keng Yong, on behalf of ASEAN on 2nd November 2007 during the 29th AMAF and 7th AMAF + 3 Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand in the presence of the ASEAN and Japan (MAFF) Ministers.

2. The follow up action for the ASSP was discussed at the 10th FCG Meeting to incorporate the FCG mechanism under the ASSP as provided for in the ASSP/LOU. The Chairman of the 10th FCG Meeting will be reporting on the outcome and recommendations of the 10th FCG Meeting to the 40th SEAFDEC Council for endorsement. The Report of the 10th FCG Meeting will also be presented to the 16th ASEAN/ASWGF Meeting to be held in May, 2008, in Bangkok, Thailand.

3. SEAFDEC Council Directors are aware that SEAFDEC and ASEAN has already embarked on some new initiatives under the ASSP Program that will see SEAFDEC playing a more active role in assisting ASEAN in the formulation and development of important regional fisheries policy issues. Under the ASSP Program, SEAFDEC and ASEAN, together with the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, has already organized two important regional workshops with the support of Sida, under the SEAFDEC-Sida Project. The two workshops are :-

(a) Regional Workshop on the Concept for the establishment of an ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism, Bangkok, 6 – 8 November, 2007. The output of this Workshop will assist ASEAN in the formulation and establishment of an appropriate ASEAN regional fisheries management mechanism.

(b) Regional Workshop on Implementing the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector, Bangkok, 16-18 January, 2008. The output from this Workshop will assist ASEAN in implementing measures for the economic integration of the fisheries sector.

The conclusion and outcome of these two workshops will be reported to this 40th SEAFDEC Council Meeting under the relevant sub- agenda item, and also later to the 16th ASEAN/ASWGF Meeting.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) Program Activities

4. As follow up to the signing of the ASSP/LOU at the 29th AMAF and the 7th AMAF + 3 meetings, and the two ASEAN-SEAFDEC workshops mentioned above, it is proposed that SEAFDEC continue to strengthen her cooperation with ASEAN under the ASSP by focusing on the following important areas that are of interest to ASEAN and SEAFDEC:-

- (i) Work with ASEAN/ASWGF to help ASEAN formulate and establish an ASEAN Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism (ARFMM). This program will be in line with the FAO's call for the establishment of sub-regional fisheries management mechanism. This is also in line with the FAO adopted Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) for sustainable fisheries development and also the adopted (at the 27th AMAF in 2005) ASEAN Guidelines for the CCRF, developed by ASEAN and SEAFDEC, for the Southeast Asia region.

- (ii) Work with ASEAN/ASWGF_i to develop common positions/stands on international issues that will have impact on fisheries development and management in ASEAN and SEA region. This will also contribute to the strengthening and raising the international profile of SEAFDEC (ASEAN & Japan).
- (iii) Work with ASEAN/ASWGF_i to help ASEAN in the integration of the fisheries sector (i.e. ASEAN Roadmap). This will contribute towards the economic integration of ASEAN as envisaged in the ASEAN Charter and the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint. An integrated ASEAN fisheries sector will also benefit and strengthen SEAFDEC.
- (iv) Continue and expand the existing collaborative and cooperation projects/activities under the ASSP-FCG mechanism for capacity building, information collection and exchange, and HR development. It will be useful to consider “linking” existing and future projects/activities under ASSP-FCG Mechanism into a few focused broad areas that will provide “support” for important policy issues (such as (i) – (iii) above) that are of interest to SEAFDEC and ASEAN, while maintaining the existing JTF administrative and financial management system for those projects/activities funded by the JTF.

ASSP Program Areas of Cooperation for SEAFDEC Council’s Consideration & Endorsement

5. As a follow up to the signing of the ASSP/LOU and the implementation of the ASSP Program, SEAFDEC Secretariat would like to seek the SEAFDEC Council’s consideration and endorsement to :-

- (a) Work with ASEAN/ASWGF_i to help ASEAN formulate and establish an ASEAN Regional Fisheries Management Mechanism (ARFMM).
- (b) Work with ASEAN/ASWGF_i to develop common positions/stands on international issues that will have impact on fisheries development and management in ASEAN and SEA region.
- (c) Work with ASEAN/ASWGF_i to help ASEAN in the integration of the fisheries sector (i.e. ASEAN Roadmap).
- (d) Continue and expand the existing collaborative and cooperation projects/activities under the ASSP-FCG mechanism that will enhance capacity building, information collection and exchange, HR development, and provide support for important policy issues.

The outcome of the 40th SEAFDEC Council deliberations on the ASSP Program will be presented to ASEAN at the 16th ASWGF_i Meeting in May, 2008, Thailand, for consideration and endorsement.

REGIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR FISHERY STATISTICS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA¹ AND STREAMLINE REPORTING

I. BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

In Southeast Asia, the importance of fishery statistics has been widely accepted as a tool in providing the basic foundation that is crucial to the formulation of national fisheries policies as well as national management frameworks and actions or even as a basis for understanding the status and condition of the fisheries resources. As basic structures to facilitate development planning and management of fisheries, the fishery statistical items and data set collected by countries could vary based on the priority needs and objectives of the countries. In addition, the complexity or extent of a national fishery statistical system including its framework for collecting the national fishery statistics also depends on the country's available budget, resources and the existing capacity of its fisheries staff.

In order to consolidate the differences in the current national statistical systems of the countries in Southeast Asia, SEAFDEC has exerted efforts to initiate the revision of the framework so that this could better serve as a basic requirement (minimum requirement) that can be achieved by the countries in the region. The need to strengthen and improve the countries' national fishery statistics has been highlighted in the regional policy and direction². SEAFDEC therefore considered it necessary to address the common issues, problems and constraints through regional cooperation and collective actions under a regional framework in order that this can serve as basis for development planning and management of fisheries. Thus, the development of a new and improved framework for fishery statistics for Southeast Asia was deemed necessary.

The compilation of fishery statistics in Southeast Asia has been regularly pursued by SEAFDEC since 1978 in the form of the "Fishery Statistical Bulletin for the South China Sea Area". However, the escalating situation in fisheries practices in the region and the new geo-political set-up of the ASEAN, make it necessary to revise the existing framework of the regional fishery statistics and the usage of the Bulletin. In accordance with the policy directives given at the 36th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in 2004, the SEAFDEC Secretariat organized a series of Regional Technical Consultations (RTC) with the Member Countries to develop a new framework for the SEAFDEC Fishery Statistical Bulletin. The draft Framework of the Bulletin was endorsed by the SEAFDEC Council at its 37th Meeting in 2005.

The draft of the new Regional Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia developed by SEAFDEC was discussed and supported by the Member Countries at the RTC on Fishery Statistics and Information held in Bangkok in December 2007. The Member Countries also agreed to adopt the new and improved framework as it contains the minimum requirements for collection and production of fishery statistics. The new Framework, which includes major changes in the "area of coverage" and "statistical usage" to be consistent with SEAFDEC's areas of competence as well as on the "standard definitions and classifications" to be consistent with the

¹ The full paper of the Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia, as agreed at the Regional Technical Consultation on Fishery Statistics and Information held in December 2007, is shown as REF.5.

² Under the Resolution and Plan of Action adopted at the Millennium Conference in 2001, *Strengthening of fishery statistics and maximizing their use for fisheries planning and management, as well as development of standard definitions and classifications to facilitate regional fishery statistics and information exchanges*, have been identified as areas to be taken into consideration for the development of sustainable fisheries.

current regional requirements, has also been harmonized with the international standards. The new Framework is envisaged as a regional collaborative framework on fishery statistics to facilitate wider sharing of data and information, which will also be used as inputs in the compilation of the Fishery Statistical Bulletin of Southeast Asia produced by SEAFDEC in the future.

Reflecting on the above rationale, this document proposes the adoption of the new Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia, which includes the proposed Streamlined Reporting System of Fishery Statistics from the Member Countries to SEAFDEC and FAO, and the Supporting Action Plan to assist the Member Countries in implementing the Framework. As soon as the Framework is endorsed by the SEAFDEC Council, SEAFDEC plans to coordinate with the Member Countries for the implementation of the Framework in the region.

II. PURPOSE AND USAGE

The SEAFDEC Council at its 36th Meeting in 2004 deemed it necessary to improve the compilation of regional fishery statistics and directed the SEAFDEC Secretariat to revise the framework of the compilation considering the new geo-political set-up of the ASEAN, the changing situation of the region's fisheries as well as the differences in the current national statistical systems. Thus, the new Framework was developed to focus on the basic requirements that can be possibly achieved by the countries in the region with out putting much burden on the agencies responsible for the collection and compilation of fishery statistics.

a. Minimum Requirement for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia

As envisaged, the new Framework would give many benefits to the ASEAN Countries. Since the Framework is considered as the "Minimum Requirement for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia", its adoption would be beneficial to the countries in the region as it could be used as guide to facilitate a long-term improvement of their fishery statistics at the national level. The framework could also be used as guidelines to gain better understanding about the importance of compiling fishery statistics at national level, acquire better understanding and clear picture of the fisheries sector specifically in terms of the minimum requirements of fishery statistics, and embrace the harmonized standards and definitions in order to correspond to regional requirements and conform with international standards.

b. Framework of Inputs for the Development of International Norms and Standards

Since the new and unified framework contains the minimum requirements for the compilation of fishery statistics as well as the standards embodying the regional requirements, it will also be used in gathering inputs for the international development of norms and standards for fishery statistics. Harmonization of standard definitions and classifications reflecting the multi-species/gear tropical fisheries nature of Southeast Asia will facilitate the sharing of fishery statistics and information in the region as well as contributing to similar development at the global level. Therefore, improvement of the framework as well as the standard definitions and classification of fishery statistics under the new Framework could very well support such activities.

c. Facilitate Sharing of Fishery Information

The standardized definitions and classification of data under the new framework could facilitate the sharing and exchange of fishery statistics and information among the countries in the region. Many countries in the region have already established their respective national fishery statistical standards. In some countries, such standards may have already been reviewed and improved to conform to the standards as well as definitions and classifications of fishery statistics at the international and regional levels such as those of the FAO and SEAFDEC. However, since this may not be the case for the other countries, harmonization of the varying systems was deemed

necessary as this would eventually lead to the continuous sharing of fishery statistics and information in the region thus, contributing largely to the global efforts of establishing the real picture of the fisheries in the whole world.

III. COVERAGE

a. Statistical Coverage

1) The Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia covers the annual fishery statistics on Production; Fishing Units; Fishing boats; Fishers; and Fish Price. Production (landings) covers fishes, crustaceans, molluscs, and other aquatic animals and plants taken for all purposes (capture fisheries and aquaculture) by all types and classes of fishing units and aquaculture activities operating in marine, brackishwater and freshwater areas, in appropriate geographical categories.

2) The reference period unit normally used in fishery statistics is the calendar year, the period between 1 January and 31 December.

b. Geographical Coverage

The data also cover all production by commercial and small-scale fisheries and aquaculture activities in freshwater, brackishwater and marine water designated by FAO as Fishing Area 57 (Indian Ocean, Eastern), 71 (Pacific, Western Central), 61 (Pacific, Northwest), and 04 (Asia, Inland Water).

The Countries and Sub-areas for marine fishery statistics under the framework have been established by SEAFDEC and the Member Countries consistent with the FAO Fishing Areas.

In addition, the RTC on Fishery Statistics and Information held in December 2007 recommended to include East Timor in the area of coverage to complete the compilation of fishery statistics and information in the Southeast Asia region.

Countries	Sub-areas
a) Brunei Darussalam	
b) Cambodia	
c) Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - West Sumatra - South Java - Malacca Strait - East Sumatra - North Java - Bali-Nusa Tenggara - South-west Kalimantan - East Kalimantan - South Sulawesi - North Sulawesi - Maluku-Papua
d) Lao PDR	
e) Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - West Coast of Peninsular Malaysia - East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia - Sabah - Sarawak
f) Myanmar	
g) Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Luzon - Visayas - Mindanao

h) Singapore	
i) Thailand	- Gulf of Thailand - Indian Ocean
j) Timor Leste	
k) Vietnam	- North Vietnam - Central Vietnam - Southeast Vietnam - Southwest Vietnam

IV. COMPONENTS

Based on the structure of fisheries in the Southeast Asian region, the statistics are divided into two main sectors: Capture Fishery and Aquaculture.

Considering the different environments of the fishery resources and other components of capture fishery, the statistics compiled under capture fishery are classified into two sectors, namely: Marine Capture Fishery and Inland Capture Fishery. Statistics on production or catch, fishing gear, fishing boats, fishing units, fishers, etc. will be collected and compiled under each sector.

For aquaculture, which has different ecology and resources, the aquaculture statistics could be classified into three sub-sectors, namely: mariculture, brackishwater culture, and freshwater culture.

Thus, the contents and data items in the new framework include:

A. Fishery Production by Sub-sectors

A.1 Capture Fisheries Production

a. Marine Fisheries (country and sub-areas/Administrative unit)

- Production by Species (in Q and V)
- Production by Types of Fishing Gear (in Q and V)
- Fishing Efforts
 - Fishing Units
 - Fishing gear
 - Fishing boats
 - Fishers and Farmers

b. Inland Fisheries (country)

- Production by Species (in Q and V)
- Production by Water Bodies (in Q and V)
- Number of Fishers and Farmers

A.2 Aquaculture Production

a. Production by Water Environments (in Q and V)

- Mariculture (country and sub-areas)
- Brackishwater Culture (country and sub-areas)
- Freshwater Culture (country)

b. Production by Species (in Q and V)

c. Aquaculture Efforts by Water Environments (area under culture, aquaculture unit, fish farmers)

d. Seed Production by Species (in Q and V)

- For Stock Enhancement
- For Aquaculture by Water Environments

B. Producer Fish Price by Species

V. REGIONAL COMPILATION OF FISHERY STATISTICS

SEAFDEC has initiated a fishery statistical program in 1976 and since 1978, has compiled the fishery statistics of 1976 and published for dissemination in the form of its annual publication "*Fishery Statistical Bulletin for the South China Sea Area*".

Starting with the first issue of the Bulletin for 1976 (issued in 1978), the data collection and compilation for the SEAFDEC Bulletin made use of a set of questionnaires together with the Notes for Completion (considered now as the Framework of Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia under the new development). The questionnaires are being sent to the participating countries at the beginning of each year. The accomplished questionnaires are returned to SEAFDEC for checking and verification with the country's Yearbook, if available. When data are not provided as in the case of some countries, their annual fishery production and related information are obtained from the FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics.

In addition, Regional Workshops/Consultations are regularly organized by SEAFDEC to discuss and agree on the issues related to the improvement of national fishery statistical systems. The Consultations also assist the Member Countries in addressing the need to improve and standardize definitions and classifications of fishery statistics to fulfill the regional requirements considering the on-going development of fisheries of Southeast Asia.

Under the new framework, it is also envisaged that the regional compilation of fishery statistics of Southeast Asia in the form of the Fishery Statistical Bulletin of Southeast Asia could be facilitated. The new dimensions used in reporting the status of fisheries of the countries in the region as reflected in the Bulletin, will also minimize the difficulties presently faced by the countries in reporting fishery statistics to FAO and to SEAFDEC, as substantial overlaps in data items collated by both organizations will be reduced.

VI. STREAMLINED REPORTING OF FISHERY STATISTICS TO FAO AND SEAFDEC

The countries in Southeast Asia have been providing their national fishery statistics to FAO and SEAFDEC annually for compilation, publication, and dissemination globally and regionally. Both organizations compile the fishery statistics based on the statistical reports obtained from the national reporting offices of the respective countries based on the questionnaires developed by each organization.

Although the statistical requirements for SEAFDEC and FAO include common data items, the compilation is conducted separately using different sets of questionnaires and formats. Many fishery statistical offices in the region suffer from chronic problems such as insufficient human and financial resources, thus, reporting to international/regional organizations and fulfilling their varying requirements could cause much burden to national officers. This could lead to certain degrees of inconsistencies of the fishery statistics submitted to FAO and SEAFDEC as well as significant delays or even non-submission of national fishery statistics to FAO and to SEAFDEC. As a consequence, this could also lead to the delay in the overall reporting of the compiled fishery statistics at the global and regional levels.

Thus, the Streamlined Reporting System of Fishery Statistics from the Member Countries to SEAFDEC and FAO was considered by the Member Countries during the RTC on Fishery Statistics and Information held in December 2007. Moreover, the said system has been included in the new Framework in order to reduce the burden of the countries in reporting fishery statistics to FAO and SEAFDEC, and also minimize certain overlaps in the data items collated by both organizations. The streamlined reporting of fishery statistics to FAO and SEAFDEC comprises the following:

a. *Harmonized Questionnaires*

The RTC held in December 2007 supported the development of the revised SEAFDEC regional questionnaires harmonized with the FAO questionnaires, and for the countries to provide statistics to FAO and SEAFDEC in a streamlined manner.

The proposed harmonized questionnaires revised at the Consultation would now include two major areas, namely: (1) Fishery Production by Sub-sectors, and (2) Producer's Fish Price by Species. As the streamlining system would require revisions in the forms for reporting and questionnaires, SEAFDEC will develop the harmonized questionnaires which are almost the same as those used by FAO except for some additional information that SEAFDEC requires from its Member Countries. FAO also supported the development of the regional questionnaires harmonized with those of the FAO, however the FAO questionnaires will still be dispatched to the countries. In addition, the logo of FAO could be used in the harmonized questionnaires only upon agreement by FAO on the mechanisms under the streamlined system.

As soon as the revised Framework is endorsed by the SEAFDEC Council and the ASWGFi, SEAFDEC would coordinate with the Member Countries for the launching of the new regional questionnaires.

b. *Focal points*

Moreover, since harmonization of national correspondents will facilitate the streamlining processes, SEAFDEC and FAO will update the list of national focal points of the SEAFDEC Member Countries and for both organizations to share the same focal points. In this regard, the members of the ASEAN Network on Fishery Statistics will be mobilized to coordinate the submission and investigation on further information that may be needed to fulfill the statistics required

c. *Submission Process*

FAO will continue to send its current questionnaire format to the countries in Southeast Asia based on the current FAO timeframe (send out questionnaire - April, Submission to FAO and SEAFDEC- September, upload data on FAO Websites-February, Publish the Yearbook-mid year).

For its part, SEAFDEC will send the questionnaire harmonized with that of FAO, which are almost the same as those used by FAO except for some additional information that SEAFDEC requires from the Member Countries, to the countries in Southeast Asia for submission following the same time frame as that of FAO.

In addition, SEAFDEC and FAO will continue to coordinate and share statistics and information received from the Member Countries. Using the harmonized questionnaires consolidated under the new framework, submission of data is therefore expected to be faster. Such harmonization process will surely lead to better quality of fishery statistics and information-derived vis-à-vis submission of such information within the shortest time possible to FAO and to SEAFDEC.

VII. SUPPORTING ACTION PLAN

In providing technical assistance to the Member Countries for the implementation of the Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia, the following issues are proposed by SEAFDEC for consideration by the Council:

a. *Harmonization on Statistical Standards*

The Member Countries will need regional support in developing/revising their national standards and classifications on fishery statistics to be harmonized with the regional standard under the new Framework. It is therefore necessary to promote and develop a comparable system in the region in terms of standard classifications, definition and terminology, and methodology to improve the national statistical systems that would facilitate sharing and exchange of fishery statistics and information as well as establish the status and performance of fisheries sector. In this connection, it is proposed that SEAFDEC's support through the CWP (Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics) be sustained as this would reflect the requirements of the region when developing common definitions, classifications and standards for fishery statistics in line with international standards. This will also eventually support the Member Countries in improving the quality and usage of fishery statistics,

b. *Mainstream Implementation of the Regional Framework in the Member Countries*

To enable SEAFDEC to sustain its support to the Member Countries in the implementation of the Regional Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia, gaps and areas where the technical assistance by SEAFDEC is needed, should be identified by the respective countries.

At the initial stage and as agreed at the RTC in 2007, the conduct of a Regional Workshop for Capacity Building is being proposed by SEAFDEC in order to facilitate the process of streamlining. The Workshop will be attended by national officers from the Member Countries who are responsible for reporting fishery statistics to SEAFDEC and also participated in by representatives from FAO. The protocols adopted by both organizations concerning fishery statistics issues would also be discussed and confirmed at this Workshop. This regional workshop will also assure that improvement of fishery statistics in the Southeast Asian region is carried out in terms of better quality and timeliness of reporting while reducing the burden of the Member Countries in reporting fishery statistics to FAO and SEAFDEC.

c. *Coordination and Linkage among ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fishery Statistics-related Program, Incorporate Fishery Statistics into Broader Fishery Information of Southeast Asia, and Availability of Information in the SEAFDEC Website*

Considering the number of ASEAN-SEAFDEC programs that are related to fishery statistics, coordination among these programs should be promoted. This includes coordinating the various data and information in the region that support development and management planning, and actions as well as enhancing the effective usage of statistics, data and information that include routine and non-routine data. Such coordination should be made explicit to maximize the use of fishery statistics in support of fisheries management.

In order to enhance such linkage, fishery statistics will not be developed in an isolated manner but rather it will be made part of the broader Fishery Information of Southeast Asia. This will ensure the maximum utilization of the fishery statistics, data and information as well as indicators..

Where possible and to further improve the understanding and knowledge of fisheries and aquaculture in the region, the web-based knowledge and information related to fisheries in Southeast Asia should be developed and made available through the SEAFDEC Website. This will facilitate access to readily available information.

d. *Collaboration among SEAFDEC, FAO and other Organizations*

The collaboration and partnership between SEAFDEC and FAO as well as other international organizations supporting collection, compilation and presentation of fishery statistics, data and information for development planning and management, i.e. ASEAN, CWP, FIRMS (Fisheries Resources Monitoring System), etc. should be promoted and continued. This would also further support the implementation of the Framework by the countries in the region.

VIII. ASEAN NETWORK ON FISHERY STATISTICS (*refer to Appendix 1*)

IX. CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

The Council is requested to consider and endorse the proposed Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia, including its Coverage, Components; and the Streamlined Reporting of Fishery Statistics from the Member Countries to SEAFDEC and FAO; and the Supporting Action Plan for providing technical assistance to the Member Countries in the implementation of the Framework. The Council is also invited to provide policy guidance to ensure the effective implementation of the initiatives and coordination from the Member Countries.

Appendix 1 of Annex 14

List of ASEAN Network on Fishery Statistics

Country	National Project Coordinators/Representatives
Brunei Darussalam	Name: Mr. Haji Alias Haji Shari Position: Head, Information and Communication Division Address: Fisheries Department, Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources Jalan Menteri Besar, Berakas BB 3910, Brunei Darussalam Tel: +673 2382113, 2383067 Fax: +673 2382069 E-mail: alias_shari@fisheries.gov.bn <i>(to be confirmed/new nomination)</i>
Cambodia	Name: Mr. Thor Sensereivorth Position: Vice Chief of Planning and Accounting Office Address: Department of Fisheries 186, Norodom Blvd., P.O. Box 582, Phnom Penh, Cambodia Tel: +855 (12) 868 815, Fax: +855 (23) 215 796 E-mail: catfish@camnet.com.kh, sereywath@hotmail.com <i>(to be confirmed/new nomination)</i>
Indonesia	Name: Ms. Dyah Retnowati Position: Chief of Capture Fishery Statistics Division Address: Directorate General of Capture Fisheries Jl. Harsono RM No.3, Building B, 6 Fl. Ragunan, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia Tel: +62 (21) 782 7254 Fax: +62 (21) 782 7254 E-mail: dgcfstat@indosat.net.id, retnowatii@yahoo.com
Lao PDR	Name: Mr. Bounthong Saphakdy Position: Chief of Technical Division Address: Department of Livestock and Fisheries P.O.Box811, Vientiane, Lao PDR Tel: 856-21-416932 Fax: 856-21-415674 E-mail: eulaodlf@laotel.com <i>(to be confirmed/new nomination)</i>
Malaysia	Name: Mr. Teo Siong Wan Position: Head of Statistics Department Address: Department of Fisheries 9 th Floor, Wisma Tani, Jln Sultan Salahuddin, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Tel: +603 8870 1001 Fax: +603 8889 2498 E-mail: teosio01@yahoo.com
Myanmar	Name: Mr. Tint Swe Position: Deputy Director Address: Department of Fisheries Planning and Statistics Division Sinmin Road, Alone Township, Yangon, Myanmar Tel: +95 1 228 258, Fax: +95 1 228 258 E-mail: dof@mptmail.net.mm

The Philippines	<p>Name: Mr. Noel C. Barut Position: Chief of Marine Fisheries Research Division Address: National Fisheries Research and Development Institute 940 Kayumanggi, Press Building I. Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 1103, Philippines Tel: +63 2373 6336 Fax: +63 2372 5063 E-mail: nbarut@nfrdi.da.gov.ph or noel_barut@hotmail.com</p>
Singapore	<p>Name: Mrs. Renee Chou Position: Deputy Director, Agritechnology Address: Agri-food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore 5 Maxwell Road #02/03-00 Tower Block MND Complex, Singapore 069110 Tel: +656 325 7637 Fax: +656 220 6068 E-mail: Renee_chou@ava.gov.sg (SEAFDEC National Coordinator for Singapore)</p>
Thailand	<p>Name: Pongpat Boonchuwong Position: Director of Fisheries Economic Division Address: Fisheries Economic Division, Fisheries Technology Development and Transfer Bureau Department of Fisheries Kasetsart University Campus Phaholyotin Road, Bangkok 10900, Thailand Tel: +66 (2) 558 0195 Fax: +66 (2) 558 0212 E-mail: boonchuwong@yahoo.com</p>
Vietnam	<p>Name: Dr. Thai Thanh Duong Position: Director Address: Fisheries Information Center (FICen) Ministry of Fisheries 10-12 Nguyen Cong Hoan, Ba Dinh Ha Noi, Vietnam Tel: 84-4-8343182 Fax: 84-4-7716578 E-mail: ttam.bts@hn.vnn.vn (To nominate new person)</p>

SEAFDEC Focal Points on Fishery Statistics

Departments	Focal Points
SEAFDEC Secretariat	<p>Name: Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsanga Position: Information Program Coordinator Address: SEAFDEC Secretariat P.O. Box 1046 Kasetsart Post Office Bangkok 10903, Thailand Tel: (662) 955-1601, 940-6326 to 29 Fax: (662) 940-6336 E-mail: pouch@seafdec.org</p>
TD	<p>Name: Apiradee Kulthai Position: Information and Communication Technology Section Head Address: P.O. Box 97 Phrasamutchedi, Samut Prakan 10290, Thailand</p>

	<p>Tel: +66 (2) 425 6100 Fax: +66 (2) 425 6110 to 11 E-mail: apiradee@seafdec.org <i>(To nominate new person)</i></p>
MFRD	<p>Name: Mr. Vijay Krishnan Chandran Position: Information Officer Address: 2 Perahu Road, off Lim Chu Kang Road, Singapore 718915 Tel: (65) 6790-7973, Fax: (65) 6861-3196 E-mail: Vijay_Krishnan_CHANDRAN@ava.gov.sg</p>
AQD	<p>Name: Ms. Virgilia T. Sulit Position: Special Assistant to the Chief, and Special Departmental Coordinator, SEAFDEC/AQD Address: Tigbauan 5021, Iloilo, Philippines Tel: +63 (33) 335 1009; 336 2965; 336 9544 Fax: +63 (33) 335 1008 E-mail: vtsulit@aqd.seafdec.org.ph <i>(To nominate new person)</i></p>
MFRDMD	<p>Name: Mr. Jamaluddin Ibrahim Address: Taman Perikanan Chendering, 21080 Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia Tel: (609)616-3150, Fax: (609)617-5136 E-mail: jamaluddin@mfrdmd.org.my <i>(To nominate new person)</i></p>

STATEMENT

*By Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn,
Senior Officer, Natural Resources Unit
ASEAN Secretariat*

Honorable SEAFDEC Council Chairman,
Distinguished delegates from ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries,
SEAFDEC Secretary-General and senior staff,
Representatives from FAO and Sida, ladies and gentlemen, good morning,

At the outset, allow me to take this opportunity to thank SEAFDEC and the Government of Indonesia for kind invitation to the ASEAN Secretariat to participate in this auspicious Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council and for allowing me to speak before all of you about ASEAN and SEAFDEC collaboration in fisheries. I wholeheartedly join other delegates in congratulating SEAFDEC for its achievements made in 2007.

On my personal behalf, I have always been privileged and honored to sit in this very meeting regardless of what hats I have on. Although, I must admit that sitting on this side of the table gives a different perspective of the meeting. But I assure that my vision and determination on the regional fisheries cooperation remain.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, the year 2007 has marked a number of important milestones in ASEAN cooperation. ASEAN today are facing a number of challenges. These include a more complex and dynamic international environment, stiffer economic competition, greater regional interdependence considering transnational and trans-sectoral issues, and the need to narrow the development gap among its Member Countries. These challenges also hold true for the fisheries sector.

Towards this end, ASEAN Leaders, during the 13th Summit in 2007, signed the ASEAN Charter, which is an agreement to establish the legal and institutional framework for ASEAN. By conferring legal personality, ASEAN is moving from a loose association to a rule-based intergovernmental organization. The ASEAN Charter reaffirms the commitment to establish an ASEAN Community comprised of three pillars of ASEAN Security, Economic and Socio-Cultural Communities.

Considering the multi-functionality of the Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries sectors, the relevant framework and cooperation programmes/activities had been included in the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) components. The AEC focuses on enhancing competitiveness for economic growth and development through closer economic integration while the ASCC focuses on nurturing human, cultural and natural resources for sustained development in a harmonious and people-centred ASEAN.

Along this line, the collaboration between ASEAN and SEAFDEC is crucial in strengthening efforts to achieve the defined goals set forth by the ASEAN Charter and the relevant ASEAN Community Blueprints. The signing of the Letter of Understanding for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) by the Secretaries-General of the two organizations during the 29th Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry held in Bangkok last year signified our appreciation and value of partnership with SEAFDEC that ASEAN has enjoyed over the years. This has been well recognized and echoed at various ASEAN level meetings, particularly the meetings of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF). ASEAN envisages that the

ASSP Program will be the vehicle to facilitate closer cooperation and partnership among the two organizations and their respective Member Countries.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, on regional cooperation activities between the two organizations, I wish to join other delegates in congratulate SEAFDEC for having been awarded the FAO Magarita Lizzaraga Award for the biennium 2006-2007 for the recognition of its continuous efforts and achievement in supporting the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia. To us at ASEAN, we value this as an important achievement as it indicates the major achievement in implementing responsible fisheries as guided by the Vientiane Action Programme (VAP).

ASEAN wishes to recognize the successful organizations and outcomes of the two important regional workshops organized under the ASSP Program. They are on the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of the Fisheries Sector held in January this year, and on the Concept of An ASEN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism held in November last year. Outcomes of the two workshops provided us an important update and inputs for further implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint as well as the on-going formulation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint, respectively. I also wish to thank other partner international/regional organizations, particularly FAO and Sida for joining hands in making the two workshops a remarkable success. At this juncture, ASEAN wishes to request SEAFDEC and other partner organizations for the continuous collaboration on the above two important issues.

On the Joint ASEAN position and approach on regional and international fisheries issues, ASEAN appreciates the efforts and sharing of an executive report on international fisheries issues for 2006-2007 by SEAFDEC at the annual meeting of the Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi). In this regard, I wish to convey the ASWGFi's consideration and support made at its 15th Meeting to the recommendations on respective issues presented by SEAFDEC as a basis for joint ASEAN position. To strengthen future regional cooperation in addressing international fisheries related issues, the ASWGFi also supported the proposed modality on the topic as presented by SEAFDEC. I also wish to convey the ASWGFi's request to SEAFDEC for the continued technical support on international fisheries related issues in future meetings of ASWGFi.

In addition to the areas of cooperation activities outlined above, ASEAN wishes to seek close cooperation with SEAFDEC on small-scale fisheries related issues, including the participation and inputs in the planned FAO Global Conference on Small-scale Fisheries in October this year in Bangkok. For your information, the ASEAN Secretariat has been invited by the FAO Headquarter for participating in the Conference including making a plenary keynote speech reflecting ASEAN's views on small-scale fisheries cutting across the three main pillars of the ASEAN Community. This could provide an opportunity for the two organizations to progress the close partnership at international fora.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to conclude my statement by assuring you all of our strong interests in and any possible support to the close collaboration and partnership with SEAFDEC. Thank you.

STATEMENT

*By Mr. Simon Funge-Smith
Senior Fishery Officer
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

Mr. Chairman;
Secretary-General of SEAFDEC
Honourable Council Directors and representatives,
Representatives of the SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat,
Ladies and Gentlemen;

On behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, I would like to thank SEAFDEC for the invitation to attend the 40th SEAFDEC Council Meeting.

First of all, I would like to congratulate SEAFDEC for its continued, excellent contribution to the promotion and development of fisheries and aquaculture in the ASEAN region, an achievement highlighted by the nomination of SEAFDEC for the FAO Margaret Lizaraga award

FAO with SEAFDEC have cooperated for many years in carrying out joint activities and we look forward to continuing this fruitful collaboration. FAO recognizes the mutual benefit of cooperating with SEAFDEC and our Member countries in developing regional and international norms for responsible fisheries and aquaculture as well as promoting technical transfer and capacity building.

Highlights of the past collaboration with SEAFDEC are the “FAO/SEAFDEC turtle fishing mortality workshop”, “FAO/GEF Shrimp by catch workshop” and the “FAO-SEAFDEC statistical harmonization workshop”. Most recently, FAO, APFIC and SEAFDEC collaborated in the convening of the regional workshop on Port state Measures.

FAO is also looking forward to the regional technical workshop on offshore fishery policy and the global conference on small-scale fisheries to be convened later in the year; both in collaboration with SEAFDEC.

Mr. Chairman,

In addition to these capacity building workshops, the very successful implementation of the GEF supported project “Reduction of ByCatch” has been recognized as having a strong impact on fishing practices and acts as a model for public and private partnership. The success of the JTED and BRED’s in Philippines and Indonesia is evident with the intention of Philippines to introduce formal measures into their fisheries regulations. We note Thailand’s request for some exchange of experience on this as JTED’s have not been adopted by fisheries in Thailand and are pleased to inform the Council that a second phase of this project is currently being developed with a request to GEF for support. Many more SEAFDEC members have requested to join this project and we are currently seeking endorsements from the countries as seeking donor support for the project. This new phase will go beyond technology transfer and look further into fisheries management related aspects of bycatch

FAO notes SEAFDEC’s intention to monitor the implementation of the Code of Conduct by its members and congratulates SEAFDEC on this initiative and hope that SEAFDEC will forward these FAO as they become available. SEAFDEC can also play a strong role in promoting the

implementation of the international agreements on fisheries as well as regional initiatives such as the RPOA.

The strong commitment by the SEAFDEC members to combat IUU fishing is also to be congratulated. This call has become stronger over the past two years in various fora such as the FAO Committee on Fisheries and the session of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission. This commitment is also clearly signalled by the endorsement of the RPOA and the adoption of the ASEAN Economic Blueprint which specifically note the need to combat IUU fishing. Combating IUU fishing requires concerted action on a number of fronts including strengthening Port State Measures as well as stronger commitment by Flag States to meet their responsibilities. To take effective action will require clear leadership from regional organizations such as SEAFDEC as well as commitment at the national level to initiate some of the preparatory strategic work such as development of NPOA's on IUU fishing and fishing capacity as well as the coordination, capacity building and information exchange that these initiatives will require.

FAO looks forward to SEAFDEC's further action in this area with the establishment of the SEAFDEC Regional Management Mechanism and the Regional Advisory Committee, which offer the potential for regional policy development and sound advice to the SEAFDEC member countries and ASEAN.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to attend this 40th meeting of the SEAFDEC Council and would like to assure the Council of FAO's continuing interest to work closely on matters of mutual interest, in a collaboration that draws on the respective strengths of our organizations.

Finally, I would also like to thank the our hosts, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries for their excellent arrangement and for giving us the opportunity to meet in this beautiful island of Bali.

Thank you Mr. Chairman

STATEMENT

By Mr. Joacim Johannesson
Swedish Board of Fisheries

Chairman,
Secretary General,
distinguished delegates and observers,
ladies and gentleman.

On behalf of the Swedish Board of Fisheries I would like to thank SEAFDEC for inviting us to this Council Meeting.

The Swedish Board of Fisheries has now cooperated with SEAFDEC for more than four years in the implementation of the Swedish supported project on capacity building in fisheries management in the spirit of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

The Swedish contribution to SEAFDEC is a part of a general, Swedish Fisheries and Environmental Marine support to different regions around the world, which is meant to be policy-oriented and implemented at a regional or sub-regional scale

Having this in mind we have noted here, as well at the latest annual review meeting in January, with particular interest the encouraging progress being made with regard to the promotion to establish a regional management mechanism. A fisheries regional management body is fundamental for the work towards sustainable fisheries in the region and we can only congratulate SEAFDEC for the success so far in this field.

In addition we have also seen progress in other important fields of the project such as integration of habitat management with fisheries management using the so-called refugia concept and in that way embracing the ecosystem approach also in fisheries management.

We also note the work done related to the management of fleet capacity, the monitoring of coastal fisheries and the contribution from SEAFDEC in the regional work on IUU and port state measures.

It has been very interesting and fruitful to have been an observer of the discussions in this meeting.

Finally I would like to thank both SEAFDEC and ASEAN representatives for sharing experiences with me during the meeting which hopefully will form a basis for further dialogue and cooperation between Sweden and this region on fisheries management.

Once again, Mr Chairman, thank you for the invitation and your attention.



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)
(choose project type)

GEFSEC Project ID:
IA/ExA Project ID:
Country: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam
Country Eligibility:
Project Title: Development of Eco-System Based Fisheries Management in the Southeast Asian Countries
GEF IA/ExA: UNEP
Other Project Executing Agency(ies): Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center; Departments of Fisheries in the 8 participating countries.
Project Duration: 2years
GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity
GEF-4 Strategic objectives: **BD-SP2-Marine PA**
 Name of Parent program/umbrella project: DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL SYSTEM OF FISHERIES REFUGIA IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND GULF OF THAILAND
GEF Operational Program:
Expected Date of WP Inclusion:
Expected Date for CEO Endorsement: October 2008
Expected Starting Date (project type): December 2008
Expected Starting Date (PPG, if planned):
Project Contact:
Date of Submission:

FINANCING PLAN (\$)		
	PPG	Project
Co-financing		
GEF IA/ExA		
Government		
Others		
Co-financing Total		
Total		

PART I - PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Background

It has been observed that most of the fisheries resources in marine waters had started to show certain declining trend when the so-called modern fisheries had drastically expanded their operations specifically during the 1950~60s. People working in fisheries might have also considered that aquatic resources could be infinite due to the enormous gap between the scale of fisheries inputs and the size of the fish stocks in the early days. However, with drastic fisheries development mobilizing advanced technologies, such optimistic illusion had disappeared and replaced with a pessimistic concern on the declining state of the fisheries resources.

Fisheries management issues have gradually been recognized as to their importance by the international fisheries society. In 1984, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) organized the "FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development" as the first international conference that discussed the importance of fisheries management. However, further recognition of the importance of fisheries management in most of the cases has been masked by the rapid development of the fisheries industry and the economic benefits derived from the industry, thus such importance was only gradually promoted in a rather ad-hoc basis until recently.

For the international fisheries societies, the year 1992 can be considered as a turning point in terms of the global promotion of sustainable fisheries. A series of international efforts starting with the Cancun Declaration and followed by Agenda 21 had systematically led to the initiatives for the development of the "Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries" coordinated by FAO. In

addition, the moratorium on large-scale drift gill net operations in the high seas was agreed at the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1989, and the start of the negotiations on UN Fish Stock Agreement at the United Nations in 1993 indicated a new era focusing on high sea fisheries. It can therefore be analyzed that the international fisheries societies' efforts since the early 90s have succeeded in creating

an enhanced and stable international momentum on fisheries management in order to achieve global sustainable fisheries. However, such efforts on one hand and the developed global instruments including the "Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries" on the other hand, have provided slanted focus towards the issues on large commercial fisheries specifically operating in the high seas.

Considering that 80% of the world's total fish catch is currently harvested by developing countries with most of their fisheries not operating in the high seas, but structured as tropical/small-scale/coastal fisheries, adequate attention should also be provided in the formulation of policies including appropriate methodologies in order to achieve sustainable coastal fisheries. In a situation where development assistance in fisheries for developing countries has been decreased drastically since 1990s, unless international support is provided to assist these countries in establishing appropriate fisheries management, international efforts and goals developed through the above momentum aiming at global sustainable fisheries might be negatively affected and any achievement so far could be wasted eventually due to the failure of sustainability in majority of the world fisheries.

Since the early 90s, fisheries globalization has resulted in great amount of positive effects especially in terms of global awareness and consensus building in response to the needs of the concerted efforts in achieving sustainable fisheries. The concept of a resource management system has also been popularized through the globalization process. As shown in some examples, the use of the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) model has been authorized and popularized through the promotion of the Code of Conduct for the Responsible Fisheries, while the concept of total allowable catch (TAC) has also been promoted by UNCLOS. Although one of the assumptions considered in the globalization process promoted through a top-down approach is that the internationally agreed issues could be applicable everywhere in the world, such assumption in many cases may not reflect the real situation specific in developing countries. In fact, some concerns have been expressed on the western methodologies such as the resource management system developed in temperate areas, which have been dominantly popularized and widely recognized as the system to promote sustainable fisheries, because such system may not have undergone careful investigation in terms of its applicability in the different and diversified eco-systems in the world.

Despite the international concerns on sustainable fisheries that started since the early 1990s, most governments of the Southeast Asian countries have never seriously considered the implementation of innovative fisheries management as a real priority issue. Instead, they tend to continue focusing on the promotion of trade for their fish and fishery products for the expanded international markets mainly through aquaculture development, while their marine fisheries have been losing the capacity to produce commercial-value species. In a sense, it looks like the countries had given up hope in achieving sustainable fisheries due to various difficult elements encountered from past efforts. Towards the end of the century, the potential development of aquaculture in the region was also shaded by various negative factors including fish disease problems due to failure in applying good aquaculture practices and in securing sufficient amount of quality feeds that currently fully rely on fisheries as its source. In addition to these regional or national problems, the so-called "market-driven measures" related to sustainable fisheries developed in accordance with the global concerns on aquatic environment including fisheries have increasingly provided external pressures to the region. While the fisheries people in the Southeast Asian countries started to show their concerns on the impacts of market-driven measures such as "traceability" for the increased trading of their fish and fishery products in

international markets, they have also started to show more interests again on the sustainability of fisheries through the implementation of fisheries management system.

However, one of the serious constraints is the lack of appropriate fisheries management system that could effectively work for the tropical coastal small-scale fisheries in the developing countries including the Southeast Asian countries. It is therefore, urgently needed to develop the alternate fisheries management system suitable for such fisheries.

Project Objectives

The overall goals of this project are to:

- Develop the Southeast Asian region's scenario and guidelines on the alternate fisheries management system suitable for their ecosystem taking into account the multi-species composition in the unique tropical environment and appropriately placing such alternate fisheries management into the ecosystem-based Fisheries Management framework that have been internationally promoted in achieving global sustainable fisheries; and
- Build the resilience of Southeast Asian fisheries by enhancing and sharing the knowledge and capacity among stakeholders, including the fisherfolk, scientists, policy makers, on ecosystem and fisheries linkages as basis for eco-system based management in the region.

More specifically the project is expected to achieve the following outcomes within a shorter duration by 2010:

- Support for the implementation of the regional policy directives developed in 2001 under "the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region"¹, specifically in its paragraph 5 "Encourage effective management of fisheries through delegation of selected management functions to the local level;" and 6 "Recognize the need to progressively replace "open access" to fisheries resources with "limited access" through the introduction of right-based fisheries which may also facilitate the management of fishing capacity and promote the use of responsible fishing gears and practices.
- Regional coordinated work promoted based on the "ASEAN/SEAFDEC Regional guidelines for Co-Management Using Group User Rights through for Small –Scale Fisheries in Southeast Asia" formulated in 2006 with sharp focus on tropical ecosystem.
- Sixteen (16) pilot projects in eight (8) Southeast Asian countries initiated and implemented, promoting the regional policy and verifying the methodologies that would be regionally agreed upon.

Outputs

Major outputs will include:

- Regional promotion of alternate fisheries management system (eco-system based fisheries management system);
- Better coordination between the national fisheries related and environment related agencies through the innovated fisheries management system²; and

¹ The Resolution and Plan of Action was adopted by the fisheries related ministers in the Southeast Asian Countries at the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium "Fish for the People" and further endorsed by 27th AMAF/ASEAN.

² As the current internationally prevailed system such as the "resource management" system" is characterized as stock assessment driven system and without consideration of the local ecosystem, it could hardly be coordinated with habitat management and the human factors in the coastal area. The proposed eco-system based management system would provide more focus both on the local eco-system and people involved. Considering the large number of small-scale coastal fisheries scattered along most of the coast lines coupled with the current weak and ineffective policing capacity and system in most of the countries, it may not be feasible to improve the level of compliance on the rules and regulations of fisheries by

- Pilot activities on alternate fisheries management system in the selected sites to verify the management methodologies that are more based on the “indigenous knowledge”.

When the delegation of management authority is going to be discussed not only with the local government but also with the resource users, and in this case with the fishers' organizations at the community level, one of the most difficult arguments could be the general perception of the people who promote such delegation. As "resource management" system has succeeded to generally provide the idea that management is a highly technical work involving scientific knowledge, it is very difficult to brainwash the people including policy makers that people in the fishing community are eligible to conduct the required fisheries management tasks. As the proposed alternate fisheries management system is not based on stock assessment driven system but promoted by "input control" methodologies including regulating the number of vessels/fishers, fishing ground areas or the use of fishing methods with a kind of ownership for the resources, the required management actions can be based more on common sense coupled with various kinds of indigenous knowledge. Therefore, if the proposed alternate fisheries management system is promoted, the current mindset influenced by resource management system should be totally revisited.

The current resource management has never mobilized the fishers' "indigenous knowledge" as it has been dominated by top-down scientific inputs. Although the "indigenous knowledge" may not be scientifically based, it contains various valuable insights that could serve as useful basis to manage the fisheries. Such information could include the migration pattern of the resources, spawning periods of commercially important species, trend of the resources situation. Such knowledge could sometimes be better than the views of scientists who rarely visit the coastal areas. In addition, "indigenous knowledge" of various valuable information and understanding on the social structure and status of the local community is also an indispensable source of information for conducting the required management actions. By fully mobilizing such "indigenous knowledge" of the resource users, 100% of the fisheries management action, especially the day to day actions could be delegated to the fishers' organizations that comprise the resource users, while government agencies either at the central or local levels could limit their intervention only in providing the enabling environment including legal frameworks, required guidelines and technical assistance if these are required under the clarified policy on co-management system. Such delegation of part of fisheries management functions from solely the scientific researchers' initiatives to the resource users by mobilizing "indigenous knowledge", will greatly modify the current sectoral approach and facilitate the in-country coordination with respect to achieving sustainable use of the aquatic resources among the agencies concerned with the aquatic environment.

strengthening only the enforcement measures such as the MCS. One of the possible options can be to trust the resource users and delegate to them part of the fisheries management responsibilities. As the current top-down resource management system does not enhance mutual reliance between government agencies and the resource users, delegating them part of the management responsibilities by trusting the people can be a way of enhancing the mutual trust between government agencies and the resource users. As output of a decentralization process, the issue on the delegation of management authorities to local governments has been discussed as a transfer of the authorities within the government structures. It should be understood that the issues on the decentralization of management rights to the local governments and the delegation of management rights to resource users could look similar but these are totally under different arrangements. The delegation of the management authority or management rights to the resource users is therefore, an important issue if the mechanism to enhance mutual trust between government agencies and resource users, is going to be developed.

PART II - FINANCING PLAN

1. Estimated PDF Management Budget (if planned)

Component	Estimated Staff weeks	GEF(\$)	Other Sources (\$)	Project Total (\$)
Locally Recruited Personnel	180			
Internationally recruited consultants	90			
Training				
Office equipment				
Travel				
Miscellaneous				

2. Timetable for the Report

	PDF		Project	
	Start Date	Completion Date	Start Date	Completion Date
Implementation			1/12/2008	31/12/2010

MINIMUM REGULAR CONTRIBUTION (MRC)

INTRODUCTION

Since 2003, the financial situation SEAFDEC has signaled a continuous declining trend in terms of regular contribution. At the Special Council Meeting (SCM) held from 14-15 November 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand, the Secretary-General presented the current SEAFDEC financial situation for the year 2003 to 2005, and expressed his grave concern on the sustainable operation of the Center not only for the year 2006 but also in the long term. In relation to the continuous decline of regular contribution from Japan, the representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan informed the Council on his country's financial situation and stated that *"as for the regular contribution for the year 2007 onward, it should be anticipated that the situation would even be more difficult including the possibility of no regular contribution"*.

In order to address the difficult financial situation of SEAFDEC, the SCM directed the SEAFDEC Secretariat to conduct a comprehensive study to clarify the scenarios and options for SEAFDEC future operation. The result of such study was presented and discussed among the Member Countries at the SEAFDEC National Coordinators Meeting (NCM) held on 6 December 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand. The NCM requested the Secretariat to develop a detailed proposal clarifying the practical scenarios, options and necessary arrangements for the future operation of SEAFDEC to be submitted for consideration and decision by the Council at its 38th Meeting held from 18 to 21 April 2006 in Brunei Darussalam.

The MRC was one of the elements under the pre-requisites for SEAFDEC Future Operation because it is considered crucial that all Member Countries should also share the financial responsibility by providing an agreed amount of money to SEAFDEC to allow its operations to continue at the least, at a minimum level. The total amount of the minimum level to sustain the operating costs of SEAFDEC has been calculated at 400,000 US\$.

This MRC amounting to 400,000 US\$ is being used for the operating costs of SEAFDEC specifically for the Secretariat as well as for the operations and maintenance costs of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2.

The principle for the allocation of the MRC was calculated based on certain criteria such as the GDP of respective countries. It was therefore justified that countries having high GDPs should provide more benefit contribution to the organization than those with lower GDPs.

However, since the GDP rate was seen as not the only factor that could reflect the real benefit contribution to the organization, other relevant factors were also taken into consideration for the appropriate allocation of the MRC. Accordingly, other significant criteria and factors for the calculation of MRC for SEAFDEC were then taken into account such as Donor Contribution, City State/ Urban Government/ Land locked Countries, Host and Non-host Countries and Total Fishery Production, and were used for adjusting the total amount of MRC from each Member Country.

CURRENT SITUATION OF MRC

The Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) is the agreed amount of money that SEAFDEC Member Countries will contribute to SEAFDEC for its operations. The SEAFDEC Secretariat has proposed a formula of the MRC as a pre-requisite for the sustainable SEAFDEC Future Operation, which was submitted to the Council at its 38th Meeting held in Brunei Darussalam in 2006. The Council took note of the said proposal. In relation to the development of this matter,

the Council Director for Japan agreed to issue official letters to inform the Member Countries on the change of his Government's funding support to SEAFDEC, specifically the shift of responsibility in providing its regular contribution from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Fisheries Agency as well as the intention of Japan to pay the amount as indicated in the formula for calculation of the MRC.

In such letters, Japan also requested the host countries to take full financial responsibility of the SEAFDEC departments, and other all Member Countries to consider securing the annual MRC as proposed.

In response, almost all of the Member Countries agreed with the formula, and 9 out of the 11 Member Countries have sent their contributions to SEAFDEC as their MRC for 2007. The contributions based on the formula proposed by the Secretariat are shown in the table below.

Actual Contributions received from Member Countries as Annual Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) in 2007:

Countries	MRC	Amount Received
Brunei Darussalam	7,000	7,000
Cambodia	6,000	6,000
Indonesia	26,000	26,000
Japan	280,000	280,000
Lao P.D.R.	4,000	-
Malaysia	10,000	10,000
Myanmar	10,000	10,000
Philippines	15,000	15,000
Singapore	8,000	-
Thailand	20,000	20,000
Vietnam	14,000	14,000
TOTAL	400,000	378,000

During the 39th Council Meeting in Cambodia, the Government of Singapore agreed in principle on the provision of the MRC to SEAFDEC. However, as there was no formal endorsement of the Council's approval on the MRC, Singapore communicated with the Secretariat requesting the Secretariat to seek for the formal endorsement of the MRC (letters ref. AV(AT)200610 dated 23 Nov 2007, and 9 Jan 2008). In response, the Secretariat sent letters to all Member Countries except Singapore requesting for their approval on the MRC. Finally, nine (9) Member Countries, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao P.D.R., Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam reiterated their support to the future operation of SEAFDEC through their annual MRC.

Although the response from the Council Director for the Philippines to such communication indicated that the MRC of Philippines is part of the government's funding allocation to AQD and that SEAFDEC/AQD will allot funds for this purpose, the Government of the Philippines therefore does not oppose the MRC. The communication however, indicated that his government would provide the MRC under the respective laws and regulations and within the limits of their respective annual budget appropriation with the agreed amount of the money through AQD within the underlying provision under the Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing SEAFDEC. And by provision underlying in Article 7(2) and 7(5) of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the Council agreed the MRC scheme proposed by the secretariat.

At the year end of 2007 after the introduction of MRC, the financial report of SEAFDEC showed that the expenditures and the proposed MRC are about the same. This will be shown in the Un-audited Financial Report for 2007. Thus, it can be justified that the amount of MRC is suitable and appropriate for the operations of SEAFDEC as a whole. It can also be said that all SEAFDEC

Departments receive benefits from the MRC, since portions of MRC which are being allocated, support the attendance of Departments officers at the SEAFDEC Council meetings and Program Committee (PCM) meetings, the Department Chiefs' meetings and other important meetings, and moreover, part of the expenses for organizing the PCM by the departments are also funded by the MRC.

MRC is also allocated for the operation costs and maintenance of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 to enable the vessel to serve the research survey needs of the Member Countries. The M.V. SEAFDEC 2 has been utilized by the Member Countries to survey their respective fishing grounds in a bid to promote sustainable fisheries management.

The MRC is also used to fund the information program of SEAFDEC which is centered at the SEAFDEC Secretariat and aimed at raising the overall visibility of SEAFDEC. This is attained by means of the production and distribution of regular reports and promotional materials, conduct of exhibitions, and compilation and production of fishery statistics for the region's statistical bulletin using inputs from Member Countries.

Under the current situation, the amount of MRC is deemed to be still suitable and appropriate. However, it is also proposed that the level of MRC will be reviewed on a regular basis such as every 5 years in order that the relevant criteria and factors to be used for calculation of the MRC reflects the actual conditions determining the MRC.

IMPLEMENTATION OF SEAFDEC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES AND ENHANCING SEAFDEC VISIBILITY IN THE YEAR 2007

I. BACKGROUND

Based on the adoption of Strategic Plan in 1998, the “the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication” was developed and endorsed by SEAFDEC Council in 2006 and 2007 which envisions that: “*SEAFDEC shall be a sustained and unified Centre of Excellence for Tropical Fisheries Information, accessible to all committed to sustainable fisheries development and food security, working for the benefit of its Member Countries, in close collaboration with the ASEAN and fishery related organizations regionally and globally.*” Toward achieving this goal, the information strategies have been used as policy framework for the formulation and implementation of SEAFDEC information-related activities aimed at enhancing SEAFDEC visibility to the public. Through 2007, activities on the promotion of communication and enhancing the visibility of the Center have been formulated and implemented. The implementation of the information strategies has been regularly monitored on an annual basis and reported to SEAFDEC Council for policy support and guidance for future implementation.

The information strategies adopted by SEAFDEC through the Secretariat are as follows:

Strategy 1: Production of relevant, timely and useful information materials to meet the requirements of target audience

Strategy 2: Capacity Development of Information Staff at all levels

Strategy 3: Enhance the Accessibility of SEAFDEC Information to Target Groups

Strategy 4: Strengthen Cooperation and Networking with Other Organizations

Strategy 5: Enhance Internal Communication and Information Sharing

Strategy 6: Raising SEAFDEC Image at International, Regional and National Levels

Strategy 7: Sustainability of Financial Support for Information and Communication Activities

Strategy 8: Regular Monitoring and Evaluation of Information Activities

II. PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF INFORMATION STRATEGIES IN 2007

Strategy 1: Production of Relevant, Timely and Useful Information Materials to Meet the Requirements of Target Audience

In 2007, SEAFDEC published a number of materials classified into: the Organization’s promotional materials, periodical technical magazine, technical reports and other publications, posters and web-based information.

The organization’s promotional materials and magazine published in 2007 totaled 17,050 copies, comprising:

- 30% event-related publications, e.g. Brochures
- 18% calendar
- 15% Annual Reports
- 15% Newsletters
- 15% Periodic technical magazine, e.g. Fish for the People
- 7% information catalogues

The reports and technical publications published totaled 22,330 copies in 2007, comprising:

- 28% publications related to fisheries management
- 68% publications related to aquaculture
- 4% publications related to conservation of aquatic resources

SEAFDEC also published in 2007 Posters with 19 titles such as:

- 6 titles related to fisheries management
- 7 titles related to aquaculture
- 6 titles related to conservation of aquatic resources

For the Web-based information, about 13,600 visitors accessed the SEAFDEC Integrated website (average of 1,133 visitors per month), of which 5,800 visitors accessed the TD website (average of 483 visitors per month) and 20,200 visitors accessed the AQD website (average of 1,683 visitors per month)

Strategy 2: Capacity Development of Information Staff at all Levels

Apart from the regular ISEP meeting which is envisaged to improve the overall capacity of the SEAFDEC staff in developing and implementing information-related activities, the SEAFDEC libraries have also served as centers for obtaining and providing up-to-date information on relevant scope of fisheries to the staff at all levels. Towards achieving this goal and specifically in order to achieve the strategy, the libraries of TD, MFRD and AQD joined the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) as members to enable the SEAFDEC staff to acquire and share publications with other members around the world.

In 2007, SEAFDEC received and provided 1,156 titles of information to the SEAFDEC staff comprising:

- 57% newsletters and serial publications
- 31% books, reports and technical publications
- 12% audio-visual materials

In addition, the SEAFDEC Secretariat also organized an In-House Training on Writing Fisheries Policy Briefs in order to strengthen the capability of the SEAFDEC staff. This training provided guidance and practical sessions on the development of fisheries policy briefs as policy-oriented documents to support fisheries management and planning.

Strategy 3: Enhance the Accessibility of SEAFDEC Information to Target Groups

To enhance the accessibility of SEAFDEC information to target groups, SEAFDEC has continued to provide:

Library Services: each Department library has established its own network within and outside the country to facilitate publication exchange and loaning services to department staff.

On-line Information: in order to facilitate accessibility of information, the library materials have been recorded in databases and can be searched through the online public access catalogue.

Exhibitions: in 2007 SEAFDEC participated in several exhibitions at the national and international levels. Moreover, posters and relevant publications were disseminated during the exhibitions to further generate public awareness on SEAFDEC.

There were 9 national exhibitions with 43,160 estimated visitors and 7 international exhibitions with 1,500 estimated visitors which SEAFDEC participated in 2007.

Visitors: the number of visitors is one of the indicators on the accessibility of SEAFDEC information. In 2007, there were more than 12,400 visitors at the SEAFDEC Secretariat and the departments. These included official visitors from member and non-member countries, regional and international organizations, students and the general public, comprising:

- 76% students
- 18% from the general public
- 3% from the member countries
- 2% from other regional and international organizations
- 1% from non-member countries

Others: in addition, to enhance accessibility to SEAFDEC information, various components of information were established in the SEAFDEC integrated website. The SSF global website administrated by SEAFDEC was established to enhance awareness on the need to gather information on small-scale fisheries as well as promote communication and information exchange on related matters.

Strategy 4: Strengthen Cooperation and Networking with Other Organizations

Cooperation and networking with other organizations: Collaboration between SEAFDEC and other organizations has been established either under formal collaborative arrangements or through the implementation of collaborative activities. In addition, several events organized by SEAFDEC were also participated in by other organizations.

A total of 24 organizations cooperated with SEAFDEC in the year 2007.

Funding support from donors, other organizations: SEAFDEC also received funding support from several organizations and donor agencies to implement activities of mutual interest.

A total of 2,039,913 USD was received by SEAFDEC in 2007 from 19 organizations.

Strategy 5: Enhance Internal Communication and Information Sharing

Communication and information sharing between and among Information Officers of the SEAFDEC Departments have been enhanced through the existing SEAFDEC e-mail system.

In addition, the “Information Operations Manual” was published as a reference guide for information officers of Secretariat and the Departments in the planning of information-related activities as well as in the preparation and provision of inputs to the various SEAFDEC information materials.

Moreover, TD and AQD have produced regular internal newsletters in order to update the staff on the progress of their respective Department’s projects and activities.

Strategy 6: Raising SEAFDEC Image at International, Regional and National Levels

Meetings, seminars, workshops and training activities at national and international levels were organized in order to raise the image and awareness of SEAFDEC at international, regional and national levels. SEAFDEC also actively participated in events organized by other organizations in order to promote SEAFDEC activities and reflect regional common/coordinated positions.

In 2007, SEAFDEC organized 72 events with 3,559 participants (12 international events with 199 participants, 18 regional events with 672 participants and 42 national events with 2,688 participants).

SEAFDEC also participated to 48 events which were organized by other organizations (37 regional and international events, and 11 national events).

In 2007, SEAFDEC published 16 press statements, which appeared in public media and website 112 times.

The 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council and the 15th Meeting of the ASEAN ASWGFi, which were organized in 2007, endorsed the new modality of SEAFDEC in addressing international fisheries issues. Based on the new modality, SEAFDEC will formulate executive reports on international fisheries-related issues for discussion among Member Countries, and further submission to SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi on an annual basis. The executive reports contain summary of the background and context of the issues identified together with policy considerations and recommendations as well as the proposed common/coordinated positions by the Member Countries.

In addition, SEAFDEC has initiated the preliminary version of Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) website to promote and enhance the role of SEAFDEC as a fisheries organization working on small-scale fisheries in Southeast Asia.

Strategy 7: Sustainability of Financial Support for Information and Communication Activities

To enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of information-related activities, the target recipients of SEAFDEC publications have been regularly reviewed. The recipients are also encouraged to download the publications from the SEAFDEC integrated and departmental websites.

Since some technical publications have been produced based on availability of budget, these are being sold to interested parties on a cost-recovery basis.

Strategy 8: Regular Monitoring and Evaluation of Information Activities

The annual ISEP Meeting is organized among the information officers of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments to provide platform for the monitoring and evaluation of information activities as well as in the planning of the annual information activities. The progress of the activities have been consolidated in line with Information Strategies and will be reported to the Council for consideration and guidance.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

At the 8th Information Staff Exchange Program (ISEP) Meeting in November 2007, recommendations were raised for enhancing the future implementation of the Information Strategies. These include the following:

- The Information and Communication Technology should be effectively used to promote communication and visibility of SEAFDEC. Dissemination of information through the Integrated Website and Departmental Websites should be enhanced, and e-dissemination of information should be explored.
- Public media, such as newspapers, television, cable TV, websites, etc. should also be used to promote visibility of SEAFDEC to public.
- Capacity of SEAFDEC Information Staff should be further enhanced through staff exchange program among the Secretariat and Departments.

- Internally produced information materials for instance magazines, manuals and calendars should be sold under cost-recovery basis to enhance sustainability of the information activities. The SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments should also collect information on production and monitor the delivery costs and returns from selling such materials
- To evaluate visibility and image of SEAFDEC at national, regional and international levels, SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments may consider conducting survey through questionnaires during exhibitions and related arrangements.
- To facilitate the monitoring of the implementation of Information Strategies, the Secretariat should provide a standardized template on the required information to all Departments. Based on the templates, the Departments could also monitor regularly the implementation of the Information Strategies.
- After three years of implementation, the Information Strategies should be reviewed and revised to accommodate recent developments and circumstances. A workshop session would be organized during the 9th ISEP Meeting to review the current Information strategies.

Organizational promotional materials

	Copies	By
SEAFDEC Newsletter: Vol. 29 No. 4, Vol. 30 No. 1-3 (4 issues)	1,700	Secretariat
Special Publication "Fish for the People: Vol. 6 No. 1-3 (3 issues)	1,300	Secretariat
SEAFDEC Annual Report 2006	1,000	Secretariat
SEAFDEC Information Catalogue 2007	1,000	Secretariat
Brochure- SEAFDEC 40 Years in Fisheries Development in Southeast Asia	2,000	Secretariat
Brochure- SEAFDEC in Promotion of Responsible Fisheries	2,000	Secretariat
SEAFDEC Calendar 2008	3,000	Sec & TD
VCD on SEAFDEC 40 Years in Fisheries Development	50	Sec & TD
VCD on SEAFDEC 39 th Council Meeting	...	TD
MFRD's Corporate CD	...	MFRD
MFRD Annual Highlights	...	MFRD
AQD Highlights 2006	1,000	AQD
AQD publications catalogue	500	AQD
AQD core values, vision, mission	2,000	AQD
Highlights of SEAFDEC-MFRDMD 2006	500	MFRDMD
15 years of DPPSPM SEAFDEC-MFRDMD: The 4 th Department : A pictorial journey to distinction	1,000	MFRDMD

Reports, Technical Publications/Materials

	Copies	By
Report of 9 th ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Meeting	150	Secretariat
Report of 29 th SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting	150	Secretariat
Report of 39 th SEAFDEC Council Meeting	150	Secretariat
CD-Rom: Compilation of SEAFDEC Information 2006	30	Secretariat
CD-Rom: Compilation of Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries	2,000	Secretariat
Handbook for the Joint Regional Training on Community Based Aquaculture for Remote Rural Areas of Southeast Asia	400	Secretariat
VCD to support technical project/activities (12 titles)	1,000	TD
Research paper series (4 titles)	300-500 each	TD
Final Project Evaluation of Integrated Coastal Resources Management in Pathew District, Chumporn Province, Thailand	200	TD
Bi-annual Project Progress Report of Integrated Coastal Resources Management in Sihanoukville (ICRM-SV) July-Dec.2006.	50	TD
Bi-annual Project Progress Report of Integrated Coastal Resources Management in Pulau Langkawi July-Dec.2006.	50	TD
Bi-annual Project Progress Report of Integrated Coastal Resources Management in Pathew District July-Dec.2006.	50	TD
Bi-annual Project Progress Report of Integrated Coastal Resources Management in Sihanoukville (ICRM-SV) Jan.-June 2007.	50	TD
Woman's Group Activities in Production of Mushroom Community Fisheries Prey NupII, Sihanoukville, Cambodia.	50	TD
Proceeding of the Regional Seminar on Integrated Coastal Resources Management in Southeast Asia.	500	TD
Fish and Fish Products ASEAN Hazard Guide (Co-produced under ASEAN-Australia Cooperation Program)	...	MFRD
Recent developments in the genetic improvement of the giant freshwater prawn <i>Macrobrachium</i> sp.	500	AQD
Fisheries Sector Program, Volume II (compilation of research papers)	500	AQD
Manual on Breeding and seed production of the Asian catfish	1,000	AQD
Manual on Abalone hatchery	1,000	AQD
Manual on Tilapia broodstock management and hatchery	1,000	AQD

Manual on Giant clam hatchery, ocean nursery, and stock enhancement	500	AQD
Manual on tilapia hatchery, tilapia grow-out, and seaweed culture (in Filipino)	1,000 each	AQD
Research publications in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings (19 papers in journals and 9 in proceedings/ book chapters)		AQD
Flyer on Spring viremia of carp	1,000	AQD
Flyer on Biosecurity for shrimp farms	1,000	AQD
Flyer on Dream project: Institutional capacity development for sustainable aquaculture	1,000	AQD
Flyer on Seabass culture	2,000	AQD
Introductory VDO on research-and-development for sustainable aquaculture	...	AQD
Sea Turtle Information Kit (Vol.1-5) 2007	500	MFRDMD
Information Collection for Sustainable Pelagic Fisheries in the South China Sea. Volume 1: National Country Report.	500	MFRDMD
Penyelidikan tukun tiruan dasar lembut di Kedah	500	MFRDMD
Projek tukun perdana Negeri Terengganu Darul Iman 2006-2010	500	MFRDMD
Kajian peranti-peranti penyisih anak ikan dan ikan baja (JTEDs –Juvenile & Trash Excluder Devices) dalam tangkapan pukut tunda	500	MFRDMD
Kajian pengurangan komposisi ikan baja dalam tangkapan pukut tunda ikan	500	MFRDMD

Poster Titles

	By
Japan-Thailand Cooperation for Sustainable Fisheries Development through SEAFDEC (English, Thai, Japanese)	Secretariat
SEAFDEC in Support of Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia (English, Thai, Japanese)	Secretariat
Responsible Fisheries Management in Thailand (English, Thai, Japanese)	Secretariat
Aquatic Resources: Towards Sustainability in Southeast Asia	Secretariat
Regional Initiatives in Conservation and Management of Endangered Aquatic Species under International Concerns	Secretariat
“Eco-labelling” in small-scale fisheries	Secretariat
Inland Fishing Gears of Myanmar	TD
Trawl net and JTEDs operation	TD
Automatic Squid jigging	TD
Eco-labeling	TD
Stock enhancement of abalone (<i>Haliotis asinina</i>) and giant clam (<i>Tridacna gigas</i>); three versions were made available on 16 Feb 07 (English, Filipino, Cebuano)	AQD
SEAFDEC/AQD is online!	AQD
A dream project in aquaculture: Institutional capacity development for sustainable aquaculture	AQD
AQD’s vision, mission, goals and strategies	AQD
Igang mariculture park; Igang Marine Station	AQD
Support the abalone sea-ranching project in Nogas Island	AQD
Agree-build-operate-transfer: business packages for you (28 Sept 07)	AQD
AQD products and services	AQD
Seabass	AQD

Homepage-based information

	Estimated unique visitors in 2007	Number of link from other Website	Administered by
SEAFDEC Integrated Website (www.seafdec.org)	13,600	...	Secretariat
Mirror site of SEAFDEC Integrated Website (www.seafdec.net)	Secretariat
TD Website (http://td.seafdec.org)	5,800	...	TD
Fish and Fish Products Safety Information Website (http://www.fishsafetyinfo.com)	MFRD
AQD Website (http://www.seafdec.org.ph)	20,200	...	AQD
MFRDMD Website (http://www.mfrdmd.org.my)	MFRDMD
Global Website on Small Scale Fisheries (SSF) ⁷ (http://www.rsn-ssf.net)	(preliminary version)	...	Secretariat

Exhibitions

	Estimated Visitors	Exhibited by
COP14-CITES (3-15 June 2007, Netherlands)	300	Secretariat
Seminar on 120 th Anniversary of the Japan-Thai Diplomatic Relations 2007 (2-5 July 2007, Thailand)	500	Secretariat
APFIC Regional Workshop on Certification Scheme for Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture (18-20 September 2007, Vietnam)	50	Secretariat
29 th Meeting for ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Plus Three (29 October-2 November 2007, Thailand)	200	Secretariat
Children's Day (13 January 2007, Thailand)	3,000	TD
Fishery Exhibition in Rajpracha High School (2 February 2007, Thailand)	1,200	TD
Fishery Exhibition for Thailand Fishery Association Meeting (27 February 2007, Thailand)	350	TD
Fishery Exhibition for Deep Sea Fishery Association Meeting (22 March 2007, Thailand)	310	TD
Thailand Fishery Exhibition "Pramong Nomkloa" (23 June-1 July 2007, Thailand)	20,000	TD
Chulalongkorn University Job Fair (20-23 November 2007, Thailand)	2,600	TD
National Agriculture Exhibition to Celebrations on the Auspicious Occasion of His Majesty the King's 80 th Birthday (28 November – 2 December 2007, Thailand)	15,000	TD
First Purina AquaCongress organized by Cargill Purina in Bacoor, Bulacan (23 March 2007, Philippines)	100	AQD
FishLink 2007 organized by U.P. Aquaculture Society Inc. in Iloilo City; 17-19 May 2007, Philippines)	200	AQD
15th Metro Manila area business conference, organized by the business community in Manila, (16-17 August 2007); and a separate conference for the Visayas area, Bacolod City (7-8 September 2007, Philippines)	100	AQD
AgriLink-FoodLink-AquaLink 2007 at the PICC, Manila; (3-4 October 2007, Philippines)	500	AQD
Exhibition on the promotion of JTEDs (16 August 2007, Malaysia)	250	MFRDMD

Visitors

Category	Number of Visitors				
	Secretariat	TD	MFRD	AQD	MFRDMD
Member Countries	35	137	48	59	12
Non-Member Countries	13	43	12	52	...
International/Regional Organizations	31	16	0	127	...
Students	52	235	6	9,128	35
Others	547	45	355	1,214	200

Cooperation and Networking with Other Organizations

	Form of Collaboration	Collaboration with
Japanese Trust Fund	Funding Support	SEAFDEC
Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	FCG Program, ASSP mechanism	Secretariat
ASEAN Foundation	Funding Support	Secretariat
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)	Funding Support	Secretariat
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)	Agreement	Secretariat
Maejo University, Thailand	MOU	Secretariat
Hokkaido University, Japan	Agreement	Sec & TD
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) – FIRMS, CWP, CONSRN	Agreement	Sec
Australian Maritime College (AMC)	MOU	TD
National Fisheries University, Japan (NFU)	Agreement	TD
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	Activities	TD
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)	Activities	TD
Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (TUMSAT)	Activities	TD
United Nations Environment Program/Global Environmental Facilities (UNEP-GEF)	Funding Support	TD
ASEAN-Australia Development Co-operation Program (AADCP): ASEAN-Australia Fish and Fish Products Safety Project	Consultant	MFRD
Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia Pacific	MOU	AQD
Polytechnic State College of Antique (PSCA), Philippines	MOU	AQD
United Nations Educational Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Funding Support	AQD
Petron Foundation, Inc.	Funding Support	AQD
Philippine BFAR-NFRDI	Funding Support	AQD
Philippine NFRDI	Funding Support	AQD
Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)	Funding Support	AQD
Action for Community Empowerment Association, Inc. (ACE)	Funding Support	AQD
Province of Capiz and Capiz State University	Funding Support	AQD

Funding support from donors and other international organizations/agencies for the year 2007

Organizations	Scope	Estimated Budget for (USD)	To
Japanese Trust Fund	Implementation of regional programs under FCG Mechanism, and production of Special Publication "Fish for the People"	1,366,085	SEAFDEC
Swedish Sida	HRD in fisheries management and implementation of CCRF	425,657	Secretariat
ASEAN Foundation	Institutional capacity building for promotion of "One Village One Fisheries Product (FOVOP)"	96,498 *	Secretariat
UNESCO	Preparation and Production of Guidebook to Philippine Mangrove Associates	10,000	AQD
Petron Foundation, Inc.	Milkfish Cage Culture as Livelihood Option for Affected Guimaras Fisherfolk	33,333	AQD
BFAR-NFRDI, Philippines	Capacity-building of BFAR-NFRDI in Fish Health Management through Training and Collaborative Research	11,111	AQD
NFRDI, Philippines	Aquaculture Biotechnology Program	48,889	AQD
ACIAR	Integrated fisheries resource management (Rinconada Lakes, Philippines and NSW, Australia): Aquaculture and Water Quality Component	6,384	AQD
Action for Community Empowerment Association, Inc. (ACE)	Enhancing Adoption of Mudcrab Production Technologies in Northern Samar	9,126	AQD
Province of Capiz and Capiz State University	Institutional capacity building for sustainable aquaculture	8,308	AQD
UNEP/GEF/SCS	A Regional Training Workshop on Larval Fish Identification and Fish Early Life History Science	42,429	TD
UNEP/GEF/SCS and SIDA-Sweden	The Regional Training Workshop on the establishment and management of fisheries refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand	35,672	TD
FAO	SEAFDEC-FAO Workshop on Assessing the Relative Importance of Sea Turtle Mortality Due to Fisheries in Southeast Asia	13,701	TD
World Bank	Tailor-made training course on Responsible Fishing Technology	2,732	TD
Oversea Fishery Cooperation Foundation	A Study Tour Program on Tilapia Aquaculture in Thailand (Japan and Gabon)	1,785	TD
CRMP-ADB	A Study Tour Program in Community based Coastal Fisheries Management in Thailand	8,500	TD
CRMP-ADB	A Study Tour Program on Lake and River Basin Management in Thailand	11,000	TD
CRMP-ADB	The study visit on the Coastal Resource Management and Coast Conservation in Thailand of the Director of CCD from Sri-lanka	4,450	TD

World Bank	A Study Tour Program on Aquaculture and Fisheries Product/Processing in Thailand	4,000	TD
CRMP-ADB	A Study visit program to Thailand of the Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources	2,750	TD
CRMP-ADB	The International Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management for Fishery Managers	3,000	TD
CRMP-ADB	The International Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management and Extension Methodology	5,000	TD

Remarks

* 40% of total budget (241,246 USD for the project period from November 2007-October 2009)

Meetings, Training, and Other Activities Organized by SEAFDEC in 2007

Title (Date, Venue)	Category	Participants	Department
ASEAN-SEAFDEC RTC on International Fisheries Related Issues 2007 (5-7 February 2007, Chiang Mai, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
The Meeting on Collaboration between SEAFDEC and Faculty of Fisheries Sciences Hokkaido University (19 March 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
Internship from AIT on Production of Information Materials on Conservation and Management of Marine Species (5 February-29 March 2007)	Internship	1	Sec
39 th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council (4-7 April 2007, Cambodia)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
Stakeholder Consultation on to Follow up the Work on Established Fisheries refugia (4-6 June 2007, Trad Province, Thailand)	National Meeting (Thailand)	(50)	Sec
ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Expert Consultation on Future Roles of SEAFDEC in Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (26-28 June 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
SEAFDEC Program Planning Meeting for Japanese Trust Fund for 2008 and Onwards (28-29 June 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
Joint Regional Training on Community-Based Aquaculture for Remote Rural Areas of Southeast Asia (2-15 July 2007, Lao PDR)	Regional Training	23	Sec
Training Workshop on the Integration of Fisheries Management into Habitat Management” in Koh Kong Province, Cambodia, 6 to 9 August 2007	National Training (Cambodia)	62	Sec
SEAFDEC Seminar on Implementation of the CCRF in Southeast Asia (22 October 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
Second ASEAN-SEAFDEC Expert Meeting on Future Roles of SEAFDEC in Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (22-25 October 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
Regional Technical Consultation and Workshop on the Concept of an ASEAN Fisheries Development and Management Mechanism (6-8 November 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
30 th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee (26-28 November 2007, Philippines)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec
10 th Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group Meeting (29-30 November 2007, Philippines)	Regional Meeting	(50)	Sec

RTC on Fishery Statistics (12-14 December 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	30	Sec
A Regional Training Workshop on Larval Fish Identification and Fish Early Life History Science (16-31 May 2007, Thailand)	Regional Training	17	TD
Responsible Fishing (Indonesia) (4 June-18 July 2007, Thailand)		2	TD
Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management for Fishery Managers (1-14 July 2007, Thailand)	Regional Training	20	TD
The International Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management and Extension Methodology (11 September- 10 October 2007, Thailand)	Regional Training	17	TD
A Study tour program on Tilapia Aquaculture in Thailand (4-15 March 2007, Thailand)	Study Tour	2	TD
A Study tour program in Community based Coastal Fisheries Management in Thailand (25 September-4 October 2007, Thailand)	Study Tour	8	TD
A Study tour program in Lake and Basin River Management in Thailand (1-11 October 2007, Thailand)	Study Tour	14	TD
Short-term Training Course in Fishing Technology for University Students (18 April- 1 May 2007, Thailand)	National Training (Thailand)	40	TD
International Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management for Fishery Managers (10-24 June 2007, Thailand)	Regional Training	19	TD
Training Course on Fishing Vessel Control for Tinsulanonde Fisheries College (1 October 2007-22 February 2008, Thailand)	National Training (Thailand)	17	TD
Short-term Training Course in Fishing Technology for University Students (16-27 October 2007, Thailand)	National Training (Thailand)	42	TD
On-site Training for fishers on the on-board fish handling and preservation techniques : Squid fishery	National Training (Thailand)	22	TD
Fisheries Assessment Survey by Scientific Echo-sounder Equipment	National Seminar (Thailand)	35	TD
SEAFDEC-FAO Workshop on Assessing the Relative Importance of Sea Turtle Mortality Due to Fisheries in Southeast Asia (19-23 March 2007, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	39	TD and FAO
Demonstration and 1 st Core Expert Meeting on Tagging for Small Pelagic in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea (1-3 May 2007, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	27	TD and MFRDMD
Regional Seminar on Integrated Coastal Resource Management (9-12 July 2007, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	39	TD
Mid-Term Review Meeting on Japanese Trust Fund II Project 'Food Safety Program: Research and Analysis of Chemical Residues and Contamination' (7-9 March 2007, Singapore)	Regional Meeting	20	MFRD
Regional Planning Meeting on JTF II Project 'Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-Size Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries' (20-21 June 2007, Singapore)	Regional Meeting	17	MFRD
Regional Training Course in Seafood Safety for Laboratory Personnel (2-5 October 2007, Singapore)	Regional Training Course	8	MFRD
ABOT (agree-build-operate-transfer) aquaculture business forum (16-17 October 2007; Quezon City, Philippines)	National Meeting (Philippines)	280	AQD

Meeting of the Philippine Technical and Administrative Committee for SEAFDEC (18 October 2007; Quezon City, Philippines)	National Meeting (Philippines)	20	AQD
International Workshop on Emerging Fish Diseases in Asia (6-7 December 2007, Thailand)	Regional Meeting	...	AQD
The 2 nd Regional Technical Consultation on Research for stock Enhancement of Sea Turtles (5-7 June 2007, Malaysia)	Regional Meeting	...	MFRDMD
MTCP 2007 Training Program on Fisheries Management	...	15	MFRDMD
Identification of Fish Larvae	...	10	MFRDMD
Workshop on Publishing Science and Technology Book	...	15	MFRDMD

Note: figure in the bracket is based on estimation

SEAFDEC Participation to Meetings organized by other (non-SEAFDEC) Organizations

Title (Date, Venue)	Organizer	Category	Department
4 th Session of the Fishery Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) Steering Committee Meeting and (26 Feb-2 March 2007, Italy)	FAO	International meeting	Sec (1)
22 nd Session of Coordination Working Party (CWP) on Fishery Statistics (26 Feb-2 March 2007, Italy)	FAO	International meeting	Sec (1)
27 th Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries (5-9 March 2007, Italy)	FAO	International meeting	Sec (3)
First Meeting of Regional Fishery Bodies Secretariat (12-13 March 2007, Italy)	FAO	International meeting	Sec (2)
Symposium on Asserting Rights, Defining Responsibilities: Perspectives from Small-Scale Fishing Communities on Coastal and Fisheries Management in Asia (7-8 May 2007, Cambodia)	ICSF	Regional meeting	Sec (4)
Special Senior Officials Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (Special SOM-AMAF) (Singapore Jun-July)	ASEAN	Regional meeting	Sec (4)
5 th Meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) (9-11 May 2007, Singapore)	CITES	Regional meeting	Sec (2)
15 th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) (16-18 May 2007, Singapore)	ASEAN	Regional meeting	Sec (3)
Global Trade Conference on Aquaculture (29-30 May, China)		Inter/Region meeting	Sec (1)
14 th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP14) of CITES (3-15 June 2007, Netherlands)	CITES	Inter/Region meeting	Sec (2)
Workshop on Managing Fishing Capacity and IUU Fishing in Asia (13-15 June 2007, Thailand)	FAO/APFIC	Regional meeting	Sec (7)
Special Senior Officials Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (Special SOM-AMAF) (3 July-2 August, Singapore)	ASEAN	Regional meeting	Sec (2)
1 st Meeting for the Implementation of the Regional (including ASEAN countries except Lao PDR and Myanmar, plus Australia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste) Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region (13 August 2007, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)	Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia	Regional meeting	Sec (2)

National Workshop on Fishermen Conflict Resolution and Optimization of the Fishery Resources Management in Bordering Area (14-15 August 2007, Indonesia)	DOF Indonesia	National meeting (Indonesia)	Sec (1)
Achievement and Lesson Learned from the Future of Coastal Habitat and Resources Co-Management in Thailand (22-24 August 2007, Thailand)	CHARM	National meeting (Thailand)	Sec (3)
FAO-DOF-INFOFISH Regional Workshop on the Impact of Multilateral Trade Agreements and the Current WTO Negotiations on the Fisheries Sector conducted in Penang, Malaysia, 3-4 September 2007.	FAO-DOF Malaysia, INFOFISH	Inter/Region meeting	Sec (1)
Expert Consultation on International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas (11-14 September, Thailand)	FAO	Inter/Region meeting	Sec (1)
Regional Workshop on Certification Schemes for Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture (18-20 September 2007, Vietnam)	FAO/APFIC	Regional meeting	Sec (3) TD (1)
Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (29 October - 2 November 2007, Thailand)	ASEAN	Regional meeting	Sec (4)
FAO Workshop on Knowledge and Data on Deep Sea Fisheries in High Sea (5-7 November 2007, Thailand)	FAO	Inter/Region meeting	Sec (1)
FAO Expert Meeting on Sea Cucumber (19 Nov 2007)	FAO	Inter/Region meeting	Sec (1)
34 th Session of FAO Conference (17-24 Nov 2007, Italy)	FAO	Inter/Region meeting	Sec (2)
Workshop on Development of Master Plan for Thai Marine Fisheries Management (3 Meetings in 2007)	DOF Thailand	National meeting (Thailand)	Sec and TD (15)
Development of Strategic Plan for Fisheries Management in Thailand	DOF Thailand	National meeting (Thailand)	Sec (4)
The Meeting of Danish Fishing and Fish Processing Technology (17 January 2007, Samutsakorn, Thailand)	DOF Thailand	National meeting (Thailand)	TD (3)
Tuna RFMOS (18 January 2007, Japan)	RFMOS	Inter/Region meeting	TD (1)
Meeting 4 th PISC under Project GEF/UNEP/FAO "Reduction of Environmental Impact from Tropical Shrimp Trawling" (8-9 February 2007, Nigeria)	GEF/UNEP/ FAO	Inter/Region meeting	TD (1)
Regional Program for Participatory and Integrated Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Development for Long-term Rehabilitation and Development in Tsunami-affected Areas (26-27 April 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	FAO RAPA	Inter/Region meeting	TD (2)
ICES-FAO Working Group on Fish Technology and Fish Behavior (WGFTFB) (21-29 April 2007, Dublin, Ireland)	ICES-FAO	Inter/Region meeting	TD (1)
Workshop on Fisheries Cooperation (7-10 May 2007, Phuket, Thailand)	BIMSTC	Inter/Region meeting	Sec (1) TD (2)
Workshop on Capacity Building for Community Management in the Fisheries Administrative (5-8 June 2007, Cambodia)	FIA	Inter/Region meeting	TD (2)
Workshop on Interaction between Sea Turtle and Trawl Fisheries in the South West Indian Ocean (11-18 June 2007, Madagascar)	FAO	Inter/Region meeting	TD (1)
Working Party Meeting on The Depredation in Tuna Long-line and The By-catch and Ecosystem Approach (7-16 July 2007, Seychelles)	IOTC	Inter/Region meeting	TD (1)
OVOP International Seminar in Malaysia (4-7 July 2007, Malaysia)		Inter/Region meeting	TD (3)

Workshop on Leatherback Turtle Conservation and Recovery (16-20 July 2007, Malaysia)	WPRFMC/ NOAA	Inter/Region meeting	TD (1)
Seminar on Marine Fishery Technology (17-21 July 2007, Udonthani, Thailand)	DOF Thailand	National Meeting	TD (2)
DART Seminar (27-29 August 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	DART	Inter/Region meeting	TD (1)
Contemporary Approaches for the Screening of Bioactive Natural Products (27-29 August 2007, Bangkok, Thailand)	CCRI	Inter/Region meeting	TD (3)
Seminar on Good Management Practices for Enhancing the Value Addition of Fishery Products (14-18 May 2007, Karachi, Pakistan)	Asian Productivity Organisation	Inter/Regional meeting	MFRD
8 th Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) Technical Seminar (28 September 2007)	AVA, Singapore	National meeting	MFRD
INDAQUA 2007 (9-16 January 2007, Chennai, India): “Mudcrab culture-challenges and solutions”	Ministry of Commerce (India)	National meeting	AQD (1)
DAAD (<i>German Academic Exchange Service</i>) Conference on Microbiology (17-19 January 2007, Manila, Philippines)	UP-MSI, DAAD	Inter/Region meeting	AQD (1)
BFAR National Planning Workshop (21-24 January 2007, Pampanga, Philippines)	BFAR	National meeting	AQD (3)
National Center for Ecological Analysis Meeting (22-26 January 07, University of California, Sta. Barbara, USA)	UC-Sta. Barbara	National meeting	AQD (1)
Arabian Seas International Conference on Science and Technology of Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Oceanography (7-16 February 2007, State of Kuwait)	Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research	Inter/Region meeting	AQD (1)
Assessment and Planning Workshop for Fisheries Development (21-22 February 2007, Bulacan, Philippines)	Provincial Agriculture’s Office	National meeting	AQD (1)
ADTA (Aquaculture Development Technical Assistance) Aqua Research Priority Setting Workshop: <i>Strategy for Sustainable Aquaculture Development for Poverty Reduction</i> (26 February -1 March 2007, Manila, Philippines)	Primex	National meeting	AQD (1)
Workshop on Proposal Preparation on Mudcrab (13-15 March 2007, Philippines)	ACIAR/ PACAP	National meeting	AQD (2)
Workshop on Value-chain Approach (7 May 2007, Makati, Philippines)	GTZ Philippines	National meeting	AQD (1)
Workshop on Research Needs for Sustaining Asian Aquaculture (3-9 June 2007, Rayong, Thailand)	NACA	Inter/Region meeting	AQD (1)
United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (25-29 June 07, New York, USA)	UN	Inter/Region meeting	AQD (1)
Department of Agriculture Biotech Symposium (25-27 June 2007, UPLB, Laguna, Philippines)	DA BFAR	National meeting	AQD (2)
Visiting Scholar Program of the US Department of State (5 months, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA)	Fulbright	Scholarship	AQD (1)
Final coaching for the Asia-Pacific Aqua Marine: GTZ Trade Policy and Trade Promotion project in Aquaculture (6-7 August 2007, Capiz, Philippines)	GTZ Philippines	Inter/Region meeting	AQD (1)
Writeshop on Proposal for Grouper Aquaculture (25 August 2007, Philippines)	ACIAR /PACAP /Gaka Daku Cooperative	National meeting	AQD (5)

Seminar on new Technologies in Seafood Production: Meeting the Quantity and Quality in Seafood Production. (31 March 2007, UPM Serdang, Malaysia)	...	National meeting	MFRDMD (...)
Seminar on Quality and Productivity (3 persons attended) (28-30 October 2007, Port Dickson, Malaysia)	...	National meeting	MFRDMD (3)
Workshop on Total Quality Management (TQM) (3 persons attended) (3-5 June 2007, Ipoh Perak, Malaysia)	...	National meeting	MFRDMD (3)

Note: figure in the bracket is the number of participant(s) from SEAFDEC

Press Statements Produced in 2007

Title (Date, Venue)	Department
7 April 2007: 39 th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council	Sec
7 Feb 2007: Seabass project reaps good harvest	AQD
2 Mar 2007: SEAFDEC tests its feed formulations for marine fishes	AQD
30 Mar 2007: SEAFDEC conducts training on seaweed biotech	AQD
1 June 2007: Capizeno wins in U.S. science tilt	AQD
10 July 2007: TV interview of AQD Chief, Research and Technology Generation Division Heads	AQD
14 June 2007: SEAFDEC urges biosecurity for shrimp farms	AQD
13 Jul 2007: Collaborative program of AQD and BFAR on national breeding and culture program on abalone, 34 th anniversary celebration with special guest DA Secretary Arthur Yap	AQD
16 July 2007: Petron gives P3 million for SEAFDEC/AQD's project in Guimaras (Phil)	AQD
16 July 2007: SEAFDEC/AQD and ACIAR collaborate on mudcrab in northern Samar (Phil)	AQD
3 Aug 2007: Sea-ranching of abalone launched in Nogas Island (Phil)	AQD
22 Aug 2007: SEAFDEC to hold forum for business people	AQD
16-31 May 2007 : A Regional Training Workshop on Larval Fish Identification and Fish Early Life History Science	TD
29 Oct.-9 Nov. 2007 : Regional Training Workshop on The Establishment and Management of Fisheries Refugia	TD

Annex 21

OPERATION OF TRAINING AND RESEARCH VESSELS AND COST SHARING SCHEMES

M.V. SEAFDEC 2

Government of Japan gave a Fisheries Research and Training Vessel names M.V. SEAFDEC 2 to SEAFDEC/Training Department under the Japan's Grant Aid Scheme for Eligible Countries since March 2004. The vessel have been utilized by the Grant Aid Eligible Countries and other SEAFDEC member countries in order to conduct coastal fishery stock surveys while providing training in fishing and catch handling operations to. To achieve these activities and to ensure that main benefit of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 is given to SEAFDEC member countries, therefore Eligible countries and operational committee was set up. Due to budget constraints in 2006 the meeting of Eligible Countries and Operation Committee is ceased, however utilization of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for the national fisheries resources program requested by member countries are maintained. In 2007, funding support to the operation of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 was mainly from the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) and the cost-shared policy on the use of M.V. SEAFDEC 2.

In 2007, the final operation plan for utilization of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 was requested from three countries namely Myanmar, Thailand, and the Philippines and TD as appeared on the Table 1. A total operational day was 118 days.

Table 1:

Operation Plan of MV SEAFDEC2 in 2007

No.	Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Requested by	Main Activities	Status	Total days
1	Demersal Resources Status in Ayeyarwady Coastal Area and Gulf of Mottama													Myanmar	Bottom Trawl and Pelagic Longline	Completed (1Feb - 15 Mar07)	43
2	Fisheries resources survey in Andaman sea (Longline & Trap)													Thailand	Pelagic Longline, Bottom Vertical Longline, trap	Completed (15Mar - 23 April 07)	39
3	Shipboard Training on Larval Fish Samplings and Identification_Funded by UNEP/GEP/SCS and JTF													SEAFDEC TD	Larval Fish Samplings by Bongo net and Nueston Net	Completed (22 - 23 May 07)	2
4	Collaborative Fisheries Resources Survey in Celebes sea (Minanao Sea)													Philippine	Pelagic Longline, FADs Investigation	Completed (10Sep-13Oct07)	34
																	118

PROPOSED OPERATION PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2008

The proposed operation plan for utilization of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2008 by five member countries namely Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Thailand was endorsed in the 30th SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting held at Iloilo in November 2007. However, based on the adjustment made from member countries and concerned Department the plan for utilization of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 was revised and finalized as appeared in Table 2. A total operation day in 2008 will be approximately 102 days.

Table 2:
2008 Operation Plan of MV SEAFDEC2

No.	Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Country/ institution	Main Activity	Period	Total Days	Remarks
1	Survey on Ocean-Reef Coupling & Investigation of Biogeochemical Processes in the Andaman Sea													Thailand, Phuket-Bio Center	Oceanography, Plankton- sediment	3 March - 4 April 08	33	*Whale Sighting Survey will be conducted during cruising to and out of Survey Area
3	Hydro-Biological Survey in the Deep waters of BN													Brunei, DOF	Bottom Trawl, acoustic survey, oceanography	29 May - 2 Jul	35	*Whale Sighting Survey will be conducted during cruising to and out of Survey Area
5	Fishery resources survey on the Continental shelf slopes in the Andaman Sea, Thailand													Thailand, DOF	Oceanography, Plankton- sediment	1 Nov. -3 Dec	34	*Whale Sighting Survey will be conducted during cruising to and out of Survey Area
																Total	102	

REVISION OF SEAFDEC/AQD'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND STRATEGIC PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The Aquaculture Department of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC/AQD) contributes to food security in the ASEAN region through generation of technology for sustainable aquaculture, building the capacity of the Member Countries and dissemination of information.

The ASEAN region has yet to maximize its vast aquaculture potentials and thus, require the continuing assistance of AQD in the promotion and development of responsible aquaculture in the Member Countries. To better position AQD in fulfilling its role and to ensure relevance of its work programs in the region, it is essential that it examines its core competencies as well as the challenges and opportunities in its external environment. Given the increasing expectation from aquaculture, dwindling fund sources, and the shifting priorities of donors and partners in the region, it is imperative that AQD reviews its own work programs against emerging conditions that affect its current operations and long term viability.

Recognizing the above, SEAFDEC/AQD held a series of strategic planning workshops and in-house meetings to review its mandate, organizational structure, and work strategies. This report presents the findings of organization-wide review and planning activities. The proposed new mandate and organizational structure are presented in this document.

THE STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETINGS

SEAFDEC/AQD conducted an internal organizational diagnosis as a formal process for strategizing organizational growth and development. In general, Strategic Planning workshops were held to assist the SEAFDEC/AQD management in making effective decisions about the future directions of the Department. Specifically, the objectives were to: (i) facilitate the review of existing vision-mission statements, goals and objectives, programs and activities in the light of internal and external environmental prospects and challenges; (ii) assist in identifying strategic alternatives in terms of new research thrusts, program revisions, service innovations, expanded organizational linkages, and relevant structural reforms; and (iv) facilitate overall improvement in organizational efficiency and effectiveness.

Description of Activities

A strategic planning framework was adopted to guide the review and planning activities. The review included a revisit of AQD's existing mandate, vision, mission, and goals as well as its current organizational structure. Also included in the review was the analysis of the Department's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) and the critical issues confronting it. These workshops were held last March and April 2007.

Following the above-mentioned workshops, strategic planning meeting was conducted on 21 June 2007. This involved identifying changes and innovations that began with its core values, vision, and mission statements. Planning efforts also extended to the formulation of goals and strategies.

Both the organizational review and planning session involved the active participation of AQD officials and representatives from the support staff.

Results

Redefining the mandate of SEAFDEC/AQD

Core Values

A statement of SEAFDEC/AQD's core values or credo is a basic response to the critical issues faced by the organization. These values forge a sense of solidarity amidst the diversity of individual differences in professional training, expertise, and personal attitudes and outlook of AQD personnel. If internalized, these values become the individual employee's personal advocacy and thus, an effective source of internal motivation for effective performance.

SEAFDEC/AQD's Core Values:

SEAFDEC/AQD is committed to sustainable development and the responsible stewardship of aquaculture resources through science-based research and the promotion of appropriate aquaculture technologies and information relevant to the Southeast Asian region.

Vision

The current vision statement recognizes the main rationale for AQD's existence as the center of excellence in aquaculture development and promotion. Furthermore, the vision statement indicates AQD's ultimate goal as well as basic social responsibility i.e., bringing about food security and the development of human potentials.

SEAFDEC/AQD's Vision:

A global leader in the generation and transfer of appropriate and sustainable tropical aquaculture technologies for food security and holistic human development.

Mission

The mission statement spells out AQD's vision in terms of its clientele, area of operation and competitive edge in science-based aquaculture research and technologies. SEAFDEC/AQD's pioneering and competent leadership in the field sets it apart from other organizations in the aquaculture industry. Moreover, AQD's mission statement captures the organization's reason for being, and hopefully, provides the needed drumbeat to rally members and stakeholders to the frontiers of aquaculture development and promotion.

SEAFDEC/AQD's Mission:

To provide dynamic and competent leadership in the generation and promotion of science-based responsible technologies to strengthen stakeholder capacities in aquaculture and aquatic resources management.

Goals

SEAFDEC/AQD's goals contain its original mandate and make explicit its major functions. The goals are consistent with the organization's core values, vision, and mission statements. While it guides AQD's operations and work systems, the goals also provide a basis for monitoring and evaluation of organizational performance especially when translated into specific objectives and work targets or indicators.

Goals of SEAFDEC-AQD:

1. Generate science-based aquaculture technologies and information appropriate for the region.
2. Verify, demonstrate and transfer viable technologies.
3. Develop and strengthen capacities of the aquaculture sector.
4. Continuously promote the institutional and financial stability of SEAFDEC/AQD.

Formulating Strategies

Strategies

AQD's identified strategies and their corresponding interventions guide organizational responses to critical challenges posed by the environment and provide the strategic orientation in the performance of its basic functions. These serve as guides in the strategic planning process and are integrated in AQD's Strategic Action Plan.

- Strategy 1. Focused-targeting of stakeholders and their specific needs and requirements for aquaculture technologies, and conducting research, technology transfer, and training in line with such needs.
- Identify targeted beneficiaries/potential markets and their specific requirements for aquaculture technologies.
 - Disseminate information and train local and international stakeholders to transfer the viable aquaculture technologies at identified sites.
- Strategy 2. Integrating strategic fund raising activities into line functions of the organization.
- Strategic fund raising further requires expanding linkages through identification of potential donors and partners locally, regionally and internationally.
 - Intensify training and information as well as technology transfer as a means for augmenting fund sources.
 - Other innovative entrepreneurial options can also be considered.
- Strategy 3. Developing best practices through continuous improvement of organizational systems
- AQD's organizational structure needs to be assessed objectively vis-à-vis its program thrusts.
 - The existing financial system including manuals from budgeting and accounting to auditing require comprehensive review and updating.
 - Full computerization in all aspects of SEAFDEC/AQD's operations needs to be explored.
- Strategy 4. Increasing availability of opportunities for employee productivity and job satisfaction
- There should be a review and update of the present position classification scheme and job pricing policies. The revised job classification scheme should serve as standards in assessing existing manpower qualifications vis-à-vis their position/job assignments, and consequently future personnel movements (promotions, reassignments, etc).
 - An improved employee performance appraisal system should be instituted as basis for promotions and other personnel movements.
 - With the new staffing pattern in place, a review should also be made of human resource policies and interventions as well as a code of conduct for employees.

- Change management should be accompanied by organizational development for improving relational dynamics among AQD members.

Strategic Action Plan

Based on goals and strategies identified, key staff from each Division (i.e. Research; Technology Verification and Demonstration; Training and Information, and Administration held separate meetings to discuss and define Strategic Action Plans for the three year period (2007-2010). Each Division came up with their Strategic Action Plan which contains the following information: Goals, Objectives of their work programs, Activities or Tasks needed in order to meet their stated Objectives, Performance Indicators that will be used to assess if their objectives are met and the Time Frame. These information have been consolidated and now serve as the new Strategic Action Plan of AQD for 2007 – 2010.

REVISED ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Organizational Structure as proposed by SEAFDEC/AQD is shown in *Appendix 1*. This structure comprises the following:

Office of the Chief. The Office of the Chief has two offices attached to it: the Performance Management Group (Internal Audit Unit) and the Manila Office.

Office of the Deputy Chief

Research Division. The Research Division consists of five sections: 1.) Breeding and Seed Production Section, 2.) Farming Systems and Ecology Section, 3.) Nutrition and Feed Development Section, 4.) Fish Health Section, and 5.) Socioeconomics Section. It has two offices attached to it, the Laboratory Facilities for Advanced Aquaculture Technologies and the Binangonan Freshwater Station.

Technology Verification and Demonstration Division. This Division is formerly known as Technology Verification and Commercialization Division. It has now two sections: 1.) Technology Verification Section, and 2.) Demonstration and Packaging Section. The two stations attached are the following: the Igang Marine Station and Dumangas Brackishwater Station.

Training and Information Division. This Division has three sections, 1.) Training Section, 2.) Development Communication Section, and 3.) Library and Data Banking Section. It has an office attached to it, the FishWorld.

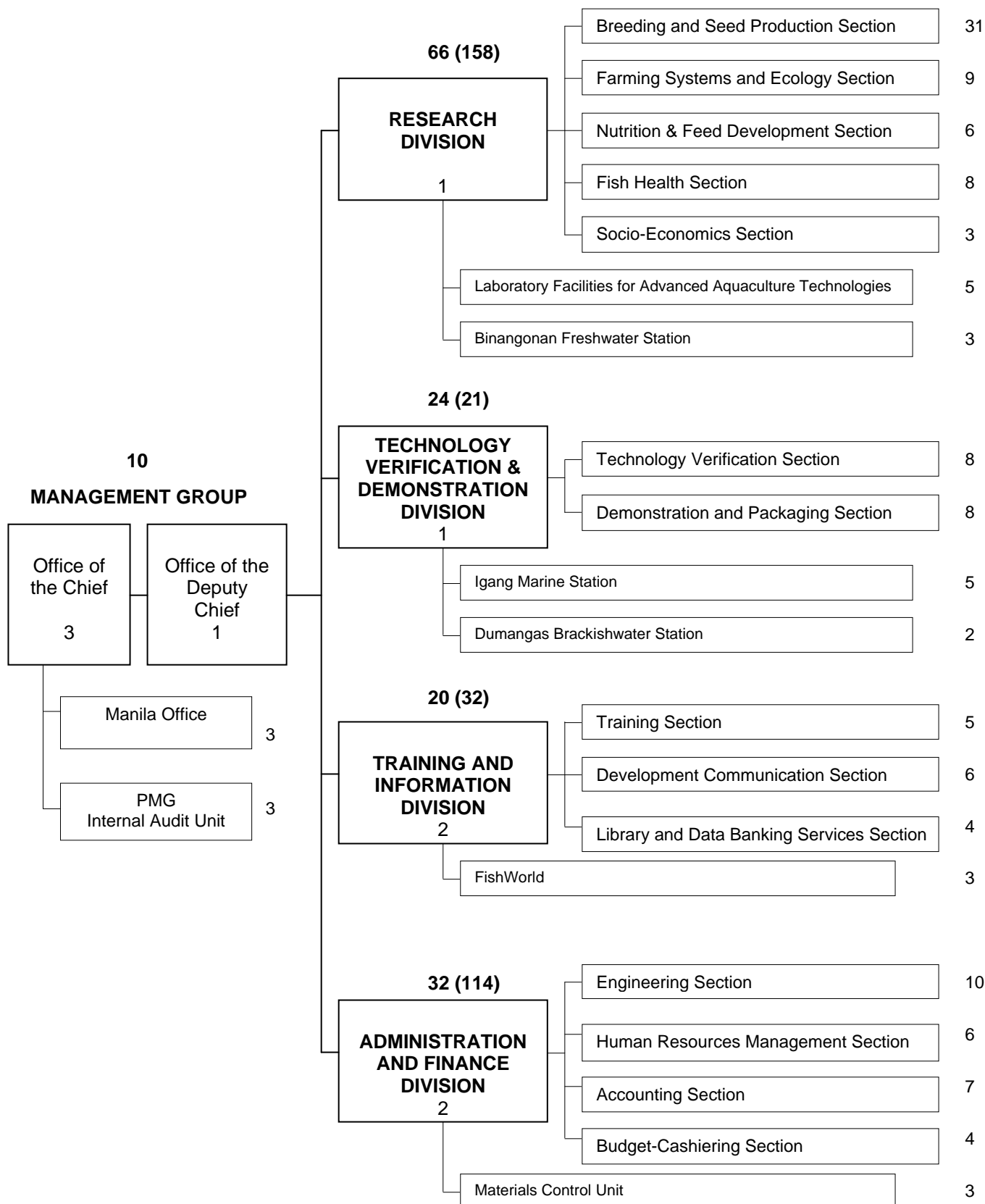
Administration and Finance Division. The Administration and Finance Division has four sections: 1.) Engineering Section, 2.) Human Resource Management Section, 3.) Accounting Section, and 4.) Budget-Cashiering Section. The Office of the Division Head has one unit, the Materials Control Unit.

Appendix 1 of Annex 22

I - PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

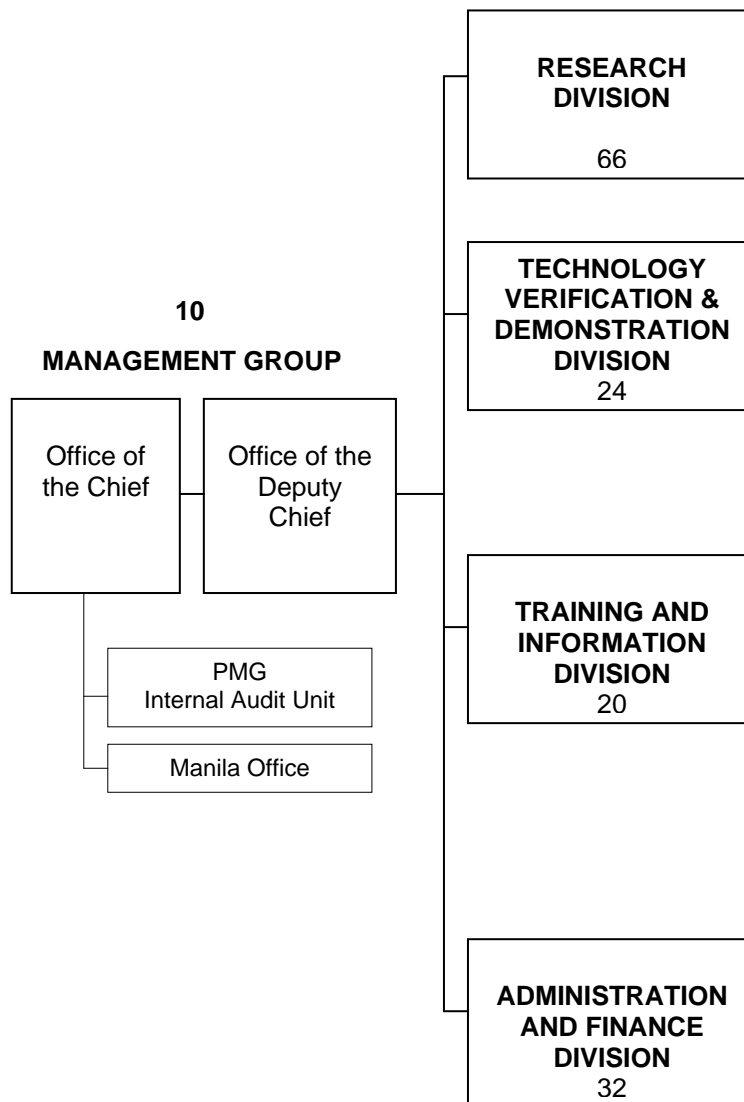
Total no. of employees 152 (346)*

*regular staff as of January 2004



I - PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Total no. of employees 152



SEAFDEC COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN 2007

Looking forward to new cooperation with other organizations and non-member governments remains the policy of SEAFDEC. For the year 2007, the SEAFDEC established the cooperation with the various organizations as follows:

The ASEAN

For many years, SEAFDEC has been cooperating with the ASEAN through the ASWGFi. In the past, SEAFDEC was appointed in 1993 to perform a technical arm for the ASEAN fishery projects. Six years later, SEAFDEC and ASEAN established a formal cooperation in the form of “ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG)” to harmonize technical programs, projects and activities to serve the ASEAN and SEAFDEC member-countries. In 2005, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) was initiated to enhance closer collaboration by strengthening the implementation of regional fisheries programs and mechanism for raising important issues. The ASSP was proposed then to the Council of SEAFDEC and the higher authorities of the ASEAN for consideration and approval accordingly. The Letter of Understanding (LOU) on the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) was developed and signed on 2 November 2007 by Secretary-General of ASEAN and SEAFDEC, Mr. Ong Keng Yong, and Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj, respectively. It is expected that the LOU will facilitate formalizing the ASEAN-SEAFDEC relationship and the agreement on a new role of SEAFDEC as the executing agency of projects and activities implementation for the ASEAN. Furthermore, the ASSP will provide the formal complementary framework for ASEAN and SEAFDEC to work together to plan and implement ASEAN programs, projects, and activities in the future.

The Maejo University

SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Faculty of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Maejo University located in Chiangmai, in northern part of Thailand, have expressed their interests to establish cooperation in fisheries. A progressive interaction started and continued to a conclusion of signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on mutual interest of fisheries on 28 May 2007. The two-institution cooperation will cover many joint programs in order to promote education, training and applied research in fisheries aiming at human resource development, knowledge and technology sharing including development of research and information network.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/GEF)

SEAFDEC Secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme have entered into an agreement which would enable SEAFDEC to conduct the regional training workshop on establishing and managing fisheries *refugia* on behalf of the South China Sea Project. The MOU concerning the conduct of the training was signed in September 2007. The aim of the training course is to build capacity with respect to the identification, establishment, and management of fisheries *refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand with the financial support from the UNEP. The Training Department of SEAFDEC was appointed as the coordinator of the training, and be responsible for the development and preparation of training workshop materials, facilities for workshop participants and presenters, conducting the regional training workshop, publishing a guidebook of spawning and nursery areas of the fish in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, and producing of audio visual materials in support of the UNEP/GEF South China Sea Project’s Third Mayors’ Roundtable and Third Regional Scientific Conference which was convened in November 26th-27th, and 28th-30th, 2007.

Action for Community Empowerment Association Inc. (Philippines)

SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department (AQD) in Iloilo of the Philippines, and the Action for Community Empowerment Association Inc (ACE), a non-government organization, have mutually agreed on cooperation on 14 June 2007, to implement the Community Agricultural Technologies Project on 'Enhancing Adoption of Mud Crab Production Technologies in Northern Samar. The project, which has duration of 2.5 years, is expected to extend technologies developed during the ACIAR-funded project: Development of improved mud crab culture systems in the Philippines and Australia to 325 fisherfolk households in four municipalities in Northern Samar.

Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences

SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department (AQD) and the Freshwater Fisheries Research Center (FFRC) of the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences, Wuxi, China signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 26 April 2007. The MOU aims to collaborate on the following areas of common interests: (i) feed development and disease control, particularly on the use of herbal extracts as feed additives or as immunostimulants, (ii) breeding of freshwater prawn and tilapia, (iii) manipulation of the water environment through the use of probiotics, (iv) socio-economic impact of aquaculture in the lakes of both countries, (v) training of one or two nominees by AQD in China, and (vi) exchange visit of staff.

Petron Foundation Inc. (Philippines)

SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department (AQD) forged on 13 June 2007 a one year agreement with the Petron Foundation, to collaborate on a demonstration project on milkfish cage culture as livelihood option for communities in Guimaras Province affected by the oil spill. Under the terms of agreement, Petron Foundation will provide funds for the construction and operation of fish cages and operational costs for milkfish culture. Meanwhile, AQD will provide an area in its Igang Marine Substation for the project; on-site training and administer the technical; administrative and financial aspects of the project.

Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA)

SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department (AQD) and the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), an international organization duly organized under the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education and Organization, have signed a renewed MOU on 11 April 2007 to enter into institutional cooperation for another 3 years. The MOU covers many in cooperation in a number of areas to pursue common education, training, and research objectives. Under the new partnership agreement, the two institutions have agreed to jointly undertake programs, projects and other related activities of mutual interest, exchange scientific information, publications and execute separate agreements for any particular undertaking that will be jointly implemented.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
ABRIDGED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	In US\$	
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
INCOME		
Contributions from:-		
Member governments	6,186,999	5,272,374
Other sources	407,951	272,132
Other income	<u>412,484</u>	<u>449,094</u>
Total Income	<u>7,007,434</u>	<u>5,993,600</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Research	818,635	478,050
Training	716,699	935,657
Information	387,583	354,170
Collaborative	16,780	-
Special 5-year	141,596	527,981
Administrative	<u>4,916,437</u>	<u>4,214,760</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>6,997,730</u>	<u>6,510,618</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	9,704	(517,018)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	<u>4,750,609</u> (1)	<u>4,777,854</u>
FUND BALANCE, End of year	<u>4,760,313</u>	<u>4,260,836</u> (1)
REPRESENTED BY:		
Cash at Bank	4,365,185	4,649,452
Other receivables	306,314	52,944
Advances and Deposits	144,409	95,438
Supplies inventory	47,701	37,022
Fuel oil for vessels	82,953	70,737
Prepayments	<u>18,391</u>	<u>15,973</u>
Total Current assets	4,964,953	4,921,566
Termination indemnity fund	1,287,045	1,088,290
Other assets-Net	<u>195,169</u>	<u>163,607</u>
Total Assets	<u>6,447,167</u>	<u>6,173,463</u>
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	221,709	427,397
Contribution received in advance	-	343,765
Fund held in trust	178,100	53,175
Provision for termination indemnity	<u>1,287,045</u>	<u>1,088,290</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>1,686,854</u>	<u>1,912,627</u>
NET	<u>4,760,313</u>	<u>4,260,836</u>

(1) The difference of US\$ 489,773 (US\$ 4,750,609 – US\$ 4,260,836) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
THE SECRETARIAT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	<u>In US\$</u>	
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
INCOME		
Contributions from:-		
Member governments	661,143	266,027
Other sources	33,245	-
Other income	28,157	24,029
Total Income	<u>722,545</u>	<u>290,056</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Training	24,549	100,400
Information	47,199	38,411
Collaborative	16,780	-
Special 5-year	11,868	122,027
Administrative	162,854	116,924
Total Expenditure	<u>263,250</u>	<u>377,762</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	459,295	(87,706)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	188,136 (1)	600,043
FUND ADJUSTMENT	(82,325)	(347,200)
FUND BALANCE, End of year	<u>565,106</u>	<u>165,137</u> (1)
REPRESENTED BY:		
Cash at Bank	529,319	189,239
Other receivables	40,089	8,804
Advances and Deposits	10,901	6,603
Prepayments	2,759	2,634
Total Current assets	<u>583,068</u>	<u>207,280</u>
Total Assets	<u>583,068</u>	<u>207,280</u>
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	17,962	42,143
Total Liabilities	<u>17,962</u>	<u>42,143</u>
NET	<u>565,106</u>	<u>165,137</u>

(1) The difference of US\$ 22,999 (US\$ 188,136 – US\$ 165,137) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
TRAINING DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	In US\$	
	2006	2005
INCOME		
Contributions from:-		
Member governments	1,717,198	1,446,557
Other sources	249,396	16,829
Other income	116,144	126,157
Total Income	2,082,738	1,589,543
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Research	192,842	97,717
Training	624,175	758,674
Information	171,757	136,029
Special 5-year	9,728	99,420
Administrative	1,037,760	970,482
Total Expenditure	2,036,262	2,062,322
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	46,476	(472,779)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	2,588,792 (1)	2,445,093
FUND ADJUSTMENT	82,325	300,000
FUND BALANCE, End of year	2,717,593	2,272,314 (1)
REPRESENTED BY:		
Cash at Bank	2,416,228	2,605,306
Other receivables	226,517	20,994
Advances and Deposits	29,787	28,172
Fuel oil for vessels	82,953	70,737
Prepayments	15,632	13,339
Total Current assets	2,771,117	2,738,548
Termination indemnity fund	1,287,045	1,088,290
Total Assets	4,058,162	3,826,838
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	53,524	122,469
Contribution received in advance	-	343,765
Provision for termination indemnity	1,287,045	1,088,290
Total Liabilities	1,340,569	1,554,524
NET	2,717,593	2,272,314

(1) The difference of US\$ 316,478 (US\$ 2,588,792 – US\$ 2,272,314) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	In US\$	
	2006	2005
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	1,058,845	1,107,244
Other income	61,413	36,812
Total Income	1,120,258	1,144,056
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Training	-	7,150
Information	-	13,011
Special 5-year	60,000	100,000
Administrative	1,137,010	1,139,475
Total Expenditure	1,197,010	1,259,636
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	(76,752)	(115,580)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	523,057 (1)	597,521
FUND BALANCE, End of year	446,305	481,941 (1)
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	421,756	506,208
Other receivables	36,081	17,485
Total Current assets	457,837	523,693
Total Assets	457,837	523,693
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	11,532	41,752
Total Liabilities	11,532	41,752
NET	446,305	481,941

(1) The difference of US\$ 41,116 (US\$ 523,057 – US\$ 481,941) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
AQUACULTURE DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	In US\$	
	2006	2005
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	2,038,944	1,897,910
Other sources	125,310	255,303
Other income	205,978	257,124
Total Income	2,370,232	2,410,337
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Research	625,793	380,333
Training	67,975	69,433
Information	168,627	166,719
Special 5-year	-	106,534
Administrative	1,849,523	1,272,074
Total Expenditure	2,711,918	1,995,093
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	(341,686)	415,244
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	1,369,008 (1)	802,925
FUND ADJUSTMENT	-	47,200
FUND BALANCE, End of year	1,027,322	1,265,369 (1)
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	993,236	1,259,007
Advances and Deposits	99,595	53,556
Supplies inventory	47,701	37,022
Other Current Assets	3,627	5,661
Total Current assets	1,144,159	1,355,246
Other assets-Net	195,169	163,607
Total Assets	1,339,328	1,518,853
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	133,906	200,309
Fund held in trust	178,100	53,175
Total Liabilities	312,006	253,484
NET	1,027,322	1,265,369

(1) The difference of US\$ 103,639 (US\$ 1,369,008 – US\$ 1,265,369) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
MARINE FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	In US\$	
	2006	2005
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	710,869	554,636
Other income	792	4,972
Total Income	711,661	559,608
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Special 5-year	60,000	100,000
Administrative	729,290	715,805
Total Expenditure	789,290	815,805
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	(77,629)	(256,197)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	81,616 (1)	332,272
FUND BALANCE, End of year	3,987	76,075 (1)
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	4,646	89,692
Advances and Deposits	4,126	7,107
Total Current assets	8,772	96,799
Total Assets	8,772	96,799
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	4,785	20,724
Total Liabilities	4,785	20,724
NET	3,987	76,075

(1) The difference of US\$ 5,541 (US\$ 81,616 – US\$ 76,075) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

UN-AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2007

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
 FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

	In US\$							Total
	Operating Fund		Fellowship Fund		Property and Equipment Fund		Others Fund	
	MRC	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund		
Host Department							2007	2006
INCOME								
Contributions from :-								
Government of Brunei Darussalam		7,000					7,000	4,000
Government of Cambodia		6,000					6,000	4,000
Government of Indonesia		26,000					26,000	4,000
Government of Japan		280,000					280,000	617,143
Government of Lao PDR		0					0	4,000
Government of Malaysia	808,826	10,000					818,826	710,869
Government of Myanmar		10,000					10,000	4,000
Government of Philippines	3,103,040	15,000					3,118,040	2,038,944
Government of Singapore		0					0	1,058,845
Government of Thailand	1,885,042	20,000	23,045				1,928,087	1,737,198
Government of Vietnam		14,000					14,000	4,000
Other Sources		388,000	23,045	0			303,547	407,951
							6,511,500	6,594,950
Other income								
Bank interest	169,150		4,895				28,733	205,559
Sundries	296,244						67,863	301,090
Exchange gain/(loss)	(44,901)	9,044					(36,376)	(94,165)
TOTAL INCOME	6,217,401	397,044	27,940	0	0	0	363,767	7,007,434

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
 FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

	In US\$						Total	
	Host Department	Operating Fund		Property and Equipment Fund		Project Fund	Others Fund	
		MRC	Fellowship Fund	Fellowship Fund	Equipment Fund			
EXPENDITURE								
Operating Expenditure	697,164						161,215	858,379
Research	398,693	4,141	14,511				253,235	670,580
Training	580,437	65,901					63,721	710,059
Information		149,871					1,170	151,041
Collaborative	18,722	0						18,722
Special Five-Year	4,354,841	187,092					3,335	4,545,268
Administrative & Capital expenditure	6,049,857	407,005	14,511			0	482,676	6,954,049
TOTAL EXPENDITURE								
	167,544	(9,961)	13,429			0	(118,909)	52,103
SURPLUS(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR								9,704

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
 DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

	In US\$	
	2007	2006
ACCUMULATED FUND		
As at December 31	<u>5,258,098</u>	<u>4,760,313</u>
REPRESENTED BY :		
Current assets		
Cash in hand and at banks	4,996,091	4,365,185
Other receivables	247,922	402,282
Advances and deposits	62,691	44,814
Supplies inventory	56,033	47,701
Fuel oil for vessels	67,794	82,953
Prepayments	19,081	18,391
Other current assets	2,177	3,627
Total Current assets	<u>5,451,789</u>	<u>4,964,953</u>
Termination indemnity fund	1,552,274	1,287,045
Other assets - Net	17,864	195,169
Total Assets	<u>7,021,927</u>	<u>6,447,167</u>
Less : Liabilities		
Accounts payable	211,555	221,709
Contributions received in advance		178,100
Funds held in trust		1,287,045
Provision for staff termination indemnity	1,552,274	1,287,045
Total Liabilities	<u>1,763,829</u>	<u>1,686,854</u>
NET	<u>5,258,098</u>	<u>4,760,313</u>

STATUS OF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION FOR THE YEAR 2008

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FUND BALANCES
 DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

	In US\$				
	Balance as at January 1, 2007	Adjustment of fund	Surplus (Deficit)	Balance December 31, 2007	Balance as at December 31, 2006
Operating fund	3,734,389	497	157,583	3,892,469	3,361,473
Fellowship fund	171,052	(7,749)	13,429	176,732	159,809
Others fund	1,307,806		(118,909)	1,188,897	1,239,031
Net	5,213,247 <u>1/</u>	(7,252)	52,103	5,258,098	4,760,313 <u>1/</u>

1/ The difference of US\$ 452,934 (US\$ 5,213,247 - 4,760,313) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

PROPOSED BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CENTER FOR 2009

Table 1. Estimated Contributions received by SEAFDEC from Member Countries and other sources (in US Dollars) in fiscal year 2008

Sources	Secretariat	Training Department	Marine Fisheries Research Department	Aquaculture Department	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Total	
						in US\$	%
Brunei Darussalam	7,000					7,000	0.07
Cambodia	6,000					6,000	0.06
Indonesia	26,000					26,000	0.26
Japan	280,000					280,000	2.82
Lao PDR	4,000					4,000	0.04
Malaysia	10,000				891,534 ^{f/}	901,534	9.08
Myanmar	10,000					10,000	0.10
Philippines	15,000			3,103,040 ^{e/}		3,118,040	31.40
Singapore	8,000		0 ^{d/}			8,000	0.08
Thailand	20,000	2,062,250 ^{c/}				2,082,250	20.97
Vietnam	14,000					14,000	0.14
Others ^{a/}	3,002,377 ^{b/}			470,974		3,473,351	34.98
Total	3,402,377 ^{a/}	2,062,250	0	3,574,014	891,534	9,930,175	100%

^{a/} Including Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) from all SEAFDEC Member countries = US\$ 400,000 (see Annex 1)

^{b/} Including extra-budgetary sources from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,252,534 (See Annex 1)

^{c/} Contribution in cash from Thailand (see Annex 2)

^{d/} No Contribution from Singapore (See Annex 3)

^{e/} Contribution in cash from Philippines (see Annex 4)

^{f/} Contribution in kind from Malaysia (See Annex 5)

^{g/} Including contributions from non-member governments, international organizations/agencies and miscellaneous receipts.

Table 2. Expected Contributions received by SEAFDEC from Member Countries and other sources (in US Dollars) in fiscal year 2009

Sources	Secretariat	Training Department	Marine Fisheries Research Department	Aquaculture Department	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Total	
						in US\$	%
Brunei Darussalam	7,000					7,000	0.08
Cambodia	6,000					6,000	0.07
Indonesia	26,000					26,000	0.30
Japan	280,000					280,000	3.20
Lao PDR	4,000					4,000	0.05
Malaysia	10,000				976,442 ^{f/}	986,442	11.26
Myanmar	10,000					10,000	0.11
Philippines	15,000			3,622,226 ^{e/}		3,637,226	41.52
Singapore	8,000		0 ^{d/}			8,000	0.09
Thailand	20,000	2,184,550 ^{c/}				2,204,550	25.17
Vietnam	14,000					14,000	0.16
Others ^{a/}	1,183,575 ^{b/}			392,635		1,576,210	17.99
Total	1,583,575 ^{a/}	2,184,550	0	4,014,861	976,442	8,759,428	100%

^{a/} Including Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) from all SEAFDEC Member countries = US\$ 400,000 (see Annex 1)

^{b/} Including extra-budgetary sources from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,183,575 (See Annex 1)

^{c/} Contribution in cash from Thailand (see Annex 2)

^{d/} No Contribution from Singapore (See Annex 3)

^{e/} Contribution in cash from Philippines (see Annex 4)

^{f/} Contribution in kind from Malaysia (See Annex 5)

^{g/} Including contributions from non-member governments, international organizations/agencies and miscellaneous receipts.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Table 3 : Estimated Expenditure of the Center for 2008
(In US\$)

Category	SEC ^{1/}	TD ^{2/}	MFRD ^{3/}	AQD ^{4/}	MFRDMD ^{5/}	Total	%
I Program of Activities							
1.1 Research Programs				926,840		926,840	9.3
1.2 Training Programs		50,000		52,281		102,281	1.0
1.3 Information Programs	64,000			22,940		86,940	0.9
1.4 Collaborative Programs	150,000 ^{6/}					150,000	1.5
1.5 Other Programs	3,002,377 ^{7/}			119,458		3,121,835	31.5
Sub-total	3,216,377	50,000	0	1,121,519	0	4,387,896	44.2
II Administrative and Non-Program Expenditure							
2.1 Operating Expenditure	178,500	2,012,250 ^{8/}		2,211,012		4,401,762	44.3
2.2 Capital Expenditure	7,500			241,483		248,983	2.5
2.3 In-kind Expenditure					891,534	891,534	9.0
Sub-total	186,000	2,012,250	0	2,452,495	891,534	5,542,279	55.8
TOTAL	3,402,377	2,062,250	0	3,574,014	891,534	9,930,175	100%

Remarks : ^{1/} Secretariat

^{2/} Training Department

^{3/} Marine Fisheries Research Department

^{4/} Aquaculture Department

^{5/} Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department

^{6/} Included operation cost , maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC 2

^{7/} Included program expenses from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$ 1,252,534

^{8/} Included cost of maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Table 4 : Estimated Expenditure of the Center for 2009

(In US\$)

Category	SEC ^{1/}	TD ^{2/}	MFRD ^{3/}	AQD ^{4/}	MFRDMD ^{5/}	Total	%
I Program of Activities							
1.1 Research Programs				1,099,702		1,099,702	12.6
1.2 Training Programs		50,000		60,370		110,370	1.3
1.3 Information Programs	64,000			25,355		89,355	1.0
1.4 Collaborative Programs	150,000 ^{6/}					150,000	1.7
1.5 Other Programs	1,183,575 ^{7/}			31,620		1,215,195	13.9
Sub-total	1,397,575	50,000	0	1,217,047	0	2,664,622	30.5
II Administrative and Non-Program Expenditure							
2.1 Operating Expenditure	178,500	2,134,550 ^{8/}		2,435,591		4,748,641	54.2
2.2 Capital Expenditure	7,500			362,223		369,723	4.2
2.3 In-kind Expenditure					976,442	976,442	11.1
Sub-total	186,000	2,134,550	0	2,797,814	976,442	6,094,806	69.5
TOTAL	1,583,575	2,184,550	0	4,014,861	976,442	8,759,428	100%

Remarks : ^{1/} Secretariat

^{2/} Training Department

^{3/} Marine Fisheries Research Department

^{4/} Aquaculture Department

^{5/} Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department

^{6/} Included operation cost, maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC 2

^{7/} Included program expenses from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,183,575

^{8/} Included cost of maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC

PRESS RELEASE

1. The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was established in 1967 with the mandate to develop fishery potentials in the region through training, research and information services to improve food supply for food security in the region. The SEAFDEC members comprise Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The SEAFDEC supreme organ is the SEAFDEC Council, of which its meeting is annually held to discuss important fisheries issues and programs, and the management of the Center.

2. At the invitation of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia, the Fortieth Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC was held in Bali from 7 to 10 April 2008. The Inaugural Ceremony of the Fortieth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council on 7 April 2008 was presided over by Prof. Dr. Widi Agoes Pratikto, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia. Prof. Pratikto expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC for the implementation of several activities to ensure sustainable fisheries in the region. While highlighting the accomplishments of SEAFDEC in promoting responsible fisheries, he emphasized the need for regional cooperation to further combat IUU fishing in order to achieve sustainable fisheries. He also acknowledged the efforts of SEAFDEC in addressing international fisheries related issues, and identified some other important issues e.g. climate change and its impact on fisheries and aquaculture, which SEAFDEC could also consider exploring the possibility of providing assistance to Member Countries.

3. The Council discussed various issues that are important to the development of sustainable fisheries in Southeast Asian region. The highlighted issues include: the efforts and achievements of SEAFDEC in implementation of responsible fisheries, particularly to promote the adoption of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) in the region; the establishment of the Regional Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia as a subsidiary body to the SEAFDEC Council; the involvement of SEAFDEC in the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing by providing advice to the RPOA Coordination Committee; the strengthening of the cooperation with ASEAN through the formalization of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP); the establishment of common positions on emerging international fisheries related issues to safeguard the region's fisheries interests; the new Regional Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia focusing on the minimum requirements for the improved collection and compilation of fishery statistics.

4. Since 1998, SEAFDEC has implemented several activities with support from the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF), of which the accomplishments have been summarized and published through the Booklet, also launched during this Council Meeting. The support from the JTF Program has boosted the sustainable development of fisheries in the ASEAN region.

5. The activities and achievements of SEAFDEC have proved to contribute to the sustainable development of fisheries in the region. In the year 2007, SEAFDEC also received the Margarita Lizárraga Medal Award for the biennium 2006-2007 from FAO for promoting the implementation of the CCRF in the Southeast Asian region. As SEAFDEC marked the 40th anniversary of its establishment in December 2007, and with 40 years behind and having amassed a wealth of expertise and technologies in all aspects of fisheries, the Council expects SEAFDEC to focus its sight on the future. On this note, the Council and the Member Countries were assured that SEAFDEC will not to rest on its laurels nor hang its anchors as it will continue to sail towards further achieving responsible fisheries development in the region.

6. The SEAFDEC Council announced that its 41st Meeting in 2009 will be hosted by Japan.

For further information, please contact:

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CLOSING REMARK

*By Dr. Made L.Nurdjana
SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director and Director General of Aquaculture
for The Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of The Republic of Indonesia*

Honorable SEAFDEC Council Members;
Honorable SEAFDEC Secretary General;
SEAFDEC Department Chiefs;
Distinguished Delegates;
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Om Swasti Astu.
Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb.

Good Afternoon.

First and foremost, as the Chairman of the Fortieth SEAFDEC Council Meeting and on behalf of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, I would like to express my deep gratitude to all of the Council Members, SEAFDEC Secretary General, SEAFDEC Advisors, SEAFDEC Department Chiefs, Representatives of the Regional and International Organizations for your participation; giving directives, comments and suggestions on the various points of the agenda; and all other contributions in producing the fruitful results of the Council Meeting.

The endorsements of the proposed SEAFDEC future management plans are the first step for achieving an ultimate success of the implementation of the plans. In this regards, should I advice SEAFDEC to duly take up the mandate given by the Councils in effective and practical means, in order to make the outcome of our future planned activities more applicable to solve the problems presently hampering fisheries development in the region.

I wish to put on the record our sincere thanks to the Secretariat for their hard work drafting the report of the meeting; and to the Meeting Organizer for all of their excellent arrangements of this Meeting. While thanking you once again for all of your contributions, it is my best wishes to you all for a pleasant journey and safely back home.

Finally, as the Chairman of the Council Meeting and on behalf of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia, may I officially declare the Fortieth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council is closed!

Thank You.

Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti Om
Wasalaamu 'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh