

ASEAN and SEAFDEC convene “Fish for the People 2020” Conference

The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 jointly planned by ASEAN and SEAFDEC was successfully convened in Bangkok, Thailand with the warm hospitality of the Department of Fisheries Thailand for over a period of five days from 13 to 17 June 2011. The Conference

comprised three main sessions, starting from Technical Session from 13 June until the morning of 16 June 2011, registered by over 530 participants comprising researchers and technical officers from 23 countries. During the Technical Session, the fisheries situation and emerging issues that could impede sustainable fisheries development and

tend to hinder the contribution of fisheries to food security, and affect the well-being of people in the Southeast Asian region were reviewed, while the key conclusions and recommendations were also made to address those issues and concerns.

Following the Technical Session were the Senior Officials Session in the afternoon of 16 June 2011, and the Ministerial Session on 17 June 2011 at the same venue. While noting the conclusion and recommendations made during the Technical Session, the Senior Officials and the Ministers responsible for fisheries of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries adopted the “Plan of Action” and the “Resolution” on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020, respectively. It is envisaged that these



The Inaugural Ceremony of the the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference officiated by H.E. Mr. Theera Wongsamut, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand

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The Forty-third Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC convened in Malacca, Malaysia

On 4-8 April 2011, SEAFDEC held the 43rd Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in Malacca, Malaysia with the warm hospitality of the Government of Malaysia. Convened annually, the Council Meeting aims to provide policy directives for the operation and management of the Center, approve SEAFDEC past year programs’ progress and achievements, as well as endorse the proposed new programs which have previously been scrutinized by the Program Committee in order to ensure that these programs are formulated and undertaken in responding to the current fisheries situation and challenges emerged in the region. Noting that

ASEAN and SEAFDEC were planning to hold an ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference “Fish for the People 2020”

in June 2011, the Council viewed that this could be very challenging as this Conference is expected to come up with



The SEAFDEC Council Directors, together with the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, during the SEAFDEC Council Meeting in Malacca, Malaysia

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EDITORIAL

During the second quarter of 2011, SEAFDEC bid a warm welcome to Dato' Ahamad Sabki bin Mahmood, the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for 2011-2012 as elected during the recent 43rd Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. During his visit, Dato' Ahamad expressed the Council's strong support to the activities of SEAFDEC in enhancing the competitiveness of fisheries sector of the region.

One of the highlighted events of SEAFDEC during this quarter was the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020, jointly organized by ASEAN, SEAFDEC and the DOF Thailand, where the situation and emerging fisheries-related issues were discussed in order to come up with recommendations to enhance the contribution from fisheries to food security and livelihoods of people in the region. In addition, the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 were also endorsed during the Senior Officials and Ministerial Sessions which were organized as part of this Conference. In following up to the outcomes of this Conference, SEAFDEC is also planning to organize an Inception Workshop to facilitate the planning and undertaking of initiatives and effort by the various agencies/organizations in coordinated and harmonized manner, in order to enhance the activities and the utilization of resources in effective manner, avoid duplication of efforts and maximize benefit from the activities/initiatives to the region.

In addition to these, there were also several activities of which progress has been made to enhance human capacity in fisheries for Member Countries, as the availability of human resources in fisheries has been recognized as one of the priority areas to ensure the long-term sustainability of fisheries development in the region. ☒

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ASEAN and SEAFDEC convene "Fish for the People 2020" Conference (Continued from Page 1)

instruments would further serve as policy framework and directions to guide the region's fisheries development towards sustainability and food security in the coming decade.

The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference was initiated by SEAFDEC and ASEAN together with their respective Member Countries, to address the importance of fisheries to food security and to the improved livelihoods of the peoples in the region. The preparatory processes for the Conference started as early as 2009 with the conduct of several regional and national consultations to gather inputs from the countries in the region as well as various stakeholders that eventually went into the Resolution



*SEAFDEC Secretary-General,
Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, delivering his
remarks during the Conference
Inaugural Session*

and Plan of Action that were endorsed and subsequently adopted during the Conference. ☒

The 43rd Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC (Continued from Page 1)

recommendations and policy framework in ensuring sustainable fisheries for food security for the coming decade. The Council then reviewed and provide comments on the draft Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020; and requested that the revised draft be further submitted to the forthcoming ASWGFi Meeting for finalization and endorsement.

The Council also discussed various issues including international fisheries-related issues, particularly the requirements imposed by importing countries which the countries in the region need to comply with in order that the region's fish and fishery products would be able to gain access to the world market.

In supporting the Member Countries to address the international fisheries-related issues, the Council requested SEAFDEC to give particular focus on priority issues such as the FAO Technical Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification;

issues related to combating IUU Fishing; quality and safety of fish and fishery products; raising the profiles of small-scale fisheries; fisheries subsidies; listing of economically-important and endangered aquatic species in the CITES Appendices; climate change adaptation and mitigation; and Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries.

Recognizing that improving the livelihoods and alleviation of poverty in fisheries communities could be effectively addressed through the rational utilization of fishery resources and enhancing the capacity of stakeholders, the Council endorsed the Regional Policy Recommendations on Poverty Alleviation by Fisheries Intervention, for submission to the forthcoming Meeting of the ASEAN/ASWGFi. The Council also requested SEAFDEC to further develop the "Guidelines on Poverty Alleviation by Fisheries Intervention for the Southeast Asian Region" in order to facilitate the implementation of the Regional Recommendations by the Member Countries. ☒

SEAFDEC Secretary-General attends the 22nd NACA Governing Council Meeting

SEAFDEC Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, together with the Chief of SEAFDEC/AQD Dr. Joebert Toledo, attended the 22nd Meeting of the Governing Council of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia Pacific (NACA) hosted by the Government of India in Cochin, Kerala, from 9 to 11 May 2011.

During the Meeting, the progress made by the NACA Regional Lead Centers, including those of AQD as one of the Centres in the Philippines, in the implementation of activities during the past year were reported to the Governing Council. Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri also

delivered his statement elaborating the commitment of SEAFDEC in pursuing various activities of common interests of NACA and SEAFDEC, particularly in sharing knowledge and experiences in a number of topics related

to aquaculture, considering that there are several Member Countries of NACA that are also the member of SEAFDEC namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. ✕



Participants of the 22nd NACA Governing Council Meeting includes SEAFDEC Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri and AQD Chief Dr. Joebert Toledo

Secretary-General at the BOBP-IGO Meeting

SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, attended the Seventh Meeting of the Governing Council of the Bay of Bengal Programme – Intergovernmental Organization held from 21 to 23 June 2011 in Maldives. The Meeting was attended by the BOBP-IGO Governing Council Members and relevant regional/international organizations including SEAFDEC.

During the past years, SEAFDEC has been supporting relevant fisheries

activities in the Bay of Bengal area especially through the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project, considering that several SEAFDEC countries, *i.e.* Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand have significant fishery activities in the Bay of Bengal area. SEAFDEC has also been collaborating with the BOBP-IGO in various aspects of mutual interest, especially during the Second SEAFDEC Regional Technical Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats conducted by TD in

2010, as well as on the request made by Bangladesh for the possible use of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in the conduct of collaborative fisheries resources surveys in the Bay of Bengal area.

It is therefore envisaged that the collaboration between SEAFDEC and the BOBP-IGO would be continued and enhanced in the conduct of activities of mutual benefit and interest of the Member Countries of both organizations in a very near future. ✕

SG addresses importance of human capacity building at the OIE Global Conference

From 28 to 30 June 2011, the World Organization for Animal Health or OIE held its “Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health Programmes: Their Benefits for Global Food Security” in Panama City, Panama. The OIE Director-General, Dr. Bernard Vallat while emphasizing on the increasing world’s demand for animal proteins including those from aquaculture products, noted the disease outbreaks in aquatic animals, which can cause catastrophic losses, while legislation as well as human and financial resources in most developing and in-transition countries are still

inadequate to prevent these losses. It is therefore necessary for OIE to work hard to improve policies and programmes addressing prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases, and to convince the international community to support more cooperation programmes.

During the OIE Global Conference, SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, made a presentation on Capacity Building at the Regional Level, elaborating on the issues and challenges faced by countries in the Southeast Asian region, with particular

focus on human resources requirement for the development of fisheries and aquaculture. He also informed to the Conference on the works undertaken by SEAFDEC in collaboration with the Southeast Asian countries specifically on those that relevant to fish disease prevention/control, capacity building in aquatic animal diseases, as well as the analysis of chemical and drug residues in aquaculture products to ensure the safety for human consumption, which are envisaged to eventually enhance the sustainability of fisheries in the Southeast Asian region. ✕

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council visits SEAFDEC Training Department

On 6 June 2011, the current Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council and Director-General of Malaysian Department of Fisheries, Dato' Ahamad Sabki bin Mahmood, paid an official visit to SEAFDEC Training Department. This visit was made prior to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 "Fish for the People 2020: Adaptation to a Changing Environment" scheduled on 13-17 June 2011 at the Sofitel Centara Grand Bangkok Hotel in Bangkok.

During the reception, SEAFDEC Secretary-General and Chief of TD, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, emphasized



Dato' Ahamad Sabki bin Mahmood, the current Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council and concurrently Director-General of Malaysian Department of Fisheries during his official visit to SEAFDEC Training Department.

the roles played by SEAFDEC and TD in the development of fisheries at the regional perspective, and the significant achievements made by SEAFDEC during the past years. Subsequently, a tour to observe TD facilities and the

M.V. SEAFDEC 2 was arranged. Before leaving, Hon. Dato' Ahamad Sabki also planted on TD premises the Malaysian national plant (*Hibiscus rosa sinensis*) to commemorate the occasion of his visit to TD. ❖

TD orchestrates the exhibition during the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference

As seen and appreciated, the great variety of exhibitions staged at the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference "Fish for the People 2020: Adaptation to a Changing Environment" at the Sofitel Centara Grand Bangkok Hotel during 13-17 June 2011 was made possible through the hard work of many staff of SEAFDEC especially the Training Department.

The exhibitions were praised by visitors at the Conference for the jobs well done as a great variety of fishery products and information were made attractively available by enthusiastic staff of SEAFDEC and the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries.

The themes presented at the SEAFDEC exhibitions were made coherent with the Conference thematic areas, which included: Fisheries



Participants of the Conference visiting the SEAFDEC exhibition booth with particular interest in the publications of SEAFDEC



Secretary-General of ASEAN, Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, escorted by Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri during his visit to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference exhibition booths



H.E. Mr. Theera Wongsamut, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, visiting the Conference exhibition after the Inaugural Ceremony on 13 June

Management, Sustainable Aquaculture Development, Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries, Post-harvest and Safety of Fish and Fishery Products, Emerging Requirements for Trade in Fish and Fisheries Products, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Towards Food Security, Livelihood Among Fishing Communities, and Sustaining Food Supply from Inland Fisheries, in order to showcase the activities of SEAFDEC in line with the priority areas of the region. ❖

AQD trains BFAR on five technologies

AQD completed the five training courses intended to enhance and strengthen the capacity and capability of BFAR's regional fisheries training centers in aquaculture. The "Training of trainers on hatchery and nursery of selected aquaculture species" was attended by a total of 98 training center staff coming from Aparri, Albay, Samar, Cebu, Palawan, Zamboanga and Davao. The first batch was trained on abalone (29 March to 18 April), the second on seaweeds (26 April to 10 May), the third on sandfish (4 to 17 May), the fourth on marine fish (19 May to 24 June) and the fifth on mud crab (27 June to 19 July).

The courses were held at AQD's Tigbauan Main Station and Dumangas Brackishwater Station in Iloilo. AQD resource persons lectured on topics such as seed production, nursery and grow-out, and economic evaluation. Moreover, the participants had practical activities on larval rearing as well as microalgae and Artemia culture and feeding.

BFAR and AQD funded the training of trainers under an agreement signed in early 2011. ✦



Training of trainers on hatchery and nursery of seaweed (top-left); sandfish (top-right); and nursery of abalone (left)



Training of trainers on hatchery and nursery of mud crab (below-left); and marine fish (below)



AQD researchers are recognized for best research work

AQD scientist Dr. Emilia Qunitio received this year's prestigious Dr. Elvira O. Tan Memorial Award for her paper "Domestication of the mud crab *Scylla serrata*". Her work was chosen

as the best published paper in the inland fisheries category by the Philippine Department of Science and Technology (DOST). Her co-authors are Ms. JJ de la Cruz, Dr. MR Eguia, Dr. FD Estepa, Mr. G Pates, and Dr. CL Pitogo.

cooperation with DOST. Dr. ET Qunitio, Dr. MR Catacutan, and Dr. RM Coloso co-authored the paper. ✦



Dr. Emilia Qunitio received this year's prestigious Dr. Elvira O. Tan Memorial Award

In addition, AQD associate researcher Mr. Joseph Leopoldo Laranja Jr. won second place for his work "Effects of dietary L-tryptophan on the agonistic behavior, growth, and survival of juvenile mud crab *Scylla serrata*" in the search for the best research award for young scientists, agricultural science research category, given by Merck Inc. in



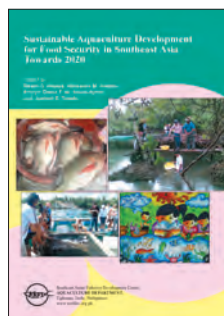
Mr. Joseph Leopoldo Laranja Jr. received the best research award for young scientists

New publications by AQD

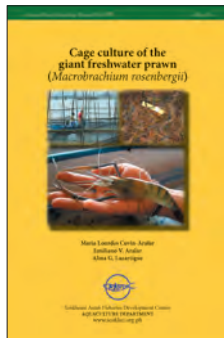
- (1) AQD Highlights 2010, a 52-page report of AQD's accomplishments in R&D in 2010
- (2) Sustainable aquaculture development for food security in Southeast Asia towards 2020, a 169-page proceedings of the Regional Technical Consultation on Sustainable Aquaculture held 17-19 March in Bangkok
- (3) Cage culture of the giant freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*), a 30-page farmer-friendly manual
- (4) Breeding and seed production of the giant freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*), a 33-page farmer-friendly manual
- (5) Mud crab life cycle, a full-color 80 x 60 cm illustrated poster
- (6) Modular method of raising tilapia in netcages, a 27-page manual written in Filipino
- (7) Pilot project on milkfish cage culture as livelihood option for Guimaras fisherfolk, a two-page three-fold flyer on the collaborative project among Petron Foundation, Citi Foundation, AQD and the Municipality of Nueva Valencia
- (8) SEAFDEC/AQD responds to climate change through responsible aquaculture, a two-page flyer
- (9) SEAFDEC/AQD Tigbauban Main Station, a two-page visitor flyer
- (10) SEAFDEC/AQD Igang Marine Station, a two-page visitor flyer



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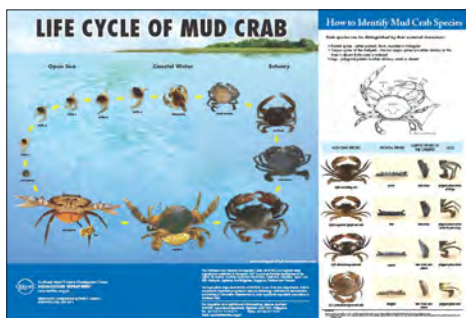
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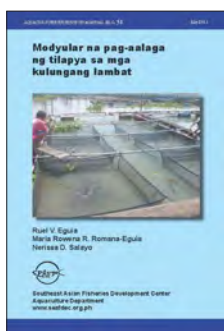


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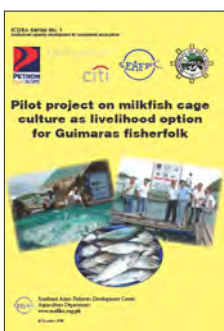


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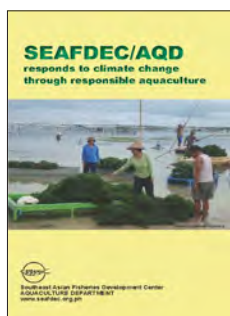
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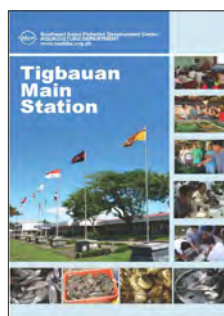
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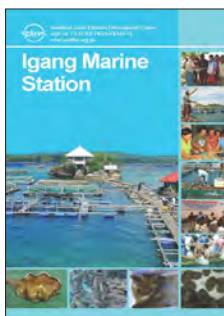
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AQD expands its feed mill



AQD expanded its pilot feed mill in Tigbauban, Iloilo to house a new extrusion machine. The production capacity is now improved, at 200 kg feeds per hour, to mill diets for AQD's technology verification and demonstration studies on grouper, sea bass, shrimp, mud crab, among others. The formulated diets are based on AQD's decades-long R&D on fish nutrition and feed development. The blessing of the new facility was done on 22 June 2011.



Filipino lawmaker visits AQD

The honorable chair of the Philippine Senate's committee on agriculture & food, Senator Francis Pangilinan, visited AQD on 2 June 2011 as he seeks to form partnerships with institutions and community-based organizations that will provide viable enterprises to organized fisherfolk in the country. The lawmaker learned of AQD's projects and thrusts, including technology assistance and extension to communities, through a briefing by AQD Chief Dr. Joebert Toledo and AQD senior officials. He also toured AQD's marine fish, sandfish, abalone, and mud crab hatcheries. It is to be noted that the yearly budgetary allocation to AQD comes from an appropriation law passed by the Philippine Congress.



Socio-economic fisheries survey in Trat Province, Thailand

SEAFDEC Training Department conducted a 4-day field survey to collect socio-economic benchmark information in Thailand's eastern province of Trat from 24 to 27 May 2011.

As an activity under the project on Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management Towards Institutional Building and Participatory Mechanism for Coastal Fisheries Management, this survey was carried out by researchers of TD and the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) Member from Thailand. The research team interviewed local fisheries officers, local government

officials at Tambol Administrative Organization (TAO), representatives of NGOs, and prominent fishers in order to solicit their views on the feasibility of traditional small-scale fisheries,

community information and scientific database. The information obtained from the survey will be further used by TD for the formulation of a small-scale fisheries and livelihood action plan. ❖



Staff of TD interviewing a fisher in Trat Province

TD conducts workshop to conclude project in Myanmar

SEAFDEC Training Department, in collaboration with Myanmar Department of Fisheries, organized on 5 May 2011 a national workshop to conclude the 2-year project on rights-based fisheries and co-management. Held at the office of Myanmar Fisheries Federation in Yangon, the workshop discussed the project's main theme "Forum for small-scale fisheries development in Duya Inn Reservoir, Ayayarwady Region". Implemented in 2009-2010 with funding support from the Government of Japan, the project promoted the management of small-scale fisheries through rights-based

governance, and co-management for institutional building, using participatory approaches that benefited small-scale fisheries of the Duya Inn Reservoir.

The workshop concluded with recommendations for improvement of occupations for small-scale fishers, and establishment of respective community groups and networks. In addition, it was also viewed that initiatives similar to those undertaken under this project could also be replicated in other Member Countries where appropriate and applicable. ❖



Discussion on the rights-based fisheries and co-management project during the national workshop held in Myanmar

TD's open house for college students

Performing its community development services, on 19 May 2011, SEAFDEC Training Department hosted an open house for 130 visitors from the nearby Phrasamutchedi Industrial and Community Education College. After welcoming the visitors, the Head of Administrative Division, Mr. Supachai Ananpongsuk, explained the role and functions of SEAFDEC and TD as a regional organization to

promote sustainable development of fisheries in the region. The visitors were subsequently taken on a tour to observe

TD facilities especially the Engineering Workshop, Engine Simulator Room, and the M.V. SEAFDEC 2. ❖



Students observing the facilities at the engineering workshop of TD

Securing the Safety of Fish and Fishery Products of Japan

By Fisheries Agency of Japan

The most powerful earthquake that hit Japan on 11 March 2011 triggered an extremely destructive tsunami with waves as high as 40 meters and speed of about 800 km/hour, seriously affecting the coastal Prefectures of Miyagi, Iwate and Tohoku, while the waves also traveled up to 10 km inland. In addition to loss of lives and properties, infrastructures especially in the affected coastal areas were also destroyed resulting in loss of livelihoods in fishing communities. Moreover, the tsunami also caused serious nuclear accidents such as the meltdowns of the reactors in the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) complex. As a result, the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) which operates the Fukushima NPP had to discharge low-level radioactive stored water to the ocean to avoid further damages to the Fukushima NPP. Since then, TEPCO has been constantly monitoring the radiation level in the areas adjacent to the Fukushima NPP and at one point, TEPCO said that there had been no significant change in the sea area compared to the situation one week before the water was discharged, and that efforts are being made by TEPCO to bring down the radiation level in the sea near the Fukushima NPP to a “downward trend”.

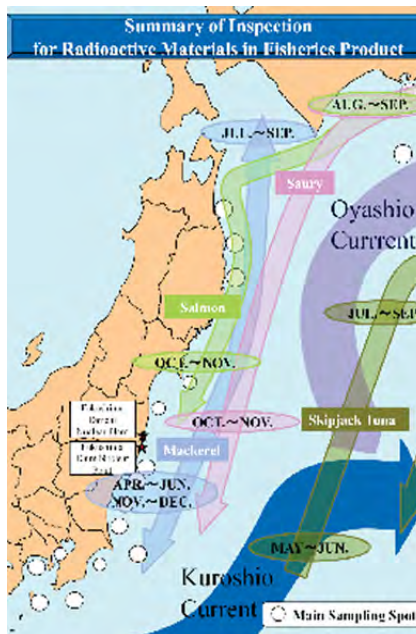
After the nuclear accidents in the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) complex, the Government of Japan through the Fisheries Agency immediately carried out monitoring programs to measure the levels of radioactive substances contained in fish and fishery products obtained from the waters near the Fukushima NPP as well as the seawaters along the coastal areas of Japan. This was aimed at responding to the critical situation when reports indicated that radioactive substances have been detected in the seawaters near the Fukushima NPP. The radioactive substances must have originated from the discharge of contaminated water, atmospheric fallout, and precipitation washed out into the sea. The monitoring points for radioactive materials in fish and fishery products in Japan are shown in **Fig. 1**. As of 29 June 2011, the summary of the monitoring results indicated that 57 samples out of 767 fish and fishery products sampled for contents of radioactive substances (**Table 1**), showed levels of radioactive substances that exceed the Provisional Regulatory Values (PRV). To ensure the safety of the fisheries products in the market, the Government of Japan imposed the suspension of related fishing activities and market distribution as soon as monitoring reports would indicate that the levels of radioactive substance residues in fish and fishery products are

found to exceed the PRV levels (**Table 2**). The basic policy of the Government of Japan for Inspection of Radioactive Substance in Fish and Fishery Products is shown in **Box 1**.

As reported, over 99% of the discharges of radioactive substances from the Fukushima NPP into the sea occurred during the period from 28 March to 11 April 2011. Starting in mid-April 2011, discharges of radioactive substances have drastically decreased. As a matter of fact, the levels of radioactive substances in seawaters beyond the 30 km radius from the Fukushima NPP have constantly been below the detectable levels.

Nevertheless, it has also been reported that a number of trading companies still refrain from buying fish and fishery products from Japan, and that some countries maintain excessive restrictions against imports of fish and fishery products from Japan. The Government of Japan is therefore asking due consideration on the current situation since series of monitoring programs and control measures (**Box 2**) are being undertaken and enforced to ensure the safety of fish and fishery products from Japan in the market.

For more information, please visit: http://www.jfa.maff.go.jp/e/secure/pdf/110630_summary2.pdf, and <http://www.jfa.maff.go.jp/e/secure/pdf/110630.pdf>. ☒



This article is also published in *Fish for the People* Vol. 9 No.3 (2011). For further information please contact directly the SEAFDEC Secretariat at Secretariat@seafdec.org.

Table 1. Results of monitoring radioactive substances in fish and fishery products in Japan (as of 29 June 2011)

Commodities	Total no of samples	Samples with levels of radioactive substance exceeding PRV level	Species with radioactive substance exceeding PRV level	
Saltwater fishes	436	22	Juvenile Japanese sand lance (<i>Ammodytes personatus</i>) White bait (Family: Salangidae) Fat greenling (<i>Hexagrammos otakii</i>) Brown Hake (<i>Physiculus fulvus</i>) Stone flounder (<i>Kareius bicoloratus</i>)	12 4 3 2 1
Invertebrates	113	7	Mediterranean mussel North Sea urchin Surf clam Japanese mitten crab	1 2 3 1
Seaweeds	34	5	Wakame seaweed Hijiki seaweed Arame seaweed	1 1 3
Processed Seafood	14	0		
Freshwater fishes	162	23	Ayu sweet fish (<i>Plecoglossus altivelis</i>) Land-locked cherry salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus masu</i>) Japanese smelt (<i>Hypomesus nipponensis</i>) Japanese dace (<i>Tribolodon hakonensis</i>) White spotted char (<i>Salvelinus leucomaenis</i>)	10 7 2 3 1
Marine mammals	8	0		
Total	767	57		57

Note: For more information visit: <http://www.jfa.maff.go.jp/e/inspection/index.html>

Table 2. Indices for restrictions on intake of foods (Cs-Cesium, I-Iodine; Unit: Becquerel (Bq)/kg)

Commodities	Cs-134, Cs-137					I-131			
	Drinking water	Milk, dairy products	Vegetable	Grain	Meat, Eggs, Fish, Others	Drinking water	Milk, dairy products	Vegetables (root crops, potatoes)	Others
Codex*	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	100	100	100	100
Japan	200	200	500	500	500	300	300	2,000	2,000
USA	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	170	170	170	170
EU	200	500	500	500	500	300	300	2,000	2,000
Thailand	500	500	500	500	500	100	100	100	100
Singapore	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	100	100	100	100
South Korea	370	370	370	370	370	300	150	300	300
Hong Kong	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	100	100	100	100
Chinese Taipei	370	370	370	370	370	300	55	300	300
Philippines	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Vietnam	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	100	100	100	100
Malaysia	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	100	100	100	100
China	-	330	210	260	Meat, Fish, Crustaceans: 800 Potatoes: 90	-	33	160	Meat, Fishery Products: 470 Grain: 190 Potatoes: 89

Note: Japan's index for Cesium in Fish is 500 Bq/kg which is rather conservative compared to those of other countries

Source: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Japan

* The Index (100) by Codex for Iodine shows a total of Sr-90, Ru-106, I-129, I-131, and U-234

The Index (1000) by Codex for Cesium shows a total of S-35, Co-60, Sr-89, Ru-103, Cs-134, Ce-144, and Ir-192

Sr-90 (Strontium-90), Ru-106 (Ruthenium-106), I-129 (Iodine-129), I-131 (Iodine-131), U-234 (Uranium-234), S-35 (Sulfur-35), Co-60 (Cobalt-60), Sr-89 (Strontium-89), Ru-103 (Ruthenium-103), Cs-134 (Cesium-134), Ce-144 (Cerium-144), Ir-192 (Iridium-192) are various radio isotopes with various "half-lives", where the "half-life" of a radioactive element is the time that it takes for one-half of the atom of that substance to disintegrate into another nuclear form, and can range from mere fractions of seconds to billion years.

Half-life of the corresponding radio isotopes: Sr-90 (29.12 years), Ru-106 (368.2 days), I-129 (1.57x10⁷ years), I-131 (8.04 days), U-234 (2.445x10⁵ years), S-35 (87.44 days), Co-60 (5.27 years), Sr-89 (50.5 days), Ru-103 (39.28 days), Cs-134 (2.062 years), Ce-144 (284.3 days), Ir-192 (74.02 days)

(Continued on Page 10)

Special Report: Securing the Safety of Fish and Fishery Products of Japan

(Continued from Page 9)

Box 1. Basic Policy for Inspection of Radioactive Substances in Fish and Fishery Products, Japan

<p>1. Inspection of coastal species</p> <p>(a) From Kanagawa Prefecture to Southern Part of Fukushima Prefecture: Based on formation of fishing grounds off the coast of each Prefecture, Prefectural Governments should designate areas where inspection is necessary, and conduct sampling once a week in principle (once every two weeks in Kanagawa Prefecture and islands belonging to Tokyo Metropolis), at the main landing ports of each designated area. When sampling is conducted in markets, the area where fish was caught should be confirmed. Major species caught in each fishing season should be selected as the target species for inspection, taking the local circumstances into account. The species should be selected to cover a wide spectrum of marine habitat such as surface (e.g. Juvenile Japanese sand lance), middle column (e.g. sea bass, sea bream), and bottom (e.g. flounder, conger eel), taking into account the fact that larger amount of radioactive materials has so far been detected in species swimming in the surface (e.g. sand lance).</p> <p>(b) Northern Part of Fukushima Prefecture and to the North: Inspection should be conducted before resumption of fishery operations. Decision on whether to resume fishery operations should be based on the analysis of the results of the inspection. When fishery operation is resumed, Prefectural Governments should designate areas where inspection is necessary, and conduct sampling once a week in principle (once every two weeks in Iwate Prefecture and to the north), at the main landing ports of each designated area. Target species for inspection should be selected based on the procedure in (a) above.</p>
<p>2. Migratory species (skipjack, Japanese jack mackerel, Pacific saury, among others)</p> <p>Inspection should be conducted through cooperation between relevant fisheries industry organizations and the Prefectural Governments where the fish is landed.</p> <p>(a) Skipjack: After the formulation of fishing grounds off the coast of Izu islands and Boso Peninsula (around middle of May), inspections should be conducted once a week in principle (sampling should be conducted at the fishing ports in Chiba Prefecture where landing of skipjack is expected (Choshi and Katsuura Fishing Ports)). When formation of fishing grounds off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture (usually 240-320 km off the coast) is expected (around early June), sampling by a trial fishing vessel should be conducted prior to commercial operations. Decision on whether to operate fishery in the area should be based on the analysis of the results. When fishery operation is to continue, sampling should be conducted once a week in principle at landing ports. When fishing grounds are formed off the coast of Miyagi Prefecture and to the north, inspections should be conducted once a week in principle.</p> <p>(b) Sardines and mackerel: While fishing grounds are formed off the coast of Chiba Prefecture, sampling should continue at the fishing ports in Chiba Prefecture where landing of sardines and mackerel is expected (Choshi Fishing Port). When formation of fishing grounds off the coast of Ibaraki Prefecture is expected (in May), sampling should be conducted by the research vessel of the Ibaraki Prefectural Fisheries Experimental Station, in cooperation with the Ibaraki Prefectural Government. Decision on whether to operate fishery should be based on the analysis of the results. When fishery operation is to continue, sampling should be conducted once a week in principle at landing ports. When formation of fishing grounds off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture is expected (in June), sampling should be conducted by a research fishing vessel. The rest of the procedure will be the same as described above. When fishing grounds are formed off the coast of Miyagi Prefecture and to the north, inspections should be conducted once a week in principle.</p> <p>(c) Pacific saury and salmon migrating southward: Starting from summer, inspections should be conducted once a week in principle.</p>
<p>3. Others</p> <p>(a) Amount of sample: Sample size should be sufficient enough to be able to conduct inspection, <i>i.e.</i> 5 kg or more per species in principle. The sampling date and site should be recorded.</p> <p>(b) Additional requirements: Due to the migratory nature of fish, and considering the varying weather conditions, sampling of target species at scheduled site and date may not always be possible. Therefore, sampling plans should be drawn up with ample flexibility to allow for these inclement weather conditions.</p> <p>(c) Publication of inspection results: Publication and reporting of the inspection results to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare should be undertaken by the Prefectural Government in whose waters the samples were caught, or in which the sampling port is located.</p> <p>(d) Response to inspection results that exceed the Provisional Regulation Value (PRV) in migratory species: When inspection results exceed the PRV levels are detected in migratory species, the industry concerned will be requested to voluntarily refrain from relevant fishing operations around the site where the sample was obtained (generally on a prefecture by prefecture basis). Then, sampling by a research fishing vessel should be conducted once a week in principle. Fishery operations could resume only after inspection results are below the PRV levels for 3 consecutive times.</p>



Box 2. Monitoring Programs and Control Measures Adopted by the Government of Japan to Ensure Safety of Fish and Fishery Products

<p>1. Monitoring programs for fish and fishery products and restriction on fishing activities</p> <p>(1) Provisional Regulatory Values (PRV) in Japan: For the purpose of food safety, the Government of Japan sets the PRV for radioactive Iodine and Cesium in fishery products at 2000 Bq/kg and 500 Bq/kg, respectively. Extensive and frequent samplings have been undertaken to ensure that no fishery products containing radioactive Iodine and/or Cesium exceeding the PRV levels are distributed to the markets. Note: As shown in Table 2, Japan's PRV level for radioactive Cesium of 500 Bq/kg is rather conservative compared to those of other countries (e.g. USA is 1200 Bq/kg).</p>

Box 2. Monitoring Programs and Control Measures Adopted by the Government of Japan to Ensure Safety of Fish and Fishery Products (*Cont'd*)

- (2) **Monitoring of fishery products:** The Fisheries Agency of Japan in coordination with relevant Prefectural Governments, has been conducting samplings to measure the levels of radioactive substances in fish and fishery products. The samplings have been carried out at major fishing ports at least once a week for each major target species. When result of a measurement detects a level exceeding the PRV, related fishing activities involving such species and its landings are immediately suspended. Note: The Basic Policy for Inspections on Radioactive Materials in Fishery products is shown in **Box 1**.

Taking into consideration the broad migration of some fish species, the Fisheries Agency in coordination with Prefectural Governments and related fisheries organizations, is undertaking samplings of fish and fishery products in wide areas from Hokkaido to Kanagawa Prefectures. Results of the sampling measurements are immediately posted on the websites of the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare (MHLW) and that of the Fisheries Agency. Note: the results of the samplings as of 29 June 2011 are shown in **Table 1**. All the 57 samples except for 23 samples of freshwater fishes, found to exceed the PRV levels, were taken in the coastal areas close to the Fukushima NPP. The marine fish samples comprise limited species, *i.e.* epipelagic small fish (juvenile Japanese sand lance and juvenile anchovy), coastal bottom fish (fat greenling, brown hakeling, and stone flounder), invertebrates (Mediterranean mussel, North Sea urchin, surf clam, and Japanese mitten crab), and seaweeds (Wakame, Hijiki, and Arame seaweeds).

- (3) **Restriction on fishing activities and market distribution:** In case a sampling measurement indicates radioactive substances exceeding the PRV levels, related fishing activities in a certain fishing ground and landings of that species are immediately suspended. Such suspension can only be lifted after all sampling measurements at more than three samplings in the same spot during the last one month show levels below the PRV. Through such restrictive measures, no fishery products with radioactive substances exceeding the PRV levels are distributed to the markets.

- *Situation of fishing activities in coastal areas near Fukushima and around Fukushima as of 9 June 2011:*
 - **Fukushima Area:** No fishing activities have been conducted since the occurrence of the nuclear accidents in the Fukushima NPP.
 - **Miyagi Area:** Part of fishing activities resumed in early June, after all sampling results of species caught were confirmed that their levels of radioactive substances are below the PRV.
 - **Ibaraki Area:** Fishing activities for Japanese sand lance have been suspended since sampling measurements showed that the species in this area exceeded the PRV. Trawl fishing resumed after all sampling results of the species caught were confirmed that their levels of radioactive substances are below the PRV.
- *Samplings for skipjack which is an important export marine fish species of Japan:* Skipjack migrates every June into the offshore areas of the east coast of Japan (240-320 km from the coastline). In mid-June 2011, samplings of skipjack taken in the experimental fishing offshore of Fukushima confirmed that the levels of radioactive substances were below the PRV. Therefore, fishing activities for skipjack in that area resumed since 22 June 2011. During the entire fishing season, samplings are to be continuously undertaken at major fishing ports once a week in principle.

2. Monitoring programs for seawater

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and TEPCO have been conducting monitoring programs to measure the levels of radioactive substances in seawaters and bottom sediments at over 100 sampling stations in the coastal and offshore areas in the vicinity of the Fukushima NPP. The results of the monitoring of seawaters show a decreasing trend in the levels of the radioactive substances. In particular, the results of the recent sampling measurements showed that regardless of whether the samples were taken from the surface, middle and bottom layers, the levels of radioactive substances in seawaters beyond the 30 km radius from the Fukushima NPP have been constantly below the detectable levels, *i.e.* 4 Bq/L of Iodine, 6 Bq/L for Cs-134, and 9 Bq/L for Cs-137 from the samplings by MEXT; and 7 Bq/L for Iodine, 15 Bq/L for Cs-134 and Cs-137 from the samplings by TEPCO in the area around the Fukushima NPP.

Further, MEXT also conducted simulations of future diffusion and concentration of radioactive substances in seawaters, utilizing the oceanographic prediction system JCOPE-2 with oceanographic data such as ocean currents and water temperature. The results of the recent simulation showed that the levels of radioactive substances have become and will remain below the detectable levels in the offshore areas.

3. For smooth transaction and exports

While the safety of fish and fishery products from Japan on the market is secured through the monitoring efforts and restrictive measures, any trade partners may require certificates of measurement of radioactive substances in such products. Therefore, the Government of Japan has designated 30 inspection institutes in Japan which could provide the necessary certificates for any particular consignments of fish and fishery products. In addition, relevant Prefectural Governments with the assistance of the Fisheries Agency will install simplified radiation measuring instruments at major fishing ports to introduce the screening systems for fish landings in these ports.

4. Scientific consideration: Medium- and long-terms impact on fishery products

The major radioactive substances discharged from the Fukushima NPP are radioactive Iodine-131, and Cesium-134 and Cesium-137. The impact of these radioactive substances on saltwater fish is expected to be limited, considering the following scientific facts:

- (1) **Dilution and diffusion of radioactive materials in the sea:** Concentration levels of such radioactive substances are expected to rapidly and significantly decrease by dilution in the massive amount of seawaters and dispersion with seawater currents and swirls. Radioactive substances released into the sea are to fall down to the bottom sediment while being attached and absorbed into suspended particles, and in the long term, they are considered to be transported to the deep sea with average depth of 3800 meters, in this case, off the east coast of Japan.
- (2) **Bio-concentration of radioactive substances in saltwater fishes:** The radioactive half-life period of Iodine is 8 days. Therefore, even if fish intakes the radioactive Iodine into its internal organs, it diminishes very shortly. For this short half-life, the transfer of radioactive iodine from seafood to human bodies is unlikely. With regards to the radioactive Cesium, although it has a longer half-life period of 30 years, Cesium behaves like Potassium in fish bodies. As such, Cesium does not remain concentrated as it is excreted through the gills and in the urine as the levels of radioactive substances in the surrounding seawater decreases.

The level of radioactive Cesium in fish has a close proportional relationship to that in the surrounding seawater, and it is known that the level of radioactive Cesium in fish would decrease to around one-half in 50 days in the surrounding seawater with low levels of radioactive substances. This implies that measurement of radioactive substances in the seawater is important in estimating the levels of radioactive substances in fish. As mentioned above, most of the recent sampling measurements show that the levels of radioactive substances in the seawater at the surface, middle and bottom layers beyond the 30 km radius from the Fukushima NPP have been constantly below the limit of the detectable levels.

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

AQD conducts international courses on marine fish hatchery and mangroves

AQD conducted the “International training course on marine fish hatchery” beginning 20 June until 26 July 2011 at its Tigbauan Main Station and Igang Marine Station in west central Philippines. The ten participants came from Cambodia (1), China (2), India (1), Singapore (3), Sri Lanka (1), and Philippines (2). Lectures and practicals included sustainable aquaculture, fish biology, natural food production, hatchery



Participants attending in the AQD international courses on marine fish hatchery and mangroves



Practical Session of the marine fish hatchery training in AQD included hatchery design and management, and health management among others

design and management, nutrition and feeds, water quality monitoring, health management, economics, post-harvest, and marketing. The course was funded by the Government of Japan-Trust Fund.

AQD also collaborated with the Zoological Society of London to organize and hold a course on

“Mangrove conservation, management and rehabilitation” from 25 May to 4 June 2011. The participants (27) came from the Philippines, Vietnam and Federated States of Micronesia. Lectures were held at AQD’s Iloilo station while the practicals were held at the mangrove eco-park in Ibabay, Aklan. ❖

AQD Chief attends NACA council meeting and mariculture consultations

AQD Chief Dr. Joebert Toledo attended to the governing council meeting of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) in Cochin, India, 9-11 May 2011, where he reported on the activities of AQD as



AQD Chief at the 22nd NACA Governing Council Meeting

a NACA regional lead center. He talked about the regional technical consultation on sustainable aquaculture that was held in March 2010 in Bangkok where the needs of governments and their people for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture were worked out. It is to be noted that, as a result of the consultation, a shift from commodity-based approach to a thematic approach on research & development will be adopted by AQD beginning 2011 up to 2020.

Meanwhile, AQD attended a consultation on “Sustainable mariculture investment program (SMIP)” on 3 May 2011 in Quezon City where the SMIP inception report and proposal was presented to the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

(BFAR) and other stakeholders. SMIP is funded by the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) through a grant from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, and is aimed at providing credit and support facilities for the establishment and operation of mariculture parks in the country. DBP has engaged the services of AQD to provide consultancy and technical assistance.

AQD was also represented BFAR’s technology forum on high-value marine species in Tuguegarao City, 3-4 May 2011 Research head Dr. Evelyn Grace Ayson and marine fish program leader Dr. Felix Ayson served as resource speakers on pond/cage growout and seed production, respectively. ❖

“Fish for the People 2020” Final Press Conference held at MOAC

The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference “Fish for the People 2020: Adaptation to a Changing Environment”, which was planned by the ASEAN and SEAFDEC together with the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, is envisaged to pave the way for enhancing the contribution of fisheries to food security in the ASEAN region considering that fisheries is a very important economic sector of this region. Specifically, the Conference also aims to assess the importance of fisheries to the socio-economic upliftment of the peoples in the region and address the emerging issues in order to advance the sustainable development of fisheries.

As announced during the Final Press Conference held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC) of Thailand on 6 June 2011, The Conference would comprise three main sessions, starting with the Technical Session, which is open for registration. Immediately following the Technical Session are two formal sessions, the Senior Officials and Ministerial Sessions, of which the participation is limited only to the senior officials and ministers from the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries. It is expected that these two sessions would be successfully concluded with the adoption of the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 to serve as policy framework and directions for the sustainable development of fisheries

and for enhancing the contribution from fisheries to food security in the next decade. With the adoption of such instruments, it is envisioned that the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference would also contribute to closer cooperation among countries in the region, reinforcing the ASEAN solidarity, and eventually fulfilling the ASEAN Community by 2015.

On behalf of the host country, Dr. Somying Piumsombun reiterated that the Conference will discuss several fisheries related issues that have emerged and continued to confront countries in the region. For this reason, the Conference is considered very timely and important for the fisheries sector in the region particularly for Thailand which is now one of the largest producers of fish and fisheries products in the global arena. The Conference is also expected to come up with policy directives towards enhancing the efforts of the countries in developing their respective fisheries in sustainable manner and subsequently heightening the competitiveness of fish and fisheries products from the ASEAN countries in the world market.

While informing that the technical preparatory processes for the Conference led by SEAFDEC has been successfully undertaken, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri confessed that such achievements could not have been possible without the cooperation and commitments of the



Dr. Somying Piumsombun, Director-General of the DOF Thailand and Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, Secretary-General of SEAFDEC interviewed during the Final Press Conference by representatives from the media

ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries as well as the support of the partner organizations.

While he emphasized that the implementation of follow-up activities in line with the new Resolution and Plan of Action would be very important for the countries in the region, he also indicated that such process would require coherent efforts among the concerned parties, including government and non-government organizations in the respective countries as well as agencies working at the regional and international levels. The Conference is therefore only the beginning of a long journey but it would surely provide the initial steps towards the sustainable development of fisheries in the Southeast Asian region.



The Final Press Conference for the “Fish for the People 2020” Conference held at MOAC with the Inspector-General Dr. Jirawan Yaemprayoon chairing the event

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Date	Venue	Title	Organizer
2011			
4-5 July	Bangkok, Thailand	Inception Workshop on Follow-up Activities to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference	Secretariat
6-8 July	Bangkok, Thailand	Regional Workshop on HRD Programs for Sustainable Fisheries and Related Counter-measures to Combat IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia	TD
24-25 July	Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia	Technical Consultation on the JTF-II Project on Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Fish Species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea	MFRDMD
26-27 July	Ranong, Thailand	On-site Training/Workshop on the Integration of Fisheries and Habitat Management and the Management of Fishing Capacity	Secretariat
15-19 August	Philippines	Training Course on Freshwater Prawn Hatchery and Pond Grow-out Operations	AQD
15 Aug-28 Sep	Philippines	Training Course on Parasite Detection and Identification	AQD
23 Aug-6 Sep	Philippines	Training Course on Milkfish Farming	AQD
6-15 September	Samut Prakan, Thailand	Regional Training Course on Fisheries Management to Combat IUU Fishing for Fishery Managers	TD
7-9 September	Songkhla, Thailand	Special Meeting on Improvement of Tuna Information Collection in Southeast Asia	TD
14-15 September	Petchaburi, Thailand	Regional Workshop on the Promotion of Inland Small-scale Fisheries Management through Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management Towards Institutional Building and Participatory Approaches	TD
15-17 September	Bangkok, Thailand	Special Meeting on Shark Utilization in Southeast Asia	TD
20-22 September (Tentative)	Cambodia	3 rd Meeting on the Gulf of Thailand Sub-region	Secretariat
20-22 September (Tentative)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Fourth Core Expert Meeting on "Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Fish Species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea"	MFRDMD
26-30 September (Tentative)	Sabah, Malaysia	Training for Scientific Survey on Foraging Habitats of Sea Turtles	MFRDMD
26 Sep-01 Oct	Myanmar	International Training Course on Mud Crab Culture	AQD
26 Sep-14 Oct	Samut Prakan, Thailand	Regional Training Course on Fisheries Management to Combat IUU Fishing for Fishery Officers	TD
3-7 October	Samut Prakan, Thailand	Regional Core Expert Meeting on Fishing License, Boat Registration and Port State Measures in Southeast Asia	TD
4-6 October	Yangon, Myanmar	Regional WS on Strengthening Assessments of Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific Region for Policy Development and Management	APFIC
10-14 October	TD	Workshop on Identification of Critical Fishing Grounds and on Regional Habitat Rehabilitation and Management Approach	TD
18-20 October (Tentative)	Bangkok, Thailand	Meeting on CITES and Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species	TD
October (Tentative)	Singapore	Regional Training Course on Utilization of Freshwater Fish for Value-added Products	MFRD
1-2 November	Thailand	Regional Workshop on Promotion of Strategic Implementation of Fisheries Co-management and Right-based Fisheries for Enhancing Good Governance in Coastal and Inland Fisheries Management	TD
1-2 November (Tentative)	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Regional Progress Meeting on "Research and Management of Sea Turtles in Foraging Habitats in the Southeast Asian Waters"	MFRDMD
8-10 November	Thailand	National Training/Workshop on MCS to Combat IUU Fishing for Sustainable Fisheries Development	TD
9-11 November	HCM City, Vietnam	On-site Training Workshop on Traceability Systems for Aquaculture Fish	MFRD
14-18 November	Philippines	34 th SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting and 14 th Meeting of Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership	Secretariat
14 Nov-2 Dec	Philippines	Training Course on Freshwater Aquaculture	AQD
22 Nov-1 Dec	Philippines	International Training on Community-based Freshwater Aquaculture for Remote Rural Area of Southeast Asia	AQD

SEAFDEC joins APFIC Workshop on climate change

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insufficient research and scientific evidences on climate change and its impacts to fisheries. While most of the available studies are from predictions and desk studies, it was noted that current studies focus more on marine ecosystems due to the higher value of marine production, and the complication of inland ecosystems. It was also noted that while some countries had already established NAPA, fisheries and aquaculture are generally given low priority in their plans. The workshop then identified several areas for future consideration, e.g. the need to conduct research and inventory, and collection of information relevant to climate change, appropriately incorporate fisheries and aquaculture into the NAPA, the use of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) to address climate change, development of adaptation and mitigation programs including capacity building and awareness raising on the possible impacts from climate change, development of early warning system for marine/inland fisheries community and aquaculture areas, as well as the need to strengthen international/regional cooperation to deal with the relevant issues.

The Workshop also recommended FAO/APFIC to convene regular meetings among regional organizations, e.g. NACA, MRC, SEAFDEC, BOBLME and FAO/APFIC, to collaborate and share information on climate change-related existing activities and programs in order that each other's activities be aware of, and duplication of efforts could be avoid in the undertaking of future activities.



SEAFDEC takes part in the 19th ASWGF_i and related meetings

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under the ASEAN framework. During the ASWGF_i, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri reported on the progress made by SEAFDEC in the implementation of several programs under the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP) as well as the activities and initiatives in addressing international fisheries-related issues; while under the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation framework, SEAFDEC Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Kenji Matsumoto also informed the Meeting on the progress made by SEAFDEC in the implementation of the program on Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture and Resource Enhancement in Southeast Asia with funding support from the Government of Japan.

The 19th ASWGF_i Meeting was considered a very important occasion for paving the way towards the successful conduct of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference, as the Draft Resolution and Plan of Action (as considered earlier by the preparatory meeting) was presented and agreed upon for further endorsement at the Senior Officials and Ministerial Sessions of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference "Fish for the People 2020: Adaptation to a Changing Environment" scheduled on 16 and 17 June 2011, respectively.



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

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

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SEAFDEC joins APFIC Workshop on climate change

SEAFDEC representatives, led by the Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, participated in the “Regional Workshop on Implications of Climate Change on Fisheries and Aquaculture” conducted by the Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC) in Kathmandu, Nepal on 24-26 May 2011. The Workshop, aiming to provide a platform for sharing of information and experiences in relation to climate change and its impacts to fisheries and aquaculture, among others, was attended by representatives from the APFIC Member Countries as well as relevant international/regional organizations and institutions.

At the onset, keynote presentations were made by Dr. Simon Funge-Smith to provide an overview information on climate change-related issues and challenges for the fisheries sector. This was followed by group discussion on priorities and threats to marine capture fisheries, inland capture fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors, as well as activities that should be considered and undertaken in mitigating the impacts from climate change to fisheries.

During the Workshop, presentations were also made by the Member Countries of APFIC on issues and possible impacts from climate change, including those on the fisheries sector, as well as on the establishment of National Plan of



The Secretary-General Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri and Dr. Magnus Torell attending at the climate change workshop

Actions (NAPA) on Climate Change by the respective countries. SEAFDEC Senior Advisor Dr. Magnus Torell also presented a paper on “Streamlining Climate Change in all aspects of program planning and implementation” outlining the common characteristics of impacts from climate change faced by countries in the Southeast Asian region, and the recommendations made during the RTC on Adaptation to a Changing Environment organized by SEAFDEC in November 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was noted that under the SEAFDEC programming framework, climate change has been addressed by incorporating the issues and concerns into the existing programs rather than creating a new program to specifically address the issues.

From the presentations and discussion at this Workshop, it could be said that at the current stage, there are still



Participants of the APFIC Regional Workshop on Implications of Climate Change on Fisheries and Aquaculture

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SEAFDEC takes part in 19th ASWGF and related meetings

The Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, together with Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Kenji Matsumoto and senior officials of SEAFDEC participated in a series of Meetings organized by the ASEAN from 25 to 29 April 2011 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

The first in the series was the Preparatory Meeting for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 on 25 April 2011 aiming to discuss the final plan and progress in the preparation for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference scheduled on 13-17 June 2011, particularly to finalize the draft Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020. While noting the plan and progress in the preparation of the Conference and taking into consideration the recommendations made by the SEAFDEC Council, the Meeting discussed the inputs that would go into with the Final Draft Resolution and Plan of Action for further submission to the 19th ASWGF Meeting scheduled for that same week.

The Third Meeting of the ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF) which aimed to review the progress made by the respective ASEAN Lead Countries on the several key clusters of activities under the AFCF Framework as agreed by the Second AFCF Meeting in 2010, followed on 26 April 2011. During the Meeting, SEAFDEC Senior Advisor, Dr. Magnus Torell presented the activities of SEAFDEC that also contributed to the progress in the implementation of the AFCF.

Following these two events was the 19th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries 27-29 April 2011 to discuss the fisheries-related activities implemented by the ASEAN Member States and concerned parties

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