

**REPORT OF
THE FORTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
OF
THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**Chiang Rai, Thailand
31 March - 3 April 2015**



**THE SECRETARIAT
SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS DOCUMENT

Report of the Forty-seventh Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center was prepared by Secretariat of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, in collaboration with its Departments namely, the Training Department (TD), the Marine Fisheries Research Department (MFRD), the Aquaculture Department (AQD), the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD), and the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD). The document is distributed to the SEAFDEC Member Countries and its Departments.

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The SEAFDEC Council and Alternate Council Directors, together with the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General at the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council

REPORT OF THE FORTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER

31 March - 3 April 2015
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INTRODUCTION

1. The Forty-seventh Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was convened in Chiang Rai, Thailand from 31 March to 3 April 2015, at the invitation of the Department of Fisheries of Thailand.
2. The Meeting was attended by the Council Directors for Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam together with their respective delegations, as well as the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and senior officials of SEAFDEC. The Meeting was also attended by representatives from the Embassy of Sweden in Thailand; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of USA; Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA); United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Maximizing Agricultural Revenue Through Knowledge, Enterprise Development, and Trade (MARKET) Project; and the USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia. The list of participants appears as **Annex 1**.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

3. The Inaugural Ceremony of the Forty-seventh Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council was held on 31 March 2015, and officiated by the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, *Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai*.
4. At the onset, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Corporate & Technology) of the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore and Chairperson of SEAFDEC Council for 2014-2015, *Dr. Tan Lee Kim* welcomed the participants and expressed the gratitude of the SEAFDEC Council to the Government of Thailand for hosting the Forty-seventh Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. She also expressed her sincere gratitude to the Department of Fisheries of Thailand for the warm hospitality and arrangements of the Meeting.
5. While thanking the SEAFDEC Council Directors, country representatives and delegates from collaborating partner organizations for attending this Meeting, *Dr. Tan Lee Kim* also acknowledged the continued efforts of SEAFDEC in supporting the Member Countries through its programs and activities. She mentioned that a significant milestone for SEAFDEC in 2014 was the establishment of its new fifth Department, the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD) hosted by the Government of Indonesia in Palembang. Considering that IFRDMD was established to manage and coordinate project activities on the sustainable development and management of inland capture fisheries in the region, such development therefore signifies the importance and relevance of inland fisheries in the Southeast Asian region for food security of future generations and demonstrates the commitment of the Government of Indonesia in strengthening the roles and functions of SEAFDEC.
6. *Dr. Tan Lee Kim* also mentioned that in addition to the usual agenda items on programs and management of SEAFDEC, policy considerations on important regional issues would also be discussed during the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. These include the support extended by SEAFDEC to the Member Countries in implementing the CITES requirements in relation to sharks and manta rays; regional approach to combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing including the development of the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain, Regional Fishing Vessels Record for vessels 24 meters in length and over, ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme, and promotion of the FAO Port State Measures. These initiatives could help develop and manage the regional fisheries resources in sustainable manner. Her Welcome Remarks appears as **Annex 2**.

7. In his Remarks, the Director General of the Department of Fisheries of Thailand, *Dr. Joompol Sanguansin* welcomed the participants to Chiang Rai, the northernmost province of Thailand. He expressed the appreciation to the Government of Singapore for successfully and efficiently holding the last Council Meeting in Singapore and hope that arrangements for this year's Council Meeting could possibly surpass those of the previous years.

8. *Dr. Joompol Sanguansin* mentioned that as the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) grouping would be realized in 2015 where the fisheries sector is one of the twelve priority sectors for the economic integration, the Department of Fisheries of Thailand has been preparing the readiness of the country's fisheries sector towards this episode. He was optimistic that the region could develop not only in the economic or trade sectors but also in fisheries considering that SEAFDEC is the key regional organization that could play very significant role in fishery development under the AEC grouping. He therefore acknowledged the achievements of SEAFDEC and committed the utmost support of the Department of Fisheries of Thailand to the activities of SEAFDEC.

9. Moreover, *Dr. Joompol Sanguansin* also commended the establishment of the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD) as the fifth department of SEAFDEC as it could pave the way for the sustainable development of the inland fisheries sub-sector in each of the ASEAN Member States. His Welcome Remarks appears as **Annex 3**.

10. At the start of his Keynote Address, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, *Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai* expressed condolences to Singapore on the demise of *Mr. Lee Kuan Yew*, the first and longest-serving Prime Minister of Singapore. He also took the opportunity to welcome the participants to Thailand and especially to Chiang Rai, with its historical structures that depict a very unique culture. He mentioned that it has been ten years since Thailand hosted the last SEAFDEC Council Meeting, and to date the role of SEAFDEC in fisheries development has become more important than it was ten years ago. However, while fisheries and related activities in the region achieved great economic contribution on individual countries' economies, many fishery and aquaculture resources are now facing significant depletion. It is therefore an opportune time, while the region is half way through the implementation of the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 adopted during the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference in June 2011, that SEAFDEC should evaluate the outputs and outcomes including the success in cooperation among the Member Countries. He also foresees the improvements and achievements that could be attained by the region, in relation to the implementation of the Resolution and Plan of Action for the sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture in the next five years.

11. In addition, *Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai* mentioned that the provisions of the 1947 Fisheries Act of Thailand could already be out of date and might no longer be efficient to cope with the current situations especially with regards to fisheries management as particular focus has been more on inland fisheries rather than in marine fisheries development with inadequate provisions to regulate aquaculture practices as natural resources had been found to be still abundant for capture fisheries. Therefore, Thailand has revised the Fisheries Act which is a metaphor in the great history of the country's fisheries reform. The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives anticipates that this "new law" would provide the answers and serve as important mechanism to address problems in the fisheries sector of Thailand. While greatly appreciating the work of SEAFDEC, he also mentioned that Thailand has always been committed to support the activities SEAFDEC especially in terms of human capacity building in fisheries and that the establishment of the new SEAFDEC Department, the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department or IFRDMD in Indonesia would expand the framework of SEAFDEC which now covers also the inland fisheries sector in the region. As it has been noted, the inland fisheries sector plays an important role in human welfare and food security in rural areas of Southeast Asia. With those insights, he declared the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council open. His Opening Remarks appears as **Annex 4**.

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 Opening of the Meeting

12. The Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Corporate & Technology), Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore and Chairperson of SEAFDEC Council for 2014-2015, *Dr. Tan Lee Kim*

expressed the pleasure and honor to assume the responsibility as Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council until the new Chairperson is elected. She also took the opportunity to extend gratitude to all Council Directors for the support extended to the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council and expressed the special gratitude to SEAFDEC for the dedication and hard work over the past one year, and for providing the necessary support and resources that made the work of the Chairperson much easier. She also thanked SEAFDEC and the Member Countries for expressing condolences to the people of Singapore on the demise of the country's Founding Father, *Mr. Lee Kuan Yew*.

13. In addition, *Dr. Tan Lee Kim* expressed the gratitude and appreciation to the collaborating partners for their continued assistance in terms of funding and technical support, especially the Government of Japan and Government of Sweden. Her Opening Statement appears as **Annex 5**.

1.2 Election of the Chairperson for the Year 2015-2016

14. The Council Director for Thailand, *Dr. Joompol Sanguansin* was unanimously elected as Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for 2015-2016, in accordance with Article 5, Paragraph 4 of the Agreement Establishing SEAFDEC.

15. In his Statement, *Dr. Joompol Sanguansin*, the incoming Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council welcomed the participants again to Thailand and thanked the Council for the trust accorded him to serve as the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for 2015-2016. While also thanking the outgoing Chairperson for the guidance provided to the Council during the past year, he looked forward to the continued strong support and cooperation of the Council to SEAFDEC for the successful and fruitful implementation of its programs and projects in the coming years. He also expressed the hope that the output from the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council would be responsive in providing innovative strategies for the management and development of fisheries in the region. His Opening Statement appears as **Annex 6**.

1.3 Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangement for the Meeting

16. The Council adopted the Agenda of the Meeting, as amended, which appears as **Annex 7**.

II. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

17. Before presenting the Annual Report of SEAFDEC in 2014, the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC congratulated the Council Director for Thailand, *Dr. Joompol Sanguansin* for his election as the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for the Year 2015-2016. He also expressed his appreciation to the Council Director for Singapore *Mr. Lee Kwong Weng* as the Chairperson of the Council in 2014-2015, succeeded by *Dr. Tan Lee Kim*, for the guidance extended to SEAFDEC towards implementing programs that cater to the priorities and requirements of the Member Countries.

18. As presented by the Secretary-General, the Council concurred with the extension of the term of office of *Mr. Hajime Kawamura* as Deputy Secretary-General of SEAFDEC and concurrently Deputy Chief of SEAFDEC Training Department from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016, as proposed by the Government of Japan, as well as that of *Dr. Osamu Abe* as the Deputy Chief of the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department from 1 April 2015 until 31 March 2017.

19. The Council also noted that as approved by *ad referendum* on the appointment of *Dr. Satoshi Honda* as Deputy Chief of Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department, he has assumed his position since mid of January 2015 at the newly established IFRDMD in Palembang, Indonesia.

20. In presenting the Draft SEAFDEC Annual Report for 2014, the SEAFDEC Secretary-General focused on the highlights and major achievements of the programs and projects carried out by SEAFDEC in 2014, in accordance with the SEAFDEC mandate. He reiterated that the projects and activities had been categorized in accordance with the SEAFDEC Program Thrusts adopted in 2009 taking into consideration the requirements and priorities of the Member Countries. In the ensuing discussion, the Council provided recommendations to improve the future activities of SEAFDEC.

21. The Council Director for Indonesia conveyed the gratitude to SEAFDEC for implementing various programs and activities in 2014, and reiterated that more efforts should be made by SEAFDEC in combating IUU fishing; promoting the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM); implementing integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) technologies; and developing the inland fisheries starting with conservation of eel resources and subsequently in small-scale inland fisheries management.
22. The Council Director for Japan expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC for the activities undertaken in 2014 and expressed the continued support of the Government of Japan to enable SEAFDEC to continue carrying out various programs and activities in the future especially in combating IUU fishing in the region.
23. While acknowledging the achievements of SEAFDEC in promoting sustainable fisheries in the region, the Council Director for Cambodia expressed the concern on the readiness of the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) to the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) integration. Nevertheless, he cited that the programs and activities of SEAFDEC could provide the necessary information to support the integration especially in the area fisheries development. He added that IUU fishing is becoming a major concern together with the implementation of Port State Measures, thus, there is a need for countries to make preparations for international dialogues and discussion on such issues.
24. The Council Director for Thailand reiterated the appreciation to SEAFDEC for its achievements in 2014, and also informed the Council that the new Thai Fisheries Law had been passed by the National Legislative Assembly in January 2015, which includes among others, compliance to international conventions and instruments especially those related to combating IUU fishing. In this regard, she informed the Meeting that Thailand would work through the ratification of PSM Agreement by the end of this year.
25. The Council Director for Lao PDR congratulated SEAFDEC for the programs and activities that were successfully implemented in 2014 that highlighted on human capacity building through on-site training, as well as national and regional workshops conducted in Lao PDR. In this connection, SEAFDEC was requested to continue providing technical assistance to Lao PDR especially in implementing capacity building activities on inland fisheries management.
26. While congratulating SEAFDEC for the activities undertaken during the past year, the Council Director for Viet Nam suggested that SEAFDEC should continue working closely with Member Countries, donors, and relevant organizations. He also appreciated the establishment of IFRDMD as the fifth SEAFDEC Department to promote sustainable development and management of inland fishery resources in Southeast Asia. Nevertheless, he also suggested that in the future SEAFDEC Annual Reports, focus should be made on the achievements as well as on the approaches developed to address emerging challenges and global threats.
27. In expressing the appreciation to SEAFDEC for the activities implemented under the approved program thrusts, the Council Director for Malaysia suggested that future reports of SEAFDEC should take into consideration the benefits that could be obtained by target beneficiaries, including fishers, fish farmers, aquaculturists and other stakeholders from the programs and activities of SEAFDEC to enable such stakeholders to carry out appropriate sustainable livelihoods amidst the changing environment.
28. The Council Director for the Philippines expressed the appreciation to SEAFDEC for implementing activities especially in biotoxins monitoring, considering that the Philippine Government has recently embarked on a comprehensive national shellfish program, and cited that the Philippines has designated the focal officers for EAFM. The Council Director for the Philippines also commended the implementation of the joint tuna research survey in Sulu and Sulawesi Seas as it has served as a window for strengthened collaboration among the Member Countries.
29. The Council Director for Myanmar expressed the appreciation to SEAFDEC for the programs and activities that were successfully implemented in 2014. In line with the efforts exerted by Myanmar to promote sustainable fisheries development in the country, SEAFDEC was requested to put more emphasis on projects and activities that would enable the country to sustain the promotion fisheries and habitat

management, as well as improve aquaculture techniques that are adaptive to the impacts of climate change.

30. The Council Director for Brunei Darussalam expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC for the successful implementation of various programs and projects during the past year. He cited that SEAFDEC has brought to the forefront in the region various tools that address emerging fisheries issues such as measures to combat IUU fishing now being closely linked to market access, instituting together with Member Countries a common stand for the region in various issues in CITES fora, and development of the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme, among others.

31. After providing their views and comments on the highlights of achievements from the activities implemented by SEAFDEC in 2014, the Council endorsed the Draft SEAFDEC Annual Report 2014. The Council also approved its publication and dissemination to the Member Countries, relevant organizations and the public.

III. NOTE OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE ON THE RESULTS OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH MEETING

32. The Council took note of the results of the Thirty-seventh Meeting of the Program Committee of SEAFDEC (**Annex 8**) which was held from 1 to 3 December 2014 in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand, as presented by the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC in his capacity as the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Program Committee. The Council also provided comments to improve the programs and activities of SEAFDEC in the future.

33. For the programs proposed for implementation in 2015, the Council Director for Malaysia expressed his country's interest in taking active part in the planned activities. He also encouraged MFRDMD to specifically work closely with TD on marine fishery resources management.

34. While supporting the programs proposed to be implemented by SEAFDEC in 2015, the Council Director for Thailand suggested that SEAFDEC should put more efforts in activities related to TAC system, co-management, cold-chain management, quality seeds for aquaculture among others, considering that such concerns are important for the upcoming AEC integration. Meanwhile, the Council Director for Indonesia encouraged SEAFDEC/AQD to strengthen its research activities on alternative feed ingredients for aquaculture as well as on the impacts of climate change on aquaculture.

35. After the discussion, the Council approved the progress of the programs implemented by SEAFDEC in 2014 and the proposed programs for 2015, as well as the recommendations of the SEAFDEC Program Committee. The Council then requested SEAFDEC to consider incorporating the recommendations of the Council at this Meeting in its future programs.

IV. NOTE OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG) OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP) ON THE RESULTS OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING

36. The Council noted and endorsed the results and recommendations of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP) which was held from 4 to 5 December 2014 in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand (**Annex 9**), as presented by representative from Malaysia on behalf of the ASEAN Co-chair for the FCG/ASSP Meeting.

V. POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

5.1 CITES Issues: Regional Implementation Support

37. The Council was informed on the implementation by SEAFDEC of CITES-related activities especially on improving data collection on sharks and rays. The Council also noted that a regional approach is being developed by SEAFDEC for the Southeast Asian region and that SEAFDEC has been coordinating with EU through the CITES Secretariat to seek financial support necessary in strengthening

the capacity of the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) in data collection for stock assessment of sharks in Southeast Asia (**Annex 10**).

38. While expressing full support to the implementation of activities on CITES-related activities especially on improvement of data collection on sharks at national and regional levels, the Council Director for Thailand thanked SEAFDEC for its initiatives in addressing CITES-related concerns. The Council was also informed that Thailand is developing the NPOA-Sharks which is considered one of the important milestones in the country's fisheries management. In addition, since Thailand considers the need to compile scientific information as crucial, technical support from SEAFDEC and Japan was sought particularly on species identification of CITES species as well as on capacity building for the countries' inspectors at port to enable them to compile the necessary information on sharks and rays at species level.

39. The Council Director for the Philippines also expressed the country's support to the implementation of CITES-related activities by SEAFDEC, and corroborated the request for SEAFDEC to conduct capacity building for the AMSs in preparation for the next CITES COP-17, especially on species identification using DNA application for processed parts such as fins of sharks and rays.

40. While supporting the efforts of SEAFDEC in addressing CITES-related issues, the Council Director for Cambodia also encouraged the AMSs to implement relevant activities at national level. The countries should also closely coordinate with their relevant national agencies in raising the concerns especially during ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN WEN) meetings.

41. The Council Director for Japan also supported the need to improve data collection and stock assessment of CITES-listed marine species, and to develop conservation and management measures based on understanding that fisheries management bodies including Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) should be responsible for management of commercially-exploited marine species. He also stated that CITES listing should be prevented for fisheries species and pointed out the need to formulate common and coordinated positions of SEAFDEC Member Countries on specific CITES issues. In this regard, he highlighted on the need for the AMSs to intensify the implementation of national CITES-related activities acknowledging the difficulties in delisting or down-listing of species once these are listed in the CITES Appendices. For sharks listed in Appendix II at the CITES COP-16, it would be difficult to collect scientific information on such species. As a result, it is difficult to issue Non Detriment Findings (NDF) for trading of the species.

42. The Council Director for Japan also mentioned that for the CITES COP-17 in October 2016 in South Africa, some species of tunas, some species of eels including the Southeast Asian eel species and precious corals as well as some species of sharks could be proposed for listing in the CITES Appendices. In this connection, he expressed the willingness of Japan to support the AMSs in coming up with the necessary scientific evidence. Since national environment agencies might be involved, he encouraged the fishery managers of the region to attend the upcoming CITES COP-17.

43. While appreciating the efforts that SEAFDEC had made prior to and after the CITES COP-16, especially the technical support provided by MFRDMD and TD to the Member Countries on the improvement of data collection on sharks and rays, the Council Director for Malaysia acknowledged the support of CITES Secretariat in developing the national NDF for sharks and rays. In this connection, he suggested that SEAFDEC should intensify its communication with the CITES Secretariat to enhance linkage and cooperation. In preparation for the CITES COP-17, he also suggested that SEAFDEC should continue to monitor the possible listing of economically important species, especially eel species in the CITES Appendices, and expressed the willingness to collaborate with SEAFDEC and other Member Countries in developing the common/coordinated position on eel species.

5.2 Issues on Combating IUU Fishing

5.2.1 ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain

44. While noting the "ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain" (**Annex 11**), the Council Director for Indonesia expressed

its support to the proposed capacity building activities that would enable the AMSs to implement the Guidelines.

45. While expressing support to the Guidelines, the Council Director for Japan reported an incident where authorities in Australia and New Zealand confiscated fishery products from suspected IUU fishing vessel. He also expressed serious concern on IUU fishing and emphasized on the need for the Southeast Asian countries to take effective measures for combating IUU fishing.

46. While also endorsing the Guidelines in principle, the Council Director for Thailand requested SEAFDEC to consider improving the definition of terms used in the Guidelines to be aligned with existing international instruments and to elaborate more on some provisions, e.g. port states, flag states, coastal states. The representative from FAO also suggested that reference to the various international instruments should be indicated in the definition of terms and other provisions in the Guidelines as applicable. The Council Director for Cambodia also suggested that interval reviews of the Guidelines should be based on necessity and requirements of the AMSs and thus, should not be included in the Guidelines.

47. After the discussion, the Council approved in principle the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain and requested SEAFDEC to incorporate the suggestions made by the Council and revise the Guidelines accordingly. In this connection, the SEAFDEC Secretary-General informed the Meeting that the Draft Guidelines would be revised by MFRDMD as soon as possible for the consideration of the Council by *ad referendum*. The Member Countries were encouraged to provide comments within two weeks from the Council Meeting so that the Guidelines could be finalized by the end of April 2015. The Council was also informed that endorsement of the 23rd ASWGF and high-level meetings of the ASEAN in 2015 on the Guidelines would be sought.

5.2.2 Regional Fishing Vessels Record for Vessels 24 meters in Length and Over

48. The Council took note of the progress on the development of the “Regional Fishing Vessels Record for Vessels 24 meters in Length and Over” (**Annex 12**).

49. While expressing his appreciation for the development of the RFVR, the Council Director for Indonesia informed the Council that the country would still need more time to be able to provide the necessary data for the RFVR Database as the country is still conducting more evaluation on recording of vessels 24 m in length and over. He then informed the Council that the evaluation being undertaken in the country could be completed by the end of April 2015 and the results would be submitted to SEAFDEC as soon as possible to be used in updating the national data in the RFVR Database. He also suggested that during the workshop on RFVR in 2015, the number of vessels submitted by the AMSs to SEAFDEC should be reviewed in order that the veracity of the data could be confirmed.

50. The Council Director for Viet Nam recalled that SEAFDEC had provided technical support in converting the measurements of the country’s national vessels from horsepower to gross tonnage. However, since a consensus to approve the said conversion was not reached among the concerned experts, the country was not able to provide the required data for the RFVR Database before the Council Meeting. He then suggested that SEAFDEC should wait for the necessary data from all AMSs before the launching of the RFVR Database.

51. The Council Director for Japan mentioned that Japan has been supporting the activities of SEAFDEC that led to the development of the RFVR and the Database with enhanced cooperation among the Member Countries.

52. The Council Director for Malaysia raised the concern on sharing the information in the RFVR Database with non-AMS and suggested that a mechanism should be developed for non-AMS (e.g. RPOA-IUU member countries which are not members of SEAFDEC) to share information on their vessels in the future.

53. The Council Director for Thailand acknowledged the progress made in the development of RFVR. She then informed the Meeting that Thailand is reviewing and updating the data for the RFVR

Database since the country is improving its registration/license system which could possibly affect the data originally submitted to SEAFDEC. Nevertheless, the updated and actual number of vessels would be shared with SEAFDEC as soon as possible. In addition, as the ASEAN is moving towards integration of AEC by end of 2015, SEAFDEC was requested to conduct studies on the legality of fishing vessels that operate out of national jurisdiction across the waters of other AMSs.

54. After the deliberation, the Council agreed in principle to launch the RFVR Database taking into consideration the concerns raised during the Council Meeting, and that information from Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam would be shared with the RFVR Database once these are available and confirmed by these concerned countries.

55. Furthermore, with regards to the development of the RFVR Database for vessels less than 24 m in length, the Council recommended that a technical workshop should be convened by SEAFDEC to discuss the procedures to be undertaken on this matter.

5.2.3 ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme

56. The Council took note of the progress of the activities spearheaded by MFRDMD in developing the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ACDS) which aims to serve as one of the fisheries management tools for combating IUU fishing and enhancing the intra-regional and international trade of fish and fishery products in the AMSs (**Annex 13**). It was also reiterated that the Draft ACDS had been circulated to the Member Countries in early 2015 for consideration and comments.

57. While recognizing the progress made by SEAFDEC in developing the ACDS, the Council Director for Singapore shared the view that the comments expressed by the Member Countries should be accommodated in the ACDS. In addition, SEAFDEC should convene a stakeholders' consultation in order to ensure the applicability of the ACDS in the region. Stakeholders include operators of fishing vessels, seafood processors for export and traders who export and transship. Furthermore, the need to communicate with the EU was also raised to ensure that the ACDS is acceptable for trade by the importing markets. Therefore, another round of consultation should be conducted among Member Countries and the stakeholders before the Council would approve in principle the ACDS.

58. The Council Directors for Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia also supported the view of Singapore on the need for a stakeholders' consultation to verify the applicability of the ACDS before this could be endorsed by the Council. However, a test run of the ACDS in the region could be undertaken to verify its applicability as well as its legality.

59. While also supporting the conduct of a stakeholders' consultation, the Council Director for Viet Nam expressed the difficulties that could be encountered by the AMSs in applying the ACDS considering that the region's fisheries are mostly small-scale and fishers are not literate enough to grasp the provisions in the ACDS. Therefore, there is a need to harmonize the ACDS with other existing catch documentation schemes to ensure that this would be acceptable to the EU and USA, and thus, enhance trading of fish and fishery products from the Southeast Asian region.

60. After the discussion, the Council requested SEAFDEC to take into consideration the comments made by the Council and to finalize the draft ACDS, before bringing the document for consideration and endorsement by the Council and the high authorities of the ASEAN.

61. Parallel with the works to be undertaken by SEAFDEC, the Council recalled that the ASWGFi Meetings convened during the past few years had given the task to consult and negotiate with the EU on the development of the ACDS, to the ASEAN Secretariat. The Council therefore suggested that a communication should be conveyed to the ASEAN Secretariat to proceed with the negotiation with the EU as well as other importing countries, the results of which should be put up for discussion during the forthcoming consultations to be organized by SEAFDEC in order to finalize the ACDS.

5.2.4 Implementation of Port State Measures

62. The Council was informed on the proposed approaches to strengthen the AMSs to implement the Port States Measures (PSM) as means of combating IUU fishing in the region (**Annex 14**). Specifically, the proposed approaches would be applied in two levels: 1) PSM for foreign vessels that bring fish from countries outside the region or high seas or RFMOs' areas, and 2) PSM for all foreign vessels from AMSs that bring fish from ASEAN region. Also, the possible utilization of tools such as the RFVR and ACDS should be considered. Furthermore, support to capacity building required for the Member Countries from SEAFDEC and other organizations on the implementation of PSM should be clarified.

63. The Council Director for Singapore reported that Singapore conducted the Training Workshop on Vessel Inspection and Enforcement Measures against IUU Fishing Activities on 5-9 January 2015. Participated by representatives from the AMSs and two officers from TD, the training availed of the services of three certified trainers from the Australian Fisheries Management Authority. The trainers led the training especially on the conduct of actual vessel inspection allowing the participants to share their experiences through the interactive and practical sessions. After the training, the participants recommended that similar training course in the future should consider extending the number of training days and that such training should also accept participants from the members of RPOA-IUU that are not SEAFDEC members as well as countries from nearby regions in order to create a stronger network among the vessel inspectors in the region and beyond.

64. The Council Director for Indonesia also extended the appreciation to the Government of Singapore for supporting the said training course. He suggested that similar training course could be conducted in the future involving wider groups of participants.

65. While supporting the plan of SEAFDEC to conduct the Regional Workshop on Port State Measures, the Council Director for Viet Nam requested SEAFDEC to also consider extending technical assistance and capacity building activities relevant to the implementation of the Port State Measures to the AMSs.

66. The Council Director for Thailand informed the Meeting that the country is now implementing a pilot project on Port State Measures with the support from FAO, and shared the view that the implementation of the PSM is different from catch documentation scheme. In this regard, the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing could serve as guide for the AMSs to implement the Port State Measures. Since Thailand has recently amended its 1947 Fisheries Act, the amendments could provide the legal basis for the country to implement the PSM. Moreover, Thailand also plans to ratify the FAO Agreement on PSM in the near future. In this connection, the assistance of SEAFDEC and relevant organizations was sought for the training of its national inspectors at ports to enable them to adapt advanced inspection procedures. Furthermore, it was reiterated that cooperation among the AMSs is necessary in exchanging information related to the RFVR Database and in facilitating the adoption of measures to combat IUU fishing.

67. After the discussion, the Council requested SEAFDEC to take note of the recommendations for accommodation in its future activities related to Port State Measures as appropriate.

5.3 Regional Cooperation to Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture in ASEAN Region

5.3.1 Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region: TOR of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tuna Stock Assessment

68. The Council took note of "Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in Southeast Asia", and considering the relevance of the Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas (RPOA Neritic Tunas) in the ASEAN Region, the Council endorsed the RPOA Neritic Tunas (**Annex 15**) as well as the TORs of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tuna Stock Assessment (**Annex 16**).

5.3.2 Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and Management of the Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture

69. The Council took note of the initiatives undertaken by SEAFDEC in developing the Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and Management of the Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Eel Aquaculture (**Annex 17**).

70. While supporting the initiative of SEAFDEC, the Council Director for Japan expressed the concern that conservation of eel species is becoming an important issue in international discussions. In a report released in October 2014 by TRAFFIC, a non-governmental trade-watch organization on wild animals, it was indicated that trading of short-finned eel (*Anguilla bicolor*) from the Philippines had increased, and possibility of illegal trading of the species. Meanwhile, the IUCN had listed the Japanese eel (*Anguilla japonica*) and the American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) as endangered in the IUCN Red List in 2014. Considering such developments, it is likely that the listing of eel species including the Japanese eel and short-finned eel in the CITES Appendices could be proposed at the CITES COP-17 scheduled in South Africa in 2016. He also informed the Meeting on the internationally concerted efforts to conserve the Japanese eel resources through an agreement made by Japan, China, Korea, and Taiwan to reduce the utilization of glass eels as aquaculture seeds by 20% from the previous year, and the four participating parties are working towards making this arrangement as a binding agreement.

71. Considering that several *Anguilla* species are being regulated recently, the Council Director for Japan also encouraged the Southeast Asian countries to undertake actions to ensure the sustainable utilization of *A. bicolor* which is commonly found in the region. Moreover, the AMSs should obtain better understanding on the stock status of the species which could be used as basis for the development of management measures for such species, and that Japan is willing to provide continuous support for the activities of SEAFDEC to secure the utilization of eel resources in Southeast Asia considering that eels are important target species of fisheries in the region.

72. The Council Director for Indonesia shared the information that the country has imposed the regulation to refrain from exporting eel species smaller than 150 grams. In spite of such regulation however, there is still illegal trading of eels from Indonesia to Japan through Hong Kong as transit point. In this regard, the Council Director for Indonesia proposed that a trilateral discussion could be conducted with Indonesia, Japan and Hong Kong participating to address this issue. In this connection, the Council Director for Japan cited that the experience of the recent arrangement made by Japan, Korea, Taiwan and China, which facilitates the banning of trading small eels, could be learned during the development of a similar arrangement among Indonesia, Japan and Hong Kong.

73. The Council Director for the Philippines informed the Council that the Philippines has re-instated in 2012 the ban on export of elvers (eel fingerlings) as a conservation measure and is in the process of developing of a framework for the conservation and management of eel resources. Considering that aquaculture of eel species is dependent on wild seeds, a roadmap for the eel industry will also be developed based on the said framework. In this regard, the Member Countries were encouraged to combine all conservation efforts through SEAFDEC and for SEAFDEC to conduct more studies such as on the life cycle of the species that would provide more scientific information on eels.

74. Furthermore, considering the relevance of conserving eel resources in Myanmar, the Council Director for Myanmar requested SEAFDEC and other Member Countries to share their knowledge on collection of scientific data and information as well as share their experiences in breeding and culture of various eel species.

75. After the discussion, the Council endorsed the Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and Management of the Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Eel Aquaculture to enable SEAFDEC and the concerned agencies of the respective countries to conduct activities on eel resources conservation in the future.

5.3.3 Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity

76. The Council was informed on the progress of the development of the Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity (RPOA-Capacity) as shown in **Annex 18**.

77. While thanking SEAFDEC for the efforts in developing the Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity, the Council Director for Brunei Darussalam expressed regrets for being unable to send representatives to the consultation held in February 2015. However, he mentioned that there has been growing concern in Brunei Darussalam on issues related to fishing capacity especially on excessive fishing inputs and over-capitalization. He cited that having too many vessels with excessive harvesting power in a growing number of fisheries, leads to the existence of excessive fishing capacity which is largely responsible for the degradation of fishery resources, dissipation of food production potentials and significant economic wastes. These are manifested in the form of redundant fishing inputs and overfishing of the most valued fish stocks. He also informed the Council that the Department of Fisheries of Brunei Darussalam has been implementing measures to abate the recent decline in the country's fish capture production through the adoption of management measures such as: revision of fishing zonation system; freezing the existing number of fishing licenses; imposition of moratorium to some small-scale fishing activities in Zone 1; enforcement of new mesh size regulations using 51 mm mesh netting for the trawl cod end of all commercial trawlers; prohibiting the use of destructive fishing implements and activities; establishment of a network of marine-protected areas (MPAs); enforcement of the regulation that bans the catching, landing, and trading of all sharks species starting in 2015; and enforcement of regulation banning the use of trawls starting in 2016.

78. The Council Director for Indonesia also supported the development of the RPOA-Capacity and suggested that this should be updated taking into consideration the relevant issues in the IPOA-Capacity of FAO. In this regard, the representative from FAO suggested that SEAFDEC could refer to the technical guidelines developed by FAO in order to update the RPOA-Capacity.

79. In this regard, the Council Director for Cambodia also requested international/regional organizations, *e.g.* SEAFDEC, FAO, NOAA, USAID, to assist the AMSs in developing NPOA-Capacity and NPOA-IUU.

80. The Council Director for Thailand also congratulated SEAFDEC for implementing activities that led to the development of the RPOA-Capacity and requested SEAFDEC to provide technical assistance to enable the country to address three urgent issues, such as over-fishing capacity, stock assessment, and implementation of the monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) system.

81. During the discussion, the representative from FAO acknowledged the efforts made by the AMSs in addressing fishing capacity issues and encouraged the countries to develop their respective NPOAs-Capacity based on the RPOA-Capacity and with possible assistance from SEAFDEC.

5.3.4 Regional Policy Recommendations for Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations

82. The Council took note of the Regional Policy Recommendations for Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations (**Annex 19**) as output of the Regional Technical Consultation on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients or Fish Meal Substitutes in Aquaculture Feed Formulations held in December 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

83. The Council Director for Myanmar expressed the appreciation to the Member Countries, especially to the Government of Japan, and SEAFDEC for extending support that enabled Myanmar to successfully conduct the Consultation with fruitful results. He stressed that the Consultation has paved the way for reducing the dependence of aquaculture on fish meal by using alternative sources that are nutritional, economical, and create low impact on the environment.

84. While expressing the appreciation to AQD for the development of the Regional Policy Recommendations, the Council Director for Indonesia encouraged AQD to share the results of its technical works on alternative aquaculture feed sources with the AMSs as these could be used by the

countries in reducing dependence on fish meal and other fish-based products for aquaculture feeds. The Council Director for Viet Nam also encouraged AQD to continue its research programs aimed at developing suitable alternative protein sources for aquaculture feeds.

85. The Council Director for Thailand also requested AQD to explore alternative aquaculture feed ingredients suitable for various species groups, *i.e.* carnivorous, omnivorous and herbivorous species, and suggested that the research studies could focus on species that are commercially important to the region. In addition, AQD was also requested to put together relevant research findings from other agencies/organizations, and develop a comprehensive document to be reported to the forthcoming meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2016.

86. While expressing support to the Regional Policy Recommendations, the Council Director for Brunei Darussalam expressed the concern that the alternative ingredients for aquaculture feeds should also take into consideration halal requirements.

87. The Council Director for Japan also expressed the appreciation to AQD for developing the Regional Policy Recommendations, and offered to share the experiences of Japan in the development and use of alternative dietary ingredients for aquaculture feeds. The Council Director for Viet Nam added that SEAFDEC should also learn from technologies developed in other countries, *e.g.* Norway, on feeds used in salmon aquaculture which no longer require the use of fish-based ingredients.

88. After the discussion, the Council expressed support to and endorsed in principle the Policy Recommendations for Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations, and requested AQD to conduct technical works as well as compile necessary information on this aspect to serve as basis for countries in the region to develop strategies to reduce dependence of fish-based materials as ingredients in aquaculture feeds.

VI. OTHER MATTERS

6.1 Proposed High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Towards the ASEAN Economic Community 2015

89. The Council took note of the Concept Note for the conduct of the High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Towards the ASEAN Economic Community 2015: Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products as proposed by SEAFDEC (**Annex 20**). The Council was informed that the proposal was developed considering that 2015 is an opportune time to revisit the issues that are considered priority and urgent for the region to tackle after the adoption of the Resolution and Plan of Action starting in 2011, and to seek policy support that could lead to more tangible actions to address the issues.

90. During the discussion, the Council expressed concerns on the protocol that are required for the endorsement of the Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration by the Senior Officials, which should pass through the appropriate mechanism of the ASEAN, starting from the ASWGFi meeting to the SOM-AMAF.

91. With regards to the preparation of the Joint Declaration, the Council suggested that regional technical consultation(s) should be conducted prior to the stakeholders' consultation. As it is expected that the Joint Declaration would be a significant document, it was recommended that this document could not be endorsed by the Council by *ad referendum*, but instead through a special SEAFDEC Council Consultation back-to-back with the High-level Consultation. In addition, SEAFDEC Secretariat should ensure that proper protocol is followed, *i.e.* submission to ASWGFi and subsequently to SOM-AMAF. Considering the time required for the preparation and endorsement of the Joint Declaration, the Council recommended that the conduct of the High-level Consultation should be postponed to 2016.

92. On the issues that should be addressed in the Joint Declaration, the Council Directors for Malaysia and Thailand suggested that in addition to issues related to IUU fishing, labor issues should also be discussed during the Consultation as this is very important for enhancing the competitiveness of the ASEAN fish and fishery products. The Council Director for Cambodia also recommended that SEAFDEC

should extract issues in the Resolution and Plan of Action that are relevant to the AEC and incorporate these in the issues for discussion during the High-level Consultation as appropriate.

93. The Council also recommended that since this matter is also relevant to the ASEAN Secretariat, the SEAFDEC Secretariat should maintain close communication with the ASEAN Secretariat to discuss the issues relevant to the High-level Consultation. Specifically, the Council Directors for Thailand and Myanmar agreed to communicate with the ASEAN Secretariat to put this matter into the agenda for discussion at the forthcoming meeting of the ASWGFi.

94. While expressing support to the conduct of the High-level Consultation, the Council Director for Japan expressed the concern on the budget which should be secured for the conduct the preparatory events and the High-level Consultation. In response, the Council was informed that available resources from relevant technical projects of SEAFDEC could be pooled for the conduct of the preparatory events, while the High-level Consultation could make use of accumulated funds of the MRC which had been allocated for activities under the SEAFDEC Regional Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management which had already been phased out.

95. After the discussion, the Council endorsed in principle the proposed Concept Note, and requested SEAFDEC to revise the Concept Note taking into consideration the recommendations made by the Council, and submit the proposal to the 23rd Meeting of ASWGFi in June 2015 in Myanmar for consideration and endorsement.

96. The Council Director for Japan supported the development of the Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration during the High-level Consultation. However, in case the process for Joint Declaration takes longer than expected, he proposed an idea to consider a SEAFDEC Declaration ahead of the Joint Declaration.

6.2 Policy Concept Note on EAFM Implementation

97. The Council took note the Policy Concept Note on EAFM Implementation as shown in **Annex 21**.

98. Recognizing the importance of EAFM Concept, the Council Director for Japan suggested that there should be no overlapping of the EAFM with that of the existing programs implemented by SEAFDEC. He also requested SEAFDEC to clarify the role and financial responsibility between NOAA and SEAFDEC in the implementation of the EAFM. Moreover, considering the different situations among the AMSs, he suggested that this approach should be promoted in the region in the most practical manner.

99. The Council Director for Malaysia highlighted that since the EAFM Concept Note depends on the economic condition of the respective AMSs, he suggested that SEAFDEC should carry out more pilot studies and compile the relevant information from these studies as lessons learned to be shared among the AMSs.

100. While supporting the Concept Note on EAFM in view of its objectives in achieving well-being in ecology, humans and good governance, the representative from Thailand cited the successful results of its projects in accordance with the EAFM concept, such as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), protection of fishing grounds, among others. However, Thailand needs to obtain the knowledge and experiences on EAFM projects implemented by other AMSs.

101. The Council Director for Viet Nam also supported the Concept Note on EAFM and expressed that different sectors should be involved in the implementation of the EAFM. In addition, he requested SEAFDEC to support the Member Countries in the selection of appropriate demonstration sites for the implementation of the EAFM.

102. The representative from FAO mentioned that FAO has been strongly supporting SEAFDEC in the adoption of EAFM as a partner that initiates this concept in the Southeast Asian region. He pointed out the merits of adopting EAFM and looked forward to seeing SEAFDEC as the leader in the conduct of training

course on EAFM in the Member Countries. He also encouraged that the high standard and quality of the training course implemented by SEAFDEC should be maintained.

6.3 Summary of the Project Proposal on “Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management”

103. The Meeting took note of the summary of the development of the project proposal on “Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management” (**Annex 22**), particularly on the communications received from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the actions taken after the 22nd Meeting of the ASWGFi held in June 2014.

104. Considering the delayed process of approving this project, the Council suggested that this matter should be raised and discussed at the forthcoming Meeting of the ASWGFi. The Council also requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to prepare a letter to be signed by the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council, requesting the ASEAN Secretariat to follow-up on this matter.

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

105. The Representative from the Embassy of Sweden, *Mr. Göran S Haag* expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC and the Department of Fisheries of Thailand for the invitation extended to the Embassy of Sweden to join this SEAFDEC Council Meeting. He noted that many crucial issues had been discussed at this Council Meeting, such as combating IUU fishing, catch documentation, regional cooperation for joint management of fisheries resources, and labor issues. He emphasized the important role of SEAFDEC as technical arm of the ASEAN in potentially responding to the fisheries-related issues in the region, and that Sweden and SEAFDEC has a long-standing cooperation with the current phase running until 2017, towards this overarching goal. The cooperation stretches across the SEAFDEC program thrusts, and this type of partnership-based cooperation is effective since it gives SEAFDEC the freedom and responsibility to design and carry out operations within the agreed framework to reach the project results and targets. It is important that with the support from Sweden on the regional cooperation would enable the border countries sharing the same problems could find solutions, as the countries could discuss and take necessary national actions on the sustainable use of fisheries resources and aquaculture, including issues like gender equality (men, women and children) and rights issues, *e.g.* decent labor and working conditions for fisherfolks and employees in processing plants which should be given the appropriate attention.

106. The representative from the Embassy of Sweden also cited that BOBLME has supported the development of the EAFM concept where SEAFDEC has played an important role through its regional mandate and well documented ability in training and capacity building. In addition, he noted that SEAFDEC is increasingly recognized as the ASEAN fisheries technical expert and advisory body as manifested through the SEAFDEC initiative to facilitate a High-level regional consultation on combatting IUU and how to gain higher market access. Such a consultation would be highly relevant in support of the implementation of the ‘ASEAN Community by 2015’ and in the continued work towards AEC 2020 considering that SEAFDEC as a competent and strong expert-body, could strengthen this important work and generate a range of new opportunities for the region’s fisheries and aquaculture sectors. His Statement appears as **Annex 23**.

107. The representative from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Dr. Simon Funge Smith* expressed his gratitude for the invitation extended to FAO, and on behalf of Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, the Assistant Director General and Regional Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, he expressed his gratitude to the strong interest of the Council on the importance of combating IUU fishing in the region. Considering the global normative work of FAO as well as those under the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission such as promoting the application of Port State Measures and the development of capacity for the EAFM, he therefore appreciated the efforts of SEAFDEC in sustaining cooperation and capacity development at the regional level. He informed the Council that FAO COFI has recently adopted the “Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication” which would require a strong lead from SEAFDEC and its Member Countries to adapt the Guidelines in

the region where a high concentration of small-scale fisheries is present. He also informed the Council that the promotion of sustainable aquaculture is a key strategy in the FAO regional initiative on “Blue Growth” and FAO would like to highlight the opportunities in inland fisheries and how the newly established SEAFDEC/IFRDMD in Palembang, Indonesia could play an important role in coordination and capacity building in inland fisheries. He then thanked the Department of Fisheries of Thailand for hosting, excellent arrangements and hospitality during this 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. His statement appears as **Annex 24**.

108. The Director General of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), *Dr. Chirdsak Virapat* expressed his gratitude to SEAFDEC for the invitation extended to NACA to participate in this Council Meeting. He reiterated that the development objectives of NACA include the promotion of rural development through sustainable aquaculture and aquatic resources management where its works are based on five thematic programs, namely: aquatic animal health; sustainable farming systems; genetics and biodiversity; food safety, quality and certification; and response to climate change, and also three cross-cutting programs on education and training; gender; and information and communications. He informed the Council that NACA and SEAFDEC/AQD would establish the MOU particularly in areas on sharing and exchanging of information on fish farming systems, crustaceans, mollusks, and seaweeds for food, livelihoods, equity, and sustainable development as well as aquaculture feed development. For the program of capacity building in aquaculture, NACA would collaborate with SEAFDEC for its implementation starting in 2016. He also informed the Council that the Asian Fishery Society (AFS) and NACA would organize the 11th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum & Seafood Exhibition jointly with the ASEAN Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference and Seafood Exposition in collaboration with Thailand’s Department of Fisheries and SEAFDEC from 4 to 6 August 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand. Finally, he expressed the hope that NACA and SEAFDEC would find the opportunities to strengthen the collaboration and coordination on strategic foresights in aquaculture development in the future. His statement appears as **Annex 25**.

109. The Representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), *Dr. Russell Brainard* expressed his appreciation for the invitation extended by SEAFDEC to NOAA to participate in this important 47th SEAFDEC Council Meeting. This occasion has given NOAA the opportunity to contribute through technical partnership to the SEAFDEC community and the efforts of SEAFDEC to sustainably manage fisheries and combat IUU fishing in Southeast Asia. He also thanked the U.S. Agency for International Development for its continued support which enabled an increased engagement by NOAA in the ASEAN and CTI region.

110. The Representative from NOAA also informed the Council that over the past year, the Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fishery Management (EEAFM) training and training-of-trainers was co-developed by NOAA and its regional partners. NOAA therefore looked forward to working closely with SEAFDEC as the regional implementing organization and with regional partners for improving the EEAFM curriculum and developing additional EAFM training modules. He added that the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is prepared and eager to initiate a risk-based program through the recent implementation of the U.S. Presidential Task Force, along with our partners within the next few years to identify species significant to seafood fraud, increase traceability, and identify species with significant risk to being caught by IUU fishing. Moreover, he informed the Council that NOAA co-organized a national workshop in Indonesia in November 2014, and the IOC WESTPAC workshop in January 2015 with a follow-on planned for September 2015. NOAA has established a pilot ocean acidification observing site in the Philippines and will be meeting with colleagues in Malaysia, Thailand, and possibly Indonesia, to start similar pilot sites over the coming year. He also thanked the Department of Fisheries of Thailand for the hospitality accorded the participants while in Chiang Rai and collaborating partners for the continued efforts in assisting the Southeast Asian countries to sustainably manage fisheries and combat IUU fishing in the region. NOAA looks forward to working with the USAID/NOAA/SEAFDEC OCEANS project team starting later this year. His Statement appears as **Annex 26**.

111. The Representative from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development and Trade (MARKET) Project, *Mr. Timothy Moore* expressed his gratitude to the SEAFDEC Council for the opportunity accorded to participate in this 47th Meeting of the Council. He recalled that since 2012, the USAID MARKET Project has worked with ASEAN to establish the ASEAN Public-Private Taskforce on

Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (Taskforce) that aims to strengthen the level and effectiveness of collaboration and partnership between the public and private sectors to ensure the sustainability and inclusiveness of the aquaculture and fisheries sectors in the region. He informed the Council that although the MARKET Project will be completed in June 2015, the Taskforce had strengthened the private sector engagement. At its 4th Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia, the Taskforce focal points proposed that Indonesia could serve as the interim Secretariat for the Taskforce, which will be submitted to the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF_i) in June 2015 for consideration and endorsement. He also appreciated the continued engagement of SEAFDEC with the Taskforce and the efforts to engage the private sector and farmers/fisheries in its programs. He also informed the Council that SEAFDEC could play a leading role to create a forum for conducting dialogue to enhance and create new partnerships in the region. He then thanked the Government of Thailand and the Department of Fisheries for hosting the SEAFDEC Council Meeting in the beautiful City of Chiang Rai. His statement appears as **Annex 27**.

112. The Representative from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA), *Dr. Craig J. Starger* expressed his appreciation for the invitation extended by SEAFDEC to enable the USAID RDMA to attend the Council Meeting. He mentioned that during the last Council Meeting in Singapore, many things had happened in the United States with respect to oceans and fisheries, namely the Secretariat of USAID held the first ever Oceans Conference at the US Department of State in Washington DC where the United States declared one of the largest new Marine Protected Area in the world in the Pacific Ocean, and President Obama formed a U.S. Presidential Task Force to Combat IUU Fishing and Seafood Fraud. He informed the Meeting that the MOU that was signed in 2014 by the USAID RDMA and SEAFDEC agreed to work together to design and implement a new program for sustainable fisheries. To be called the *Oceans and Fisheries Partnership*, this new program was first announced as a pipeline project of SEAFDEC at the last Program Committee Meeting. In addition, he also expressed the gratitude to SEAFDEC for partnering with USAID in the design of the program. He informed the Council that USAID anticipates the official launching of the *Oceans and Fisheries Partnership* in a few months, with the main objective of assisting the SEAFDEC and Coral Triangle Member Countries to implement the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme and other regional guidelines through the development of a catch documentation and traceability system for marine fisheries products. The specific details and parameters of this system would be developed in full collaboration with the SEAFDEC and CTI countries, the elements of which would be continued in the new Oceans and Fisheries Partnership, *e.g.* continued focus on the EAFM, strengthened public private partnerships, and emphasis on the overarching objectives of conserving marine biodiversity. His statement appears as **Annex 28**.

VIII. FUTURE DIRECTION OF SEAFDEC

113. The Council took note of the reports presented by the SEAFDEC Secretary-General on the results of the efforts of SEAFDEC to respond to the special requests made by the Member Countries during the 46th Council Meeting in 2014, which appears as **Annex 29**. In the closed session attended by the heads of the countries' delegations only, the Council agreed on the following:

- There is a need to enhance future cooperation between ASEAN and SEAFDEC, which should be raised by the countries' representatives attending the forthcoming meeting of the ASWGF_i, and that the Member Countries could also send official correspondence to the ASEAN through their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs in order that this concern could be appropriately addressed.
- SEAFDEC to undertake a study on the availability of human resources in fisheries in the ASEAN Member States.
- SEAFDEC to conduct in 2016 the mid-term evaluation on the progress made by the ASEAN Member States in the implementation of the Resolution and Plan of Action as adopted in 2011.
- Appreciation should be extended to the Marine and Coastal Resources Institute (MACORIN) of the Prince of Songkla University of Thailand for the scholarship offered to countries in the region

(1 scholarship for each country). SEAFDEC should coordinate this matter and should provide more detailed information to all Council Directors.

IX. MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTER

9.1 Plans of Operation and Programs of Work of SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat

114. The Council took note of the proposed revisions of the Plans of Operation and Programs of Work of the SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat as shown in **Annex 30**. It was recalled that the Council at its 46th Meeting in 2014 agreed to tentatively adopt in principle the revised Plans of Operation and Programs of Work as proposed by SEAFDEC during that time, and requested SEAFDEC to improve the documents for submission to the 37th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee and subsequently to this Council Meeting.

115. During the discussion, the Council Director for Malaysia expressed the view that the proposed revision of the function and program of work of TD seem to infringe the original mandate of MFRDMD and recommended that the activities of MFRDMD should not focus only on shared stocks but should also cover all matters related to development and management of marine fishery resources. On the other hand, TD should focus its roles on the development of fishing technologies, socio-economic aspects and conduct of training to enhance the capacity of the Member Countries. The Council Directors for Singapore and Philippines also expressed the views that the functions of the SEAFDEC Departments should be clearly delineated.

116. It was however clarified that marine fishery resources and related issues such as combating IUU fishing are very broad, and the specific subjects within such scope should be demarcated and allocated to TD and MFRDMD as appropriate taking into consideration the availability of staff, expertise and facilities within the respective Departments. It was also noted that during the recent years, the activities of SEAFDEC Departments have been developed and implemented taking into consideration the directives given by the Member Countries.

117. The Council Director for Japan also shared his observation that some priority areas of the Member Countries are not well-linked with the program of works proposed by SEAFDEC, and requested SEAFDEC to conduct more detailed reviews and further works.

118. After the discussion, the Council requested all Member Countries to provide their comments on the Plans of Operation and Programs of Work of the SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat to the SEAFDEC Secretariat by 8 May 2015. The Council also requested the Secretariat to accommodate the comments and send the revised Plans of Operation and Programs of Work, together with a tabulation clearly delineating the roles of the Departments and indicating the areas for cooperation, to the Member Countries by May 2015 for consideration and endorsement.

119. The Council noted the proposed revisions of the organization structures of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Training Department, and that the new structures would allow the Secretariat and TD to undertake existing programs of activities in a more efficient and effective manner, while more incentives could also be extended to the staff. In this regard, the Council Director for Cambodia expressed the view that this should be considered as an internal arrangement under the management of the Departments and respective host governments. As the host government of TD, the Council Director for Thailand expressed the country's reservation on this matter, and would internally discuss in detail with the SEAFDEC Secretariat and TD on the proposed revisions of their respective organization structures. After an agreement is reached between Thailand and SEAFDEC Secretariat and TD, the new revised organization structures would be circulated to the Council Directors for approval by *ad referendum*.

9.2 Proposed Amendment of SEAFDEC Financial Regulations

120. The Council was informed of the Proposed Amendment of the SEAFDEC Financial Regulations (**Annex 31**) to reflect the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC), which has been put into practice since 2007, and agreed that Financial Regulation 4.1 should be amended to read:

4.1 The annual contributions from the Member Countries in the form of Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) shall be made in United States Dollars, not later than 31 March of the current fiscal year. The method to calculate the MRC from Member Countries should be unanimously agreed upon by the Council.

121. The Council also noted that Financial Regulation 4.1 was amended by the decision of the SEAFDEC Council in 2015 to reflect the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC), which was put into practice since 2007. The explanatory notes and formula used in computing the MRC appears as **Appendix I**. Adjustment of the MRC could be proposed for consideration by the SEAFDEC Council as and when necessary

122. The Council Director for Singapore also requested the Secretariat to amend the text in “Appendix 1” of the Regulation to read “... *The SEAFDEC Council further agreed that the level of MRC should be reviewed every five years; and thus, the SEAFDEC Council in 2012 agreed in principle that henceforth, the total amount of MRC should be increased to 500,000 US\$. ...*” in order to be consistent with the previous decisions of the SEAFDEC Council. It was noted that “Appendix 1” is meant to serve as reference on the background, criteria for calculation and formula used in the computation of MRC as previously agreed by the SEAFDEC Council in 2007 and 2012.

123. Based on the computation of the MRC as agreed by the SEAFDEC Council, the Council noted that the amount of MRC from Indonesia would be reduced as the adjustment factor for host countries could now be applied for Indonesia. This would result in changes of the MRC from the other countries to compensate that of Indonesia’s. In this connection, the Council requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to calculate the new amount of MRC for each Member Country and circulate to the Member Countries for the new MRC to be applied starting in 2016.

124. The Council Directors for Viet Nam and Cambodia informed the Meeting that starting 2015, the countries would be able to provide the amount of MRC as agreed in 2012. Nevertheless, the countries expressed the concern that the process of obtaining approval on the new amount of MRC from their respective governments could take certain period of time.

125. After the discussion, the Council considered and endorsed the proposed amendment to the appropriate provisions in the Financial Regulations of SEAFDEC.

9.3 Operation of SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels

9.3.1 Operations of the M.V. SEAFDEC and M.V. SEAFDEC 2

126. The Council was informed on the progress of the activities undertaken by the SEAFDEC Training Department with regards to the use of the research vessels in 2014, and the proposed plans for the year 2015 as shown in (**Annex 32**).

127. During the discussion, the Council Director for Malaysia informed the Council that the proposed utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for the research survey in the waters of Malaysia would be from 31 July to 15 October 2015 instead of from 1 June to 9 September as originally proposed.

128. The Council Director for Thailand cited that for the requirements of Thailand to utilize the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, these would be discussed internally with SEAFDEC.

129. After taking note of the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC in 2014 and 2015, as well as that of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, the Council endorsed the plans for utilizing the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2015.

9.3.2 Third Revision of the Guidelines on the Cost Sharing Policy for the Operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2

130. The Council endorsed the proposed Third Revision of the Guidelines on the Cost Sharing Policy for the Operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 (**Annex 33**) which was prepared in response to the discussion during the last Council Meeting that the budget allocated annually from MRC for the operation of the

M.V. SEAFDEC 2 may not be sufficient if the vessel is used for long period of time as it would require higher operation costs than the available budget. The revision of the Guidelines was therefore made based on the principle that the additional operation costs would be shouldered by countries that request to use the vessel. However, priority for the utilization of the vessel would be accorded to collaborative resource surveys involving more than one Member Country, and requests from countries that do not have their own research vessels.

9.3.3 Proposed Guidelines for Chartering/Renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2

131. The Council was informed on the proposed of the Guidelines for Chartering/Renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, recalling that during the last Council Meeting, the Council agreed in principle to allow national agencies of the Member Countries to charter the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 upon approval by the respective fisheries agencies of the Member Countries. SEAFDEC was then requested to develop the draft guidelines for chartering or renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, including the criteria for utilization and the corresponding charges and expenditures.

132. During the discussion, the representative from Malaysia suggested that the working scheme for chartering/renting of the vessel should be modified, and the “agency requesting to charter/rent the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should submit a proposal including a project details and survey plan to SEAFDEC/TD through the SEAFDEC Council Director of the country”. After the discussion, the Council endorsed the Guidelines for Chartering/Renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, accommodating the aforementioned comments made by the Council, as shown in **Annex 34**.

133. It was emphasized that although other agencies of Member Countries are allowed to charter/rent the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, priority in utilization of the vessel would be given to the national fisheries authority. It was also suggested that to ensure the optimum utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, agencies from non-Member Countries of SEAFDEC could also be allowed to charter/rent the vessel. In response, the Council suggested that chartering/renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 by non-Member Countries as well as by other international organizations could be allowed on case-by-case basis subject to approval by the Council.

9.4 Collaborative Arrangements Between SEAFDEC and Other Organizations

134. The Council was informed on the various collaborative arrangements made by SEAFDEC with other organizations since 2014 until the 47th Meeting of the Council (**Annex 35**).

135. During the discussion, the Council Director for Indonesia suggested that in the report on collaborative arrangements, significant results of the collaboration should also be included. In addition, the Council Directors for Viet Nam and Thailand also suggested that SEAFDEC should explore possible cooperation with research agencies, the academia and institutions outside the region and the Member Countries such as those in the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Korea, as this would promote the development of a network among the academia and institutions in the region and beyond.

136. After taking note of the renewed collaboration and new collaborative arrangements made by SEAFDEC since the 46th Meeting of the Council until the present, the Council requested SEAFDEC to take the necessary actions considering the recommendations of the Council at this Meeting.

137. The SEAFDEC Council also witnessed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), which was held on 3 April 2015.

138. During the Signing Ceremony, the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, *Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri* expressed his gratitude to CTI-CFF for realizing the signing of MOU considering that the collaboration between the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC has been discussed since 2013, starting with the conduct of the Intergovernmental Forum on Live Reef Food Fish Trade. Since then, several technical activities had already been undertaken by SEAFDEC in the overlapping spatial areas of the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC, *e.g.* the REBYC-II CTI Project, EAFM, and conservation and management of fishery resources in the coral triangle area, etc. The formalization of collaborative arrangement between the two organizations is

therefore considered very timely as the MOU would serve as a platform for sharing of knowledge and experiences gained from the past works of both CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC for the benefit of Member Countries of the two organizations. His Statement appears as **Annex 36**.

139. The CTI-CFF Executive Director, *Dr. Widi A Pratikto* commended the establishment of collaborative arrangements between the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC considering that SEAFDEC has been working in the region for a long time and is well-equipped with infrastructures, facilities, and activities that could be mobilized for sustainable development of fisheries in the region. Among the six members of the CTI-CFF, three are also members of SEAFDEC. The establishment of this collaborative arrangement would therefore enhance the benefits from the activities of SEAFDEC that could also be obtained by the countries that are non-members to SEAFDEC. He then reiterated the possible areas of future cooperation between SEAFDEC and CTI-CFF, particularly the on-going collaboration to address issues on Live Reef Food Fish Trade and SEAFDEC involvement in the Coral Triangle Marine Protected Areas System (CTMPAS) Advisory Committee. Further areas for cooperation could also include human resources development, research and development, consultancy, information management and networking, and other possible areas that could be identified in the near future. His Statement appears as **Annex 37**.

140. The Memorandum of Understanding between the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC appears as **Annex 38**.

X. FINANCIAL MATTERS

10.1 Adoption of Audited Financial Report for the Year 2013

141. 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 2013 including that of the Secretariat and the three Departments for the Year 2013 (**Annex 39**) as audited by the official auditors of the Center, *Mr. Phongtorn Duangphanya* of the P&A Audit Company Ltd.

10.2 Un-audited Financial Report for the Year 2014, and Status of the Financial Situation in the Year 2015

142. The Council took note of the Un-audited Consolidated Financial Report for the Year 2014 (**Annex 40**), comprising the Un-audited Net Assets as of 31 December 2014, the Un-audited Statements of Contributions and Expenditures for the Year 2014, and the Un-audited Fund Balance as of 31 December 2014.

143. The Council Director for Singapore noted that the expenditures on administrative (non-programs) had increased drastically in 2014 compared with that of 2013. In this connection, SEAFDEC was requested to prudently manage such expenditures in the future.

144. The Council also noted the Financial Situation for the Year 2015 (**Annex 41**), which includes the MRC in 2015 from the Member Countries and contributions from the Fisheries Agency of Japan through the Japanese Trust Fund program as well as other international organizations.

145. The Council was informed that the Audited Financial Statement of SEAFDEC for the Year 2014 would be submitted to the Council Directors during the next Council Meeting in 2016, such as those for the Consolidated Secretariat, Training Department Financial Statements, as audited by Auditor *Mr. Phongtorn Duangphanya* of the Auditing Firm P&A Audit Company Limited. Meanwhile, AQD's Financial Statement will be audited by Auditor *Ms. Jessie D. Cabaluna* of Auditing Firm Sycip Gorres Velayo & Co., and MFRDMD's Financial Statement by Auditor *Mr. Mohd Badaruddin bin Ismail* of Auditing Firm Adib Azhar & Co. (AF1446).

146. In addition, the Council was informed that for the new Department, the IFRDMD would look for appropriate accounting company to audit its funds and the name of its external auditors for the financial report in 2015 would be submitted to SEAFDEC Council Directors as soon as possible for approval by *ad referendum*.

10.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirements of the Center for the Year 2016

147. While expressing satisfaction with the utilization by SEAFDEC of its budget, the Council endorsed and approved the proposed budgetary requirements of the Center for the Year 2016 as shown in **Annex 42**. However, the Council requested SEAFDEC to be cautious in expending its proposed budget taking into consideration the need to enhance its activities in the midst of emerging challenges in the fisheries environment.

148. The Council also approved the increase of budget reserved for periodic maintenance of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 from US\$ 42,000 to US\$ 75,000 annually starting in 2015, and noted that the budget that could be allocated for the operation cost of the vessel would be reduced to US\$ 30,000; insurance would be reduced to US\$ 10,000; and maintenance cost would be increased to US\$ 35,000.

149. As for the periodic maintenance and dry-docking of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, the Council Director for the Philippines expressed the apprehension that conducting regular vessel maintenance every five years might be inadequate considering that the vessel is already 10 years old.

10.4 Other Financial Matters

150. Referring to Paragraph 124 of the 46th Council Meeting Report, SEAFDEC was requested by the Council to “develop a financial investment policy on investment of funds in the form of bonds or other types of long-term investments for consideration by the Council” at this Meeting. However, after a thorough discussion between the SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Aquaculture Department, it was decided that there would be no future investments in any form, thus, the development of such policy would no longer be necessary.

151. After taking note of the decision of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Aquaculture Department, the Council agreed that for this Meeting, there were no other financial matters that need discussion.

XI. CONCLUDING MATTERS

11.1 Adoption of the Meeting Report and Press Statement

152. The Council adopted the Report of the Forty-seventh Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council and the Press Statement (**Annex 43**) on the results of the Meeting on 3 April 2015.

11.2 Date and Venue of the Forty-eighth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council

153. In considering the date and venue of the Forty-eighth Meeting of the Council, the Council Director for Viet Nam informed the Council that the Government of Viet Nam would accept the responsibility of hosting the next Council Meeting in Viet Nam, either in Da Nang or Nha Trang in 2016.

154. The Council expressed its appreciation of the offer of Viet Nam to host the next Council Meeting in Viet Nam, and requested the Secretary-General to discuss with the Council Director for Viet Nam to finalize the exact date and venue of the next meeting of the SEAFDEC Council.

11.3 Vote of Thanks to the Host Government

155. The Council Director for Brunei Darussalam, on behalf of the Council Directors expressed his appreciation to the Government of the Thailand for hosting and for the arrangements of this Forty-seventh Meeting of the Council. He also congratulated the Chairperson of the Meeting for the successful conduct of the Meeting, and looked forward to enhancing SEAFDEC and enabling it to continue performing its role in the sustainable development of fisheries in our region. He also expressed his gratitude to the Secretariat of the Meeting especially the staff of the Department of Fisheries of Thailand for the smooth arrangements of the Meeting and for making their stay in Thailand memorable. His Remarks appears as **Annex 44**.

XII. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

156. The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the Council Directors and the representatives from regional and international organizations as well as Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Chiefs of Departments for the support accorded him during the Meeting. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to the Secretariat of the Meeting for their hard work which led to the success of the Meeting. With that note, he declared the Forty-seventh Meeting of the Council closed. His Closing Remarks appears as **Annex 45**.

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WELCOME REMARKS

By Dr. Tan Lee Kim

Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Corporate & Technology) of the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore, and Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for 2014-2015

Guest of Honour, *Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai*, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand,
Dr. Joompol Sanguansin, Director General of the Department of Fisheries of Thailand,
Distinguished SEAFDEC Council Directors,
SEAFDEC Secretary-General,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good Morning,

As the new SEAFDEC Council Director for Singapore and current Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council, it gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to the Opening Ceremony of the 47th Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), here in this charming and historic city of Chiang Rai.

First and foremost, on behalf of SEAFDEC, I would like to express our appreciation to *Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai*, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand, for gracing the occasion this morning as our Guest of Honour.

On behalf of SEAFDEC and the Member Countries, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Government of Thailand through its Department of Fisheries for the warm hospitality and good arrangements in hosting this important Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council.

I would also like to thank all the Distinguished Council Directors, country representatives and delegates from our collaborating partner organizations for attending this meeting.

In 2014, we saw the continued efforts of SEAFDEC to support Member Countries through its various programmes and activities. A significant milestone for SEAFDEC in 2014 was the establishment of the new fifth SEAFDEC Department, namely, the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD), hosted by the Government of Indonesia in Palembang. IFRDMD is established to manage and coordinate project activities that aim to promote the sustainable development and management of inland capture fisheries in the region. The establishment of IFRDMD therefore signifies the importance and significance of developing inland fisheries in the Southeast Asian region for food security of future generations. It is also a demonstration of the Government of Indonesia's commitment to the strengthening of SEAFDEC.

At this 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, we have a packed agenda to discuss and deliberate over the next few days. In addition to the usual agenda items on programmes and management of SEAFDEC, we will also deliberate on policy considerations on important regional issues. These include the support to SEAFDEC Member Countries on the implementation of CITES requirements on sharks and manta rays; regional approach to combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing including the Guidelines to Prevent the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU activities into the Supply Chains, the effort on Regional Fishing Vessels Record for vessels more than 24m in length, the ASEAN Catch Documentation System, and the implementation of FAO Port State Measures.

Hence, I look forward to a fruitful meeting that will help us develop and manage the regional fisheries resources in a sustainable manner for the benefit of all Member Countries.

Good day and Thank you.

WELCOME REMARKS

*By Dr Joompol Sanguansin
Director General, Department of Fisheries*

Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives;
Dr. Tan Lee Kim, Deputy CEO for Corporate & Technology of AVA, and the Chairperson of SEAFDEC Council for 2014-2015;
Distinguished Council Directors of the SEAFDEC Member Countries;
Dr. Chumnarn Ponsri, Secretary-General of SEAFDEC;
National Coordinators and Delegates from the SEAFDEC Member Countries;
Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen;

A very Good Morning!

First and foremost I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to *Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai*, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives for being here with us to grace this occasion of the 47th SEAFDEC Council Directors Meeting.

Let me also express our thanks to all Council Directors, SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Representatives from international organizations, and all delegates for coming here to this meeting.

As Council Member for Thailand, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the Government of Singapore for holding the last Council meeting in Singapore which was a fantastic city. So for this time my all staff and I would make the best efforts to take care of you all here so that your stay in Chiang Rai would be as comfortable as that of previous council meetings.

On behalf of the Department of Fisheries Thailand, we would like to extend our warmest welcome and deep appreciation for your participation in important session of 47th SEAFDEC Council Meeting. I welcome you to our country, particularly here in Chiang Rai, the northernmost province of Thailand. And hope that you will have a pleasure stay during the duration of the meeting.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the end of this year, we are stepping into ASEAN Community together, and fisheries sector is one of the 12 priority sectors of ASEAN Economic Integration under the AEC. The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, has prepared readiness to Thai fisheries sector towards the AEC. We are looking forward to seeing our region develop more not only in economic or trade sectors but also in fishery technology and sustainability after ASEAN community establishment and SEAFDEC is the key regional organization that plays very significant role in fishery development in the region. We appreciate work's achievement and project has been done by SEAFDEC and the Department of Fisheries, Thailand will always give its upmost support to activities worked by SEAFDEC and be pleased to join hand with SEAFDEC and member Countries in regional fisheries and aquaculture including international fisheries related issues.

With this, we would like to congratulation to IFRDMD for the new department of SEAFDEC which will be considered to be an important department could help to develop inland fisheries sector in each member states in sustainable manner.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again, welcome to Thailand and to the 47th SEAFDEC Council Meeting. I hope you enjoy your stay throughout this week. And after working hard in the meeting, do not forget to spend some time enjoying Thai hospitality. We would like to provide our best services during your stay here as much as we can and please contact our staff if you need any assistance. I do hope you will find the meeting satisfies your



expectations. Finally, On behalf of Department of Fisheries and myself, I wish you good luck and health, all the best with you and the meeting to get successful and fruitful performance.

Thank you.

OPENING REMARKS

By Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai

Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand

Dr. Tan Lee Kim, Deputy CEO for Corporate & Technology of AVA, and Chairperson of SEAFDEC Council for 2014-2015;
Distinguished SEAFDEC Council Directors;
Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, Secretary-General of SEAFDEC;
Delegates from the SEAFDEC Member Countries;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

Good morning to everyone. It is my great pleasure and privilege to be invited to officiate this 47th Meeting of the Council of Directors of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, or SEAFDEC for short.

Last week, we have lost a venerable person, *Mr. Lee Kuan Yew*. On behalf of SEAFDEC Council Directors, I would like to express condolences to Singapore on the passing of *Mr. Lee Kuan Yew*, the first and longest-serving prime minister of Singapore. To pay respect to his passing, all please rise and remain silent for 1 minute. Thank you.

I am happy to see many familiar faces here this morning. On behalf of the Government of Thailand and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, I would like to thank the organizer and take this opportunity to welcome you to Thailand and especially to Chiang Rai, the Northernmost of Thailand with historical structures that depict its unique cultural .

After an interval of ten years, Thailand is now hosting the SEAFDEC Council Meeting again and I feel that the role of SEAFDEC in the Southeast Asian region is becoming more and more important than that of ten years ago. Fisheries and fishery related activities in the region had achieved great economic contribution on individual countries' economies but many fishery resources and aquaculture are now facing the crisis of significant depletion and decrease.

This year is a milestone of half way for the implementation of the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 adopted during the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 in June 2011. SEAFDEC is the key agency to evaluate its output and outcome including the success by cooperation with the respective member countries. Another coming five years, we expect to see more improvement and achievement on the implementation and Plan of Action so that we could touch on sustainability in fisheries and aquaculture in our region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you may know, global fisheries situation recently has been changed by the development on the international rules and regulation that impact directly to fisheries sector both in national and regional level such as combating IUU fishing, labour related issues, fishery resources depletion, overfishing and so on. The improvement of fisheries and aquaculture management could ensure to tackle these facing problems. The climate change and the emergence of new diseases in aquaculture are other our concerns and obstacle in development and sustainability of fisheries. Many countries including Thailand have put effort to achieve the goal of creating sustainability for their fisheries. Greater coordination among SEAFDEC Member Countries could make us as a stronger hand to tackle the challenges and step together for goal achievement.

In recent years, the fisheries industries in Thailand have rapidly expanded as a result of an increase in demand for fisheries resources from the world population growth. Meanwhile, the fishing areas are limited and the fishing gear types are used with overcapacity which causing a competition in natural resources. Due to the fact that the 1947 Fisheries Act's provisions are out of date, and not efficient to cope with the current situations. Under the Fisheries act (1947), fisheries management aims only to manage in particular

inland fisheries and has very few marine fisheries development. No provisions regulate aquaculture practices as there is an abundance of natural resources for capture. Therefore, Thailand has revised the Fisheries Act and the amendment of Fisheries Act is a metaphor as a great history of the fisheries law reform. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives hopes that “this new law” will be an answer or an important mechanism to dissolve the problems in Thai Fisheries sectors, including as a part to help develop and make a progress in the fisheries in the region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

There remains much to be done and meet the sustainability of our capture fisheries and also to develop aquaculture sector in the region which SEAFDEC has come a long way in trying to do so. I acknowledged that SEAFDEC activities cover various types of issues including regional and international issues on fisheries and realized its objectives for the benefit of member countries. Thailand is really appreciative of the work done by SEAFDEC and has always been committed to the activities SEAFDEC has undertaken especially in term of training. And from now on, the new SEAFDEC Department of Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department or IFRDMD, which has been established in Indonesia, will expand the SEAFDEC framework to cover more regional Inland fisheries sector. As it is noted that inland fisheries is always the sector playing an important role in human welfare and food security in rural area of country. As a responsible SEAFDEC member country, Thailand promises to provide continuous contribution and cooperation to SEAFDEC and SEAFDEC member countries for the promotion of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in our region.

Lastly, I would like to express my appreciation to the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments and the organizers of this 47th Council Meeting for the excellent preparation and organization that ensure the comfortable management of the meeting. I am confident that the result of this meeting will be fruitful and meaningful.

On this note, as the representative of the Government of Thailand, I hereby officially declare the opening of the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council here in Chiang Rai Thailand.

Thank you.

OPENING STATEMENT

By Dr. Tan Lee Kim

Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Corporate & Technology) of the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore, and Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for 2014-2015

My fellow SEAFDEC Council Directors, and our respective delegations;
Our partners and collaborators in sustainable fisheries development;
SEAFDEC officers and staff;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

A very good morning once again!

It has been almost one year since my predecessor, *Mr. Lee Kwong Weng* as the SEAFDEC Council Director for Singapore was elected Chairperson of the Council. As the new SEAFDEC Council Director for Singapore, I am pleased and honoured to assume this responsibility until the new Chairperson is elected.

At this juncture, please allow me to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to all of you for the support extended to us as the Chair. Our special thanks go to the SEAFDEC Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat for their dedication and hard work over the past one year, and providing us with the necessary support and resources making Singapore's work as the Chairperson for the SEAFDEC Council easier.

On behalf of Singapore, I would like to thank SEAFDEC and Member Countries for your condolences on the passing of Singapore's Founding Father, *Mr. Lee Kuan Yew*.

I would also like to express my sincerest gratitude and appreciation to my fellow Council Directors for their support during Singapore's term as Council Chairperson.

Please allow me also to thank our collaborating partners for their continued assistance, especially in terms of funding, especially to the Government of Japan and Government of Sweden. Such generous support has also enabled SEAFDEC and the Member Countries to continuously work towards the sustainable development and management of fisheries in the region.

As the baton of leading the SEAFDEC Council would soon be passed to a new Chairperson, I wish to reiterate our gratitude to all of you.

In order to commence our Meeting, may I invite nominations from the floor for the next Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for 2015-2016.

Thank you.

OPENING STATEMENT

*By Dr. Joompol Sanguansin
Director General, Department of Fisheries of Thailand*

Thank you very much. It is very honored for Thailand for being elected as the Chair of the SEAFDEC Council for the period of one year from now on.

I would like to also welcome all of you once again to the meeting session of the SEAFDEC Council Meeting.

From the Agenda of the Meeting, I can see that SEAFDEC is bringing to the discussion several important issues that are closely relevant to the direction of the Southeast Asian region in moving towards improving sustainable development of fisheries. This Meeting is therefore a very good opportunity for the SEAFDEC Council to discuss and come up with harmonized approach toward this goal, as well as to provide clear directives for the future operations of SEAFDEC. And specifically with the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community, it is a big tasks ahead us to explore how our fisheries sector would be beneficial from the more integration of economic development in several aspects in the near future.

My fellow Council Directors, while I recognize the importance of this Meeting, I would wish to inform you that due to some equally important commitments that I would have to attend to during the next few days, I would not be able to continue chairing this Meeting by myself. Therefore, I would wish to delegate this Meeting's Chair duties to the Alternate Council Director for Thailand, *Dr. Waraporn Prompoj*. I wish you would extend full support to her to chair this Meeting on my behalf.

I truly hope that this Meeting would be very fruitful deliberation and I look forward to see the fruitful outputs from this Meeting in the next few days.

AGENDA

Agenda 1: Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Opening of the Meeting by the Chairperson of SEAFDEC Council for the Year 2014-2015
- 1.2 Election of the Chairperson for the Year 2015-2016
- 1.3 Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Meeting

Agenda 2: Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda 3: Note of the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Program Committee on the Results of the Thirty-seventh Meeting

Agenda 4: Note of the Chairperson of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) on the Results of the Seventeenth Meeting of the FCG/ASSP

Agenda 5: Policy Consideration on Important Issues

- 5.1 CITES Issues: Regional Implementation Support
- 5.2 Issues on Combating IUU Fishing
 - 5.2.1 ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain
 - 5.2.2 Regional Fishing Vessels Record for Vessels 24 meters in Length and Over
 - 5.2.3 ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme
 - 5.2.4 Implementation of the Port State Measures
- 5.3 Regional Cooperation to Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture the ASEAN Region
 - 5.3.1 Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region: TOR of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tuna Stock Assessment
 - 5.3.2 Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and Management of Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture
 - 5.3.3 Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity
 - 5.3.4 Regional Policy Recommendations for Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations

Agenda 6: Other Matters

- 6.1 Proposed High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Towards the ASEAN Economic Community 2015
- 6.2 Policy Concept Note on EAFM Implementation
- 6.3 Summary of the Project Proposal on “Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management”

Agenda 7: Cooperation with International/Regional Organizations and Non-member Governments

Agenda 8: Future Direction Requested by the Council (*Closed Session*)

Agenda 9: Management of the Center (*Closed Session*)

- 9.1 Plans of Operation and Programs of Work of SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat
- 9.2 Proposed Amendment of SEAFDEC Financial Regulations
- 9.3 Operation of SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels

- 9.3.1 Operations of the M.V. SEAFDEC and M.V. SEAFDEC 2
- 9.3.2 Third Revision of the Guidelines on Cost Sharing Policy for the Operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2
- 9.3.3 Proposed Guidelines for Chartering/Renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2
- 9.4 Collaborative Arrangements Between SEAFDEC and Other Organizations

Agenda 10: Financial Matters (*Closed Session*)

- 10.1 Adoption of Audited Financial Report for the Year 2013
- 10.2 Un-audited Financial Report for the Year 2014, and Status of the Financial Situation for the Year 2015
- 10.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirements of the Center for the Year 2016
- 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-eighth Meeting of the Council
- 11.3 Vote of Thanks to the Host Government

Agenda 12: Closing of the Meeting

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

1. The Thirty-seventh Meeting of the Program Committee of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was held in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand, from 1-3 December 2014 and hosted by the Training Department (TD). The Meeting reviewed the SEAFDEC programs implemented in 2014 and scrutinized the programs to be implemented in 2015 to ensure that these programs have been formulated and implemented in line with the priorities and needs of the Member Countries. The list of SEAFDEC programs of activities for 2014-2015 appears as *Appendix 1*. The Meeting was chaired by the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC in his capacity as the Chairperson of SEAFDEC Program Committee.

2. The Meeting noted the progress and achievements made by SEAFDEC in the implementation of **Programs under the FCG/ASSP Mechanism** in 2014, which comprise the twenty (20) projects categorized under five Program Thrusts, namely: 1) Developing and promoting responsible fisheries for poverty alleviation and food security; 2) Enhancing capacity and competitiveness to facilitate international and intra-regional trade; 3) Improving management concepts and approaches for sustainable fisheries; 4) Providing policy and advisory services for planning and executing management of fisheries; and 5) Addressing international fisheries-related issues from a regional perspective; and one 'Special Project'. There were seven new FCG/ASSP Projects proposed for implementation starting from 2015. The Program Committee approved the programs, and provided recommendations which could be summarized as follows:

Program Thrust I: Developing and Promoting Responsible Fisheries for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security

1. Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitat/Fishing Grounds for Resources Enhancement

- Member Countries should be involved more in site selection for the new phase of the project and on-site training based on cost-sharing scheme;
- SEAFDEC to consider documenting the results of this project and based on the results, fast-tracking of the development of a model for fishing ground rehabilitation that could be used by the countries; and
- In the end-of-project seminar to be organized back-to-back with the International Symposium on Resource Enhancement tentatively in June 2015 in Thailand, the outcomes and impacts of the project should be included in the final report and since many Southeast Asian countries have been conducting national programs on resources rehabilitation, relevant experiences of the countries should be compiled and exchanged during the seminar.

2. Human Resources Development (HRD) Programs on Fisheries Management Approaches for Sustainable Fisheries

- SEAFDEC/TD to consider developing the guidelines, toolkits on ecosystem approach for fisheries management (EAFM) for fisheries extension officers, and if appropriate conducting an impact assessment of the project implementation of the EAFM approach, and to make the results known to local communities;
- SEAFDEC/TD to consider extending the EAFM concept to Lao PDR and Myanmar through on-site training; and
- SEAFDEC to continue providing the concept for developing appropriate strategy for implementing on-site training on fisheries management based on ecosystem approach with the participating countries providing in-kind support for such training.

3. Optimizing Energy Use/Improving Safety Onboard in Fishing Activities

- SEAFDEC/TD to consider raising the awareness of stakeholders by disseminating relevant guidelines that made use as reference the lessons learned from affected areas in the Philippines as well as in other countries in the region;
- SEAFDEC/TD to consider developing a standard model for construction of appropriate fishing vessels using as reference the fishing boat designs developed by other fishing nations, e.g. Japan, Taiwan, South Korea;

- Member Countries that have not requested training activities under this project should consider requesting for such activities; and
- Japan to consider supporting such training courses including dispatch of Japanese experts.

4. Resource Enhancement of International Threatened and Over-exploited Species in Southeast Asia through Stock Release

- AQD to consider transferring the experiences and lessons learnt from the project, through a workshop and the report of which should be distributed to the Member Countries;
- AQD to assist Myanmar in improving the methodology adopted by the country in fish larvae production for some important fish species and mud crab in protected areas;
- AQD to consider intensifying its technology transfer activities on breeding of various commodities such as abalone, sea cucumber, and other economically important species to the Member Countries;
- AQD to consider accommodating technical staff from Malaysia to learn on the mass production of humphead wrasse, mud crab, and corals; and
- AQD to work towards becoming the first in the world to make a breakthrough in the resource enhancement of sea horse and Napoleon wrasse.

5. Promotion of Sustainable and Region-oriented Aquaculture

- AQD to provide assistance to Myanmar in the country's effort to conduct studies on the culture of species suitable for different climatic conditions.

Program Thrust II: Enhancing Capacity and Competitiveness to Facilitate International and Intra-regional Trade

6. Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia “Biotxin Monitoring in ASEAN”: ASP, AZA and BTX

- The need to address Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and biotoxins issues was recognized as some Southeast Asian countries have faced increasing incidence of HABs in their waters.

7. Traceability Systems for Aquaculture Products in the ASEAN Region

- The on-line traceability system to facilitate trading of fish and fish products has already been developed by the private sector for commercial use by the shrimp industry, however, MFRD is in the process of finalizing the Regional Guidelines on Traceability System to serve as basic reference for countries to establish their respective traceability systems.

8. Accelerating Awareness and Capacity Building in Fish Health Management in Southeast Asia

- AQD to hasten the sharing of its experiences in the implementation of the project's activities to the Member Countries;
- AQD to explore the possibility of undertaking activities in Myanmar that address problems on diseases in *Macrobrachium* spp. although Myanmar may have to provide the specific detailed information about the characteristics of the diseases before AQD could extend the appropriate assistance; and
- Some on-site activities in requesting countries could be pursued in collaboration with relevant national institutes of the said countries.

9. Food Safety of Aquaculture Products in Southeast Asia

- The proposal to conduct a Regional Technical Consultation on early mortality syndrome (EMS) in white shrimps in 2015 has been developed for the consideration of the ASEAN Foundation.

Program Thrust III: Improving Management Concepts and Approaches for Sustainable Fisheries

10. Strategies for Trawl Fisheries By-catch Management (REBYC-II CTI)

- SEAFDEC to consider extending assistance to the countries in a more flexible and timely manner to be able to adjust when implementation plans at national level might have changed; and
- SEAFDEC to sustain the involvement of private sector in the project implementation.

11. Promotion of Countermeasures to Reduce IUU Fishing Activities

- SEAFDEC to continue extending capacity building activities on data conversion, and technical assistance to Viet Nam and Malaysia to facilitate submission of data to the RFVR database;
- SEAFDEC to develop a mechanism on data use and confidentiality to ensure that data in the RFVR database is kept under secured system and utilized only for the benefit of the region;
- ASEAN Member States to intensify their efforts in submitting data according to the agreed minimum requirements of the RFVR database; and
- Other organizations, e.g. FAO, to implement activities that could assist the SEAFDEC Member Countries in combating IUU fishing and support the countries to implement the Port State Measures (PSM) and develop the National Plan of Action for Combatting IUU Fishing (NPOA-IUU fishing).

12. Combating IUU Fishing in the Southeast Asian Region through Application of Catch Certification for Trading of Fish and Fishery Products

- The development of a “Catch Documentation Scheme” is an initial stage to pave the way toward future development of the “Catch Documentation System” for specific target species to enhance intra-regional trade among the ASEAN Member States.

Program Thrust IV: Providing Policy and Advisory Services for Planning and Executing Management of Fisheries

13. Fisheries Resource Survey & Operational Plan for M.V. SEAFDEC 2

- It was noted that more collaboration on offshore tuna research surveys could be established in the South China Sea area such as between the Philippines and Viet Nam;
- The M.V. SEAFDEC 2 would be utilized for the second fisheries resources survey in Sulu-Sulawesi Seas; and
- Malaysia proposed to use the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for two demersal surveys in the waters of Malaysia, the first from 28 February to 23 March 2015, and the second from 4 May to 22 June 2015.

14. Offshore Fisheries Resources Exploration in Southeast Asia

- SEAFDEC to consider developing appropriate fishing gear for use in untrawlable waters and for exploiting under-utilized deep sea resources in precautionary manner.

15. Research and Management of Sea Turtles in Foraging Habitats in the Southeast Asian Waters

- It was noted that the development of RPOA-Sea Turtles would enhance the country’s effort in developing their respective NPOA-Sea Turtles.

16. Enhancing the Compilation and Utilization of Fishery Statistics and Information for Sustainable Development and Management of Fisheries in the Southeast Asian Region

- SEAFDEC to continue extending technical assistance and capacity building to Viet Nam on rights-based fisheries and co-management; and
- SEAFDEC to expand its works and enhance capacity of relevant national staff of Viet Nam to enable them to analyze and link information compiled from local communities as inputs to data collection system at local level.

17. Comparative Studies for Management of Purse Seine Fisheries in the Southeast Asian Region

- SEAFDEC to consider applying the “Total Effort Allowance System” which was developed by Japan and could be more suitable for the region.

18. Research and Management of Sharks and Rays in the Southeast Asian Waters

- It was noted that Malaysia had obtained funding from the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) to carry out a study on sharks and rays in Sabah by the Department of Fisheries Malaysia in collaboration with MFRDMD; and
- It was noted that TD together with MFRDMD and in consultation with CITES Secretariat developed a proposal to conduct a project on sharks and rays landing data collection, for possible financial support from the EU-CITES project.

Program Thrust V: Addressing International Fisheries-related Issues from a Regional Perspective

19. Assistance for Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade-related Issues

- SEAFDEC to continue collaborating with organizations such as FAO and provide platform for development of common views of the Member Countries (*e.g.* on FAO Traceability Guidelines), in order that the region's views could be reflected at relevant FAO Consultations; and
- SEAFDEC to consider wider distribution of its publications and results of its initiatives, *e.g.* development of RFVR database and traceability system, so that relevant organizations would be well informed on the progress of the initiatives that SEAFDEC has been undertaking.

20. Strengthening SEAFDEC Network for Sustainable Fisheries

- SEAFDEC to continue the RFPN program to strengthen the capability of national fisheries agencies in the Member Countries; and
- SEAFDEC to consider hosting the forthcoming Meeting of the Asian Fisheries Acoustics Society (AFAS) in Bangkok, Thailand in November 2015 as this Meeting would enable SEAFDEC to cooperate with various stakeholders and enhance its visibility.

3. For the Special Project on “Fisheries and Habitat Management, Climate Change and Social Well-being in Southeast Asia”

- SEAFDEC to consider establishing the overall linkages of activities implemented in the sub-regions;
- SEAFDEC to undertake follow-up actions after the First Meeting between Malaysia and Thailand and facilitate the development of MOU on bilateral cooperation on the development and management of fisheries between Malaysia and Thailand;
- It was noted that SEAFDEC would formulate activities for the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas Sub-region once the CTI-CFF Secretariat is launched and the collaborative arrangement between CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC is signed; and
- It was noted that SEAFDEC has been invited to be involved in a Meeting to be organized by NACA in March 2015 aiming to enhance the resilience of fisheries and aquaculture to climate change in the Lower Mekong Basin.

4. On the Proposed New FCG/ASSP Programs for the Year 2015 and Onwards, the Program Committee provided comments and suggestions to enhance the implementation of such projects as follows:

1. Reinforcement and Optimization of Fish Health Management and the Effective Dissemination in the Southeast Asian Region

- It was noted that SEAFDEC plans to organize a Regional Technical Consultation in early 2015 to serve as platform for sharing of experiences and results of national initiatives on the EMS and would avail of the expertise of Japan in addressing EMS issues.

2. Environment-friendly, Sustainable Utilization and Management of Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources

- The plan for the conduct of the RTC on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations in Myanmar from 9 to 11 December 2014 was noted.

3. Research for Enhancement of Sustainable Utilization and Management of Sharks and Rays in the Southeast Asian Region

- Member Countries should demonstrate the progress made in improving the management of sharks and rays resources, as well as improving data collection of shark species;
- Concern was expressed on the difficulties in identifying shark species in the region;
- Assessment of stocks of specific shark species should be carried out;
- It was noted that Malaysia has launched the movement on “no to shark fins” while Brunei Darussalam would also enforce the banning of sharks catch and importation of sharks and its products by 2015; and
- For the sustainability of shark resources in the region, the development of fishing gear that target sharks should be discouraged.

4. Promotion of Sustainable Fisheries Resources Enhancement Measures in Critical Habitats/Fishing Grounds in Southeast Asia

- SEAFDEC to consider the project sites proposed by Thailand for the conduct of resource enhancement activities, such as in the waters of Ranong Province connected with Myanmar for the Indian mackerel and in the waters of Trat Province connected with Cambodia for the Indo-Pacific mackerel;
- SEAFDEC to consider providing technical support in forecasting fishing grounds within the national on-going fisheries resources programs of Viet Nam;
- The project should be implemented in coherent manner with similar activities under the REBYC-II CTI Project; and
- SEAFDEC to compile the outcomes and lessons learned from previous projects that deal with similar objective of improving the habitats of fish in fishing grounds as a basis for development of this project duplicating efforts.

5. Enhancement of Sustainability of Catadromous Eel Resources in Southeast Asia

- This project should be treated with urgency;
- The project should come up with appropriate sustainable resource management of eel resources to support the establishment of common position of the region if eel species would be proposed for listing in the CITES Appendices with Japan expressing willingness to support this activity; and
- A study on spawning season and spawning grounds should be conducted under the project to promote eel resource enhancement and breeding activities.

6. Promotion of Responsible Utilization of Inland Fisheries in Southeast Asia

- The implementation of the project starting in 2015 was supported by the Program Committee.

7. Cold Chain Management of Seafood,

- MFRD would consider to address the risks associated with seafood that come with management of cold chains under the project; and
- It was noted that this project would help in reducing spoilage of fish along the supply chain resulting in more benefits to all stakeholders in the fishing industry especially fishers.

5. The Program Committee also endorsed **Departmental Programs** proposed for 2015 which comprises eight continuing programs from 2014, five of which would be implemented by AQD, namely: 1) Adapting to Climate Change Impacts; 2) Healthy and Wholesome Aquaculture; 3) Maintaining Environmental Integrity through Responsible Aquaculture; 4) Meeting Socio-economic Challenges in Aquaculture; and 5) Quality Seed for Sustainable Aquaculture; and three by TD namely: 1) Promotion on Strengthening SEAFDEC Visibility and Image; 2) Tailor-made Training Program; and 3) Improvement of Fisheries Technology and Reduction of Impacts from Fishing. The Program Committee provided recommendations which could be summarized as follows:

1. Aquaculture Department

- AQD to speed up the dissemination of the results of its R&D such as the development of aquafeeds for selected species at specific growing stages, tissue culture of seaweeds, production of disease-free *Penaeus monodon*, and withdrawal period of antibiotics on important aquatic species, for the benefit of the stakeholders especially the small-scale fish farmers in the region;
- AQD to consider conducting a project on eco-friendly aquaculture in reservoirs in view of the socio-economic challenges that the country has encountered in the management of reservoir fisheries and aquaculture; and
- It was noted that AQD has shared the results of its programs and activities through accessible means of the Department.

2. Training Department

- For the project on “Energy Audit for Trawlers in the Gulf of Thailand”, Viet Nam requested the possibility for the country to participate in the project; and
- Thailand, while expressing support to the activities that focus on low-energy consumption for demersal trawls, urged SEAFDEC to develop models that could be used for small-scale fishers in the region.

6. The Program Committee further considered and endorsed one **Other Program** on “Coastal Area Capability Enhancements in Southeast Asia” implemented in 2014 and proposed for 2015, and noted that the experiences gained from the project implementation would be shared with all Member Countries after the completion of this project.
7. Finally, the Program Committee took note of the status of three **Pipeline Projects** namely: 1) Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (UNEP/GEF/SEAFDEC Project); 2) Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management (ASEC/IDB/SEAFDEC Project); and 3) Ocean and Fisheries Partnership Project (USAID/SEAFDEC Project).
8. The Program Committee took note of the strengthened cooperation with non-member governments and international/regional organizations, *i.e.* the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP); the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA); the National Agriculture Training Council (NATC) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry Malaysia; the Mekong River Commission Fisheries Programme (MRC-FP); the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM); the ASEAN-U.S. Project on Maximizing Agriculture through Knowledge, Enterprise Development, and Trade (USAID MARKET Project); and the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA).
9. Program Management Matters, the Program Committee took note of the development of the Master Plan for SEAFDEC’s Strategic Plan of Operation (2015-2020) which is considered as internal working document of SEAFDEC, and requested SEAFDEC Departments to further develop their respective “Plans of Operations and Programs of Works” taking into consideration the recommendations of the Program Committee for consideration by the SEAFDEC Council at its next meeting in 2015. Furthermore, the Program Committee also agreed in principle to adapt the format of SEAFDEC Project Document and the Evaluation Form as suggested by the representative from Japan to be used for monitoring and evaluation of SEAFDEC programs in the future.
10. With regards to the “Proposed Revision of the Guidelines on the Cost Sharing Policy for the Operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2” and the “Proposed Guidelines for Chartering/Renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2”, the Program Committee provided recommendations that should be incorporated in the proposals before submission of the SEAFDEC for consideration at its next meeting in 2015.
11. After the deliberations, the Program Committee adopted the Report of the 37th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee for submission to the 47th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council, and to the ASEAN through the 17th Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP).

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The 47th Council Meeting is requested to:

- 1) Take note of the progress of programs implemented in 2014; and
- 2) Endorse the programs proposed to be implemented in 2015 and recommendations made by the SEAFDEC Program Committee.

SEAFDEC PROGRAMS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2014-2015

I. Programs of Activities under FCG/ASSP Mechanism

Existing Projects

Program Thrust/Project Title	Lead Department	2014	2015
Thrust I: Developing and Promoting Responsible Fisheries for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security			
1. Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitat/Fishing Grounds for Resources Enhancement	TD	Y	N
2. Human Resources Development (HRD) Programs on Fisheries Management Approaches for Sustainable Fisheries	TD	Y	Y
3. Optimizing Energy Use/Improving Safety Onboard in Fishing Activities	TD	Y	Y
4. Resource Enhancement of International Threatened and Over-exploited Species in Southeast Asia through Stock Release	AQD	Y	N
5. Promotion of Sustainable and Region-oriented Aquaculture	AQD	Y	N
Thrust II: Enhancing Capacity and Competitiveness to Facilitate International and Intra-regional Trade			
6. Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia "Biotxin Monitoring in ASEAN": ASP, AZA and BTX	MFRD	Y	Y
7. Traceability Systems for Aquaculture Products in the ASEAN Region	MFRD	Y	N
8. Accelerating Awareness and Capacity-building in Fish Health Management in Southeast Asia	AQD	Y	N
9. Food Safety of Aquaculture Products in Southeast Asia	AQD	Y	N
Thrust III: Improving Management Concepts and Approaches for Sustainable Fisheries			
10. Strategies for Trawl Fisheries By-catch Management (FAO-GEF/REBYC-II CTI)	TD	Y	Y
11. Promotion of Countermeasures to Reduce IUU Fishing Activities	TD	Y	Y
12. Combating IUU Fishing in the Southeast Asian Region through Application of Catch Certification for Trading of Fish and Fishery Products	MFRDMD	Y	Y
Thrust IV: Providing Policy and Advisory Services for Planning and Executing Management of Fisheries			
13. Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for M.V. SEAFDEC 2	TD	Y	Y
14. Offshore Fisheries Resources Exploration in Southeast Asia	TD	Y	Y
15. Research and Management of Sea Turtles in Foraging Habitats in the Southeast Asian Waters	MFRDMD	Y	N
16. Enhancing the Compilation and Utilization of Fishery Statistics and Information for Sustainable Development and Management of Fisheries in Southeast Asian Region	TD	Y	Y
17. Comparative Studies for Management of Purse Seine Fisheries in the Southeast Asian Region	MFRDMD	Y	Y
18. Research and Management of Sharks and Rays in the Southeast Asian Waters	MFRDMD	Y	N
Thrust V: Addressing International Fisheries-related Issues from a Regional Perspective			
19. Assistance for Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Fisheries-related Issues	SEC	Y	Y
20. Strengthening SEAFDEC Network for Sustainable Fisheries	SEC	Y	Y

Special Project

Proposed New FCG/ASSP Project	Lead Department	Period
1. Fisheries and Habitat Management, Climate Change and Social Well-being in Southeast Asia	SEC	2013-2017

New Project starting from 2015

Project Title	Lead Department	Period
1. Reinforcement and Optimization of Fish Health Management and the Effective Dissemination in the Southeast Asian Region	AQD	2015-2019
2. Environment-friendly, Sustainable Utilization and Management of Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources	AQD	2015-2019
3. Research for Enhancement of Sustainable Utilization and Management of Sharks and Rays in the Southeast Asian Region	MFRDMD/ TD	2015-2019
4. Promotion of Sustainable Fisheries Resources Enhancement Measures in Critical Habitats/Fishing Grounds in Southeast Asia	TD	2015-2019
5. Enhancement of Sustainability of Catadromous Eel Resources in Southeast Asia	IFRDMD	2015-2019
6. Promotion of Responsible Utilization of Inland Fisheries in Southeast Asia	IFRDMD	2015-2019
7. Cold Chain Management of Seafood	MFRD/AVA	2015-2017

II. Departmental Programs

Program Title	Department	2014	2015
1. Adapting to Climate Change Impacts	AQD	Y	Y
2. Healthy and Wholesome Aquaculture	AQD	Y	Y
3. Maintaining Environmental Integrity through Responsible Aquaculture	AQD	Y	Y
4. Meeting Socio-economic Challenges in Aquaculture	AQD	Y	Y
5. Quality Seed for Sustainable Aquaculture	AQD	Y	Y
6. Promotion on Strengthening of SEAFDEC Visibility and Image	TD	Y	Y
7. Tailor-made Training Programs	TD	Y	Y
8. Improvement of Fisheries Technology and Reduction of the Impact from Fishing	TD	Y	Y

III. Other Program

Program Title	Department	2014	2015
1. Coastal Area Capability Enhancements in Southeast Asia (SEAFDEC/RIHN Collaborative Project)	TD	Y	Y

IV. Pipeline projects

Project Title	Responsible agencies
1. Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries <i>Refugia</i> in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand	UNEP/GEF/SEAFDEC
2. Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management	ASEC/IDB/SEAFDEC
3. Ocean and Fisheries Partnership Project	USAID/SEAFDEC

Y = Program/project implemented during the year

N = Program/project not implemented during the year

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF THE
ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (FCG/ASSP)

1. The Seventeenth Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP) was organized in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand from 4 to 5 December 2014, and was co-chaired by the representative from Malaysia for the Chairperson of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) and the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC. Attended by representatives from the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries and SEAFDEC senior officials led by the Secretary-General, the Meeting noted the progress and developments of the programs, projects and activities of SEAFDEC under the FCG/ASSP Mechanism, and provided views and recommendations for their efficient and effective implementation.
2. On the directives at the 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in April 2014 and those of the 16th Meeting of the FCG/ASSP in November 2013:
 - The participation of Lao PDR in the Training on Vessel Inspection On-board for ASEAN Member States on 5-9 January 2015 to be organized by Singapore in collaboration with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA), is encouraged as this is useful for inspection of inland fishing activities;
 - A regional guideline for on-board vessel inspection could be considered as an output of the training course taking into consideration the protocols of respective countries;
 - For the development of ASEAN common position during international fora, *e.g.* FAO/COFI, COP CITES, a mechanism should be established to ensure that a unified voice from the ASEAN could be reflected and considered during the finalization/adoption of international guidelines/instruments and the like;
 - ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries should take part at the early stages of development of guidelines, *i.e.* at the preparatory technical meetings and not only during the finalization/adoption of such guidelines;
 - AMS should raise these concerns during the ASWGFi meetings, especially during the forthcoming meeting of the ASWGFi, specifically on the required process of developing common positions by AMS;
 - Development of common voice should to be communicated with dialogue partners of AMSs through the Chair of the Asian bloc (The Republic of South Korea) ;
 - The Chair of ASWGFi during the year should be responsible for raising the aforementioned concerns on behalf of the AMS;
 - ASEAN was requested to consider convening the ASWGFi before the COFI Meeting in order that important issues could be discussed and finalized, including the common positions to be raised at the COFI;
 - Issues and concerns regarding CITES should be discussed with the ASEAN Experts Group on CITES for the development of common voice to be raised during the COP CITES; and
 - SEAFDEC should finalize important policy-related documents as soon as possible for submission to the AMAF through appropriate ASEAN mechanism and processes, considering that the next Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) would be in October 2015.
3. Of the projects implemented by SEAFDEC in 2014 and those proposed for 2015 as previously endorsed by the 37th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee, eight had been completed in 2014 while thirteen would be continued in 2015.
4. The following seven new projects proposed for 2015 should be raised at the forthcoming meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) for collaboration, implementation and incorporation into the FCG/ASSP program:
 - i) Reinforcement and Optimization of Fish Health Management and the Effective Dissemination in the Southeast Asian Region;
 - ii) Environment-friendly, Sustainable Utilization and Management of Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources;

- iii) Research for Enhancement of Sustainable Utilization and Management of Sharks and Rays in the Southeast Asian Region;
 - iv) Promotion of Sustainable Fisheries Resources Enhancement Measures in Critical Habitats/Fishing Grounds in Southeast Asia;
 - v) Enhancement of Sustainability of Catadromous Eel Resources in Southeast Asia;
 - vi) Promotion of Responsible Utilization of Inland Fisheries in Southeast Asia; and
 - vii) Cold Chain Management of Seafood.
5. On capacity building related to aquaculture activities:
- AQD could provide technical assistance to the AMSs on cost-sharing basis considering that most of its activities rely on support from the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF); and
 - AMS could refer to the Proceedings of IWRESA 2014: International Workshop on Resource Enhancement and Sustainable Aquaculture Practices in Southeast Asia in March 2014 to be published in April 2015, to learn about the results of AQD's project activities.
6. The proposed ASEAN-SEAFDEC Cooperation in the Implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework including Climate Change and Its Impacts on Fisheries and Aquaculture Adaptation and Mitigation Towards Food Security, prepared by the ASEAN Secretariat and circulated to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, could not be discussed in view of the absence of representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat during the Meeting.
7. The absence of representatives from ASEAN Secretariat in FCG/ASSP meetings during the past few years should be brought up and tabled for discussion during the next ASWGFi meeting, especially through Myanmar as the next Chair of ASWGFi.
8. Progress of the activities under the ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASA) spearheaded by Thailand:
- Fifth Meeting of the ASEAN Shrimp Alliance organized on 16 June 2014 in Putrajaya, Malaysia discussed the certification scheme for ASEAN Shrimp GAP;
 - The ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program (AADCP) Phase II would formulate the ASEAN Good Aquaculture Practices Certification Scheme which could be applicable for all aquaculture species including shrimps;
 - The first draft of the Shrimp Standard for the ASEAN Region prepared by the USAID MARKET Project is considered inappropriate as it would duplicate with the ASEAN Shrimp GAP which had already been endorsed by the ASEAN in 2011;
 - The visibility of developing forms of standards for the region should be raised to the ASWGFi, during discussions on the draft Standard at the forthcoming ASWGFi meeting; and
 - AMS should carefully review all documents prior to their submission for consideration and endorsement by higher authorities of the ASEAN.
9. The ASEAN Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference and Exposition to be hosted by Thailand and initially proposed for 2015 would be postponed to August 2016.
10. On CITES-related issues:
- The "Declaration and Action Plan for the Implementation of CITES Requirements in Relation to Sharks and Manta Rays" was developed during the Asian Regional Consultative Workshop on Capacity Assessments for the Implementation of New CITES Listing of Sharks and Manta Rays organized by CITES Secretariat in collaboration with FAO in Xiamen, Fujian Province, China in May 2014; and
 - The national CITES management authorities of participating countries should issue their respective letters of agreement to SEAFDEC Secretariat in order that the project proposal on Sharks and Manta Rays Landing Stock Data Collection Towards Sharks non-detriment findings (NDF) prepared for funding by the EU-CITES Project, could be subsequently submitted to the CITES Secretariat in Geneva.
11. Progress on the development of Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR) database for vessels 24 meters in length and over should be reported to the higher authorities of the ASEAN.

12. On the ASEAN Catch Documentation System/Scheme (ASEAN CDS):
 - Various concerns should be considered and appropriately incorporated in the development of the ASEAN CDS, *e.g.* foreign vessels operating in national EEZs of other countries through bilateral arrangements, requirements for information on raw materials from countries that do not export fishery products to EU, simplified CDS for small-scale fisheries; and
 - SEAFDEC and AMSs should approach EU and other importing countries to assess whether the ASEAN CDS could be recognized and used for exporting fish and fishery products from the region to the EU;
 - The concept of small-scale fisheries in the ASEAN CDS should be thoroughly discussed and that small-scale fisheries should be defined by activities and operators rather than based on the scale of fishing boats; and
 - SEAFDEC should accommodate the recommendations from this Meeting into the first draft of the ASEAN CDS, during the Regional Technical Consultation on ASEAN Catch Document Scheme on 16-18 December 2014 in Langkawi, Malaysia.

13. On the final draft of the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain:
 - Item 12.1 of the Guidelines should be changed to “States should take appropriate actions against fishing vessels operating illegally beyond their designated areas, *e.g.* through flag State measures, port State measures, and coastal State measures”;
 - Abbreviations and acronyms in the Guidelines should be reviewed and completed
 - In Item 15.1, “to be reviewed every three years” of the Guidelines should be changed to “when necessary as proposed by AMS”; and
 - The Draft Guidelines should be revised taking into consideration the aforementioned suggestions for submission through the ASEAN mechanism for endorsement by the AMAF.

14. On the Regional Guidelines for Managing Fishing Capacity:
 - The Regional Technical Consultation on Regional Guidelines for Managing Fishing Capacity to be organized on 24-26 February 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia aims to share and exchange experiences on the development of national frameworks for managing fishing capacity.

15. On the regional cooperation to develop the Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region (RPOA- Neritic Tunas):
 - Some items on the Draft RPOA-Neritic Tunas should be amended as follows:
 - i) Objective V should be changed to “Addressing Social Issues”;
 - ii) In Item 2 on Working Condition and Labor Issues of Objective V, bullet 1 should be changed to “Prevention of child labor under the age of 15 years (or less than 18 years) working in tuna fisheries sectors in accordance with ILO Conventions”;
 - iii) In Item 2 on Working Condition and Labor Issues of Objective V, bullet 3 should be changed to “Promotion of safety requirements at sea with capacity building and training for people engaged in tuna fisheries and related activities”; and
 - iv) Objective VI should be changed to “Enhancing Regional Cooperation”.
 - The Scientific Working Group (SWG) to be established as a long-term mechanism to support the implementation of the RPOA-Neritic Tunas, should be capable of working independently with support from their respective national governments and with MFRDMD serving as secretariat of SWG.
 - The TOR of SWG and the principles of formulating the SWG mechanism would be submitted to the SEAFDEC Council for approval.
 - The final draft of the Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region should be submitted for consideration and approval by the higher authorities of SEAFDEC and the ASEAN.

16. On the Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and Management of Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture envisioned to provide the framework for the development of important activities in the Southeast Asian region and to come up with common approaches for management and utilization of eel resources:

- The phrase “legalize the trading of glass eels within AMS” should be replaced with “a framework for intra-regional trading of eels such as guidelines on trading of certain sizes of eels and quota system, among others”; and
- This Regional Policy Recommendations should be submitted to the higher authorities of SEAFDEC and the ASEAN taking into account the abovementioned recommendation.

17. The Regional Guidelines on Traceability System for Aquaculture Products undertaken by MFRD in 2014 and timelines should be submitted to the higher authorities of SEAFDEC and the ASEAN.

18. On the Publication of Important Findings and Recommendations on Chemical Use in Aquaculture in Southeast Asia by AQD:

- The coverage of the study should be expanded to other AMSs under cost-sharing basis, not only limiting to the Philippines; and
- The exclusion of white shrimp in the study due to limited funds allocated should be reviewed and discussed thoroughly.

19. The Regional Plan of Action for Managing Foraging Habitats of Sea Turtles in Southeast Asian Waters is technical in nature and thus, endorsement of the Guidelines from the higher authorities of SEAFDEC and the ASEAN would not be necessary, although the Guidelines would be made accessible through MFRDMD website.

20. The Report of the 17th Meeting of the FCG/ASSP was adopted on 5 December 2015.

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The 47th Council Meeting is requested to consider and endorse the results of the deliberations and the recommendations made at the Seventeenth Meeting of the FCG/ASSP.

CITES ISSUES: REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This paper compiles information on the implementation of CITES-related matters especially on improving data collection on sharks and how regional approach is being developed in the Southeast Asia. In addition, to seek the advice from SEAFDEC Council on the preparation for the Seventeenth Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties (CITES-CoP17) in 2016. This paper is prepared to support the discussion during the 47th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council held in Chiang Rai, Thailand from 31 March to 3 April 2015.

2. Refers to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) convened from 3 to 14 March 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand, which five out of seven proposals relevant to shark and ray species were accepted and was put in place in September 2014. Noting that, the SEAFDEC Council during its 45th Meeting recommended that SEAFDEC should closely cooperate with FAO and relevant organizations in jointly addressing the CITES issues, and that FAO should consider not only in developing scientific advice but also raising practical and general problems associated with CITES listings of aquatic species such as the **non-detriment findings (NDF)**, and the inertial nature of CITES decisions, *i.e.* once listed will never be delisted. The Council also requested SEAFDEC to seize the opportunity to utilize the pledge of EU to provide funding for capacity building in activities related to the listing of marine species in the CITES Appendices for the benefit of the region. Such activities could focus on shark-related studies particularly on taxonomy, NDF and in updating the information on marketing of shark products in the region.

3. In addition, the SEAFDEC Council during its 46th Meeting encouraged SEAFDEC and the ASEAN Secretariat to carry out proactive initiative in enhancing the capacity of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries in addressing concerns related to the listing of commercially- exploited aquatic resources in the CITES Appendices and to explore potential donors to support their relevant capacity building activities. Furthermore, the Council reiterated that the Member Countries could directly discuss CITES-related issues with the CITES focal point in each country.

II. PROGRESS MADE FOR REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT IN RESPONSE TO THE REGULATION ADOPTED AT THE COP16

A. Declaration and Action Plan for the Implementation of CITES Requirements in Relation to Sharks and Manta Rays

4. CITES-Secretariat in collaboration with FAO organized the “Asian Regional Consultative Workshop on Capacity Assessments for the Implementation of New CITES Listing of Sharks and Manta Rays” at Xiamen, Fujian Province, P. R. China, from 13 to 15 of May 2014, where the representatives of fisheries and CITES authorities from China, Hong Kong (China), Macao (China), India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan (as an observer), Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Yemen attended the Workshop.

5. Having in mind the importance of conservation and sustainable use of sharks and rays and after scrutinizing the limitations, challenges and needs of the countries in the region, the results of meeting, therefore adopted the Xiamen Declaration and Action Plan for the Implementation of CITES Requirements in Relation to Sharks and Manta Rays (**Appendix 1**) particular on the priority actions to effectively implement the new listing of sharks and manta rays in CITES Appendix II as follows:

- Improvement of data collection
- Strengthening national legislation, enforcement (monitoring, control and surveillance) and international cooperation
- Strengthening conservation and management measures

- Enhancing training and capacity building/human resource development
- Securing funding

B. EU Funding Support on Capacity Building Program Through CITES Secretariat.

6. In response to the abovementioned request from the Member Countries, SEAFDEC has informal communication with *Dr. Haruko Okusu*, Capacity Building Coordinator of the CITES Secretariat who is the contact person for EU funding support through the CITES Secretariat.

7. In addition, SEAFDEC, through its Japanese Trust Fund, has initiated a regional collaborative program to support ASEAN countries on their stock assessment of shark and rays species listed during the CoP16. The collaborative program activity started with the conduct of 'Regional Workshop on Data Collection Methodology for the Assessment of Shark Stock Status' which was convened in October 2013 to gather ideas on how to deal with sharks data collection, and regional support from SEAFDEC and others to the Member Countries on implementation of CITES listing shark species.

8. According to the reports by the countries on utilization of sharks in their respective countries, it is clear that sharks and rays are non-target catch. Available national statistics in all countries recorded sharks and rays by group but not up to species level. The common issues in the region also included inadequate experts and competent officers in elasmobranchs taxonomy, insufficient knowledge and expertise to identify shark's part and derivatives, biological data, stock structure, and spatial and temporal distribution of sharks and rays are still lacking.

9. In order to improve assessment of stock status of sharks/rays in the region, the Workshop suggested that data collection on these species should be started up with some major species, such as CITES listed species including hammerhead and oceanic whitetip sharks, manta rays and thresher sharks (IOTC). Species identification may be too difficult for routine data collection, it was therefore recommended to make more use of illustration, group of species, etc. The Workshop also recommended that the current data sheet used by enumerators in Malaysia should be used as guidelines for other countries and for SEAFDEC to develop a standardized data sheet for this region to record CPUE data specific to the type of fishing gears as well as logbook.

10. In this regard, SEAFDEC/TD in cooperation with MFRDMD have worked closely with the Member Countries to come up with the set of pilot activities. Sampling sites of the pilot activities include area of: Andaman Sea (Myanmar, Thailand, and Indonesia); Gulf of Thailand and South China Sea (Thailand, Malaysia, and Viet Nam); and Sulu-Sulawesi Seas (Malaysia and Philippines). Possible pilot sites, to be partly supported by the Japanese Trust Fund Program through SEAFDEC/TD, appeared in **Appendix 2**. It was planned that three (3) species of hammerhead sharks (CITES Appendix II), Thresher sharks (IOTC), and manta ray (CITES Appendix II) will be recorded at that selected pilot sites. In this connection, TD will also closely coordinate with CITES Secretariat for EU funding support capacity building program for implementation of CITES listed species of sharks/rays.

11. In 2014, the activities emphasized on alleviating problem of shark data collection by improving capacity on species identification of enumerators of Member Countries through the conduct of 'training of trainer'. Shark data landing at pilot sites of some SEAFDEC Member Countries was initiated in August 2014 under technical support by TD and MFRDMD. Participating countries of the project have agreed on the format and template for data collection on sharks. SEAFDEC has been trying to encourage data collection of the shark landing in selected pilot sites of the participating countries. However, it is likely that the current financial support from JTF through SEAFDEC for implementing the activities may not sufficient for 2015 and onwards. In this connection, SEAFDEC has communicated with the officer-in-charge of the EU funding support (in the budget category of supporting formulation of national NDFs) for possible financial support from CITES Secretariat. The results from the informal communication tuned very positive. It is envisaged that project activities on data collection, including organization of the onsite training for enumerators, national planning meeting for shark data collection, allowance for local enumerators to collect data on shark landing, reports of the data collection, will be borne by the financial support from EU funding through the CITES Secretariat.

12. In this connection, TD in collaboration with MFRDMD has developed the project proposal on “Data Collection on Catch Landing of Sharks in Southeast Asian Countries: *Sharks and Manta Rays Landing Stock Data Collection towards Sharks NDF*” to request the financial support from EU through the CITES Secretariat. In order to receive such fund, it was recommended that SEAFDEC should get the agreement of the CITES Management Authorities of the participating countries. The Project Proposal appeared in **Appendix 3**.

13. In this regard, SEAFDEC in close collaboration with the fishery authorities of participating Member Countries will be responsible for providing all technical inputs and arrangements that is associated with the implementation of the data collection on shark at the selected sites for twelve months duration of the project, including; organization of the national workshop, onsite training for local enumerators for data collection, assistance on data input-analysis-reporting, and organization of the end-of-project meeting. The CITES Secretariat shall provide SEAFDEC with funds up to a maximum amount of US\$100,000 from the Small-Scale Funding Agreement (SFA). The resources provided by CITES Secretariat will only be used by SEAFDEC in pursuit of the project/program objectives and for the activities to achieve the results as mentioned in the SFA.

CITES CoP17 in 2016

14. Preparing for the 17th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES (CITES CoP17), recently SEAFDEC has initiated on enhancing the capacity for data collection of sharks and rays, as well as develop the policy recommendation and strategic program for the conservation and management of catadromous eel resources and sustainable development of catadromous eel aquaculture in Southeast Asia. Even though the status of glass eels distributed in the region are still unclear, aquaculture technology is not developed and promoted, but some AMSs such as the Philippines and Indonesia have raised this important issues and developed legal frameworks to protect the illegal exportations of glass eels to other developed countries.

15. At the 37th Meeting of Program Committee, SEAFDEC Member Countries supported the establishment of common/coordinated position of the region if eel species would be proposed for listing in the CITES Appendices.

16. SEAFDEC will monitor if any economically important species would be proposed for listing. in the CITES Appendices at the CoP17, and will work closely with all SEAFDEC Member Countries for development of the common/coordinated position of the Region.

III. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Meeting is requested to take note the Declaration and Action Plan for the Implementation of CITES Requirements in Relation to Sharks and Manta Rays based on the Asian Regional Consultative Workshop on Capacity Assessments for the Implementation of New CITES Listing of Sharks and Manta Rays” organized by CITES-Secretariat in collaboration with FAO at Xiamen, Fujian Province, P. R. China, as well as the progress made by SEAFDEC in relation to CITES-related issues. The Meeting is also requested to support the implementation of CITES-related matters especially on improving data collection on sharks at national and regional levels. Lastly, the Meeting is cordially invited to provide policy recommendations on the future direction and way forwards in relation to CITES-related issues and preparation for the CITES CoP17.

**Xiamen Declaration
&
Action Plan for the Implementation of CITES Requirements
in Relation to Sharks and Manta Rays**

Xiamen, China, from 13 to 15 of May 2014



**Main outputs of the FAO/CITES Regional Consultative Workshop on
Capacity Assessments for the Implementation of New CITES listing of
Sharks and Manta Rays**



XIAMEN DECLARATION

We, the representatives of fisheries and CITES authorities from China, Hong Kong (China), Macao (China), India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan (as an observer), Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Yemen at the FAO/CITES “Asian Regional Consultative Workshop on Capacity Assessments for the Implementation of new CITES Listing of Sharks and Manta Rays” (Xiamen, Fujian Province, P. R. China, from 13 to 15 of May 2014), reviewed and discussed the implementation of the new CITES listing for sharks and manta rays¹ agreed at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES to be effective from 14th September 2014.

Having in mind the importance of conservation and sustainable use of sharks and rays and after scrutinizing the limitations, challenges and needs of the countries in the region, we recommend the following priority actions to effectively implement the new listing of sharks and manta rays in CITES Appendix II:

- IMPROVEMENT OF DATA COLLECTION
- STRENGTHENING NATIONAL LEGISLATION, ENFORCEMENT (MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE) AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
- STRENGTHENING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES
- ENHANCING TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING/HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
- SECURING FUNDING

We encourage all countries to closely collaborate with Regional Fisheries Bodies and fully use existing regional wildlife enforcement networks in relation to CITES-listed marine species, to enhance sharing of information and expertise with regard to the management and sustainable utilization of shark and ray species.

We appeal to our governments and donors to support the efforts by Asian countries to improve measures for implementing CITES regulations for sharks and manta rays, and for the conservation and sustainable utilization of sharks and rays.

We thank the European Union and China for funding the workshop, China for hosting the workshop, and FAO and the CITES Secretariat for their support in the organization of the event.

Xiamen, Fujian Province, P. R. China, 15 May 2014

¹ Oceanic whitetip (*Carcharhinus longimanus*), scalloped hammerhead (*Sphyrna lewini*), great hammerhead shark (*Sphyrna mokarran*), smooth hammerhead shark (*Sphyrna zygaena*), the porbeagle shark (*Lamna nasus*) and the genus *Manta* spp, the entry into force of the inclusion in Appendix II of which is 14 September 2014.

Regional action plan for the implementation of the recent listings of sharks and manta rays under CITES Appendix II for Asia

Notes:

1. The term “shark” is taken to include all species of sharks, skates, rays and chimeras (Class Chondrichthyes)
2. At the end of each activity the following abbreviations are used to indicate the time frame for implementation:
 ST = Short Term (1 to 2 years)
 MT = Medium Term (3 to 5 years)
 LT = Long Term (over 5 years)

ACTION 1: IMPROVEMENT OF DATA COLLECTION		
Issues	Challenges	Activities to address identified needs
1. Scientific information to support assessment and management of shark and ray fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of fisheries data (catch, discards, effort) in particular in areas with high species diversity, small-scale fisheries and limited human capacity • Lack of spatio-temporal data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct more training courses and workshops on biology, taxonomy, ecology and stock assessment of sharks and rays (ST) • Support the data collection through logbook and/or observer programs and others as feasible (ST) • Encourage the use of local knowledge (ST) • Record all landing data of CITES listed species at species level (ST/MT) • Carry out stock assessments at regional levels (MT)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of biological information, stock structure, nursery grounds and habitats of sharks and rays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve knowledge of sharks and rays through research and fisheries monitoring (ST) • Collect biological information on sharks (ST) • Develop field guides for sharks and rays, using pre-existing material (ST) • Encourage the use of local knowledge (ST) • Support data collection through fishery independent surveys (MT) • Collect information on survival rates of released fish (MT)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of socio-economic information on fishers and traders of sharks and rays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect basic socio-economic information on relevant shark fisheries and trade (ST) • Conduct comprehensive socio-economic assessments and analysis of shark and ray fisheries and trade (MT)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of data and information on utilization, marketing and trade of sharks and rays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the supply chains of the different products and derivatives of sharks and rays in trade (ST) • Conduct marketing and trade assessments (MT)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of adequate shark fisheries management (as a basis for NDFs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance training and capacity building (ST) • Provide sufficient funding (ST)
2. Lack of collaboration on research and data sharing on migratory or straddling sharks and rays species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited research on shared shark and ray resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile a list of existing regional data, information and experts on sharks and rays (ST) • Develop regional data sharing mechanisms (MT) • Carry out regional joint shark research and assessments (MT/LT)

ACTION 2: STRENGTHENING NATIONAL LEGISLATION, ENFORCEMENT (MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE) AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION		
Issues	Challenges	Activities to address identified needs
1. Limited knowledge and expertise for the identification of sharks products in international trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large variety of processed and semi-processed products in trade (e.g. meat, fins, cartilage, oil, skin, gill rakers, belt, wallet, etc.) • Merchandise often contains a mix of parts from different shark species especially dried fins • Derivatives are often unrecognizable, especially those for medicinal and cosmetic/ health care use. • Lack of mechanisms to verify the origin of products in trade (e.g. curios taken abroad by tourists) • Lack of species-specific tariff codes for CITES listed species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce user friendly (simple/low-cost/fast) and reliable identification tools for CITES-listed shark species and their products to enable timely procedures by customs and enforcement officers (ST) • Encourage traders to not mix shark species in their merchandise, or to list all included shark species on the label of the merchandise, if appropriate. (ST/MT) • Establish traceability systems (e.g. labeling, CDS, certificates) for processed products at the origin/exporting/processing countries as well as registration/license systems for traders etc. (MT/LT) • Implement regional/global species-specific tariff codes and support the FAO proposal to WCO for new shark species-specific tariff codes . (MT/LT)
2. Insufficient enforcement capacity at ports of entry/exit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High volume of export, re-export and import • Lack of adequate and trained enforcement staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase number of enforcement staff (ST/MT) • Use risk analysis to select high-risk shipments for inspection (MT) • Require a certificate of origin for shark product shipments (MT/LT)
3. Insufficient international collaboration among enforcement officers in export, import and re-export countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International exchange of information and data is not harmonized (forms, content, units, etc.) • Language barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the use of existing regional wildlife enforcement network in relation to CITES-listed marine species (ST) • Establish regional platform or network for information exchange (MT)
4. Lack of coordinated inter-agency networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishery agencies often have a low awareness of the importance of CITES • No direct linkage between fisheries and CITES enforcement agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a regular consultation mechanism among relevant agencies (ST/MT) • Ensure that the fisheries authority plays its full role in CITES implementation (MT)
5. Strengthen legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation procedures are time-consuming in some countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update legislation in a timely manner after the adoption of new CITES listings and resolutions (MT) • Encourage countries to be more proactive and to use foresight by adopting shark management measures ahead of a legislation revision (MT) • Encourage countries to develop NPOA-Sharks which also address CITES-listed species (MT/LT)

ACTION 3: STRENGTHENING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES		
Issues	Challenges	Activities to address identified needs
1. Lack of programmes for awareness raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of consultation with stakeholders • Remoteness of fishing (target) communities • Insufficient knowledge on shark and ray fishers • Insufficient knowledge by fishers of existing shark management measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with various categories of stakeholders (fishers, traders, managers, policy makers, etc) (ST) • Develop and implement comprehensive awareness programs (ST/MT) • Strengthen regional co-operation amongst stakeholders (MT) • Improve media advertisements to raise awareness of shark fishery issues (MT)
2. Addressing demand and supply of CITES listed species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declining economic returns in some countries • Lack of suitable alternatives to shark products for domestic consumers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop consumer awareness raising campaigns (ST) • Develop alternative livelihood options for fishers such as ecotourism. (MT/LT)
3. Technical difficulties in applying fisheries management measures to the CITES listed species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulties in live release of non-target species • Difficulties in controlling and reducing overfishing and fishing capacity • Difficulties in reducing the bycatch of sharks and rays • Lack of enforcement of management measures • Lack of implementation of management plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidelines and techniques for the safe release of live specimens incidentally caught (ST) • Develop appropriate species-specific gears and/or bycatch -reduction-devices (BRDs) to reduce bycatch of sharks and rays listed in CITES appendices (MT) • Develop and implement shark management plans (MT)
4. Lack of effective regional shark management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of appropriate legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop effective regional management measures for CITES listed elasmobranchs (ST/MT) • Develop regional management plans for elasmobranchs (MT)

ACTION 4: ENHANCING TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING/HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT		
Issues	Challenges	Activities to address identified needs
1. Lack of capacity in the species identification of shark and ray products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many products and derivatives from different species cannot be readily differentiated (look-alike species or some highly processed products) • Lack of officers with taxonomic competence for the identification of fresh and processed sharks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide user friendly guides for non-experts (ST/MT) • Train customs officials and all other actors in the supply chain in the use of shark identification tools (MT)

ACTION 5 : SECURING FUNDING		
Issues	Challenge	Activities to address identified needs
1. Insufficient prolonged and targeted funding for the implementation of CITES requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for shark research and CITES implementation is very limited • Securing adequate financial and human resources to support the implementation of CITES listings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite recipient countries to prioritize CITES implementation in their request for capacity building assistance to donors (ST) • Share information on funding sources (ST) • Invite the CITES Secretariat and FAO to identify funding availability from international and other donors (ST) • Advise relevant national and regional agencies of the high value of sharks and rays products (ST/MT) • Enhance the capacity of recipient countries on fund raising for capacity building assistance (MT). • Encourage developed countries to fulfill their commitment regarding the Official Development Assistance (MT) • Encourage countries to incorporate the conservation and management of sharks and rays into their socioeconomic development plans (MT)



SHARKS AND MANTA RAYS LANDING STOCK DATA COLLECTION TOWARDS SHARKS NDF

(Summary of the Project Proposal)

According to the Convention, Parties shall allow trade in specimens of species included in Appendix II only if the Scientific Authority of the State of export has advised that ‘such export will not detrimental to the survival of that species’. Refer to as “non-detriment findings” (NDFs), they are a guarantee that export of products from listed species covered by the NDF have not harmed wild population or ecosystem. An export permit cannot be issued until the Management Authority has proved that the specimens were legally acquired, and an NDF has been prepared by the Scientific Authority.

Scientific Authority needs to include data and information on location of harvest, landing and trade data by species, biology (sex, adult, semi-adult, juvenile), fishing mortality, discarded mortality, estimate of stock size, forecasts of future stock size and other related information by species in worksheets prepared by CITES Secretariat. Since information of those requirements was considered as critical in this region, regional data collection should become a high priority.

SEAFDEC, through its Japanese Trust Fund, has initiated a one-year data collection project to support ASEAN Countries on their stock assessment of shark and rays species listed during the CoP16 and probably for the species to be listed in next CoP17.

The project activity of SEAFDEC was launched with the Regional Workshop on Data Collection Methodology for the Assessment of Shark Stock Status held in Bangkok in October 2013. The workshop aimed to establish a harmonized standards methodology on shark stock assessment among ASEAN countries. Representative from CITES Secretariat was also participated in this workshop. The 2013 Regional Workshop revealed that the countries do not have any national statistics to make adequate stock assessment in the medium- to long-term period. It was therefore agreed that the activities would take place initially starting from building national capacity to identify species, and establishing national shark landing data collection systems for sharks and rays to species level.

In April 2014, SEAFDEC organized a Regional Technical Working Group Meeting on Data Collection for Sharks in Southeast Asia in Phuket. The meeting established a work plan for the ASEAN Countries (except Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR and Singapore), including the data collection format, Standard Operation Procedures to harmonize data, and to establish national focal points for piloting the shark landing data collection. In May 2014, SEAFDEC organised regional “training of trainers” for the purpose of training national enumerators.

It was noted during the Meeting in Phuket that Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand will proceed with piloting the work plan using their own national budget with technical support from SEAFDEC, which roughly consist of:

- National workshop for training the local enumerators and developing a schedule for shark landing data collection
- Data collection by local enumerators at selected landing sites for one year

SEAFDEC is requesting the financial support from the EU-CITES project for the ASEAN countries, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam, to undertake the same activities as the three self-funded countries so that the shark landing data collection can be made for all of the ASEAN Countries, and to compile and share the sub-regional summary outcome.



ASEAN GUIDELINES FOR PREVENTING THE ENTRY OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM IUU FISHING ACTIVITIES INTO THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Executive Summary

The ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain had been developed through a series of meetings, participatory and consultative process involving fishery experts from the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries organized by the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) in collaboration with the SEAFDEC Secretariat. The Guidelines is finalized and adopted by experts from all ASEAN Member States at the Regional Technical Consultation on Regional Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Activities into the Supply Chain” held on 23rd -25th September 2014 at Horizon Hotel, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

The Guidelines outlines the possible future actions in the ASEAN region in combating IUU fishing, in accordance with the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region towards 2020 adopted in 2011. The Guidelines comprises four main parts. The Introduction as Part 1 includes the objective of ensuring that fish and fishery products in the supply chain do not come from IUU fishing activities. The introduction part also includes the objectives, nature and scope, guiding principle, and definition of terminologies for better understanding of the basic elements and focus of the Guidelines; Part 2 deals with the forms of IUU fishing activities found in the Southeast Asian region; Part 3 encompasses initiatives to combat IUU fishing at national, bilateral, multi-lateral and regional levels, taking into account the efforts of AMSs in intensifying their efforts in combating IUU fishing in the region, in some ways, with the assistance of SEAFDEC through its collaborative mechanism with donors and funding agencies. This part also includes other initiatives of AMSs through bilateral arrangements, sub-regional and regional cooperation in addressing IUU fishing activities in their common or shared or trans-boundary waters. Finally, Part 4 which is the most important part of the Guidelines provide guidance on preventing the entry of fish and fishery products from IUU fishing activities into the supply chain based on the root cause of IUU fishing activities that occur in the region.

At the 17th FCG/ASSP Meeting held in December 2014 at Ubon Rachathani in Thailand, the draft guidelines was endorsed. In addition, SEAFDEC also submitted the Guidelines to all SEAFDEC Member Countries for comments and improvement of the Guidelines before further endorsement by the 23rd ASWGF_i in 2015.

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The council is requested to approve the guidelines for further endorsement by the 23rd ASWGF_i and high-level in order to foster cooperation among AMSs in combating IUU fishing in the region.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AEC	ASEAN Economic Community
AFCF	ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum
AMAF	ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry
AMS	ASEAN Member States
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEAN-WEN	ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network
ASWGFi	ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
CDS	Catch Documentation Scheme
CITES	Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CTI-CFF	Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security
EC	European Commission
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCG/ASSP	Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
IGO	Inter-governmental Organization
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IPOA-IUU	International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JTF	Japanese Trust Fund
LGU	Local Government Unit
LRFF	Live Reef Food Fish
LRFFT	Live Reef Food Fish Trade
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MFRDMD	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
MRC	Mekong River Commission
MRC-EP	MRC Environment Programme
MRC-FP	MRC Fisheries Programme
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NPOA-IUU	National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing
PSM	Port State Measures
RAC	Regional Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (2009-2012)
RCCRF	Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries for Southeast Asia
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
RFVR	Regional Fishing Vessels Record
RPOA	Regional Plan of Action
RPOA-IUU	Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in Southeast Asia
RSAP	Regional Strategic Action Program
SEAFDEC	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
SOM-AMAF	Senior Officials Meeting of the AMAF
SSME	Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion
TD	Training Department
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

PREFACE

The growing domestic and international demand for fish and fishery products has resulted in the excessive exploitation of aquatic resources anywhere in the world including in the Southeast Asian region. The increasing demand for fish has driven fishers to catch more fish by all means even to the extent of practicing Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. IUU fishing not only contributes to overexploitation of fish stocks but is also a hindrance to the recovery of fish populations and ecosystems. It damages the marine environment, distorts competition and puts those fishers who operate legally at a disadvantage, adversely affecting the economic and social well-being of fishing communities, especially in the third world countries where coastal communities rely heavily on fish resources. On the global scale, IUU fishing is a big problem and very difficult to quantify, as it can occur in virtually any fishery, from shallow coastal or inland waters to the offshore areas. It is a particular issue in developing countries including the Southeast Asian countries where fisheries management strategies need to be strengthened, and where resources are limited to enforce regulations such as landing controls and vessel inspections, and deploy adequate number of patrol vessels.

During the past decade, many attempts had been initiated to improve fisheries management with the fundamental objective of reducing illegal and destructive fishing. The seriousness of this concern has been increasingly expressed through discussions and recommendations in various meetings and consultations such as those of the SEAFDEC Council, the ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF), the SEAFDEC Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) on Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia, the Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia (RPOA-IUU), as well as during the Meetings of the ASEAN Heads of States especially at the launching of the roadmap for the ASEAN Economic Community. Within SEAFDEC, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative projects under the Fishery Consultative Working Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP) mechanism have been organizing consultations and discussions at the regional and sub-regional levels to find the ways and means of promoting effective fisheries management as well as managing fishing capacity in order to combat IUU fishing in the Southeast Asian region.

IUU practices could create major threats to the sustainable exploitation of living aquatic resources as well as to regional and international efforts to protect biodiversity and the world's fisheries. It is estimated that the annual production from IUU fishing activities could be from 11 to 26 million metric tons (MT) accounting for about 10 to 22% of the world's total fisheries production, and valued at about US\$ 9.0 to 24.0 billion per year¹. However, estimates of the extent of IUU fishing operations vary widely and considering its very nature, production from IUU fishing in the region is difficult to quantify. Nonetheless, some studies estimated that the value of IUU fishing in the Asia-Pacific region (including South Asian countries) could be around US\$5.8 billion annually². Some facts on IUU fishing are shown below:

“In Raja Ampat (RA), Indonesia, only about 26% of the catch from reef fish fishery in 2006 is reported and 20% is caught illegally. RA's revenues from IUU catch in 2003-2006 amounted to US\$ 160 million (in 2003 US\$ equivalent) or an average of US\$ 40 million a year. The estimated revenue generated by illegal fishing of reef fish is almost equal to the revenue from all reef fish catch in RA (reported and unreported combined). Hook and line is one of the most important fisheries for reef fishes in this area targeting high price fishes such as groupers and Napoleon wrasse. Most of the fisheries are small-scale and do not contribute to government revenue in the form of taxes³”.

¹ MRAG. 2009. Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, Policy brief 8. Available in website: http://www.mrag.co.uk/Documents/PolicyBrief8_IUU.pdf, Accessed 25 September 2012

² Lungren, R. et al. 2006. *Status and Potential of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Asia and the Pacific 2006*. RAP Publication 2006/22. FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok

³ Varkey, D. et al. 2010. Illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries catch in Raja Ampat Regency, Eastern Indonesia. *Marine Policy* 34: 228-236

“In the Philippines, it is estimated that the average annual revenue loss due to local and foreign illegal fishing could amount to US\$ 1.6 million and 80,000 MT of fish and other marine resources are lost annually to foreign IUU fishing⁴”.

It is very clear that the main driver for IUU fishing is economic benefit considering that a vessel that is fishing illegally is able to minimize operating costs in terms of licensing, regulation, use of vessel monitoring systems and documentation. Moreover, IUU fishers could ignore quota levels, enter closed fishing areas, and catch undersized fish or target rare or even endangered species, while attracting premium price from unscrupulous buyers. In order to combat IUU fishing, SEAFDEC had been requested by the ASEAN Member States (AMS) to come-up with guidelines to prevent the entry of fish and fishery products from IUU fishing activities into the supply chain of the inter- and intra-regional as well as international fishery trade system.

Therefore, the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain had been developed through a participatory and consultative process involving fishery experts from the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries. A series of meetings with all ASEAN-SEAFDEC Members for the development of this Guidelines (**Appendix 1**) had been organized by the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) in collaboration with the SEAFDEC Secretariat to review and finalize the draft Guidelines before endorsement through the process of FCG/ASSP, ASWGF, SOM-AMAF and AMAF under the ASEAN protocol.

The Guidelines outlines the possible future actions in the ASEAN region in combating IUU fishing, in accordance with the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region towards 2020 adopted in 2011. The Guidelines comprises four main parts. The Introduction as Part 1 includes the objective of ensuring that fish and fishery products in the supply chain do not come from IUU fishing activities. The introduction part also includes the objectives, nature and scope, guiding principle, and definition of terminologies for better understanding of the basic elements and focus of the Guidelines; Part 2 deals with the forms of IUU fishing activities found in the Southeast Asian region; Part 3 encompasses initiatives to combat IUU fishing at national, bilateral, multi-lateral and regional levels, taking into account the efforts of AMS in intensifying their efforts in combating IUU fishing in the region, in some ways, with the assistance of SEAFDEC through its collaborative mechanism with donors and funding agencies. This part also includes other initiatives of AMS through bilateral arrangements, sub-regional and regional cooperation in addressing IUU fishing activities in their common or shared or transboundary waters. Finally, Part 4 which is the most important part of the Guidelines provides guidance on preventing the entry of fish and fishery products from IUU fishing activities into the supply chain based on the root cause of IUU fishing activities that occur in the region. This Guidelines should be reviewed regularly by AMS every three years. Annexes are also appended in the Guidelines to expound on matters that need lengthy discussion.

Thus, it is expected that the Guidelines could serve as basis for the AMS in formulating relevant policies and provide an enabling environment for a clear direction and understanding of the need to prevent the entry of IUU fish and fishery products into the supply chain. In this connection, AMS are encouraged to develop and/or strengthen strategies and measures based on this Guidelines during the period from 2015 until 2017, for implementation as soon as possible.

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

1. Goals and Objectives

1.1 The Guidelines is intended to provide tools for the ASEAN Member States to ensure that fish and fishery products from the region entering the global supply chain do not come from IUU fishing activities. Thus, the goal of this Guidelines is to enhance the credibility of the region's fish and fishery products.

⁴ Palma, M.A and M. Tsamenyi. 2008. Case Study on the Impacts of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in the Sulawesi Sea. APEC, Singapore.

- 1.2 The specific objectives of the Guidelines are:
- 1.2.1 To introduce strategies and recommend appropriate measures for the AMS to prevent the entry of IUU fish and fishery products into the supply chain;
 - 1.2.2 To provide guidance for the AMS to develop, strengthen and implement effective fisheries management for responsible and sustainable fisheries ; and
 - 1.2.3 To promote regional collaboration among the AMS in strengthening monitoring, control and surveillance systems of fish and fishery products entering in the supply chain.
- 1.3 The goal and objectives could be achieved through the promotion of good fisheries governance with the active participation of all stakeholders in decision-making processes and assuming the responsibilities for sustainable use of fishery resources, and an appropriate catch documentation scheme in place.

2. Nature and Scope

- 2.1 The Guidelines is applicable to all marine and inland catch of small-scale/artisanal and large-scale/commercial fisheries, and is intended to be regional and international in scope but with specific focus on the needs of the AMS.
- 2.2 Voluntary and non-legally binding in nature, the Guidelines provides guidance for the AMS to strengthen their national efforts in preventing the entry of IUU fish and fishery products into the supply chain.
- 2.3 The Guidelines is directed to the AMS, sub-regional, regional and international organizations, as well as inter-governmental organizations (IGOs). The Guidelines would also be useful for research and academic institutions, private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.
- 2.4 The Guidelines takes into consideration many forms of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing that occur in the Southeast Asian region, such as illegal fishing activities within a country; unauthorized transshipment and landing of fish/catch across borders; poaching in the EEZs of other countries; illegal fishing and trading practices of live reef food fish, reef-based ornamentals, and endangered aquatic species; and IUU fishing in the high seas and RFMO areas.

3. Guiding Principle

- 3.1 In view of the need to prevent the occurrence of IUU fishing as it hinders the sustainability of fisheries development in the region, this Guidelines is developed based on the principles found in international and regional instruments, such as the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (IPOA-IUU), the Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries for Southeast Asia (RCCRF), the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region (2001, 2011), the Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in Southeast Asia (RPOA-IUU), and the FAO Port State Measures Agreement. Trade measures introduced by the European Union (EU) such as the European Commission Regulation 1005/2008 (EC-Regulation) is also referred to in the development of the Guidelines.

4. Definition of Terminologies

- 4.1 **Catch Certificate (CC)** refers to a certificate that should be made available with the landed fish and submitted to authorities in any ports in the region, of which such certificate should accompany the landed fish through subsequent trade channels leading to the ASEAN and/or international markets.
- 4.2 **Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)** covers selected aquatic species from the point of first capture by a flag State through regional/international trade routes (*i.e.* imports, exports and re-exports) to the State of final destination. In the CDS, it is necessary for fishing and trading nations to ensure that fish entering the market are harvested in accordance with conservation and management measures. In order to guarantee compliance, the following sets of documents are required:
- Copies of all validated catch documents issued to fishing vessels, and
 - Copies of all export or re-export documents issued or received.
- 4.3 **Catch Documentation System** refers to the specific system or technical approach to support the CDS implementing process, such as the electronic Bluefin Catch Documentation System (eBCD) developed by ICCAT.

- 4.4 **Double Flagging or Double Registration** refers to fishing vessels that hold more than one flag state of vessel registration.
- 4.5 **Endangered Aquatic Species** refer to those aquatic species considered to be at risk of extinction according to the respective national laws and regulations.
- 4.6 **Fish** means all species of living aquatic resources, whether processed or not (refers to FAO Definition).
- 4.7 **Fishery Products** refer to all living aquatic resources and their derivatives that had been processed.
- 4.8 **Fishing Vessels** refer to all fishing, carrier and factory vessels involved in fishing activities, except container vessels.
- 4.9 **Foreign Fishing Vessels** refer to any fishing vessel other than national fishing vessels.
- 4.10 **Fishing License** refers an authorization given by a country's local/central government to individuals or companies to enable them to conduct fishing in designated areas.
- 4.11 **Flag State** refers to the state under whose laws the vessel is registered and licensed. The flag state has the authority and responsibility to enforce regulations over vessels registered under its flag, including those relating to inspection and certification.
- 4.12 **IUU Fishing** (based on IPOA-IUU):
- a. **Illegal Fishing** refers to fishing activities conducted: (i) by national or foreign vessels in waters under the jurisdiction of a State, without the permission of that State, or in contravention of its laws and regulations; (ii) by vessels flying the flag of States that are parties to a relevant regional fisheries management organization but operate in contravention of the conservation and management measures adopted by that organization and by which the States are bound, or relevant provisions of applicable international laws; or (iii) in violation of national laws or international obligations, including those of the cooperating States or relevant regional fisheries management organization.
 - b. **Unreported Fishing** refers to fishing activities (i) which have not been reported or have been misreported, to the relevant national authority, in contravention of national laws and regulations; or (ii) undertaken in the area of competence of a relevant regional fisheries management organization which have not been reported or have been misreported, in contravention of the reporting procedures of that organization.
 - c. **Unregulated Fishing**: Refers to fishing activities (i) in the area of application of a relevant regional fisheries management organization that are conducted by vessels without nationality or by those flying the flag of a State not party to that organization or by a fishing entity, in a manner that is not consistent with or contravenes the conservation and management measures of that organization; or (ii) in areas or for fish stocks in relation to which there are no applicable conservation or management measures and where such fishing activities are conducted in a manner inconsistent with State responsibilities for the conservation of living marine resources under international laws.
- 4.13 **Monitoring, Control and Surveillance** (Based on FAO definition) refers to:
- a. **Monitoring** is the collection, measurement and analysis of fishing capacity including, but not limited to catch, species composition, fishing effort, by-catch, discards, areas of operation;
 - b. **Control** involves the specification of the terms and conditions under which resources can be harvested; and
 - c. **Surveillance** involves the regulation and supervision of fishing activity to ensure that national legislations as well as terms and conditions of access and management measures are observed.
- 4.14 **Port State** is the country which provides landing sites for vessels to land their fish/catch.
- 4.15 **Port State Measures (PSM)** refer to the requirements established or interventions undertaken by port states for which a foreign fishing vessel must comply with or is subjected to the conditions for the use of ports within the port state (based on FAO definition).
- 4.16 **Small-scale/Artisanal and Commercial/Large-scale Fisheries** are characterized in accordance with the countries' respective descriptions due to the different legal definitions adopted by each country (Refer to RCCRF on Fishing Operations).
- 4.17 **Transshipment** refers the act of transferring the catch from one fishing vessel to either another fishing vessel or to a vessel used solely for the carriage of cargo. (based on FAO definition).

PART 2: FORMS OF IUU FISHING ACTIVITIES OCCURRING IN THE REGION

5. Common Issues

5.1 It is recognized that IUU fishing brings about negative impacts on the economic, social and ecological attributes of fisheries that affect food security. Specifically, IUU fishing has contributed to the reduction in food supply, lost livelihoods and state revenues, diminishing fish stocks, and damaging ecosystems, with the most devastating effects concentrated in developing countries due to their greater vulnerability. These illegal activities form a complex web – from illegal fishing activities to illegal trade, and finally to persistent catching from unsustainably fished stocks with the underlying objective of getting high profit from illegally caught fish.

5.2 Moreover, the driving forces that lead to the rampant occurrence of IUU fishing in the waters of Southeast Asia could include: inadequate regulatory control over national fishers and fishing vessels, insufficient effective management tools to manage fishing capacity, weak enforcement of fishing legislations, evading the payments of fishing fees and taxes, absence of or inadequate maritime boundary agreements, and incompatible legal frameworks for combating IUU fishing.

5.3 Furthermore, the need to strengthen regional and sub-regional efforts to combat IUU fishing has been considered as one of the priority actions of the AMS in parallel with the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) on 31st December 2015.

6. Various Forms of IUU Fishing Activities

6.1 Many ASEAN Member States have encountered and experienced IUU fishing in various forms. The Guidelines specifically addresses five (5) major forms of IUU fishing activities occurring in the Southeast Asian region that include the following:

6.1.1 Illegal fishing activities within a country:

This includes several root causes of illegal fishing activities such as fishing without valid license or registration document, vessel with specifications different from those indicated in the fishing license, double flagging, fishing in waters outside the permitted or designated fishing areas, operating prohibited fishing gears and methods, landing of fish in unauthorized ports, transferring of catch at sea, and unreporting or misreporting of catch.

6.1.2 Unauthorized transshipment and landing of fish/catch across borders:

This includes fishing vessels operating in a country but transshipping or landing their fish/catch across borders without authorization.

6.2.3 Poaching in the EEZs of other countries:

This type of IUU fishing practices includes foreign fishing vessels illegally fishing in another country's waters.

6.2.4 Illegal fishing and trading practices of live reef food fish, reef-based ornamental and endangered aquatic species:

This includes illegal fishing activities such as the use of chemicals and other unregulated practices to collect and trade live reef food fish, as well as reef-based ornamental and endangered aquatic species for consumption and the aquarium industry.

6.2.5 IUU fishing in the high seas and RFMO areas:

In the high seas and RFMO areas, IUU fishing include a range of illicit activities, such as fishing without permission or during out-of-season; using outlawed types of fishing gears; disregarding catch quotas; unreporting and misreporting catch volumes and species. The ASEAN Member States should ensure that fish imported or landed from high seas and RFMO areas do not come from IUU fishing activities.

PART 3: NATIONAL, BILATERAL/MULTI-LATERAL, REGIONAL AND RFMOs INITIATIVES TO COMBAT IUU FISHING

7. National Initiatives

7.1 In order to strengthen national efforts in combating IUU fishing, the AMS are encouraged to develop their respective National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (NPOA-IUU). Recently several AMS, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Vietnam

have adopted their respective NPOA-IUU Fishing while the remaining AMS are in the developing process. Examples of activities to combat IUU fishing based on some national practices are as follows:

- Improved registration and licensing of fishing vessels to ensure that only licensed vessels are allowed to access the country's fishery resources.
- Intensification of activities and development of the country's capacity for fisheries surveillance including monitoring at sea, from air, and/or in ports.
- Establishment of *ad hoc* fisheries courts, e.g. Indonesia, in areas where there are more cases of fisheries violations and/or national coordination fora involving relevant government institutions to enhance the effectiveness of enforcement of respective fisheries laws.
- Implementation of a Vessels Monitoring System (VMS) to enhance fisheries management through monitoring and surveillance, and to provide accurate data and information on the activities of fishing vessels.
- Development of community-based fisheries surveillance system as means of enhancing MCS, where community groups undertake observations at sea and on land, and to report to proper authorities in their community fishers' groups about vessels suspected to be conducting illegal fishing activities.
- Strengthening capacity building activities for fishers to enhance their awareness on fisheries regulations.

8. Bilateral/Multi-lateral Enforcement Activities

8.1 Establishment of the bilateral or multi-lateral arrangements among the AMS in combating IUU fishing in their common or shared or transboundary waters had been recently carried out through sub-regional programs supported by some donors including SEAFDEC. Some examples of the initiatives of AMS are as follows:

- Collaborative measures through a Memorandum of Agreement between Cambodia and Vietnam to combat IUU fishing in their shared waters.
- Trilateral arrangements with Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia (MALSINDO) to conduct collaborative patrol activities and the joint "Eye in the Sky" air patrol to monitor anti-piracy activities and IUU fishing activities in the Strait of Malacca.
- Trilateral arrangement of Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines to combat IUU fishing in Sulu-Sulawesi Sea including the countries' participation in the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) program under the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion initiatives and RPOA-IUU as well as in the joint patrol exercises.

9. Regional and RFMOs Initiatives

9.1 ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN)

- The ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) is the world's largest wildlife law enforcement network that involves police, customs and environment agencies of all ASEAN countries, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. ASEAN-WEN is a regional intergovernmental law-enforcement network designed to combat the illegal wildlife trade; a proactive response to Southeast Asia's alarming levels of wildlife trafficking and loss; and a mechanism by which countries can share information and learn from each other's best practices. Through annual meetings, workshops and trainings, ASEAN-WEN facilitates increased capacity and better coordination and collaboration of law enforcement agencies among the Southeast Asian countries, regionally and globally. Links with the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) offices, Interpol, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Justice and other wildlife law enforcement groups has broadened the Network's reach. Along with an increase in ASEAN-WEN's visibility, the region has also experienced a recent increase in wildlife law enforcement actions in Southeast Asia (www.asean-wen.org).

9.2 Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF)

- A multilateral partnership of six countries, namely: Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste, the CTI-CFF is aimed at sustaining the extraordinary marine and coastal resources by addressing crucial issues such as food security, climate change and marine biodiversity. In order to support the initiatives of the CTI-CFF,

the relevant AMS are encouraged to implement policies that would address regional problems, including measures to mitigate the impacts of climate change and combat IUU fishing in the region. These two aspects are the corner stone of the CTI-CFF in promoting a regional approach towards ocean governance (www.coraltriangleinitiative.org).

- 9.3 Mekong River Commission (MRC)
- The 1995 Mekong Agreement signed on 5 April 1995 by Lower Mekong Basin countries, namely: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam, outlines the legal mandate of the Mekong River Commission (MRC). The MRC-Fisheries Programme (MRC-FP) conducts research on inland capture fisheries, trains fisheries managers, promotes aquaculture of indigenous Mekong fish species, and disseminates information to policy makers and planners in the four Lower Mekong countries. MRC-FP is implemented through the national fisheries agency in each country to ensure good alignment of the MRC-FP with national priorities and uptake of its results at national level. The goal of MRC-FP is to achieve coordinated and sustainable development, utilization, management and conservation of the fisheries of the Mekong Basin and to aid the MRC Member Countries in implementing sustainable fisheries management and development at local, national and regional levels. (www.mrcmekong.org).
- 9.4 Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in Southeast Asia (RPOA-IUU)
- Represented in the RPOA-IUU are eight (8) of the 10 AMS, *i.e.* Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, with the overall objectives of enhancing and strengthening the overall level of fisheries management in the region in order to sustain the fisheries resources and marine environment, and optimizing the benefits of adopting responsible fishing practices. The actions under the RPOA-IUU include conservation of fisheries resources and their environment, managing fishing capacity, and combating IUU fishing in the areas of the South China Sea, Sulu-Sulawesi Sea (Celebes Sea) and the Arafura-Timor Sea (www.rpoaiuu.org).
- 9.5 Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME)
- The Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME), as the apex of the Coral Triangle, is considered the center of marine biodiversity where the highest number of colorful reef and marine fishes, various sizes of corals and shells, myriad shapes of algae, and protective mangrove forests are found. In order to address threats to SSME's diversity and productivity, an ecoregion conservation plan was forged collaboratively by Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines in 2004. The SSME Ecoregion Conservation Plan has spurred the development of three comprehensive action plans for 2010–2012. These plans are implemented by the subcommittees on Migratory and Threatened Species, Marine Protected Areas and Networks, and Sustainable Fisheries, and guided by the SSME's Tri-National Committee⁵.
 - The Regional Strategies Action Program (RSAP) of the Sulu-Celebes Sea Sustainable Fisheries Management Project 2013 which was endorsed by Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines, identified one of the work plans on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) targeted by 2020 with the main objective of strengthening law enforcement through cooperation and exchange of information among marine law enforcers (trans-border). Such activities include applying the RPOA strategy on IUU fishing in the SSME, improve bi- or multilateral coordination to combat IUU fishing in the SSME, and adopt the relevant MCS activities in the SSME-CAP on sustainable fisheries⁶.
- 9.6 Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)
- RFMOs are international organizations formed by countries with fishing interests in an area. Some of them manage all the fish stocks found in a specific area, while others focus on particular highly-migratory species, notably tuna, throughout vast geographical areas such as the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). These RFMOs have a purely advisory role, most have management powers to set

⁵ Comprehensive action plans of the Sulu-Sulawesi Ecoregion: A priority seascape of the Coral Triangle Initiative. Mandaluyong City, Philippines: Asian Development Bank, 2011. 154 pp.

⁶ Sulu Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Tri-National Committee 2013. Strategic Action Program for the Sulu-Celebes Sea Large Marine Ecosystem. Prepared for the Sulu-Celebes Sea Sustainable Fisheries Management Project under GEF/UNDP/UNOPS. 19 pp.

catch and fishing effort limits, technical measures, and control obligations. Some AMS such as Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam are concerned on trading of tunas from these RFMO areas. In addition, those relevant AMS actively implement the resolutions adopted by the RFMOs to support sustainability of fisheries resources and combat IUU fishing in their management areas.

PART 4: PREVENTING THE ENTRY OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM IUU FISHING ACTIVITIES INTO THE SUPPLY CHAIN

10. Managing Fishing Activities within a Country

10.1 States should consider controlling fishing access through proper registration and licensing system for fishing vessels and gears including their accurate specifications *e.g.* photographs of vessels, standard vessel markings *i.e.* color coding of hull, marking system (engraving and use of copper plate) which could be shared with the AMS. The vessel identification and licensing system of Malaysia (**Appendix 2**) could be used as reference by other AMS.

10.2 States should promote responsible fishing practices and methods based on the Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia: Responsible Fishing Operations, and the RPOA-IUU. (www.rpoaiuu.org)

10.3 States are encouraged to:

10.3.1 Update related laws and regulations as well as system of reporting catch and compiling appropriate logbook information.

10.3.2 Monitor all fishing vessels by maintaining records and their performance with respect to compliance to their national laws and regulations, including current owners and operators authorized to undertake fishing activities at designated fishing areas.

10.3.3 Implement, where appropriate, a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for all commercial fishing vessels licensed by the respective States.

10.3.4 Intensify efforts to address IUU fishing, especially destructive fishing (*e.g.* blast and cyanide fishing) by promoting community-based management approach to prevent, deter and eliminate any violations with support from relevant government agencies and communities.

10.4 States should intensify their respective surveillance during fishing operations where appropriate, as well as at designated landing ports (after landing and at market places by checking market reports).

11. Regulating Transshipment and Landing of Fish/Catch across Borders

11.1 States should establish formal arrangements with respect to landings between bordering countries.

11.2 States should consider conducting regular bilateral/multi-lateral meetings to discuss mutual agreements on licensing system, data recording, and sharing of information on licensing system, regulations, and other relevant information.

11.3 States should strengthen measures to regulate fishing vessels accessing their ports for transshipping and/or landing catch and collect and exchange relevant data including origin of catch, among neighboring countries.

12. Preventing Poaching in the EEZs of Other Countries

12.1 States should take appropriate actions against fishing vessels operating illegally beyond their designated areas, *e.g.* through flag States measures, port State measures and coastal State measures.

12.2 States should cooperate in compiling a list of vessels reported to have been illegally operating (poaching) beyond their respective EEZs, and share this list among the relevant countries.

12.3 States should support in regularly updating information for the Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR) endorsed by the Special SOM-34th AMAF. The basic requirements for the RFVR database are shown in **Appendix 3**.

12.4 States are encouraged to establish mutual bilateral/multilateral agreements among neighboring countries to set terms and conditions (including enforcement, penalties, and other regulations), for permission to fish in each other's fishing areas.

13. Controlling Illegal Fishing and Trading Practices of Live Reef Food Fish, Reef-based Ornamentals, and Endangered Aquatic Species

13.1 States should conduct regular inter- and intra- meetings among relevant authorities (including customs departments) and exporting companies for mutual agreements on harvesting practices and data reporting of live reef food fish, reef-based ornamentals, and endangered aquatic species.

13.2 States should have appropriate mechanisms for the monitoring and data collection of live reef food fish and reef-based ornamentals trades.

13.3 States should ensure that export of endangered aquatic species is avoided, except for research and experimental purposes for which such export should be accompanied by appropriate documents.

13.4 States should encourage participation of small-scale/artisanal fishers, who account for majority of LRFF production, in co-management, and to enhance their awareness of the impacts of illegal fishing and trading of such aquatic species.

13.5 States should consider establishing a network between the LRFF importing and exporting countries, to strengthen LRFFT management at the regional level.

14. Strengthening the Management of Fishing in the High Seas and RFMO Areas

14.1 States should strengthen their respective port state measures including control of port entry, use of port services, requirements for pre-port entry notification and designation of ports for fishing vessels.

14.2 States should implement, where appropriate, observer programs in accordance with relevant national, regional or international regulations with respect to high seas fisheries.

14.3 States should **cooperate** with the relevant RFMOs in complying with their Catch Document Schemes to prevent the landing of fish and fishery products from IUU fishing in the RFMO areas.

15. Review of the Guidelines

15.1 These Guidelines should be reviewed regularly when necessary as proposed by AMSs.

**List of Meetings under the Japanese Trust Fund Project
for the Development of the Guidelines**

- I. The Regional Core Experts Meeting on Fishing License, Boat Registration and Information on Export of Fisheries products in Southeast Asia, 4-7 October 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand;
- II. The Regional Core Expert Meeting on Preventing Export of IUU Fishing Products In Southeast Asia, 20-22 November 2012, Concorde Inn KLIA, Sepang, Malaysia;
- III. The Meeting with Malaysian Officials for Preparation of the “ Core Expert Meeting On Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asian Region through Application of Catch Certification for International Trade in Fish and Fishery Products”, 11-13 June 2013, KL International Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia;
- IV. The Regional Core Expert Meeting On Combating IUU Fishing In Southeast Asian Region Through Application Of Catch Certification For International Trade In Fish And Fishery Products” 7-9 October 2013, Quality Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- V. Meeting with Malaysian officials to further developed the regional guidelines from 10 to 11 February 2014 at Empress Hotel, Salak Tinggi , Malaysia
- VI. IUU project discussion between officials from SEAFDEC Secretariat and MFRDMD, 28-30 April 2014 at SEAFDEC/MFRDMD, Terengganu, Malaysia
- VII. The meeting with Singapore (ASEAN Lead Country) on Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asian Region 25 Aug. 2014, Furama Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- VIII. The Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on the Regional Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain at Horizon Hotel, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

Example of Vessel Identification and Licensing System of Malaysia

1) Licensing of Vessel

Issues

1) All vessels engaging in fishing activities in the Malaysian water need a **License** to operate

2) A license need to renewed on a yearly basis subject to vessel inspection report

3) Secured features (protective element) for Fishing License

4) Information of fishing vessel registration

5) Validity of Licenses

Details or Photograph



- Use scattered watermark
- Fluorescent on Fisheries Department logo in each page is only visible under the ultra violet light
- Serial Number in the front page is of invisible colored and only visible under ultra violet light

- 1) Registration number;
- 2) Name, address and identification card number of owner or owners;
- 3) Where and when built;
- 4) Type of vessel;
- 5) Length, breadth, depth;
- 6) Name and address of operator (manager) or operators (managers) (if any);
- 7) Type of fishing method or methods;
- 8) Gross registered tonnage;
- 9) Power of main engine or engines;
- 10) Nationality and the number of crews to be employed;
- 11) Fishing vessel base

- Traditional < 40 GRT 3 YEARS
- Commercial > 70GRT 1 YEAR

2) Standard Specifications for the marking and identification of fishing vessels

Issues

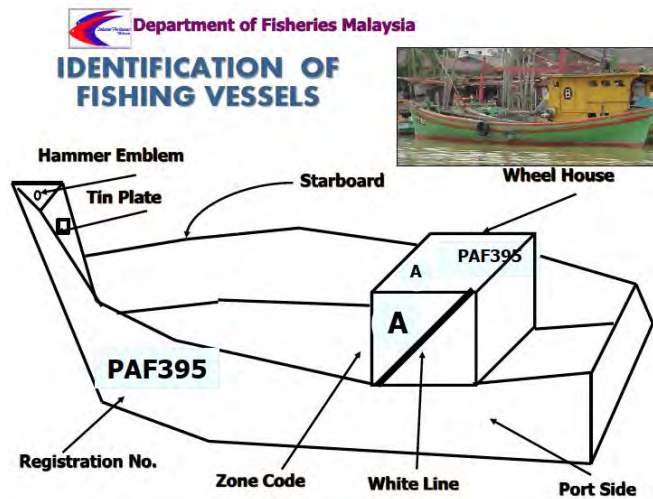
1) Standard Specification

Details or Photograph

- 1) Vessels Registration Code
- 2) Registration Specifications - Code of Zone - Registration Number
- 3) Wheelhouse Colour
- 4) Vessels Identification Code
- 5) Tinplate
- 6) Gross Registered Tonnage Measurement (GRT)
- 7) State Flags



- Identification of fishing vessel

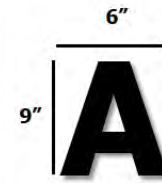


- Zoning Code for fishing vessel

- Code of Zones must be painted on both sides of the wheelhouse in white with a black background
- Size of the code of zone to be painted is according to the vessel size
- This fishing zone coding is to determine the fishing area of the vessel



Vessel Size	Code Zone
< 25 GRT	9" x 6" x 1.75"
25 - < 40 GRT	12" x 8" x 2.5"
40 & > 40 GRT	18" x 12" x 4"



- Wheelhouse Colours
 - Wheelhouse of the fishing vessel must be painted with color specified for the state.
 - The colour is painted on the both sides of the wheelhouse.
 - The idea of colour code is for easier identification of the vessels so that they would not encroached into another states water



State	Color	State	Color
Perlis	Dark Blue	Melaka	Purple
Kedah	Dark Red	Johor	Blue
Pulau Pinang	Light Blue	Pahang	Light Yellow
Perak	Dark Yellow	Terengganu	Light Green
Selangor	Orange	Kelantan	Dark Red
Negeri Sembilan	Dark Green	Labuan	Red

- Prefix of the Registration No.
 - The permanent letters of the registration no. is according to state :

State	Permanent Letters	State	Permanent Letters
Perlis	PSF	Melaka	MKF
Kedah	KHF	Johor	JHF
Pulau Pinang	PPF	Pahang	PAF
Perak	PKF	Terengganu	TRF
Selangor	SLF	Kelantan	KNF
Negeri Sembilan	NSF	Labuan	LNf

- Registration Number
 - The Registration number must be carved on both sides of the fore part of the hull of the vessel
 - In the case of the deep sea vessel (> 70 GRT) the number must also be carved on the roof of the wheelhouse
 - The carved number must be painted in white with a black background

PKF1456

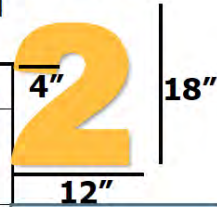
KNF1234

PAF3954

- Size of registration number

➤ Size of the registration number to be carved and painted is based on the size of the vessel

Vessel	Size of the No.
Vessel without engine/with portable engine	6" x 4" x 1.25"
< 25 GRT	9" x 8" x 1.75"
25 - < 40 GRT	12" x 8" x 2.5"
40 - > 40 GRT	18" x 12" x 4"



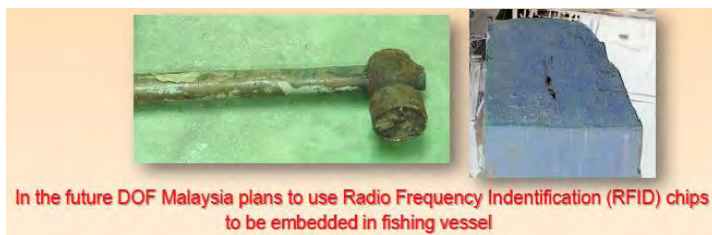
- Tin Plate

➤ With the department logo and the signature of Director General of the Department, is placed in the inner side of the hull.

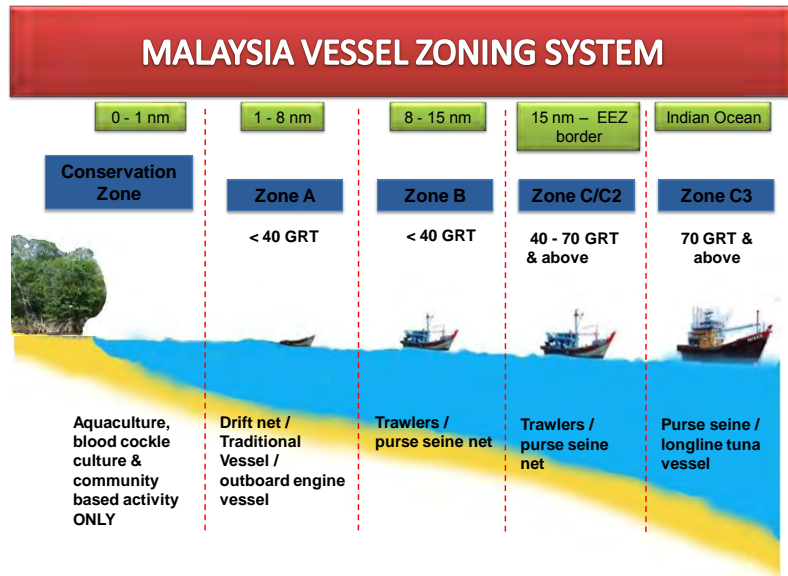


- Hammer emblem on the hull

➤ The alphabet used as emblem represent the state code eg. JHF 1, where JH stand for Johor, F for fisheries and for number the one district in Johor that is Muar District



▪ Zoning System



Newly implemented fishing Zone

0–1 nm : Conservation zone (no take zone for any fishing gear)

1-8 nm : Zone A

8-15nm : Zone B

15nm – EEZ : Zone C (40 grt – 70 grt) & Zone C2 (70grt to 500grt)

Indian Ocean : Zone C3 (Tuna`s vessel under IOTC)

Basic Requirements for the database of RFVR 24m in Length and Over

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Name of vessel | 14. Engine Brand |
| 2. Vessel Registration Number | 15. Serial number of engine |
| 3. Owner Name | 16. Hull material |
| 4. Type of fishing method/gear | 17. Date of registration |
| 5. Port of registry | 18. Area (country) of fishing operation |
| 6. Gross tonnage (GRT/GT) | 19. Nationality of vessel (flag) |
| 7. Length (L) | 20. Previous name (if any) |
| 8. Breadth (B) | 21. Previous flag (if any) |
| 9. Depth (D) | 22. Name of captain/master |
| 10. Engine Power | 23. Nationality of captain/master |
| 11. Shipyard/Ship Builder | 24. Number of crew (maximum/minimum) |
| 12. Date of launching | 25. Nationality of crew |
| 13. International Radio Call Sign | 26. IMO Number (If available) |

REGIONAL FISHING VESSELS RECORD (RFVR) FOR VESSELS 24 METERS IN LENGTH AND OVER

I. INTRODUCTION

SEAFDEC has been assisting the Southeast Asian countries in their efforts to combat IUU fishing through the implementation of the project on the Promotion of Sustainable Fisheries and IUU Fishing-related Countermeasures in Southeast Asia which is funded by the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF). One of the main activities of the project is the Promotion of Fishing License, Boats Registration, and Port State Measures in Southeast Asia, carried out through a series of regional meetings. This activity is aimed at developing a regional record of fishing vessels starting with vessels measuring 24 meters in length and over during its first phase, which could be expanded later with the recording of vessels measuring less than 24 meters. Moreover, assistance has also been extended by SEAFDEC to the countries in the region in their endeavors of improving their respective fishing licensing systems to conform to regional and international requirements. It is envisioned that this regional fishing vessels record together with the refined fishing licensing systems could be effectively used as fisheries management tools in combating IUU fishing in the Southeast Asian region.

At the onset, SEAFDEC/TD organized the Regional Core Experts Meeting in Fishing License, Boats Registration and Information on Export of Fisheries Products in Southeast Asia in October 2011, where the procedures for fishing licensing and boats registration in Southeast Asian countries as well as the corresponding minimum requirements for obtaining fishing license and boats registration certificates were discussed. The results of such Meeting were compiled in a database maintained by SEAFDEC/TD. The Regional Core Experts Meeting also considered the development of regional guidelines on fishing licensing and boats registration while the ways and means of preventing the export of IUU fishing products in the region were initially identified (SEAFDEC/TD, 2011). In order to strengthen the regional networking and enhance the collaboration among the countries in the development of such guidelines as well as in future relevant activities, an electronic email group (combat_iuu@seafdec.org) was established which has since then, been actively used to exchange and update the necessary information.

Subsequently, the Experts Group Meeting on Fishing Licensing and Boats Registration in Southeast Asia was convened by SEAFDEC/TD in June 2012, where an agreement was reached by the SEAFDEC Member Countries on the compilation of the RFVR which should focus on the information of larger fishing vessels with length from 24 meters and over. Based on the results of such meetings, SEAFDEC/TD submitted the proposed establishment of the RFVR which was considered and approved by the SEAFDEC Council during its 45th Meeting in April 2013 in the Philippines. Furthermore, the Special Senior Officials Meeting of the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (Special SOM-34th AMAF) also support the establishment a Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR) as a tool to combat IUU fishing in the Southeast Asian Region. To continue and follow up this implement activity, TD organized “Technical Workshop on Regional Fishing Vessel Record (RFVR) Database Development and Management in Southeast Asia” from 20-21 August 2014 with came out of policy recommendation and way forward for RFVR database implementation.

II. POLICY RECOMMENDATION FOR RFVR DATABASE IMPLEMENTATION

To summarize, the policy recommendations for the RFVR database for vessels 24 meters in length and over, are as follows:

Firstly, the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) represented at the Workshop, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam agreed in principle to include additional information, *i.e.* vessel registration number, vessel owner’s name and IMO number (if available) in the RFVR database system. Therefore, the RFVR database would now contain 26 items corresponding to the basic information requirements. However, Thailand would consider sharing of vessel owner’s name only after consultation with national authorities concerned in view of its national law on personal data sharing. Meanwhile, the Workshop also agreed to include more detailed information under the ‘shipyard’ category such as names and addresses of ship builders, if available. Thus, the basic

information requirements for RFVR for 24 meters in length and over had also been updated as shown in **Table 1**

Table 1. Updated basic information requirements for RFVR database for vessels 24 meters in length and over

Information on fishing vessels	Information on fishing vessels
1. Name of vessel	14. Engine Brand
2. Vessel Registration Number*	15. Serial number of engine
3. Owner Name*	16. Hull material
4. Type of fishing method/gear	17. Date of registration
5. Port of registry	18. Area (country) of fishing operation
6. Gross tonnage (GRT/GT)	19. Nationality of vessel (flag)
7. Length (L)	20. Previous name (if any)
8. Breadth (B)	21. Previous flag (if any)
9. Depth (D)	22. Name of captain/master
10. Engine Power	23. Nationality of captain/master
11. Shipyard/Ship Builder	24. Number of crew (maximum/minimum)
12. Date of launching	25. Nationality of crew
13. International Radio Call Sign	26. IMO Number (If available)*

*Addition Items

Secondly, the RFVR database for vessels 24 meters in length and over would be shared with all AMSs including Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Singapore while sharing such information with the public, particularly the RPOA-IUU Secretariat should be addressed only upon consideration and approval by the ASEAN and SEAFDEC high level authorities i.e., SEAFDEC Council of Directors, FCG/ASSP, ASWGF, SOM, SOM-AMAF.

Thirdly, for the RFVR database system to be effective in combating IUU fishing, active fishing vessels list should be provided by countries to SEAFDEC at least once a year for updating the database and updating period should be standardized. However, the proposed bi-annual updating in the month of June and December every year was endorsed by the Workshop, although Indonesia would confirm the said updating period only after conducting a national discussion.

Fourthly, five (5) important categories could be included under the search function i.e., vessel flag, vessel type, vessel registration number, vessel name, and international radio call sign. The user account and password would be provided to all AMSs separately via the SEAFDEC Council Directors channel.

Fifthly, to enhance the usage of the RFVR database system, IUU vessels such as poaching and double flagging vessels could be shared with SEAFDEC and other AMSs for information and recording purposes. However, this proposal needs thorough discussion by higher level authorities of SEAFDEC and the ASEAN.

Last but not least, for the purpose of ensuring security of information, user account and password are required to be able to access the RFVR database system.

III. WAYS FORWARD FOR RFVR DATABASE IMPLEMENTATION

- **Ways forward for RFVR database for vessels 24 meters in length and over**

The Workshop agreed on the ways forward for the RFVR database for vessels 24 meters in length and over. Concerned AMSs should submit the vessel information based on the current number of vessels as reported earlier to TD in excel format by 30 September 2014. SEAFDEC will upload such information to the RFVR database system by end of October 2014.

Each AMSs should nominate its focal point to be in-charge of providing information from respective countries for the RFVR database. In this regard, SEAFDEC would send official communications to concerned AMSs requesting for the focal point nomination and vessel information for the RFVR database through their respective Council Directors, together with roles and responsibilities of the focal point for reference. As for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Singapore, SEAFDEC will also send official communications updating them on the outputs of the Workshop and requesting also for the national focal point nominations.

For improvement and monitoring of the RFVR database system, the Workshop decided that another regional meeting would be organized in 2015 to follow up and monitor on the implementation of the RFVR database system.

• **Ways forward for RFVR database for vessels less than 24 meters in length**

The Workshop also discussed on the development of RFVR Database for vessels less than 24 meters in length. Nevertheless, in view of the insufficiency of information on fishing vessels less than 24 meters, the Workshop agreed that this matter would be thoroughly discussed again in another regional meeting would be organized in 2015 to follow up and monitor on the implementation of the RFVR database system for vessels 24 meters in length and over as well as to consider the development of RFVR for vessels less than 24 meters in length, with the objective of using such RFVR as a tool in combating IUU fishing activities.

The summary of the ways forward is shown in **Table 2**.

Table 2. Summary of ways forward on the RFVR for vessels 24 meters in length and over

Activity	Timeframe	Remarks
• Submission of all RFVR vessel informations based on current number of fishing vessels to TD in Excel format by concerned AMSs	End of 30 September 2014	Official letter from SEAFDEC to Council Directors for 7 AMSs as early as possible
• Uploading of all vessel information to the RFVR system	By end of October 2014	by SEAFDEC/TD
• Nomination of National Focal Point/contact person for concerned AMSs	Now to end of October 2014	SEAFDEC to send official letter together with request for updating data
• Reporting of progress on establishment of RFVR to the 17 th FCG/ASSP	4-5 December 2014	by SEAFDEC/TD
• Improvement of the RFVR based on the comments from AMSs after online trials	From January- February 2015	The RFVR Database system completed
• Launching of the RFVR database system for vessels 24 m in length and over at the 47 th CM	April 2015	Account Name and Password to be provided to all AMSs via Council Directors and National focal point
• Reporting of progress on establishment of the RFVR to 23 rd ASWGF	June-July 2015	
• 1 st updating of the RFVR	April-October 2015	
• Regional meeting on practical usage of RFVR database system of 24 meters in length and over to facilitate countermeasures to IUU fishing in Southeast Asian countries.	May 2015	

IV. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The 47th Council Meeting is requested to:

- 1) Consider and support the policy recommendations for the RFVR database for vessels 24 meters in length and over; and
- 2) Consider and support the ways forward for the RFVR database implementation for vessels 24 meters in length and over.

ASEAN CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME

Executive Summary

Market driven measures on trading of fish and fishery products, specifically, the EC Regulation 1005/2008 has impacted not only to the countries that send their products to the EU but also to some countries that do not export their fish directly to the EU which need catch certificates. In addition, for the purpose of conservation and management of tunas by the Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMOs), the RFMO's Catch Documentation Schemes are introduced to their member countries for implementation. Taking into account the impact from both market driven measures mentioned above, all relevant AMSs that traded their fish and fishery products needed to implement the measures. AMSs consider the importance of measures that could provide guidance to improve the traceability system for capture fisheries and combating IUU fishing. By the reasons, AMSs realized that catch documentation scheme could be used as one of management tools to improve and strengthen better management of fisheries in the ASEAN region as well as could support intra-regional and international trade of fish and fishery products beyond trading with the EU and under the framework of RFMOs areas.

In according to the abovementioned circumstances, issues pertaining to the EC Regulation 1005/2008 and how to improve the traceability of capture fisheries has been immensely discussed at the 13th Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP) in December 2010 in Thailand. SEAFDEC Secretariat was suggested to take a proactive role in facilitating the sharing of experiences and information among the Member Countries (*e.g.* difficulties faced by the industry, areas of negotiations with EC, possible solutions/options), in order to enhance the capacity of Member Countries in complying with the requirements of the EC Regulation. Moreover, the AMSs expressed their support on improve the traceability for capture fisheries to ensure the sustainability of fisheries for food security toward 2020 within the ASEAN Region. In addition, AMSs also support the development of common regional catch documentation scheme/herein after called "ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme" taking into consideration the format, standard and information requirements of importing countries, but simplified in order to enhance its applicability by small-scale fisheries in the Region.

In response to the request from AMSs, SEAFDEC/MFRDMD in collaboration with Secretariat conducted the small group of experts to develop the first draft of ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme in October 14th-16th, 2014. SEAFDEC consequently conducted the Regional Technical Consultation in December 16th-18th, 2014 to finalize the 2nd draft of the ASEAN CDS (**Appendix 1**) before circulating to all SEAFDEC Member Countries for comments during January-February 2015. The comments on the 2nd draft ACDS made by AMSs are as follows:

1) Brunei Darussalam: On minor type errors on - page 15, Annex III; page 18, Annex V-A; page 19, other document ACC. Brunei Darussalam is also updating the form to make suit to the situation and will share the form later to SEAFDEC and other AMSs.

2) Malaysia: provides the definition of Small Fishing Vessels as follows:

- Vessels with outboard motor less than 11m (Peninsular) /13m (Sarawak) in length;
- Less than 120 hp outboard engine;
- Less than 10 GRT; and
- Operate in Zone A.

3) The Philippines: comments are as follows:

- ACC should only be issued by the Competent Authorities of the ASEAN Member Flag State for the exportation. Only the Flag State, not the exporting AMSs, has the authority to validate the legality of catches made by their own fishing vessels. This is properly reflected in Section 2.2.1 (c), Sec. 2.2.2 (c), Paragraph 13, Paragraph 19 and Annex V-A such that the re-exporting AMSs should not be required to issue a catch certificate for

products caught by fishing vessels not flying their flags;

- To reflect the correct forms Annex IV referred to in Paragraph 13 should be changed to Annex V-A; Annex IV-B referred to in Paragraph 19 should be changed to Annex V-B; and Annex V referred to in Paragraph 14 should be changed to Annex IV; and
- Catch Declaration/Logbook/Logsheet format in Annex II-A and Annex II-B is similar in format to the CC in Annexes V-A and V-B. As these Annexes were not presented during the Meeting, the undersigned suggest to respect whatever format of Catch Declaration/Logbook/Logsheet that the AMSs are currently using to avoid redundancy and additional burden to the AMSs.

4) Singapore: in Principal agreed with the 2nd Draft ACDS, however it is necessary to further conduct the stakeholders consultation to build the awareness of ACDS while seek comments for further improvement of the forms appeared in the documents.

5) Thailand: comments are as follows:

- There are too many forms of CD and MD, Thailand proposed to use the most simple of CD and MD, no need to separate for commercial and small fishing boat. However, inputs from commercial may be more than the small fishing vessel's inputs;
- The Annex IV (ACC) and the Simplify ACC (SACC) need to send during exportation, and this Annex also be used for re-exportation;
- Requires other small group meeting to include role play to discuss and finalize the CD and MD; and
- For the definition of small fishing vessels, Thailand proposes to follow the definition appeared in the EC-Regulation.

Taking into accounts the comments as mentioned above showing that AMSs in principal support the implementation of the ACDS with additional comments and amendments.

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to take note the progress on developing the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme. The Council is also requested for to approve in principal of the 2nd Draft ACDS for further endorsement by the 23rd ASWGFⁱ and high-level in order to foster cooperation among AMSs in combating IUU fishing in the region and promote the intra-regional trade of fish and fishery products. With regard to the comments from 5 AMSs, SEAFDEC will harmonize on the proposed changes and report back to SEAFDEC Member Countries as soon as possible or before the next ASWGFⁱ.



ASEAN CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME: Marine Capture Fisheries

SEAFDEC/MFRDMD IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT

ASEAN Lead Country: Singapore

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER



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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS:

ACC	ASEAN Catch Certificate
ACDS	ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme
AMS	ASEAN Member States
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
EC	European Commission
EEZs	Exclusive Economic Zones
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCG/ASSP	Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership
GT	gross tonnage
IUU fishing	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing
MT	metric tons
MFRDMD	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
SACC	Simplified ASEAN Catch Certificate
SEAFDEC	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

PREFACE

ASEAN is a major producer of fish and fishery products, jointly accounting for a quarter of the global fish production. Of the world's top 15 marine capture fisheries producers, six are from the ASEAN, namely: Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Viet Nam, Thailand, and Malaysia. Indonesia ranked second of the world's highest marine capture fisheries producers, with production of 5.40 million metric tons (MT) in 2012 an increase of about 27.0% over the last decade. The Fisheries Statistical Bulletin of Southeast Asia showed that in 2012, Indonesia's total production from marine capture fisheries reached 5.40 million MT followed by Myanmar at 2.33 million MT, Philippines at 2.15 million MT, Viet Nam at 2.11 million MT, Thailand at 1.61 million MT, and Malaysia at 1.47 million MT. It is worth noting that production from marine capture fisheries of Myanmar and Viet Nam increased by 121.4% and 46.8%, respectively, over the last decade.

The global demand for the region's fish and fishery products is rising as more countries depend on the ASEAN catches. Australia sources nearly half of its fish demand from the ASEAN countries. Studies showed that Australia's domestic fish requirement will reach 776,000 MT by 2020, of which 610,000 MT will be imported. One of ASEAN's major trading partners, Japan, has been the leading importer of seafood in the world. In 2011, Japan's seafood import reached 2.69 million MT amounting to 1.45 trillion yen. Japan imports shrimps primarily from Viet Nam, Indonesia, and Thailand. Indonesia is also one of the country's major sources of tuna, third to Taiwan and Korea. This growth was driven by the increased demand from Europe and the United States. Viet Nam's seafood is also in demand as exports grew from US\$ 5.0 billion in 2010 to US\$ 6.2 billion in 2012. The United States is fast rising as a major importer of seafood from Viet Nam. It is the primary importer of tuna and the second largest importer of shrimps from Viet Nam. Thailand and Vietnam are two of the world's major exporters of fish and fishery products.

Market-driven measures on trading of fish and fishery products, specifically, the EC Regulation 1005/2008 has impacted not only to the countries that send their products to the EU but also to some countries that do not directly export their fish to the EU which need catch certificates. In addition, for the purpose of conservation and management of tunas by the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), the RFMOs Catch Documentation Schemes are introduced to their respective member countries for implementation. Taking into account the impact from both market-driven measures mentioned above, all relevant AMS that trade their fish and fishery products need to implement the measures. AMS recognized the importance of measures that could provide guidance to improve the traceability system for capture fisheries and combating IUU fishing. By these reasons, AMS realized that catch documentation scheme could be used as one of management tools to improve and strengthen better management of fisheries in the ASEAN region as well as support intra-regional and international trade of fish and fishery products beyond trading with the EU and under the framework of RFMO areas.

Based on the abovementioned circumstances, issues pertaining to the EC Regulation 1005/2008 and traceability of capture fisheries had been immensely discussed at the 13th Meeting of the FCG/ASSP in December 2010 in Thailand. During that Meeting, SEAFDEC Secretariat was requested to take a proactive role in facilitating the sharing of experiences and information among the AMS in complying with the EC Regulation (*e.g.* difficulties faced by the fishing industry, areas of negotiations with EC, possible solutions/options), and in enhancing the capacity of AMS in complying with the EC Regulation. Moreover, the AMS expressed their support on the need to improve the traceability for capture fisheries to ensure the sustainability of fisheries for food security in the region. In this connection, AMS supported the development of a common regional catch documentation scheme taking into consideration the format, standards and information requirements of importing countries, but simplified to enhance its applicability by the small-scale fisheries in the region.

The ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ACDS) comprises three main parts. Part I is the Introduction which includes the objectives of ACDS, nature and scope, and definition of terminologies to better understand the basic elements and focus of ACDS; Part II on the Provisions of the main ACDS consists of 1) Catch Flow/Movement of the ACDS, 2) Catch Documents focusing on (a) Exportation of Fish and Fishery Products from AMS Flagged Fishing Vessels Operating within their Respective EEZs and Other Coastal States, and (b) Re-exportation of Imported Fish and Fishery Products from AMS. Part II also includes Verification, Records Keeping and Information Sharing, Simplified Catch Document (for small fishing vessels), Monitoring and Evaluation, and the proposed Secretariat for the ACDS. Annexes are also appended in the document as well as important references that are put together in Part III of the ACDS. Shown in Table 1 are the respective fishing areas of the AMS.

The ACDS is one of the fisheries management tools for enhancing intra-regional and international trades and is an essential part of the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain to be adopted by AMS. As defined in the said Guidelines, the forms of IUU fishing activities occurring in the Southeast Asian region include: (1) illegal fishing activities within a country; (2) unauthorized transshipment and landing of fish/catch across borders; (3) poaching in the EEZs of other countries; (4) illegal fishing and trading practices of live reef food fish, reef-based ornamental and endangered aquatic species; (5) IUU fishing in the high seas and RFMO areas.

PART I: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objectives

The objectives of the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ACDS) are:

- To provide a unified framework that will enhance traceability of fish and fishery products for effective marine fisheries management in AMS;
- To enhance the credibility of fish and fishery products for intra-regional and international trade; and
- To prevent entry of fish and fishery products from IUU fishing activities into the supply chain of AMS.

1.2 Nature and Scope

1. The ACDS is established to improve traceability for marine capture fisheries in AMS and enhance intra-regional and international trade of all AMS.
2. The ACDS applies to the catch of fish and fishery products with the exception of those listed in **Annex I**.
3. The ACDS applies to trade of marine fish and fishery products, processed or not, originating from AMS flagged fishing vessels.
4. For transshipment, landings of domestic products, exports, imports, and re-exports, under jurisdiction of AMS, all catches shall be accompanied by a catch certificate and details of transshipment. There is no waiver of this requirement.
5. The ACDS will cover catch from small fishing vessels (which meet the criteria) that can contribute to trade among the AMS, and accordingly a simplified catch document would be applied.
6. The ACDS does not cover export/import of fish parts other than the meat, including head, eyes, roe, gut, fin, skin, tail, with the exception of shark fin.
7. This ACDS is meant for intra-regional trade demonstrating AMS commitment to combat IUU fishing. A subsequent phase could be developed for all fish and fishery products coming from outside the region.

1.3 Definition of Terminologies

- **Catch Declaration:** tabulated form submitted by Master of fishing vessel or its authorized representative specifying information related to catch and landing data
- **Certify:** to declare in writing that relevant ACDS documents are true
- **Competent Authority:** any person or organization that has been legally delegated or invested the authority, capacity, or power to perform a designated function
- **Conservation and Management Measures:** means or procedures to conserve and manage one or more species of living marine resources that are adopted and in force in accordance with relevant rules of international and/or national law

- **Consignment:** products which are either sent simultaneously from one exporter to one consignee or covered by a single transport document during shipment from exporter to consignee
- **Exportation:** any movement of fish and fishery products harvested by AMS flagged fishing vessels, from one AMS to other AMS or other States
- **Fish and Fishery Products:** any marine fish and fishery products except those listed in **Annex I** of this Scheme's Provisions
- **Fishing Master:** a person controlling, directing or determining all fishing operations and activities of a fishing vessel
- **Fishing Vessel:** any vessel used or intended for the purpose of commercial exploitation of fishery resources, including supporting ships, fish processing vessels, vessels engaged in transshipment and carrier vessels equipped for the transportation of fishery products, except container vessels
- **High Seas:** all parts of the sea as defined in Article 86 of the UNCLOS
- **Importation:** the introduction of fish and fishery products into any AMS, including those for transshipment purposes at ports/landing sites in its territory
- **IUU Fishing:** refer to definition in the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain
- **Logbooks/logsheets:** tabulated form of various information related to the types of gear, capacity of fishing gear, number of fishing operations, amount of catches by species or groups, fishing grounds, which should be declared by the Master of fishing boat or authorized persons/or representatives
- **Re-exportation:** any movement out of any AMS of fish and fishery products which had been previously imported into that AMS
- **Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO):** a sub-regional, regional or a similar organization with competence, as recognized under international law, to establish conservation and management measures for living marine resources placed under its responsibility by virtue of the convention or agreement by which it was established.
- **Representatives:** A person authorized by owner of vessel/Captain/Fishing Master to certify the authenticity of data and information
- **Small Fishing Vessels:** are fishing vessels:
 - a. with an overall length of less than 12 meters without towed gear; or
 - b. with an overall length of less than 8 meters with towed gear; or
 - c. without a superstructure; or
 - d. less than 20 GT
- **Simplified Catch Document:** type of catch declaration or logbook/logsheets applicable for small fishing vessels to be filled by the skipper and submitted to authorities when landing (Refer to **Annex II-B**)
- **Skipper:** the master or captain of a vessel, especially of a small fishing vessel

- **Supporting Ships:** ships that are directly involved in fishing operations including sonar boat, light boat, and skiff boat
- **Transshipment:** the unloading of all fish and/or fishery products on board a fishing vessel to another fishing vessel
- **Unique Serial Number:** reference number for tracing the catch/product flow in the supply chain, where the unique serial number could consist of types of ACDS document, ASEAN Member States code, year, month, day, and running reference, for example: CD1/TH20141014001
- **Validate:** to officially prove that certified relevant ACDS documents are true
- **Verification:** the process of establishing the accuracy or validity of data and information during its catch flow movement
- **Verify:** to check that relevant ACDS documents are accurate

PART II: PROVISIONS

2.1 Catch Flow/Movement of the ACDS

- 1) Catch movement under the ACDS covers the exportation of fish and fishery products from AMS flagged fishing vessels operating within their EEZs or that of other AMS, and re-exportation of imported fish and fishery products from AMS (**Figure 1**).

2.2 Catch Documents

- 2) Exportation and re-exportation of fish and fishery products, processed or not, caught by AMS flagged fishing vessels within their EEZs or that of other AMS, shall be accompanied by relevant ACDS documents.
- 3) The relevant ACDS documents referred to in **Part II Paragraph 2** shall be validated by the flag State of the fishing from which the fish and fishery products have been obtained. It shall be used to certify that such catches have been made in accordance with applicable national laws and regulations.
- 4) The relevant ACDS documents shall contain all information specified in the ACDS forms and shall be validated by competent authorities of the flag State.

2.2.1 Catch Documents For Commercial Marine Capture Fisheries

a) Catch Declaration/Logbook/Logsheets (CD1)

- 5) The catch and information in the catch declaration or logbook/logsheets (**Annex II-A**) shall be declared by captain/fishing master/skipper and reported to the competent authority at fishing ports/landing sites.
- 6) Competent authorities shall verify catch declaration/logbook/logsheets submitted by captain/fishing master/skipper.

- 7) Competent authorities shall submit a copy of catch declaration/logbook/logsheets to the relevant national fisheries management and statistics units.

b) Movement Document (MD1)

- 8) The captain/fishing master/skipper/owner of fishing vessel and/or representative shall provide inputs in **MD1 (Annex III-A)**.
- 9) Competent authorities shall verify information in the MD1.
- 10) Any transfer of ownership of the fish and fishery products must be verified.
- 11) The competent authorities shall conduct random check to verify information in the movement document.
- 12) Fish processing units shall maintain proper stock records keeping for verification by competent authorities.

c) ASEAN Catch Certificate for Exportation and Re-exportation of Fish and Fishery Products from AMS (ACC)

- 13) Exportation and re-exportation of fish and fishery products under ACDS shall be authorized through the issuance of ASEAN Catch Certificate (ACC) for Exportation of Fish and Fishery Products (**Annex IV**) by the competent authorities of the AMS from which the exportation or re-exportation takes place

d) Processing Statement

- 14) The competent authorities shall issue Processing Statement (**Annex V**) for exporting of processed fish and fishery products.

2.2.2 Simplified Catch Documents for Small Fishing Vessels

a) Simplified Catch Declaration/Logbook/Logsheets (CD2)

- 15) A simplified catch declaration/logbook/logsheets (**Annex II-B**) is introduced to enable small fishing vessels to trade with other AMS or other States. An exporter trading fish from several small fishing vessels shall complete the said Simplified Catch Declaration/Logbook/Logsheets.
- 16) The simplified catch document (**CD2**) may be **applied for any small fishing vessels as identified in PART I, Paragraph 1.3: "small fishing vessels"**.
- 17) All catches from small fishing vessels must be landed at ports/landing sites of the flag State unless otherwise agreed between neighboring AMS. Exporters may combine such catches into appropriate number of consignments.

b) Movement Document (MD2)

- 18) The skipper/owner of fishing vessel and/or representative shall provide inputs in MD2

(Annex III-B).

c) Simplified ASEAN Catch Certificate for Exportation and Re-exportation of Fish and Fishery Products of Small Fishing Vessels from AMS (SACC)

- 19) Exportation and re-exportation of fish and fishery products from small fishing vessels from AMS under ACDS shall be authorized through the issuance of Simplified ASEAN Catch Certificate (SACC) (Annex IV-B) by the competent authorities of the AMS from which the exportation or re-exportation takes place.

2.3 Verification

- 20) AMS shall have in place the necessary verification procedures to ensure compliance of ACDS at all levels.
- 21) Verifications may consist of examining the products, verifying declaration data and authenticity of documents, examining the accounts of operators and other records, as well as inspecting means of transport.
- 22) For the purpose of verification, the competent authorities of importing AMS may seek clarification from exporting AMS on the validity and accuracy of the ACDS documents with reference to the identified areas of possible non-compliance.
- 23) The procedure for verification shall be completed within 15 days from the date of receipt of the verification request. In the event that the competent authorities of the exporting AMS cannot meet the deadline, the verifying authorities in importing AMS may grant an extension of the deadline to reply, which shall not exceed another 15 days.

2.4 Records Keeping and Information Sharing

- 24) AMS shall keep all relevant validated ACDS documents for importation, exportation, and re-exportation for a period of at least two years in accordance with national regulations.
- 25) AMS shall develop manual/handbook for local staff/officers for the implementation of the ACDS.
- 26) AMS shall share data or information related to transshipment at sea and landing of catches inside AMS ports/landing sites including but not limited to the name of landing vessels, verified weight landed, destination, and others.

2.5 Monitoring and Evaluation

- 27) Each AMS shall nominate a national focal point to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation and management of the ACDS.
- 28) The ACDS shall be reviewed and updated by AMS every 3 years and/or when necessary.

2.6 Secretariat for the ACDS

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- 29) A Secretariat shall be established to undertake the following:
- a) Provide fulltime overall administration and coordination for the implementation of the ACDS;
 - b) Collate all information and documents;
 - c) Conduct reconciliation of data and information in ACDS documents;
 - d) Provide formal reports to the ASEAN Secretariat;
 - e) Develop and maintain electronic system for data and information recording and sharing;
 - f) Provide necessary assistance to AMS in case of difficulties encountered in the implementation of ACDS; and
 - g) Provide access for counterchecking of specimen signatures and official stamps of competent authorities of AMS.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

ANNEX I

List of “fish and fishery products” excluded from ACDS

- Freshwater fish and fishery products
- Aquaculture products obtained from fry or larvae
- Ornamental fish
- Oysters, live
- Scallops including queen scallops, of the genus *Pecten*, *Chlamys* or *Placopecten*, live, fresh or chilled
- Coquilles St. Jacques (*Pecten maximus*), frozen
- Other scallops, fresh or chilled
- Mussels
- Snails, others than those obtained from the sea
- Prepared and preserved mollusks
- Corals
- CITES-listed species

ANNEX II-A
CATCH DECLARATION/LOGBOOK/LOGSHEET (CD1)

CATCH DECLARATION/LOGBOOK/LOGSHEET (CD1)				
1. Unique Serial Number Reference Number		Validation Authority		
2. Name	Address		Tel.	Fax
Fishing Vessel Name	Flag-Home Port and Registration Number	Call Sign	IMO/Lloyd's Number (If issued)	
Fishing License No.– Valid to	Inmarsat No. , Fax No., telephone No., E-mail address (if issued)			
3. Description of Product	Type of Processing Authorized On Board			
Species	Product Code	Catch Area(s) and Dates	Estimated Live Weight (kg)	Verified Weight Landed (kg) where appropriate
4. Name of Master of Fishing Vessel – Signature – Seal:				
5. Declaration of Transshipment At Sea Name of Master of Fishing Vessel/Captain/Representative		Signature And Date	Transshipment Date/Area/Position	Estimated Weight (kg)
Name of Master of Receiving Vessel/Carrier	Signature	Vessel Name	Registration Number	IMO/Lloyd's Number (If issued)
6. Flag State Authority Validation:				
Name/Title		Signature	Date	Seal (stamp)

Annex II-B

SIMPLIFIED CATCH DECLARATION/LOGBOOK/LOGSHEET (CD2) (for Small Fishing Vessels)

SIMPLIFIED CATCH DECLARATION/LOGBOOK/LOGSHEET (CD2)				
1. Unique Serial Number Reference Number		Validation Authority		
2. Name	Address		Tel.	Fax
Fishing Vessel Name	Flag-Home Port	Registration Number		
Fishing License No.– Valid to:				
3. Description of Product				
Species	Product Code	Catch Area(s) and Dates	Estimated Live Weight (kg)	Verified Weight Landed (kg) where appropriate
4. Name of Skipper of Fishing Vessel – Signature – Seal:				
5. Declaration of Transshipment At Sea Name of Skipper of Fishing Vessel/ Representative		Signature And Date	Transshipment Date/Area/Position	Estimated Weight (kg)
Name of Master of Receiving Vessel/Carrier	Signature	Vessel Name	Registration Number	IMO/Lloyd's Number (If issued)
6. Flag State Authority Validation:				
Name/Title		Signature	Date	Seal (stamp)

ANNEX III-A**MARINE CATCH MOVEMENT DOCUMENT (MD1)**

MOVEMENT DOCUMENT (MD1)				
4. Unique Serial Number Reference Number: CD1/XXXXX		Validation Authority:		
5. General Information				
Name of Fishing Master/Captain:	Address		Tel.	Fax
Fishing Vessel Name	Registration Number	Fishing License No.– Valid Until:		
Date of Landing/unloading:		Landing Place/Name:		
6. Description of Product				
Product by species	Product Code	Estimated Live Weight (kg/MT)	Total Weight (kg/MT)	
7. Purchasing documents				
Name of Buyer:	Registration No. :	Address:	Phone No. :	
Catch by Species	Total Weight (kg/MT)	Sold by:	Buyer's signature:	
5. Processing Plant				
Processing Plant Name:	Registration No. :	Address:	Phone No. :	
Catch by Species:	Date of Processing:	Total Weight Used:	Remaining Fish:	Name of Controller:

ANNEX III-B
MARINE CATCH MOVEMENT DOCUMENT FOR SMALL FISHING VESSELS (MD2)

MOVEMENT DOCUMENT for SMALL FISHING VESSELS (MD2)				
1. Unique Serial Number Reference Number: CD2/XXXXX		Validation Authority:		
2. General Information				
List of Fishing Vessel:	Registration Number	Fishing License No.– Valid Until:		
Date of Landing/unloading:		Landing Place/Name:		
3. Description of Product				
Product by species	Product Code	Estimated Live Weight (kg/MT)	Total Weight (kg/MT)	
4. Purchasing documents				
Name of Buyer:	Registration No. :	Address:	Phone No. :	
Catch by Species	Total Weight (kg/MT)	Sold by:	Buyer's signature:	
5. Processing Plant				
Processing Plant Name:	Registration No. :	Address:	Phone No. :	
Catch by Species:	Date of Processing:	Total Weight Used:	Remaining Fish:	Name of Controller:

ANNEX IV

Processing Statement

I confirm that the processed fishery products: (product description and Combined Nomenclature code) have been obtained from catches accompanied by the following information:

ACDS document number & Catch certificate number	Vessel name(s) and flag(s)	Validation date(s)	Catch description	Total landed weight (kg)	Catch processed (kg)	Processed fishery product (kg)

Name and address of the processing plant _____

Name and address of the exporter (if different from the processing plant)

Approval number of the processing plant _____

Health certificate number and date _____

Responsible person of the processing plant :	Signature:	Date:	Place:
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Endorsement by the competent authority: _____

Official:	Signature and seal:	Date:	Place:
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ANNEX V-A

ASEAN Catch Certificate for Exportation and Re-exportation (ACC)					
1. Unique Serial Number Reference Number: MD1/XXXXX			Validating Authority		
1. Name	Address		Tel.	Fax	
Fishing Vessel Name	Flag-Home Port/Registration Number	Call Sign	IMO/Lloyd's Number (if issued)		
Fishing License No.– Valid to	Inmarsat No. , Fax No., telephone No., E-mail address (if issued)				
3. Description of Product	Type of Processing Authorized On Board				
Species	Product Code	Catch Area(s) and Dates	Estimated Live Weight (kg)	Verified Weight Landed (kg) where appropriate	
4. Name and Address of Exporter			Signature	Date	Seal
5. Competent Authority Validation:					
Name/Title			Signature	Date	Seal
6. Transport Details (See Appendix) to be fill by exporter					
7. Importer Declaration					
Name and Address of Importer		Signature	Date	Seal	Product Code
8. Import Control - Authority	Place	Importation Authorized (*)	Importation Suspended(*)	Verification Requested – Date	
Customs Declaration (if issued)		Number	Date	Place	
(*) Tick as appropriate					
Note :					

Other document from ACC >>>> ASEAN RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE			
Certificate Number		Date	Member State
1. Description of Re-Export Product			Weight (kg)
Species	Product Code	Balance From Total Quantity Declared In The Catch Certificate	
1. Name of re-Exporter	Address	Signature	Date
2. Authority			
Name/Title	Signature	Date	Seal/Stamp
Re-Export Control			
Place	Re-Export Authorized (*)	Verification Requested (*)	Re-Export declaration Number And Date
(*) Tick as appropriate			

Appendix

Transport Details

1. Country of Exportation Port/Airport/Other Place of Departure	2. Exporter Signature			
Vessel name and flag	Container Number(s) List attached	Name	Address	Signature
Flight number/airway bill number				
Truck nationality and registration number				
Railway bill number				
Other transport document				

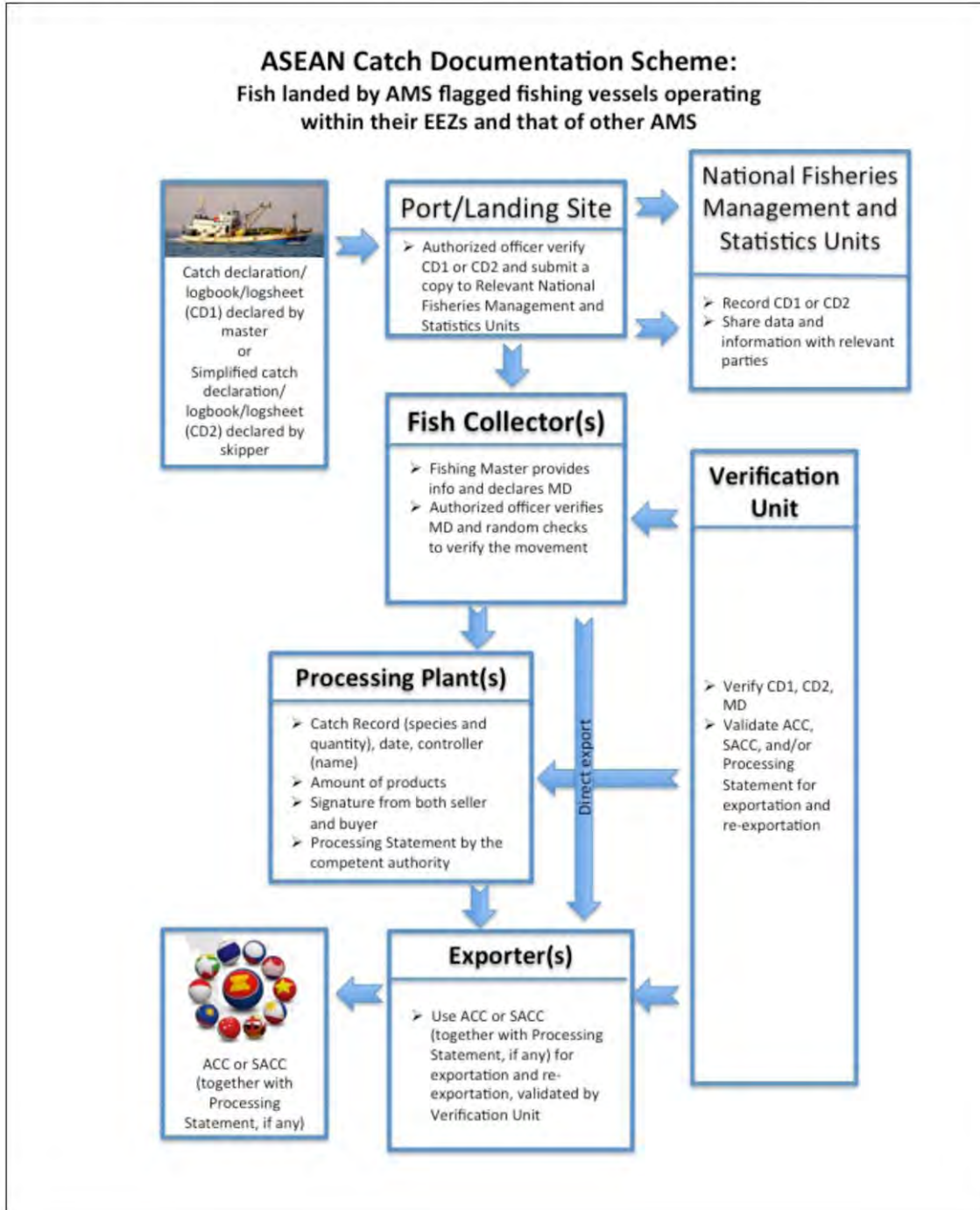
ANNEX V-B

SIMPLIFIED ASEAN CATCH CERTIFICATE FOR SMALL FISHING VESSELS (SACC)						
Document number			Validating authority(Name, Address, tel., fax			
1.Description of Product		2.References of applicable conservation and Management Measures				
Species		Product Code		Verified weight landed		
3. List of Vessel that have provided catch and quantities by each vessel (name, registration number, etc. annexed);						
4. Name, address, tel and fax of Exporter		Signature		Date	Seal (Stamp)	
5. Flag State authority Validation						
Name / Title		Signature		Date	Seal (Stamp)	
6. Transport details:						
Country of exportation	Port/airport/ other place of departure	Date of shipment	Vessel name and flag	Flight /airway /Truck /Railway other transport number/ bill number	Shipped to	Container number
Name of Exporter			Address		Signature	
7. Importer declaration:						
Name and address of Importer		Signature	Date	Seal (Stamp)	Product Code	
8. Import control: Authority Place		Place	Importation authorized *	Importation suspended *	Verification requested – date	
Customs declaration (If issued)			Number	Date	Place	

TABLE 1: FISHING AREA OF THE ASEAN MEMBER STATES

Country	Fishing areas
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	
CAMBODIA	
INDONESIA	
MALAYSIA	
MYANMAR	
THE PHILIPPINES	
SINGAPORE	Territory water of Singapore
THAILAND	
VIET NAM	

FIGURE 1: . Catch Flow/Movement of ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PORT STATE MEASURES IN THE ASEAN REGION

I. INTRODUCTION

1. SEAFDEC has been assisting the Southeast Asian countries in their efforts to combat IUU fishing through the implementation by TD of the project component on the Promotion of Sustainable Fisheries and IUU Fishing-related Countermeasures in Southeast Asia which is funded by the Japanese Trust Fund (JTF). The component included the project on the Promotion of Fishing License, Boat Registration and Port State Measures implemented from 2011 to 2012. In addition, the project on the Promotion of Countermeasures to Reduce IUU Fishing has been initiated and implemented since 2013, embedding within it the activity on Strengthening Port State Measures (PSM) and other surveillance measures in the region.

II. PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PORT STATE MEASURES IN THE REGION

2. Under the activity on Port State Measures, sub-activities such as the meetings, on-site training sessions and discussions with relevant agencies were carried out since 2012. The progress of these sub-activities are summarized as follows:

Sub-activity	Date	Output
1. Experts Group Meeting on Port State Measures in Southeast Asia convened by SEAFDEC	12-14 November 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations on common issues and constraints related to implementation of PSM were addressed to guide the Member Countries in implementing the PSM
2. Discussion on Port State Measures: pilot project activity in Phuket, Thailand by DOF Thailand and FAO/RAP was carried out through survey and participation in pilot project workshops	May and July 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons were learned on planning and promotion of PSM activities Based on results of the Phuket pilot project activity in 2013, an Inspection Training-Workshop was conducted by FAO and DOF Thailand in March 2015 where SEAFDEC participated as observer.
3. On-site Training on Offshore and High Sea Fisheries Management and Reducing IUU Fishing Activities conducted by SEAFDEC in Malaysia and Myanmar	4-6 February and 4-6 March 2014, respectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness raised and capacity built in the Member Countries on PSM and other surveillance measures as means of eliminating IUU fishing

III. ACTIVITIES IN 2015

3. Taking into account the key issues for combating IUU fishing in the Southeast Asian region, SEAFDEC considers the Agreement on Port State Measures adopted by FAO Member Countries, as one of the important issues that needs to be promoted in the region. This is considering that some countries in the ASEAN region are among the biggest importers of fish and fishery products for their respective sea food industry such as the tuna cannery, surimi factories, etc. In this connection, implementation of the Port State Measures would require inter-agency cooperation to allow the entry of foreign vessels, conduct joint inspections on relevant aspects, promote new legal frameworks, designate ports, etc.

4. Recently FAO/RAP in collaboration with DOF Thailand conducted recently a pilot project to promote the implementation of the Port State Measures in Thailand for tuna fisheries particularly for tuna cannery products in Thailand, considering that Thailand is one of the biggest tuna importers from the RFMO Areas and countries outside the region. Although the FAO-DOF Thailand Inspection Training focused only on reefer ships or carriers that move around the RFMO areas and countries, the training

covered not only inspection of vessels but also fish and products identification, monitoring of offloading and transshipment operations, etc. using the RFMOs' Catch Documentation Scheme.

5. With support from the Government of Singapore, the training on inspection of fish and fishery products was conducted in Singapore in early January 2015. Conducted onboard a carrier boat from Indonesia, the training found out that carrier boats from the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) plying to Singapore have not yet implemented any Catch Document and/or Catch Certificate.

6. The lessons learned from the pilot project organized by FAO/RAP and DOF Thailand as well as the inspection training supported by Government of Singapore indicated that in order for the AMSs to implement the Port State Measures, it is necessary to consider two approaches, namely: 1) PSM that should be applied for all foreign vessels that bring fish from countries outside the region or high seas or RFMO's areas, together with the RFMO's Catch Documentation Scheme; and 2) PSM that should be applied for all foreign vessels from AMSs that bring fishes from the ASEAN region, together with the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme.

7. For 2015, SEAFDEC proposed to organize the Regional Workshop on the Promotion of Port State Measures in the ASEAN Region. The expected outputs could include: 1) consideration of the Member Countries on the possibility of applying and/or implementing the PSM as stipulated in the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures; 2) consideration on the possible utilization of tools such as the RFVR and ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme in introducing and implementing the PSM applicable for the Southeast Asian region; and 3) needs of the Member Countries are clarified, especially in terms of support required from SEAFDEC for capacity building on PSM.

8. In preparing for the Regional Workshop, a questionnaire on the progress of implementation of the Port State Measures was sent to Member Countries except Japan and Lao PDR. The questionnaire is intended to: 1) monitor the progress of implementation by the Member Countries of the activities recommended during the 2012 Experts Group Meeting; and 2) compile information from the Member Countries on their capacity to apply or implement Port State Measure (PSM) activities as stipulated in the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures. The progress of implementation of such activities and the problems encountered by the AMSs that hinder the application and implementation of the said activities would be discussed in the proposed Regional Workshop.

IV. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

The Council is requested to consider and provide policy directives and support on activity plan to promote the implementation of the PSM in the ASEAN region.



REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION ON SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF NERITIC TUNAS IN THE ASEAN REGION

Executive Summary

Recognizing the importance of neritic tuna fisheries in the Southeast Asian waters, the regional or sub-regional cooperation to promote the sustainable utilization of neritic tunas is therefore needed. In this connection, the 45th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council endorsed the proposal of SEAFDEC Secretariat to conduct regular stakeholders' consultations for the development of the Regional Plan of Action for Sustainable Neritic Tunas Fisheries (RPOA-Neritic Tunas). Thus, SEAFDEC with funding support from the SEAFDEC-Sweden Project together with ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries organized the Consultative Meetings in October 2013 in Songkhla Province, Thailand, with aims to compile the main issues/problems on conservation and management that facing among the ASEAN Member States for drafting the RPOA-Neritic Tunas. In addition, SEAFDEC also organized "the Experts Group Meeting to finalize the Regional Plan of Action and discuss the work plan on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas Resources in the ASEAN Region in Krabi Province, Thailand from 18 to 20 June 2014. The Meeting was attended by the representatives from ASEAN countries, namely: Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Representatives from the Embassy of Sweden, ASEAN Tuna Working Group, ASEAN-USAID MARKET (Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development, and Trade) Project, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership and USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia. The draft RPOA-Neritic Tunas resulted from the consultative meetings was circulated to all SEAFDEC Member Countries for comments before it was addressed and endorsed as amended by the 17th Meeting of the FCG/ASSP in December 2014. This paper presents the Final RPOA-Neritic Tunas to be proposed for endorsement at the 47th Meeting of the Council.

REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION ON SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF NERITIC TUNAS IN THE ASEAN REGION

Objectives I: Determining available data and information, improving data collection and developing key indicators:

No.	Issues/Action Plans
1.	<i>Insufficient data/information</i>
	Improve Data Collection and Analysis for Neritic Tunas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compilation and review of existing data and information on neritic tunas from all related national agencies to understand the status, trend and biological parameters • Review and strengthening of data collection systems on neritic tunas • Review of policies, rules and regulations with regards to information collection and sharing • Implementation of collection system on catch data of neritic tunas based on the Regional Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia • Regular updating of data based on independent fisheries surveys conducted by research institutions • Introduction of the use of logbook and observer/trainer onboard program, if not already in place • Capacity building for data enumerators, observers, port inspectors, scientists, or other key data informants on species identification and biological information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provision of reference materials to data collectors, <i>e.g.</i> colored pictures of fish, fish identification handbooks, mobile applications • Improvement of data/information for a common pool of tuna database
2.	<i>Undetermined neritic tuna stocks status</i>
	Assess Neritic Tuna Stocks and Develop Resource Key Indicators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determination of the type of data required for stock assessment or key indicator analysis • Utilization of the existing SOPs for data collection to determine fisheries key indicators on status and trend of neritic tunas • Encouraging the conduct of research on neritic tunas at national level (<i>e.g.</i> stock assessment, biological, genetics, tagging program, etc.) • Integration of independent fisheries data with routine data from statistics to improve the analysis of neritic tuna stock assessment at national level • Strengthening capacity building on stock assessment • Conduct and regular updating of national stock assessment of neritic tunas • Seeking technical cooperation with NGOs, RFMOs, relevant research institutions for the conduct of research on neritic tunas

Objectives II: Improving sustainable fisheries management

No.	Issues/Action Plans
1.	<i>Open access</i>
	Promote Management of Fishing Capacity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of fishing effort and capacity at national level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Determination of Total Allowable Catch (TAC) ○ Estimation of the economic valuations and/or biological success of TAC ○ Issuance of numbers of fishing licenses at optimal level ○ Development of operation strategy considering economic valuation • Registration and licensing system of fishing vessels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mandatory registration of fishing vessels and licensing to operate based on national policies ○ Provision of authorized foreign fishing vessels conducting fishing operations in national waters of concerned countries based on bilateral agreement • Regulation on fishing gears <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Registration of fishing gear licenses or fishing permits based on national policies ○ Prohibition of active fishing gears (<i>e.g.</i> purse seine, ring net, Danish seine, trawls, etc.) within fishing zones for small-scale fisheries based on national policies ○ Regulation on mesh size of nets, where applicable depending on the type of gears and purposes of fishing • Application of selective fishing gears and/or practices

2.	<i>Inadequate management of neritic tunas resources in some areas</i>
	Promote Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas Resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FADs management plan/scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regulation on the use of FADs (<i>i.e.</i> recording the types/numbers, mapping, and use of environment-friendly materials) ○ Development of FADs management plan at national level • Regulation on fishing areas and/or fishing seasons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implementation of closed season for neritic tunas, <i>i.e.</i> during spawning season and nursery grounds based on best available scientific information and recommendations ○ Establishment of fisheries management zoning areas ○ Provision of alternative livelihoods to small-scale fishers (during closed season, if relevant) • Protection of critical habitats and enhancement of fisheries resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deployment of fish enhancing devices, artificial reefs or fish apartments relevant to neritic tunas ○ Establishment of fisheries <i>refugia</i> and/or fish sanctuaries
3.	<i>Inadequate understanding of management and conservation measures</i>
	Enhance Understanding of Management and Conservation Measures of Neritic Tunas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement of awareness of stakeholders on the importance of conservation and management measures • Conduct of comparative study of good practices learnt from other countries, RFMOs and international organizations • Arrangement of regular stakeholders' (including scientists, managers, policy makers, and fishers) consultations/meetings on management and conservation measures • Creation of platforms/forums to facilitate cooperation among scientists and managers • Development of information, education and communication (IEC) programs on sustainable use of resources
4.	<i>Negative impacts of climate change to changes of neritic tuna stocks</i>
	Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change on Neritic Tuna Stocks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging the involvement of ASEAN Member States in regional/sub-regional research/study on the impact, adaptation, and mitigation measures of climate change on fisheries particularly on neritic tunas

Objectives III: Improving sustainable interaction between fisheries and marine ecosystem

No.	Issues/Action Plans
1.	<i>Negative impacts of fisheries to marine ecosystem</i>
	Reduce Negative Impacts of Neritic Tunas Fisheries to Marine Ecosystem
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of ecosystem approach to fisheries management (EAFM) • Encouraging the conduct of risk assessment on the impacts of neritic tunas fisheries to marine ecosystem • Conduct of R&D on suitable fishing methods and practices for sustainable utilization of neritic tunas resources and promote to ASEAN Member States • Promotion of the use of responsible fishing technology and practices • Development and adaptation of effective management and conservation measures to minimize the catching of small neritic tunas by purse seine/ring nets • Establishment of fisheries <i>refugia</i> system to protect the juvenile and larval stages

Objectives IV: Improving compliance to rules and regulations and access to markets

No.	Issues/Action Plans
1.	<i>IUU fishing</i>
	Combat IUU Fishing Occurring in Southeast Asian Region
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of respective National Plans of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (NPOA-IUU Fishing) • Strengthen the implementation of NPOA-IUU Fishing (for countries with NPOA-IUU Fishing in place) • Promotion of cooperation among ASEAN Member States and with other RPOA-IUU participating countries in combating IUU fishing under the RPOA-IUU Framework

No.	Issues/Action Plans
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening coordination with the local governments, private sector and other agencies concerned to improve compliance on rules and regulations • Regulations on transshipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishment of procedures on transshipment of catch • Establishment of national fisheries observer scheme for neritic tunas • Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implementation and/or strengthening of VMS program based on national policies • Double flagging <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of vessel information (upon request) among concerned ASEAN Member States • Poaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishment of bilateral and multilateral networking to prevent poaching activities ○ Development of measures to regulate and deny access to landing of poached fish based on national legal framework • Strengthening of surveillance activities and enforcement • Prohibition of importation, landing or transshipment at port of neritic tunas from vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities in the ASEAN region without prior clarification from vessel owners or concerned flag states • Development of measures to refrain the conduct of business transaction with owners and vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities
2.	<i>Inadequate infrastructures in fishing ports/landing sites</i>
	Improve Infrastructures in Fishing Ports/Landing Sites
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the development of infrastructures such as auction facilities, jetties, water supply systems, ice processing plants to be completely available in fishing ports and landing sites • Development of the ASEAN standard (minimum requirements) for the management of fishing ports and landing sites (including safety, hygiene and sanitation standards)
3.	<i>Post-harvest losses/product quality deterioration</i>
	Improve Post-harvest Techniques and Product Quality
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of technical support to promote proper handling and preservation of neritic tunas onboard and at ports • Conduct of assessment of post-harvest losses of neritic tunas and describing the various ways of reducing post-harvest losses • Exchange of fishing and post-harvest technology or preservation techniques onboard as well as design/materials of fishing boats to reduce post-harvest losses
4.	<i>Intra-regional and international trade</i>
	Enhance Intra-regional and International Trade
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch documentation and traceability system/scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development and implementation of traceability system to monitor movement of neritic tuna fish/products in the supply chain for export (<i>i.e.</i> origin of catch, transport, processing, storage and distribution) ○ Implementation of ASEAN Catch Documentation System/Scheme* by ASEAN Member States for neritic tuna fish and fishery products at national level ○ Encouraging the implementation of the Fisheries Improvement Project Protocol (FIPP), where applicable and application of eco-labeling scheme • Facilitation and strengthening of intra-regional and international trade at national level • Development of Harmonized System (HS) Code especially for neritic tuna (regional issue)

Objectives V: Addressing Social Issues

No.	Issues/Action plans
1.	<i>Inadequate benefits for people involved in neritic tunas fisheries and industries</i>
	Improve the Benefits for People Involved in Neritic Tunas Fisheries and Industries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of socio-economic surveys (<i>i.e.</i> working condition of fishers, their income and the living standard) in local communities, large scale fisheries and ancillary industries to gather baseline information • Development of arrangements and partnership between fisheries authorities or related agencies and fisheries industries regarding implementation of labor standards in fisheries in accordance with national laws, the International Labor Organization (ILO) Work in Fishing Convention of 2007

	<p>(C188/Work in Fishing Convention, 2007) No. 188 and other related ILO Conventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforcement of rights, privileges and responsibilities of fish workers and others involved in fishing industry in accordance with national labor laws and regulations with the purpose of improving the welfare of people engaged in fisheries • Facilitating the cooperation between neighboring countries taking into account the importance of migrant labors
2.	<i>Working conditions and labor issues</i>
	Improve Working Conditions of Labor
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of child labor under the age of 15 years (or less than 18 years) working in tunas fisheries sectors in accordance with ILO Conventions • Recognizing security and safety issues for all types of fishing activities by implementing skills training program • Promotion of safety requirements at sea with capacity building and training for people engaged in tunas fisheries and related activities

Objectives VI: Enhancing Regional Cooperation

No.	Issues/Action Plans
1.	<i>Lack of Sub-regional action plans for neritic tuna fisheries</i>
	Enhance/Develop Sub-regional Action Plans for Neritic Tuna Fisheries
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the existing action plans in sub-regions such as Sulu-Sulawesi, Gulf of Thailand, South China Sea, and Andaman Sea • Establishment of cooperation on R&D to support sub-regional management of neritic tunas fisheries • Exchanging of information among ASEAN Member States on legal framework, policies & management, trade rules & regulations at sub-regional and regional levels on neritic tunas fisheries • Encouraging the participation of ASEAN Member States in sub-regional fora and consultations organized by regional fishery management organizations such as IOTC, if applicable and other regional fora
2.	<i>Insufficient information on status and trends of neritic tunas at sub-regional level</i>
	Assessment of the Status and Trends of Neritic Tuna at Sub-Regional Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the SEAFDEC scientific working group on neritic tunas for regional stock assessment and providing scientific advice for policy considerations on neritic tunas management • Conduct of regular meetings of SEAFDEC scientific working group at a sub-regional and regional levels • Conduct of regional tagging program on neritic tunas
3.	<i>Limited support to intra-regional and international trade</i>
	Enhancing Intra-regional and International Trade
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of joint trade promotions within and outside the region through the ASEAN Tuna Working Group • Promotion of bilateral/multilateral cooperation on trade of neritic tunas among ASEAN Member States • Promotion of the development of ASEAN Catch Documentation Systems/Schemes • Enhancement of the promotion of neritic tuna fish and fishery products from small-scale operators • Enforcement of compliance by private sectors on trade regulations

**Agreed Work Plan for
Regional Cooperation to Promote Sustainable Utilization of
Neritic Tunas Resources in the Southeast Asia Waters¹**

SEAFDEC Secretariat

Activity 1. Development of the RPOA-Neritic Tunas

Sub-activities	Time Line	Responsible agencies	Status (by Oct. 14)
1) Advise from the Council on the needs to develop the RPOA-neritic tuna	Apr. 2013	SEAFDEC	In progress
2) Technical Expert Consultation Identify the key issues for drafting	Oct. 2013	All AMSs and SEAFDEC	Completed
3) Expert Meeting on Drafting the RPOA Neritic tuna	Jun. 2014	All AMSs, SEAFDEC & Stakeholders	Completed
4) Stakeholder consultations (Tuna congress, Scientific conference/PH, US-AID-MARKET, others)	Oct. 2014	SEAFDEC	In progress
5) Submission to SEAFDEC Council for comments and endorsement	Sep. 2014	SEAFDEC	Completed
6) Address at the 17 th FCG/ASSP for endorsement	Dec. 2014	SEAFDEC and Lead AMSs	Completed
7) Report the progress to 47 th CM	Apr. 2015	SEAFDEC	In Progress
8) Endorsement by the 23 rd ASWGF	Jun. 2015	SEAFDEC and Lead AMSs	On going

Activity 2. Establishment of Working Group on Stock Assessment

Sub-activities	Time Line	Responsible agencies	Status (by July 14)
1) Establishing Scientific Working Group (SWG) on Stock Assessment: Andaman Sea, SCS+GOT, Sulu-Sulawesi Sea	Within Aug.-Sep. 2014	SEAFDEC in cooperation with AMSs	In progress
2) Scientific WG Meeting(s)	Nov. 2014 Feb., Jun., Aug. 2015	SEAFDEC and SWG	In progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the Strategic Plan and TOR of the SWG and endorsement by AMSs 	By Feb. 2015	SWG and SEAFDEC,	In Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the issues on stock assessment at national and regional level 	By May. 2015	SWG, SEAFDEC & RFMOs, etc.	On going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardize data collection and models, develop the SOP, tools, etc. 	By Jul. 2015	SWG, SEAFDEC	On going
3) Scientific WG on Stock Assessment under the TOR	Nov. 2015	SWG, SEAFDEC	On going

¹ The Expert Group Meeting on Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tuna Resources in the Southeast Asia Waters, 18-20 June 2014, Krabi province, Thailand

Activity 3. Human Resources Development and Its Activities

Sub-activities	Time Line	Responsible agencies	Status (by July 14)
1) Compilation of the required HRD program from AMSs	20 Jun. 14	SEAFDEC	Completed
2) Prioritized the HRD Program based on Country Inputs in line with SEAFDEC plan	Jun.- Jul. 2014	SEAFDEC and All AMSs	Completed
3) Conduct the HRD program(s) based on the prioritized setup and outputs from SWG	Jul.-Oct. 2015	SEAFDEC, some AMSs	On going
4) Improve on Data collection in some AMSs based on outputs from SWG	May.-Dec. 2015	SCS and GOT targeting Tongol tuna	On going

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

(Final Draft as of 19 Nov. 2014)

I. Introduction and Rationale

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

II. Role of SWG-Neritic tunas

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

III. Scope of Work

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

IV. Terms of Reference of the SWG-Neritic tunas

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

V. Composition of the SWG-Neritic tunas

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

a. SWG-Neritic tunas:

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

b. Chief Scientist(s):

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

c. Chairperson:

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

d. Resources persons/ Experts:

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

e. Secretariat:

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

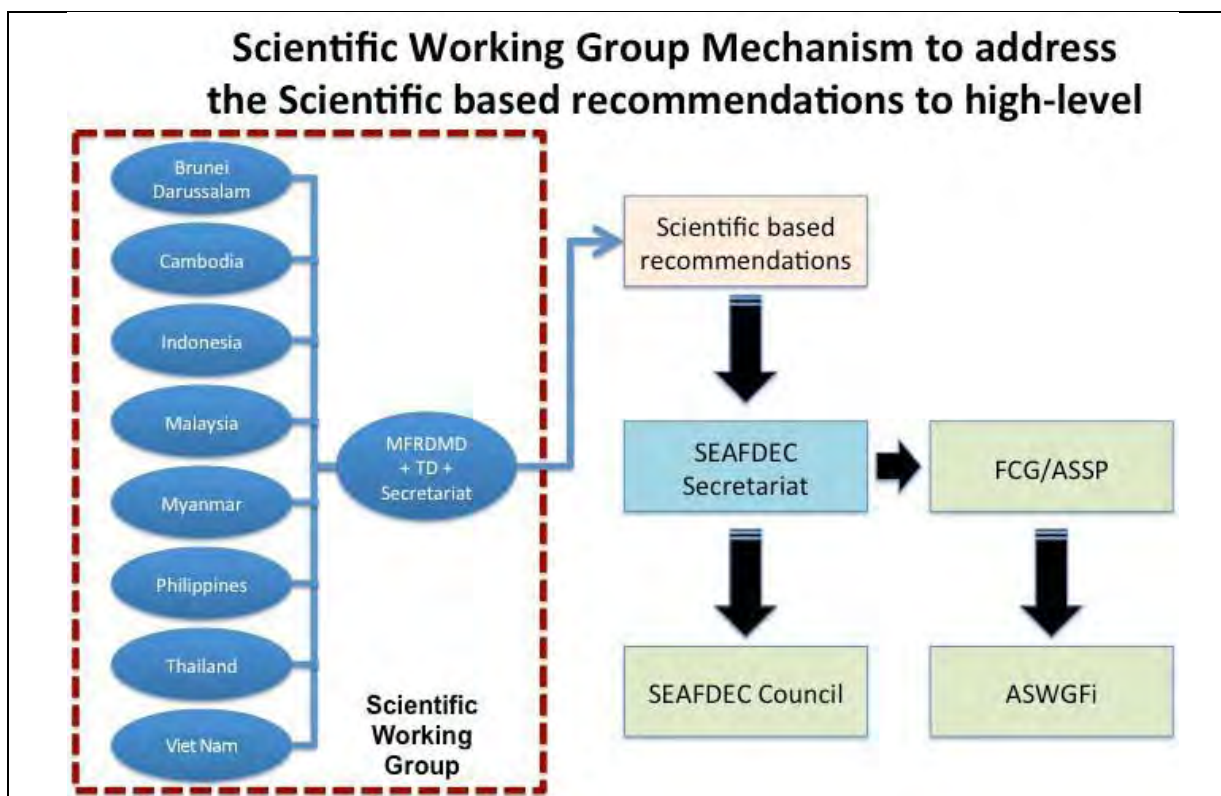
f. Rapporteur:

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

VI. Nature of SWG Activities and Financial Arrangements

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

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



REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

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

List of the Standing Members of SWG-Neritic Tunas from 2014

SWG Name	Position	Address	Email
Brunei Darussalam			
• Not confirm yet			
Cambodia			
• Mr. Suy Serywath (Chief Scientist)	Director, Fisheries Research and Development Institute	Fisheries Administration 186 Norodom Blvd, Sangkat Tonle Basac Khan Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh CAMBODIA Tel. (855-12) 714 239 Fax: (855-23) 219 256	serywath@gmail.com
• Mr. Kao Monirith	Deputy Director, Marine Fisheries Inspectorate, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Institute	Fisheries Administration 186 Norodom Blvd, Sangkat Tonle Basac Khan Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh CAMBODIA Tel. (855-12) 714 239 Fax: (855-23) 219 256	kaomonirith@yahoo.com
Indonesia			
• Mr. Khairul Amri (Chief Scientist)	Senior Researcher, Marine and Fisheries Research Institute	Agency of Marine and Fisheries Research and Development, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Jl. Muara Baru Ujung Komplek Pelabuhan Perikanan Nizam Zachman, Jakarta, INDONESIA Tel: +62-8568020608 Fax: +62-21 64700929	Kh_amri@yahoo.com
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Tentative Work Plan for Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment

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



REGIONAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF EEL RESOURCES AND PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE

Executive Summary

Refer to the 36th Meeting of the Program Committee requested SEAFDEC to spearhead the conduct of a study on eel resources in the region in collaboration with the Member Countries. Thus, SEAFDEC organized the 1st Regional Technical Meeting on Information Gathering of Eel Resources and Aquaculture Production in Southeast Asia on 27 January 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand, with aims to compile information related to eel resources from the wild and status of aquaculture in the Southeast Asian Countries and developed the way forward and future meeting of eel experts of the Southeast Asian Region. In addition, SEAFDEC also organized the 2nd Regional Consultation on Development of Regional Policy Recommendation on Sustainable Management of Eel Resources and Aquaculture Production in Southeast Asia in Palembang, Indonesia from 31 August to 1 September 2014. The consultation aimed to develop the policy recommendation and strategic program for the conservation and management of catadromous eel resources and sustainable development of catadromous eel aquaculture in Southeast Asia. This paper represents a final draft of the policy recommendations resulted from the consultative meetings and agreed by all representatives and experts from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries.

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to take note on the progress of regional cooperation to promote sustainable fisheries in ASEAN region especially on the Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and Management of Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture. These would provide important works to be done within the Southeast Asian region to promote common approaches for managing the utilization of eel resources and promoting the eel aquaculture within the region replacing the illegal exportation of elvers and juvenile eels. The Council is also requested to provide guidance on the future direction and actions toward the above issues.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CATADROMOUS EEL RESOURCES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA¹

I. Sustainability of the Resources

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Unclear status and trends of eel resources/fisheries 2) Decline in landing of glass eels 3) Inadequate information on ecology, biology, habitat, distribution, and migration of different species 4) Lack of appropriate and practical methodology for species identification 5) The difficulty in handling the fish way for eel stepping using CCTV camera	<p><i>Improve data collection for stock assessment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the existing data/information (including collection historical data) from relevant agencies in the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) • Improve time series data collection on resources and rate of utilization of eels (adults, elvers, biomass of glass eels, etc.) • Develop appropriate technology/methodology for identification of eel species available in the region (<i>e.g.</i>, for glass eels apply molecular techniques) to assess the heavily exploited species • Improve collection of national statistics at species level (or at least at the genus level) <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze data and information to understand the status and trend of eel resources • Develop and implement R&D Programs on ecology, biology, habitat, distribution, and migration and recruitment of different eel species • Assess the causes in the decline of landing of glass eels • Engage regional fisheries bodies to support the AMSs in data collection • Install CCTV in the surface of the water where the eel pass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of regional cooperation on data sharing of information on landings, and species composition of glass eels collected from various sources, in order to provide baseline information for stock assessment and management of eel resources • Effective control and surveillance toward compliance upon laws and regulations • Strengthen coordination with the water power plant or another related sector dealing with eels life cycle habitat. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>< Immediate Action ></i></p>

II. Habitat Management

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Degradation of habitats 2) Cross-river obstacles that inhibit migration 3) Lack of monitoring of the effectiveness of habitat management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify critical habitats including migratory routes • Ban collection of glass eels in critical habitats • Rehabilitate critical habitats (<i>e.g.</i>, promote the incorporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and conservation/rehabilitation of critical habitats including migratory routes

¹ The results from the 2nd Regional Consultation on Development of Regional Policy Recommendation on Sustainable Management of Eel Resources and Aquaculture Productions in the Southeast Asia, 31 August – 1 September 2014, Palembang, Indonesia.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
	of fish pass in weir construction) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop measures to allow the escape of silver eels to their spawning habitats • Monitor the effectiveness of habitat management activities implemented in the AMSs 	

III. Regulations and Management Measures

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Inadequate regulations and management measures specifically for eels, such as: Input Control System, <i>e.g.</i> licensing for harvesting, effort, gear restriction; zoning; closed season; etc. 2) <u>Illegal trade/export of glass eels and elvers</u> 3) Inadequate monitoring of the effectiveness of management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve enforcement of existing laws and regulations to ensure maximum compliance • Establish laws and regulations for management of eels as applicable to respective AMSs • Legalize trading of glass eels within the AMSs in accordance with national laws and regulations as well as Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary (SPS) requirements • Implement effective management of fisheries through an ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAFM) that integrates habitat and fishery resource management aimed at increasing the social and economic benefits to all stakeholders • Encourage the compliance of management measures based on international instruments, <i>e.g.</i>, UNCLOS Convention Article 67 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the application of the precautionary approach for sustainable utilization of eel resources in spite of insufficient data and information (could include limitation of harvest and trading of certain stages of eels) • Establishment of traceability/certification system for trading of glass eels and elvers • Strengthening of the enforcement of laws and regulations, including through capacity building and intelligent investigation • Every AMSs develop a notification and send to importing countries to not trade eel with size <150 g

IV. Strengthening of Information and Education Campaign (IEC)

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Lack of awareness of stakeholders on impacts of glass eel fishing activities, degradation of habitats, and resource status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct massive awareness building and educational campaign on the impacts of fishing activities, degradation of habitats, and resource status to all stakeholders (<i>e.g.</i> fishers, consumers, local traders, exporters, public, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of massive awareness building activities and educational campaigns on the impacts of fishing activities, degradation of habitats, and resource status to all stakeholders (<i>e.g.</i> fishers, consumers, local traders, exporters, public, etc.) through considering the EAFM Approach <p><Immediate Action></p>

V. Regional Cooperation for Management Framework

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Unauthorized/Illegal trading of glass eels as inputs for eel aquaculture in the region 2) Lack of regional collaborative management on monitoring of eel fisheries management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonize intra-regional trade of glass eels for aquaculture proposes within the AMSs • Develop the system of monitoring the exact catch and fishing effort, and complying with control measures • Establish protocols for cross-border movement of eels species in accordance with the FAO Guidelines on Responsible Movement of Live Aquatic Animals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of regional policy and guidelines on the collection, handling, transporting, cross-border movement, and trading of glass eels among AMSs as inputs for eel aquaculture in the region

VI. Cross-cutting Issues

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Unclear marketing system 2) Unstable price of glass eels 3) Oceanographic changes/climate change 4) Lack of post-harvest technology and product development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake study on marketing and pricing system of eels • Monitor-the impacts from El Niño and La Niña to harvesting of glass eels for future analysis • Develop post-harvest technology and product development-for eels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of marketing system, with due consolidation of existing markets and development of new markets • Conducting studies/R&D of eel processing into refined products which favored by the public/consumers of local / regional and international. • Capacity building on eel processing technology

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CATADROMOUS EEL AQUACULTURE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA¹

I. Development of Sustainable Aquaculture Technology and Practices

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Lack of technologies on breeding and larval rearing of eels 2) Inadequate methodology for species identification of glass eels used for aquaculture 3) Low survival rate of glass eels gathered from the wild.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidelines on best practices for collection, transportation and handling of wild-caught glass eels for aquaculture to ensure maximum survival • Learn from experience of Japan and other East Asian countries and areas to adapt technology for aquaculture of eel species developed in these countries and areas as model to accelerate development of eel aquaculture in the region, and on identification of glass eel species for aquaculture • Promote the business segmentation to eel grow up business • Develop eel/ fish way mapping • Develop technology on the eel feed formulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of experience among ASEAN Member States on practices for collection, transportation and handling of wild-caught glass eels for aquaculture • Establishment of cooperation and conduct of regular interaction among experts, the academe and institutions, as well as with relevant aquaculture business entrepreneurs working on eel aquaculture within and outside the region to fast-track aquaculture development of eel species into the AMSs and other advanced countries • Development of technology for tropical eel aquaculture • Establishment of good aquaculture practices for sustainable development • Strengthening of the enforcement of laws and regulations on eel aquaculture

II. Management of Eel Aquaculture

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Inadequate regulations on eel aquaculture 2) Inadequate data number of companies/farms engaged in aquaculture, quantity of glass eels used, production from aquaculture 3) Lack of traceability system on the source of stocks for eel aquaculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish regulations on eel aquaculture, <i>e.g.</i>, registration and licensing of eel aquaculture farms, effective monitoring by government authorities, and requirements for reporting the source of glass eels for aquaculture and production output • Countries with existing eel aquaculture should monitor inputs used and production • Develop traceability system/certification of origin for cultured eels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of ecosystem approach for the management of eel aquaculture • Habitat reparation/ rehabilitation of the damaged fish way of eels • Application of precautionary approach on management of eel aquaculture • Development of measures that would ensure that promotion of eel aquaculture would not impact on the natural eel populations

¹ The results from the 2nd Regional Consultation on Development of Regional Policy Recommendation on Sustainable Management of Eel Resources and Aquaculture Productions in the Southeast Asia, 31 August – 1 September 2014, Palembang, Indonesia

III. Regional Cooperation on Sustainable Development of Eel Aquaculture²

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Fragmented development of technologies on eel aquaculture by individual countries 2) Lack of regional situation on harvest of glass eels and eel aquaculture production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidate information and knowledge on eel aquaculture technologies among the AMSs • Share information on eel aquaculture industries among the AMSs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of information on eel aquaculture technologies among countries in the region. • Strengthen the market information on eel aquaculture • Development of regional guidelines on best practices for eel aquaculture

IV. Cross-cutting issues

ISSUES AND CONCERNS	STRATEGIC ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1) Poor handling/transporting of glass eels 2) Inadequate information on the impacts of aquaculture to the environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve fish handling and transportation processes to reduce high mortality of glass eels for aquaculture • Promote responsible movement of eels in the AMSs • Develop a regulation to enclose the document of origin for eel seed distribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Designated port of entry and port of exit for carrier vessels transporting eels product

² The meeting take note the recommendation from Indonesia to “establish the ASEAN Eel Association”, while the issue will be raised again at the forth coming 23rd ASWGF by Indonesia.



REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR MANAGEMENT OF FISHING CAPACITY

Executive Summary

The issue of managing fishing capacity has been raised during the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020, held in Bangkok, Thailand, 13-17 June 2011, under Sub-Theme 1.2: Management of Fishing Capacity. In order to support AMSs in developing the National Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity (NPOA-Capacity), therefore DOF/Malaysia as a Lead Country for the cluster “Promoting Sustainable Fisheries Practices - Fishing Capacity and Responsible Fisheries Practices” under the ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF) developed the Guidelines for Development of the NPOA-Capacity based on the DOF/Malaysia’s experiences. The Guidelines focuses on strategies relating to the effective management of national fishing capacity for sustainable exploitation of the fishery resources for future generation. Nevertheless, the said Guidelines had not been finalized yet through the technical consultation process with other ASEAN Member States. To facilitate the discussion and finalization of the Guidelines, SEAFDEC was requested to provide the platform for all ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries to meet.

In response to this, SEAFDEC has worked with DOF/Malaysia on the approaches to support for Management of Fishing Capacity for the ASEAN region, while agreed in principle to target on the Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity (RPOA-Capacity) and included with the revised Guidelines for Development of NPOA-Capacity for AMSs. The Regional Technical Consultation on the Development of RPOA-Capacity was organized with the aims to review the AMSs’ management of fishing capacity and identify the issues/problems as basic information to be included in the RPOA-Capacity. The Meeting was held on 24-26 February 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The results of the RTC (**Appendix 1**) are useful for SEAFDEC to further drafting the RPOA-Capacity and revising the guidelines for development of NPOA-Capacity for consideration and finalization by AMSs at the 2nd RTC in December 2015. It is expected that the final draft of the RPOA-Capacity will be submitted to the 48th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in 2016 for consideration and approval, before further submission to the AFCF and ASWGFi by DOF/Malaysia for endorsement.

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to take note of the progress on development of the RPOA-Capacity. The Council is also invite to provide comments and advices to SEAFDEC and/or AMSs to improve the development process of RPOA-Capacity.

**Summary Results of the Regional Technical Consultation on
Development of Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity
(RPOA-Capacity)**

24-26 February 2015, Ancasa Hotel and Spa, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

1) Objectives of the RPOA-Capacity

- To have a good guidance for development of NPOA-Capacity;
- To enhance regional cooperation;
- To increase trust in international market through management of fishing capacity of the region;
- To sustain fisheries resources in managing shared stocks in the region; and
- To have mechanism to improve management of fishing capacity in the region.

2) Key Issues on Management of Fishing Capacity

- Policy and Legal Framework in Managing Fishing Capacity
- Information for Fishing Capacity Management
 - Vessels, gears, and fishers
 - Fisheries resources
- Capacity and Capability to Manage Fishing Capacity
- Public Awareness

3) Identified Issues, Feasible Measures, and Technical Assistances

Issues	Feasible Measures	Technical Assistances
Policy and Legal Framework in Managing Fishing Capacity		
1) Ineffective policies, legal framework in managing fishing capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions inconsistent with current policies • Lack of political will and awareness towards conservation and fisheries management • Subsidies vs incentives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen good governance • Voice out in ASEAN platform • Identify gaps and issues in legal framework • Consistency in policy and implementation (both national and regional levels) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations to improve understanding by politicians/policy makers using recommendations based on scientific evidence • Capacity building
Information for Fishing Capacity Management (vessels, gears, and fishers)		
2) Insufficient information for fishing capacity management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data on concerned fishing capacity (e.g. no. of fishing boat, gears, fishers) • Incomplete information of gear specification and documentation (e.g. length of fishing gear) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify gaps • Develop common database • Economic and financial studies on the impacts of capacity management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review works • Organize trainings/workshops/consultations • Develop appropriate gear specification and design for sustainability of resources • Provide guidance technology systems including VMS, Automated Identification System (AIS) databases, GRMS (mobile telephone system), etc. • Information sharing on active fishing capacity

Information for Fishing Capacity Management (fishery resources)		
<p>3) Inadequate data and information on fisheries resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of policies/systems to deal with fisheries management in data poor situation Lack of expertise to assess fishing capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify gaps Develop common SOP (feasible and effective method) for data collection Capacity building program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviews Organize trainings/workshops/ consultations Stock assessment, improve data collection and methodologies for both marine and inland fisheries
<p>4) Lack of research and assessment of migratory shared stocks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building Conduct research and assessment of migratory shared stocks Information dissemination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize the regional fora Conduct trainings/ workshops/ consultations
Capacity and Capability to Manage Fishing Capacity		
<p>5) Inadequate capacity and capability for monitoring, control and surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encroachment of local fishing vessel into prohibited area Encroachment of foreign fishing vessels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening MCS Inter-agencies and inter-countries coordination Utilization of “Fishermen eyes” (co-management) Improve law enforcement Information sharing on MCS Capacity building program Promote co-management, decentralization, EAFM Input control (vessels, licenses, gears, days at sea) Output control (TAC, quota, MPA, zoning, spatial and temporal measures, minimize discards) Increase license fees (for commercial scale fisheries) Cooperation with relevant authorities to ensure safety of fishing vessels (inspection and certification as part of fishing license requirements) Promote alternative livelihood (other than fishing) Reduce low cost labors on fishing fleets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize trainings/ workshops/ consultations Flag and Port State Measures trainings and inspections Safety inspections Legal and regulatory technical assistance Development of NPOA-capacity and determination of target fishing capacity
Public Awareness		
<p>6) Insufficient public awareness and participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishers General public (exclude fishers e.g. consumers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishers/stakeholders forum (at local, national and regional levels) Media and awareness campaign Information, education and communication program (IEC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize the regional fora Conduct trainings/ workshops/ consultations
<p>7) Market-driven pressure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demand for fish promoting unsustainable fishing practices (e.g. high price fish, endanger fish, trash fish) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote EAFM Public awareness to consume fish from sustainable fisheries Requirements for aqua feeds and raw materials for export causes pressure to the fishing capacity 	<p>upport training courses</p>

REGIONAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF ALTERNATIVE DIETARY INGREDIENTS IN AQUACULTURE FEED FORMULATIONS

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The efficient use of aquaculture feeds and continued research for developing suitable alternative protein sources that will reduce dependence on fish meal and other fish-based products were adopted by the ASEAN Member States (AMS) in June 2011 as part of their Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security until 2020. This document reports the progress made on initiatives related to aquaculture feed development, particularly on protein substitution in aquafeed formulations. Specifically, it summarizes the findings of the Regional Technical Consultation on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients or Fish Meal Substitutes in Aquaculture Feed Formulation, held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 9-11 December 2014. This meeting which was convened by the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (Aquaculture Department and Secretariat) and Department of Fisheries, Myanmar came up with regional policy recommendations and information on immediate actions for the development and use of alternative dietary ingredients in aquaculture feed development.

II. INTRODUCTION

To address the issues related to high feed conversion ratios, continued reliance on fish meal and fishery products, and the pressing need for suitable fish meal substitutes, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People” adopted the 2001 Plan of Action which focused on the *‘improvement of the efficient use of aquatic feeds by regulating the quality of manufactured feed and feed ingredients, providing guidelines on farm-level food conversion ratios and levels of aquaculture effluents, and supporting research into developing suitable alternative protein sources to reduce dependence on fish meal and other fish based products’*.

As a follow-up to the 2001 Plan of Action on the use of aquaculture feeds, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministers and Senior Officials adopted in 2011 the Resolution and Plan of Action which enjoin the Member Countries to *‘improve the efficient use of aquatic feeds by strictly regulating the quality of manufactured feed and feed ingredients and support continued research for developing suitable alternative protein sources that will reduce the dependence on fish meal and other fish-based products’*. At the Inception Workshop on Follow-up Activities to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 in 2011, the participants highlighted the need to fast-track the search for alternative protein source in dietary formulations as well as facilitate the sharing of information in this area of research.

Some countries have begun implementing policies that will regulate the quality and use of manufactured feeds and feed ingredients. With regard to SEAFDEC, the Aquaculture Department (AQD) has done extensive research and development on nutritional requirements, alternative feed ingredients and their digestibility, and developed suitable feed formulations for a wide range of aquaculture species at various growth stages.

Although much research efforts on fish meal and fish protein substitutions in aquafeed have been done and presently being done, information and valuable findings have also not been widely disseminated.

One of the priority areas that has been identified and included in the AFCF (ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum) workplan (2011-2015) is the *‘development of better feeds for sustainable aquaculture’*. Part of the AFCF workplan under feed development is to bring together the experts from international and regional organization and representatives from ASEAN member states to elaborate on the research and development efforts related to protein substitution in aquaculture feed formulations and define the region’s policy directions.

Recognizing the need for a concerted action to follow-up on this priority issue of the ASEAN on aquaculture, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (Aquaculture Department and Secretariat) and the Government of Myanmar convened the Regional Technical Consultation on Development and Use

of Alternative Dietary Ingredients or Fish Meal Substitutes in Aquaculture Feed Formulation. This consultation meeting was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 9-11 December 2014, with main financial support from the Government of Japan through the Japan-ASEAN Solidarity Fund, administered by the ASEAN Foundation. Partial support and in-kind contributions were also provided by SEAFDEC (Japanese Trust Fund) and the Government of Myanmar (Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development).

III. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

The regional consultation brought together 60 participants from various stakeholder groups who are into planning and/or R&D on aquaculture feeds and nutrition. The participants included the representatives from the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries¹ (Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam), technical experts on aquaculture feed, and officers from ASEAN Foundation, FAO-RAP and SEAFDEC (Secretariat and Aquaculture Department. Representatives from the private sector (local feed company) were also present.

The meeting was held with the main purpose of providing a forum for charting the regional priorities and future directions on feed development, particularly on the use of alternative feed ingredient or protein substitutes. The specific objectives were to: (i) review the ASEAN-SEAFDEC member country status, constraints associated with developing alternative dietary ingredients for aquaculture feed; (ii) identify specific advances being made in the region with respect to the development of alternative aquaculture feed ingredients; and (iii) define approaches or initiatives supporting catch reduction of low-value/trash fish; (iv) formulate relevant policy recommendations (regional and country-specific) for effective development and utilization of aquaculture feeds; and (v) enhance cooperation among member countries and relevant stakeholders on initiatives that support sustainable aquaculture practices, particularly on feeds.

The following are the outputs of the meeting:

Updated information generated on R&D efforts on protein substitution in aquaculture feed formulations, including the issues, gaps and needs of AMS:

(i) The 10 country papers presented during the first technical session and output of the discussions addressed the first meeting objective. Information were obtained on what is actually happening (status) at the country level in terms of utilization of fish by-catch, fish meal/plant protein sources in commercial aquafeed production, and feeding practices to improve feed efficiency. Country-specific information on the constraints/gaps and recommendations on the use of fish meal and plant protein sources in aquaculture feed were also obtained.

(ii) Status of technological developments on the use of plants and other alternative feed ingredients as protein sources in aquaculture feeds and the existing regional policies and initiatives that limit the use of feed ingredients of marine origin. The four presentations delivered at the meeting enhanced the understanding of participants on the advances being made in the region with respect to the development of alternative aquaculture feed ingredients. This addressed the second objective of the meeting.

Information that could help the AMSs and Southeast Asian region formulate the country specific and regional policies on the use aquaculture feeds

(iii) The workshop session generated a list of key issues in the thematic areas, gaps, strategies and recommendations for the three species groups, categorized according to their feeding habits - herbivores, carnivores and omnivores.

(iv) Regional policy recommendations and information on immediate actions that need to be done for the development and use of alternative dietary ingredients in aquaculture feed development.

¹ Brunei Darussalam could not be represented at the meeting due to delayed receipt of information on nominated participants.

Issues/Gaps	Regional Policy Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge & Technology • Nutritional profiles of feed ingredients (amino acid/fatty acid profile) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a network /regional forum for exchanging and sharing of information on R&D on feed formulation and improving feed efficiency • Technical support to improve farmer knowledge on feed and feeding management, hygiene and sanitation • Information exchange and cooperation with other regions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of the aquafeeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the capacity of feed milling companies, status of import – export of the raw materials for feed ingredients
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raw materials from IUU fishing activity/GMO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traceability system of raw materials • Apply the Catch Documentation system
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency of Feed Formulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R&D on aquafeeds quality, formulation and use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability of supply of alternative dietary ingredients to replace fish meals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need government program to increase production and centralized supply of feed ingredients in each local government • Develop techniques for mass production of high quality alternative ingredients • Establish the local ingredients supplier networks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of regulations/fishery acts to manage the development of Aquafeeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish the national Aquafeeds quality standards (control) to ensure that feed milling companies comply with the regulation/fishery acts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center of ASEAN Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEAFDEC/AQD to work closely with ASEAN Member States, R&D institutions, the academe, Industry and inter-regional organizations as a center of ASEAN programs on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Development • Establishment of the ASEAN Network on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the National Action plan on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Development • Increase the awareness of importance of reducing dependence of aquaculture on marine animal origin feed and ingredients

Next Steps

- 1) Creation of a network and/or a regional forum for exchanging/sharing of knowledge on research and development for aquatic animal nutrition
- 2) Formulation of laws and regulations to encourage feed companies to use plant proteins/oils in aquafeeds production
- 3) Establishment of the ASEAN Center Program on Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Development

IV. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

- 1) The Council is requested to take note of the progress made in aquaculture feed development particularly on efforts related to utilization of alternative protein source in feed formulation.
- 2) The Council is requested to endorse the Regional policy recommendations and information on immediate actions for the development and use of alternative dietary ingredients in aquaculture feed development

CONCEPT NOTE:

HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATION ON REGIONAL COOPERATION IN SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS THE ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY 2015: Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products

I. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

SEAFDEC in collaboration with the ASEAN organized in June 2011 the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 “Fish for the People 2020: Adaptation to a Changing Environment”. During the Conference, the Ministers and Senior Officials responsible for fisheries of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries adopted the “Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020” which has since then served as policy framework for sustainable development of fisheries and enhancing its contribution to food security and the well-being of people in the region.

While the Member Countries with technical support from SEAFDEC have been implementing activities at the national and regional levels guided by the Resolution and the Plan of Action, the region has been encountering emerging issues that require closer cooperation among countries, e.g. the more stringent measures applied by importing countries both within and outside the region, toward combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and ensuring that fish and fisheries products are derived from responsible fishing activities. Therefore, cooperation among relevant national agencies as well as among countries in the region is necessary in order to come up with practical and harmonized approaches that would enhance the competitiveness of fish and fishery products traded in intra-regional or international markets.

SEAFDEC considers that after five years of promoting the Resolution and the Plan of Action in the region, it is an opportune time to conduct an in-depth review of the emerging regional issues that hinder fisheries development, identify measures particularly those that require regional cooperation and intervention, and seek the countries’ high-level commitment and continued efforts to address such issues in an efficient manner.

As preparatory process, multi-stakeholders consultation(s) would be organized (separately, prior to the High-level Consultation) to review the fisheries situation and the emerging issues that hinder the sustainable development of fisheries in the region as well as the progress of actions taken by the region, and recommend practical steps toward addressing such issues. Results from multi-stakeholder consultation(s) would serve as basis for formulating the Draft “*Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products*”, to be submitted for consideration by the SEAFDEC Council of Directors prior to the High-level Consultation for endorsement by high-level officials of the ASEAN Member States.

It is expected that the said “*Joint Declaration*” would assure high-level policy support and cooperation from relevant national agencies towards sustainable fisheries development. In addition, the “*Joint Declaration*” would also provide a framework to enable SEAFDEC and relevant agencies and donor organizations to sustain support for enhancing regional cooperation in sustainable fisheries development in light of the unification of the ASEAN Economic Community by the end of 2015 and beyond.

II. PREPARATORY MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The multi-stakeholders consultation(s) would be convened as preparatory process, prior to the High-level Consultation, with **objectives** to:

- 1) Review updated information on emerging issues and challenges that hinder the sustainable development and management of fisheries in the region; and

- 2) Recommend the ways and means of addressing emerging issues and challenges, as well as the possible roles and responsibilities of concerned agencies.

The **participants** of the multi-stakeholders consultation(s) would include the senior officers of the agencies responsible for fisheries as well as other concerned agencies of the Member Countries, relevant stakeholders including the private sector, officers of SEAFDEC and representatives from other international/regional organizations.

Issues (tentative) to be discussed as multi-stakeholders consultation(s) include:

- Current situation in ASEAN Member States (reviewed and presented by countries)
- Regional cooperation for combating IUU fishing
 - Preventing entry of IUU fishing products to supply chain
 - Catch documentation scheme (including ACDS)
 - Fishing vessel registration, licensing, and regional fishing vessels record (including RFVR)
 - Management of fishing capacity (including RPOA-Capacity)
- Other issues (in the light of the unification of the AEC)
 - Safety/hygiene of fish and fishery products
 - Labor issues, migratory workforce, working conditions and safety at sea
 - Others (to be identified during the consultations)

It is expected that the multi-stakeholders consultation(s) would come up with **outputs** as follows:

- 1) Updated information on current situation, progress and remaining issues/challenges that hinder the sustainable development of fisheries and the competitiveness of ASEAN fish and fishery products; and
- 2) Recommendations on way forward in addressing the issues/challenges, as well as the possible roles and responsibilities of concerned agencies, at national and regional levels, to enhance regional cooperation.

III. THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATION

The SEAFDEC Secretariat would analyze the results from the multi-stakeholder consultation(s) in order to come up with the draft “*Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products*” for consideration by the SEAFDEC Council. Upon the endorsement by the Council, SEAFDEC would convene a “*High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Toward the ASEAN Economic Community 2015: Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products*”.

Objectives

The High-level Consultation has objectives to:

- 1) To enhance the awareness of the ASEAN on the significance of regional cooperation in sustainable fisheries development; and
- 2) To seek high-level policy support from the ASEAN Member States in addressing emerging issues and challenges, and to ensure regional cooperation in sustainable fisheries development.

Date and Venue

The 2-day High-level Consultation would be organized sometime in August-September 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.

Expected Participants

It is expected that the High-level Consultation would be attended by:

- 1) High-level officials (SOM level) from the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries;

- 2) SEAFDEC Council Directors, together with delegates from fisheries authority of the respective ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries;
- 3) SEAFDEC: Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Department Chiefs and senior officers from SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments;
- 4) High-level officials or representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat; and
- 5) Representatives from donor agencies and regional/international organizations, e.g. FAO, Government of Sweden, USAID, etc.

Expected Outputs

The expected outputs from the High-level Consultation is the Adoption of the “*Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products*” by high-level officials of the ASEAN Member States.

Tentative Programs

(Open session)

- 1) Opening of the Consultation
 - Welcome Address by Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand
 - Remarks by the SEAFDEC Secretary-General
 - Remarks by the ASEAN Secretariat: Policies Towards Fisheries Development under the ASEAN Economic Community
- 2) Report of the SEAFDEC Secretary-General
- 3) Challenges and Opportunities for ASEAN Cooperation in Fisheries in a Changing Environment *(summary of issues, challenges and recommendations on way forward -- as a result of multi-stakeholders consultation)*

(Closed session - High-level Officials)

- 4) Statements by High-level Officials of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries.
- 5) Adoption of the “*Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products*”

(Open session)

- 6) Cooperation with Donors and International/Regional Organizations *(Statement on areas of mutual interest and possible scopes for future cooperation)*
- 7) Closing of the Consultation
- 8) Press Statement

IV. WORK PLAN

- 1) 47th SEAFDEC Council Meeting (**early April 2015**) – Adoption of the proposal (concept note)
- 2) Conduct of multi-stakeholders consultation(s) (**May 2015**) – Preparation of technical inputs
- 3) Preparation of the Draft “*Joint Declaration*” (**May-June 2015**) – In-house work by the SEAFDEC Secretariat.
- 4) Circulation of the Draft “*Joint Declaration*” for endorsement by the SEAFDEC Council (**Early July 2015**)

- 5) Conduct of “*High-level Consultation*”, and endorsement of the “*Joint Declaration*” by high-level officials of the ASEAN Member States (2-day meeting **sometime in August-September 2015**)

V. BUDGET

It is proposed that the budget for the High-level Consultation would be sourced from the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC), while the conduct of preparatory events would be supported by other project funds.

VI. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

- 1) The Council is requested to consider supporting the conduct of the proposed High-level Consultation as described above;
- 2) The Council is requested to provide guidance and directives on the preparation and conduct of the High-level Consultation. The Council may wish to also identify important issues that should be discussed on during the preparatory events and in preparation of the “*Joint Declaration*”;
- 3) Thailand is requested to be the host for the High-level Consultation, and extend invitation to high-level officials (SOM level) to participate in the Consultation.
- 4) The Council is requested to encourage and make necessary arrangement for the participation of high-level officials (SOM level) from the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries to the High-level Consultation.

POLICY CONCEPT NOTE ON EAFM IMPLEMENTATION

Executive Summary

This Policy Concept Note on EAFM Implementation recommends a series of actions for discussion and consideration by the ASEAN/SEAFDEC Member Countries to promote and advance efforts by the Member Countries toward effective implementation of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), including means to combat IUU fishing, as a practical, effective and equitable way of supporting sustainable fisheries, food security, livelihoods, and the well-being of the ASEAN Member States (AMSs). The Policy Concept Note was developed in close collaboration with the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and includes an overview of the rationale for an EAFM and what it is, and highlights recommendations on how an EAFM can be used to manage fisheries at both national and regional scales by ASEAN Member States.

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is invited to discuss and seek clarification from SEAFDEC and NOAA representatives and/or others from regional and international organizations that promote the EAFM, in addition to providing guidance to AMSs and SEAFDEC for future action on the implementation. The Council is also requested to support the Policy Recommendations for moving the ASEAN Member States toward effective implementation of an EAFM.

I. Why EAFM?

Most of the fisheries in the Southeast Asia region have declined, in some cases precipitously, over the past 30 years. Conventional approaches to managing target stocks and species in isolation from their supporting ecosystem have largely been ineffective and inequitable. These approaches have been unable to address the challenges of complex multi-species, multi-gear fisheries as well as counter the impacts of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. In addition, they ignore the reality that fisheries are dependent on ecosystems affected by both natural and anthropogenic factors, and that there are a wide range of societal objectives for fishery resources and marine ecosystems among diverse stakeholder groups. The need is increasingly evident for more effective and equitable management that balances ecological well-being and societal benefits to ensure long-term sustainable uses of fisheries resources. Such management measures need to take into account good governance and ecosystem dynamics of which people are an important part.

II. What is EAFM?



Figure 1: EAFM components

An EAFM is a practical, participatory way to manage fisheries by continually striving to achieve a balance between ecological well-being and human well-being through good governance. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) defined an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) as “an approach to fisheries management and development that strives to balance diverse societal objectives, by taking into account the knowledge and uncertainties about biotic, abiotic, and human components of ecosystems and their interactions and applying an integrated approach to management of fisheries within ecologically meaningful boundaries” (FAO 2003). It endeavors to plan, develop, and manage fisheries in a manner that addresses the multiple needs and desires of diverse stakeholders and the broader societies, without jeopardizing the options for future generations to benefit from the full range of goods and services provided by marine ecosystems (Garcia *et al.*, 2003; FAO 2003, 2011; Heenan *et al.* in press). The practical implementation of an EAFM revolves around a cycle of five steps after the initial preparation phase:

- Step 1: define and scope the Fisheries Management Unit;
- Step 2: identify and prioritize goals;
- Step 3: develop an EAFM plan;
- Step 4: implement the plan; and
- Step 5: monitor, evaluate, and adapt.



Figure 2: The 5 steps of an EAFM

Seven key principles of an EAFM are in line with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF):

- Principle 1:* Good governance
- Principle 2:* Appropriate scales (across ecological, socio-economic, temporal, and legal/jurisdictional levels)
- Principle 3:* Participation with stakeholder involvement throughout the planning and management process
- Principle 4:* Multiple objectives of different stakeholder groups
- Principle 5:* Cooperation and coordination across sectors/groups/institutions and management levels (e.g. regional, national, provincial, municipal, and village)
- Principle 6:* Adaptive management
- Principle 7:* Precautionary approaches to ensure that management is able to address threats under conditions of uncertainty over time

III. Existing Policies and Activities Supporting an EAFM

Regional Level

Since ratification in 1995, each of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries have been signatory to the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995) which calls for an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. The ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries considered the importance of the EAF, as the Ministers of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries who are responsible for fisheries, met in Bangkok, Thailand on 17 June 2011, and adopted the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2020 “Fish for the People 2020. The Resolution no. 6 relation to the EAFM guided ASEAN Member States “to implement effective management of fisheries through an ecosystem approach to fisheries that integrates habitat and fishery resource management aimed at increasing the social and economic benefits to all stakeholders, especially through delegating selected management functions to the local level and promoting co-management as a partnership between government and relevant stakeholders”. In this connection, SEAFDEC, in collaboration with other regional and international organizations have promoted an EAFM in different ways to enable sustainable and responsible fisheries in their respective countries and across the Southeast Asian region.

Highlights of some of the key regional activities include:

- In 2009, the Asia Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC) in collaboration with the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific produced guidance on how to implement the CCRF using an ecosystem approach to fisheries and aquaculture;
- In November 2013, at the 9th Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF) Senior Officials Meeting held in Manila, the Senior Officials of the CT6 countries endorsed the Regional Framework for Legislation and Policy to Support an EAFM. The mandate for the framework is Goal 2 of the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) “Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and Other Marine Resources Fully Applied”; and
- In September 2014, SEAFDEC organized a regional Essential EAFM and Extension Methodologies training workshop in Samut Prakarn, Thailand. Representatives from 8 ASEAN Member States participated and NOAA provided technical assistance.

National Level

A wide range of activities have been implemented by the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries to develop increased capacity and initiate steps toward implementation of an EAFM. Table 1 below provides an overview of some of these activities (See Appendix A for details):

Table 1: EAFM activities in ASEAN Member States

Country Activities	Brunei Darussalam	Cambodia	Indonesia	Lao PDR	Malaysia	Myanmar	Philippines	Thailand	Viet Nam
Participated in regional EEAFM training	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
Organized in-country EEAFM training			✓		✓		✓		
EEAFM training planned for the future			✓				✓	✓	
Established EAFM national working group			✓		✓				
Adopted EAFM principles and concepts, or have management plans/projects in which these are already included							✓	✓	✓
Applied EAFM or its key principles in fishery management plans			✓				✓		
Developed EAFM performance indicators			✓						
Using EAFM to address transboundary policy and regulatory issues			✓		✓		✓		

IV. Policy Recommendations for moving the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries toward implementation of an EAFM

The following recommendations highlight key strategic actions that the leadership of the national fisheries agencies should deliberate and consider in their efforts to transition their countries and the Southeast Asian region toward effective implementation of an EAFM to support sustainable fisheries, livelihoods, and food security. These recommended actions could be supported by SEAFDEC or implemented in collaboration with other ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, possibly with technical assistance from other members of the international community.

1) Improving EAFM capacity and technical expertise

Progress toward the implementation of an EAFM at national and regional levels could be expedited through capacity development and institutionalization of an EAFM. Each of the ASEAN Member States

should work with SEAFDEC and other partners to further develop the EAFM capacity of the national fisheries agencies over the next 3 years. Related EAFM capacity building activities include:

- 1) Developing and conducting a series of EAFM for Leaders, Executives, and Decision-makers (LEAD) workshops to build awareness among senior levels of fisheries leadership within each Member Country. In 2012-2013, five EAFM LEAD workshops were successfully conducted in Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Timor Leste, and Solomon Islands. Currently, a more comprehensive development of the EAFM LEAD materials is being planned by FAO, the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) project, SEAFDEC, the Strategies for Trawl Fisheries Bycatch Management (RYBEC-II CTI), and NOAA.
- 2) Conducting a series of Essential EAFM courses for fisheries managers and key stakeholders, including staff of other relevant agencies, NGOs, and the fisheries industries. An Essential EAFM training course is ready to address capacity development needs and provide the related skills, tools and resources at the management and resource person level.
- 3) Developing and conducting advanced EAFM courses/curricula to address specific needs for identified areas that will advance better implementation of an EAFM. As an example, a specific course could be developed to monitor performance of an EAFM in addressing ecological, fisheries and human well-being impacts.
- 4) Introduce an EAFM course and curriculum at universities to ensure that the next generation of the fishery managers are trained in the approach and are ready to implement the approach in their work.

As part of the strategic partnership with ASEAN, SEAFDEC has incorporated the Essential EAFM training into its regional training portfolio and has been applying the training throughout the AMSs. In addition, staff of the national fisheries departments and academic institutions of several AMSs have been trained in the EAFM Training-of-Trainers (TOT) course. The support for the above activities could come from within the AMSs and internationally. International organizations and initiatives that have been involved in developing and building EAFM capacities include: NOAA and the Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP) with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), FAO BOBLME, APFIC, and REBYC-II CTI. With the support of SEAFDEC and international partners, the recommended actions could be replicated within and across countries. A regional EAFM network among the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries could be established to help support the members in institutionalizing EAFM and a regional EAFM learning exchange.

2) Institutionalizing EAFM

The capacity building recommended above will help institutionalize EAFM at all levels of fisheries management, and within relevant authorities and academic institutions. Each of the AMSs needs to identify specific departments/directorates/bureaus for capacity building, as well as appointing a high level director to lead the development and implementation of EAFM within their respective countries, with a focus on enhancing coordination and integration within their national fisheries agencies, but also overseeing cooperative efforts with relevant external agencies and authorities. Short- and long-term action plans and a roadmap specifying who is doing what and when should be in place. SEAFDEC and other international organizations could help provide technical expertise in developing such plans and serve as advisors for activity implementation.

3) Implementing an EAFM at national and regional levels

This recommendation focuses on implementing an EAFM at demonstration sites over the next 5 years. Following the EAFM capacity development activities outlined above and using the principles and steps of an EAFM, SEAFDEC could provide technical assistance to support Member Country efforts to develop EAFM plans at both national and regional levels. These efforts could be supported by other regional implementing partners, such as BOBLME, REBYC-II CTI, the Regional Plan for Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in Southeast Asia (RPOA-IUU), and the CTI-CFF. Simultaneously, US partners, such as NOAA and USAID's Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA), will be ready to closely support region-wide implementation of EAFM plans.

In a transboundary effort to assist with implementing an EAFM plan in the region, SEAFDEC and NOAA, and with the support by USAID/RDMA, will facilitate a series of integration workshops to foster collaboration and co-management of fisheries among the AMSs within the same transboundary areas, such as transboundary Sulu-Celebes Seas for 3 countries, namely: Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, before expanding to other transboundary region(s) and other AMSs. Guided by the EAFM planning process, the first workshop will build awareness of and support the use of EAFM among Leaders, Executives, and Decision-makers (LEAD), with the aim of sustainably managing fisheries and combating IUU fishing in that transboundary region. Combating IUU fishing involves training and implementing procedures such as Port State Measures (PSM) and Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) along with increased usage of helpful technologies including Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS). In the second workshop, fisheries managers from the AMSs will develop a draft EAFM plan with the goals of sustainably managing fisheries and combating IUU fishing in the region. Each of the steps of the EAFM planning process will help guide the draft development, including developing a common vision; identifying and prioritizing issues and key threats; establishing goals and operational objectives; developing specific management actions with SMART benchmarks and indicators; and developing monitoring, evaluation, and communications plans. In the final workshop, the fisheries leaders will reconvene to discuss and finalize the EAFM plan and prepare action plans for regional implementation.

4) *Using an EAFM under uncertainty of impacts of ocean and climate change*

Despite the fact that ocean and climate change are relatively new challenges to be addressed in fisheries management, it is recommended that each of the AMSs develop national strategies to incorporate considerations of ocean and climate change into their EAFM planning processes and fisheries management decision-making. To facilitate this, SEAFDEC will work with the technical institution(s), such as NOAA, that can provide ocean and climate change information useful for strategy development at both national and regional levels. Targeting small-scale coastal fisheries of the Coral Triangle region, the climate and ocean change addendum to the EAFM (EAFM/COC) discusses climate projections and predicted changes of physical and biogeochemical ocean characteristics in the region. It also describes how ocean and climate changes could impact habitats, biological resources, fishery yields, and the socioeconomic conditions of coastal communities. EAFM/COC provides guidelines and applies the five EAFM steps while taking into consideration the reality that ocean conditions *are* changing and *will* cause changes to marine ecosystems and their associated fisheries, economies, and communities. It discusses how to conduct vulnerability assessments related both to the direct effects of ocean and climate change on fish stocks and to indirect effects on their supporting habitats. The assessments and EAFM planning facilitate adaptation by identifying the implications of ocean and climate change for marine resources, fisheries, food security, livelihoods, and the larger economy. Using the EAFM principle of a precautionary approach, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries could identify potential threats and impacts of ocean and climate change on fisheries and use this information to make management decisions and undertake actions aimed at preventing or lowering the risk of negative environmental and societal impacts. The EAFM principle on adaptive management allows for flexible decision-making that can be adjusted in the face of uncertainties as outcomes from fishery management actions and ocean and climate changes become better understood. Careful monitoring of these outcomes advances scientific understanding and enables adjusting policies or operations as part of an iterative learning process within a country or across national boundaries.

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Appendix A: EAFM activities of ASEAN Member States

Indonesia:

- The Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) is spearheading the implementation of an EAFM in Indonesia through a roadmap
- In 2011, the MMAF established an EAFM expert panel to guide EAFM implementation.
- In 2013, EAFM curricula and performance indicators were developed to support developing regulations related to Law No 27/2007 on coastal small island management and Law No. 31/2004 on fisheries, both of which support an EAFM
- The MMAF based its fisheries management plans for the 11 large fisheries management areas (WPPs) covering the entire country largely on the EAFM process and plans to institutionalize Essential EAFM within its National Training Center (BPSDM).
- In December 2014, the Indonesian EAFM National Working Group organized a Training-of-Trainers for academicians representing 35 universities, BPSDM, and NGOs in Indonesia. The trained academicians have agreed to serve as supportive scientific authorities in the nearest fishery management areas (FMA) by conducting monitoring and evaluation on the Fisheries Management Plans using EAFM indicators, providing updates on the research to support fisheries management, and by establishing learning and information centers on EAFM in the respective FMAs.

Malaysia:

- While no formal law or policies exist on EAFM, many of the principles of an EAFM are covered through 10 federal acts, seven federal policies, and 25 state acts and policies which address fisheries and fisheries habitat management.
- The National Steering Committee on EAFM Implementation under the Department of Fisheries is a step towards bringing a multitude of stakeholders to a common forum where issues relating to fisheries management can be discussed on a holistic basis.
- Trainings using the Essential EAFM course for government staff from different ministries have been held in 2012, 2013, and 2014.

Philippines:

- While the Philippines Government has adopted Coastal Resources Management (CRM) as a national strategy, the Philippines Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) has recognized that an EAFM best serves as the fisheries management aspects of CRM.
- The Philippines has had several foreign-funded projects on fisheries management and/or coastal resources management (CRM) that have adopted EAFM principles and concepts in both project design and project implementation (FRMP, CRMP, FISH, ECOFISH).
- The current Philippine Development Plan (2011 to 2016) explicitly states that it will “apply the ecosystem approach to the management of fisheries and other marine resources, addressing transboundary policy and regulatory concerns” to implement its strategy of enhancing coastal and marine resources management.
- Over the next 2 years, the Philippines plans to have 100 BFAR staff trained in Essential EAFM and have an EAFM implemented in demonstration sites in Visayas, Luzon, and Palawan.

Viet Nam:

- A co-management EAFM approach applied in the Tam Giang–Cau Hai lagoon system in Hue province.

Thailand:

- The fisheries *refugia* concept being applied in the Gulf of Thailand is an EAFM as it promotes the sustainable use of fish stocks and their habitats, and the use of criteria for the selection of sites for fisheries and habitat management interventions that focus on fish life-cycle and critical habitat linkages.

**SUMMARY OF PROJECT PROPOSAL ON
“ENHANCING COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD
AND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT”**

- 1) SEAFDEC proposed the project entitled “Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management” for funding support from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) under the cooperative framework between the ASEAN Secretariat and IDB. This project aims to improve the socio-economic status of the coastal dwellers through community fisheries organization and governance in order that the coastal resources utilized by the fishers could continue to sustain its function as the local livelihoods and source of food for the region’s fishing communities. Considering that the target beneficiaries of this project focus on the Muslim communities in the region’s coastal areas, three countries namely Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia were selected as pilot sites. The proposal was submitted to ASEAN Secretariat for consideration and support by ASEAN dialogue partners and IDB since January 2009.
- 2) During the 12th Meeting of the FCG/ASSP in 2009, the representative from the ASEAN Secretariat highlighted on the program-related directives given by the 17th ASWGFi Meeting on the projects undertaken under the FCG-ASSP framework. It was informed that the proposal on “Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management” was submitted to the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) for funding support (Para. 8 of 12th FCG/ASSP Report).
- 3) During the 13th Meeting of the FCG/ASSP in 2010, the representative from the ASEAN Secretariat informed the Meeting on the potential support from ASEAN dialogue partners to the activities of SEAFDEC such as the pipeline program on Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience, the proposal of which was developed by SEAFDEC for funding support from the IDB (Para. 12 of the 13th FCG Report)
- 4) In February 2013, SEAFDEC was advised by the IDB through the ASEAN Secretariat to revise the proposal by breaking down the budget and shortening the duration of project implementation to 15 months. In addition, beneficiary countries were also changed from Thailand to Brunei Darussalam, as Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia and Indonesia are the members of IDB, which would increase the possibility for the project to be approved by the IDB Board Meeting scheduled in February 2013.
- 5) Based on the revised Project Proposal submitted for consideration and approval by the IDB Board as mentioned earlier, the Technical Assistance (TA) Agreement was finalized, with SEAFDEC serving as Implementing Agency and the ASEAN Secretariat as Executing Agency of the TA. The Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) of SEAFDEC would assume the position as the Project Management Unit.
- 6) During the 21st Meeting of the ASWGFi held in July 2013 in Lao PDR, the ASEAN Secretariat informed the Meeting on the progress of the proposal. The Meeting also noted that the Technical Assistance (TA) for the Capacity Building of the Coastal Fisheries has been approved for a grant amounting 250,000 USD.
- 7) During the 22nd Meeting of the ASWGFi held in June 2014 in Malaysia,
 - a. IDB presented the updated information on the project proposal, and informed the ASWGFi Meeting that Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia had submitted No Objection Letter (NOL) to IDB (Para 62).
 - b. The ASWGFi Meeting noted that upon receiving the draft Technical Assistance (TA) Agreement in May 2013, the ASEAN Secretariat has consulted internally with Legal and Finance & Budget Divisions on the way forward for the implementation of the project. Observation was made that if the project proceeds under ASEAN mechanism, it may require

long process. Another option is to have agreement between IDB and SEAFDEC, which may take shorter process (Para. 63).

- c. In view to expedite the implementation of the project, the ASWGFi Meeting agreed to suggest IDB to pursue the option of signing the agreement between IDB and SEAFDEC. The Meeting tasked ASEAN Secretariat to send formal letter to IDB on this decision for their consideration (Para 64).

8) After the 22nd ASWGFi Meeting,

- a. SEAFDEC was requested by the ASEAN Secretariat to revise the proposal using a new proposal format. The revised proposal was submitted by SEAFDEC/MFRDMD to the ASEAN Secretariat in September 2014.
- b. SEAFDEC also communicated with IDB representative in Malaysia inquiring on the status of the project proposal as well as on the agreement between SEAFDEC and IDB as suggested by the 22nd ASWGFi Meeting. However, the IDB representative informed that he has suggested to ASEAN Secretariat that *“it would be appreciated if you could revert as to whether it is possible that we continue signing the TA Agreement with ASEC while the operational implementation is done through SEAFDEC. Perhaps ASEC and SEAFDEC could have separate arrangements to accommodate the necessary ASEC-SEAFDEC requirements”* (22 December 2014).

9) The Representative of IDB in Malaysia informed SEAFDEC that the HQ (IDB Jeddah) has already approved this project between IDB and ASEAN. If the agreement is changed to be made directly between IDB and SEAFDEC, he would need to consult with the HQ again. He has already informed the situation to the HQ and is now waiting for the HQ decision. The representative of IDB suggested that the issue should be raised and discussed again at the 23rd Meeting of the ASWGFi.

10) IDB Regional Office in Malaysia sent a letter to the ASEAN Secretariat (dated 23 February 2015) informing that *“Considering that SEAFDEC is to become signatory of the TA Agreement, it would be appreciated if ASEAN Secretariat could send a letter to IDB clearly requesting that SEAFDEC signs the agreement on behalf of the ASEAN Secretariat.”*

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to take note on the progress of the Project Proposal entitled “Enhancing Coastal Community Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood and Coastal Resources Management”, and provide advice to SEAFDEC and the relevant ASEAN Member States on the approach to be undertaken on this matter.

STATEMENT

*By Mr. Göran Haag
The Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok*

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am very pleased to have been invited to this important meeting and for the possibility to make this statement.

It has been interesting to hear about the work performed during 2014, and it is really impressive. It is also clear that the work planned for 2015 will advance the work by SEAFDEC and the member countries to make the fisheries and aquaculture sectors more sustainable and competitive. As a development partner it is very rewarding to be given the opportunity to observe the discussion around how to move forward on strategic issues, and to network during coffee breaks.

As presented earlier today, Sweden and SEAFDEC has along-standing cooperation with the current phase running until 2017, towards this overarching goal. Our cooperation reaches across SEAFDECs working thrusts. We think that this type of partnership-based cooperation is effective since it gives SEAFDEC the freedom and responsibility to design and carry out operations within the agreed framework to reach the project results targets. The ultimate target group of the project is the poor coastal and inland communities who face declining catches and increased competition and conflict over the use of natural resources in coastal and inland waters. Of major importance to sustainable use of marine and aquaculture resources is that the “softer” issues like Gender equality (men, women and children) and rights issues, e.g. decent labor and working conditions for fisher folks and employees in processing plants is given the attention they deserve. The latter was touched upon by the Council meeting. We think that SEAFDEC could play an important role here through its regional mandate and well documented ability in training and capacity building.

During the Council meeting we have discussed crucial issues like jointly combat IUU-fishery, a joint ASEAN-wide Catch documentation system and improved statistics, sustainable and community based aquaculture, and how SEAFDEC could lift these issues to the policy making level of the ASEAN countries. Sweden supports the idea of having a high level regional forum in order to move from technical discussions to action.

Even if most of the concrete work must be done on national level, this work must take its departure from regional cooperation. The simple reason is that the issues are shared and are complicated and complex. A fundamental aim behind the Swedish cooperation with SEAFDEC is to support the regional arena for joint efforts by the member countries.

Finally, I have noted during the meeting discussion that SEAFDEC is increasingly recognized by the members as the ASEAN fisheries technical expert and advisory body. This is also manifested through the SEAFDEC initiative to facilitate a High-level regional (ASEAN) consultation on combatting IUU and how to gain higher market access. Such a consultation would be highly relevant in support of the implementation of the ‘ASEAN Community by 2015’ and in the continued work towards AEC 2020. It is my strong belief that SEAFDEC, being a competent and strong expert-body, could strengthen this important work and generate a range of new opportunities for the Region’s fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

Thank you for your attention!

STATEMENT

By Dr. Simon Funge-Smith

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, Secretary General, SEAFDEC,
Distinguished SEAFDEC Council Members,
SEAFDEC colleagues,
Delegates from regional organizations and arrangements,

On behalf of *Hiroyuki Konuma*, Assistant Director General and Regional Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation of Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

I would like to thank SEAFDEC for providing the opportunity to provide a statement regarding areas of cooperation and coordination between FAO, SEAFDEC and her member countries. FAO appreciates the work undertaken by SEAFDEC during the previous year.

FAO congratulates the strong interest expressed by Council Members on the importance of combating IUU in the region. FAO is promoting the application of Port State Measures for fishing vessels as a capacity building need, and as an essential component of an effective management framework. Port controls also link to both vessel registries and effective catch documentation schemes, which are both important areas for regional collaborative effort in capacity building and technical support

At the project level, FAO would like to appreciate the cooperation with SEAFDEC in providing the Regional Facilitation Unit for the joint execution of the Strategies for Trawl Fisheries Bycatch Management (REBYC II). This regional project has seen important capacity development in the region and progress made in developing strategies for addressing the challenge in managing complex trawl fisheries.

FAO would like to appreciate SEAFDEC's continuing cooperation on a number of other workshops and meetings as well as support to the global normative work of FAO, including those convened under the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission.

SEAFDEC's cooperation in the regional development of capacity for EAFM is to be congratulated. Human capacity development for EAFM training developing fast and SEAFDEC capacity to roll out the full training course and the LEAD course for executives is being built. EAFM has been promoted with Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia, through BOBLME and NOAA, and more recently REBYC II and SEAFDEC. It is now important that member countries move this into a practical planning context and to see the emergence of EAF management plans. FAO is pleased to see synergies with other parts of the SEAFDEC programme and even the willingness to adapt to a freshwater context.

The FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) recently adopted the "Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication". Following this, FAO is now starting to look at how a support programme to promote the SSF guidelines can be developed. This would require a strong lead from SEAFDEC and her member countries as the region represents a high concentration of SSF.

FAO would like to emphasize the projected need for increased aquaculture production in the coming years as one of the strategies for sustaining affordable fish supplies in the ASEAN region. The promotion of sustainable aquaculture is a key strategy in the FAO regional initiative on "Blue Growth". This seeks to promote opportunities and strategies for sustainable intensification of aquaculture and we are pleased to see council Members highlighting this need.

Blue Growth is not confined to aquaculture and in that regard FAO would like to highlight the opportunities in inland fisheries and how the newly established SEAFDEC IFRDMD in Palembang, Indonesia could play an important role in coordination and capacity building in inland fisheries. FAO will

continue to cooperate in key issues relating to inland fisheries in the region and promoting their importance to regional food security.

Looking forward to the programme for the coming year, FAO is pleased to note the areas of cooperation that have been identified by the 37th Programme Committee as reported to the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. FAO is certain that the effective collaboration and cooperation between FAO and SEAFDEC will continue in the coming year.

In closing, I would like to thank our hosts the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, for their excellent arrangements and hospitality during this 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council.

Thank you.

STATEMENT

*By Dr. Cherdsak Virapat
Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA)*

Madam Chairperson,
Distinguished Delegates at the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council,
Mr. Bounthong Saphakdy, Chairman of the NACA Governing Council,
Delegates from regional and International Organizations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Greetings from Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific,

On behalf of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to SEAFDEC for inviting NACA to participate at the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate SEAFDEC for significant progress on its work in promoting sustainable fisheries for rural development and poverty reduction and sustainable management of fisheries in Southeast Asia.

I would like to inform you concerning areas of focus by NACA and common interests that have been promoted and implemented in the Asia-Pacific region. This is to enhance future collaboration and cooperation between NACA and SEAFDEC.

NACA's development objectives are to promote rural development through sustainable aquaculture and aquatic resources management. NACA seeks to improve the livelihoods of rural people, reduce poverty and increase food security. The ultimate beneficiaries are farmers and rural communities. NACA implements its mission through a network of 19 member governments (in which eight governments among the network are from ASEAN countries except Brunei Darussalam and Singapore) and affiliated regional and national centres in the Asia-Pacific region, in partnership with international donors and development agencies. NACA's work is based on five thematic programmes, namely; aquatic animal health; sustainable farming systems; genetics and biodiversity; food safety, quality and certification; and emerging global issues including response to climate change. There are also three cross-cutting programmes on education & training; gender; and information and communications.

NACA will seek collaboration with SEAFDEC in development projects, organisation of forums, workshops, meetings, and various technical training courses in the near future as follows:

1. NACA Regional Lead Centre in the Philippines

At the 12th Session of the Technical Advisory Committee of NACA held recently during 10-12 March 2015 at the Regent Hotel in Cha-Am, Petchaburi, Thailand, NACA had discussed with Director of the NACA Regional Lead Centre in the Philippines reactivating collaboration through the establishment of an MoU between NACA and SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Iloilo, Philippines in particular areas of training and education, information sharing and exchange and aquaculture development in areas of the farming of fishes, crustaceans, molluscs and seaweeds for food, livelihoods, equity, and sustainable development, as well as aquaculture feed development discussed at this meeting, etc. The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Iloilo, Philippines will also consider putting up signage of its NACA Regional Lead Centre status at the Department.

2. Capacity building programme in Aquaculture Governance

NACA will develop a syllabus of its capacity building programme in Aquaculture Governance for the Asia-Pacific Region and will collaborate with its partners including SEAFDEC to implement such a training programme starting in 2016. The Training programme will provide a holistic picture of aquaculture governance including institutional structures, policy and decision making processes and rules related to aquaculture that determine how aquaculture policies, laws and regulations are exercised, how

actions are implemented at different levels, and how aquaculture communities have decided for aquaculture development and management. The target groups will be about 20-25 middle level management from NACA/SEAFDEC Member countries with equal geographical distributions and gender equity.

3. 11th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum and Celebration of the Silver Jubilee of NACA from 4-6 August 2016, Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Centre (BITEC) in Bangkok, Thailand

The Asian Fishery Society (AFS) and NACA will be organizing the 11th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum & Seafood Exhibition jointly with the ASEAN Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference and Seafood Exposition in collaboration with Thailand's Department of Fisheries and SEAFDEC from 4 to 6 August 2016 at the Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. In addition, NACA will take this opportunity to celebrate its Silver Jubilee Anniversary. The 11th AFAP will address important and emerging global, regional and national issues on fisheries and aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific region through organization of technical sessions for better fisheries and aquaculture governance and management, within a sustainable development framework and increasing awareness of the need for maintaining environmental integrity.

I hope that NACA and SEAFDEC will find opportunities to strengthen their collaboration and coordination on these strategic foresights in aquaculture development in the near future. Thank you.

STATEMENT

By Dr. Rusty Brainard

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA

On behalf of the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), I would like to thank SEAFDEC and all of the ASEAN Member States for the honor to participate in this important 47th SEAFDEC Council Meeting and for providing NOAA the opportunity to contribute technical partnership to the SEAFDEC community and your efforts to sustainably manage fisheries and combat IUU fishing in SE Asia. We thank the U.S. Agency for International Development for your continued support to enable increased engagement by NOAA in the ASEAN and CTI region.

Over the past year, it has been a pleasure working with SEAFDEC in their efforts to become a regional implementing organization of the *Essential Ecosystem Approach to Fishery Management (EAFM)* training and training-of-trainers co-developed by NOAA and our regional partners at FAO, BOBLME, the Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP), and IMA International. It's been exciting to watch the regional growth of this *Essential EAFM* capacity building training with 23 courses with 645 trainees and 8 training-of-trainers for 88 trainers, with major efforts in the Philippines (8 trainings), Malaysia (6 trainings), Thailand/SEAFDEC (4 trainings), Indonesia (2 trainings), as well as trainings in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and India. NOAA looks forward to working closely with SEAFDEC, USAID, and our regional partners to continue improving the *Essential EAFM* curriculum and developing additional EAFM training modules.

Over the coming year, starting with a planning workshop next week, NOAA will be working with SEAFDEC and regional partners to update and refine an EAFM for Leaders, Executives, And Decision-makers (*EAFM LEAD*) workshop curriculum that NOAA and the CTSP developed in 2012/13 for CTI-CFF. The *EAFM LEAD* workshops have been repeatedly requested by participants of the *Essential EAFM* course to help gain support from senior leadership of the fisheries organizations across the region.

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) is prepared and eager to initiate a risk-based program through the recent implementation of the U.S. Presidential Task Force, along with our partners and colleagues, within the next few years to identify species significant to seafood fraud, increase traceability, and identify species with significant risk to being caught by IUU fishing.

With assistance from USAID, NOAA just published a technical report entitle *Science and Technology to Promote Sustainable Fisheries in Southeast Asia and the Coral Triangle*. Copies of this report have been provided to participants here and is also available for download on the NOAA Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center website.

As an example of using innovate science and technology for fisheries surveillance, NOAA has been working with Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines on the use of VIIRS and DMSP satellite remote sensing imagery of night lights to better understand spatial patterns and temporal trends of night light fishing in the region.

As discussed in the aforementioned Policy Concept Note on EAFM Implementation, NOAA, USAID, SEAFDEC, CTI-CFF, WWF and other partners are initiating discussions with the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia to establish a transboundary EAFM plan for implementation in the Sulu Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME) as a demonstration for other transboundary areas in the ASEAN/CTI region. We hope to facilitate a series of senior official's EAFM Implementation Workshops where the 3 countries will work through the EAFM planning process to develop a common vision for sustainable fisheries management of the SSME, then discuss and prioritize issues, threats, and concerns, then establish consensus goals for Ecological Well-being, Human Well-being, and Good Governance, followed by specific operational objectives, management actions, and benchmarks and indicators to monitor and evaluate success in achieving the goals and operational objectives. We hope this will serve as a demonstration for other transboundary EAFM implementation efforts across the ASEAN/SEAFDEC/CTI region over the coming years as part of the USAID/NOAA/SEAFDEC OCEANS partnership.

NOAA is continuing to provide technical assistance with regional partners developing management guidelines for the Asian tropical trawl fisheries by leveraging the 2014 publication by FAO/APFIC "*Regional guidelines for the management of tropical trawl fisheries in Asia*" with practical application of best management practices. NOAA is working with the University of Washington to carry out rapid assessments of South East & South Asian trawl fisheries using the fisheries performance indicators. Starting this year, and in partnership with IFFO ("the Marine Ingredients Organization"), NOAA will be supporting a series of workshops that will bring together regional experts in the management, science and regulatory aspects of creating sustainable trawl fisheries in order to share successes and address common challenges.

As part of NOAA's effort to support CTI-CFF, NOAA and partner co-authors would like to announce the upcoming publication of *A Climate-informed, Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management* that will be published in the journal *Marine Policy* in the coming weeks. The paper originated from an international workshop NOAA led in the Philippines in 2012 with a team of interdisciplinary fisheries and climate scientists and managers from the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Australia, Canada, and the United States.

NOAA is working closely with the U.N. Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Western Pacific Subcommittee (WESTPAC) to assist the development of a regional ocean acidification observing network to monitor the ecological, biodiversity, fisheries, and societal impacts of ocean acidification, initially for coral reef ecosystems, but eventually expanded to include pelagic and other marine ecosystems in the WESTPAC region. As part of these efforts, NOAA co-led a national workshop in Indonesia in November 2014, an IOC WESTPAC workshop in January 2015 with a follow-on planned for September 2015. NOAA has established a pilot ocean acidification observing site in the Philippines and will be meeting with colleagues in Malaysia, Thailand, and possibly Indonesia, to begin similar pilot sites over the coming year.

In closing, NOAA would again like to thank SEAFDEC, the ASEAN Member States, USAID and our other regional and international partners for your hospitality here in Chiang Rai and for your continued partnership to sustainably manage fisheries and combat IUU fishing in the region. NOAA looks forward to working with you all as part of the USAID/NOAA/SEAFDEC OCEANS project team starting later this year.

STATEMENT

By Timothy Moore

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development and Trade (MARKET) Project

Dr. Waraporn Prompoj, Deputy Director General of the Department of Fisheries Thailand and Deputy Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council,

Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, Secretary-General of SEAFDEC,
Distinguished SEAFDEC Council Directors,

First, I would like to extend my gratitude to the SEAFDEC Council for the opportunity to participate in this the 47th Meeting of the Council. It has been very informative to hear updates on the extensive number of important programs that SEAFDEC is implementing to support the sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture in the Southeast Asia region.

As many of you know, since 2012, the USAID Maximizing Agricultural Revenue through Knowledge, Enterprise Development and Trade (MARKET) Project has worked with ASEAN to establish an ASEAN Public-Private Taskforce on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (Taskforce) to strengthen the level and effectiveness of collaboration and partnership between the public and private sectors to ensure the sustainability and inclusiveness of the aquaculture and fisheries sectors in the region. We appreciate SEAFDEC's contribution as technical advisor to the Taskforce since its initial conception following the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Public Private Dialogue in 2012.

In only two years, the Taskforce has demonstrated the value of engaging multiple stakeholders in the development and implementation of regional integration and development initiatives in the fisheries and aquaculture industries. However, this is only the start of a long journey to formalize and mainstream public private engagement at the national and regional levels to build a competitive, inclusive and sustainable future for the industries.

The MARKET project will finish in June 2015, and we are happy to announce that the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Indonesia has committed to serve as the interim Secretariat to support the Taskforce and strengthen private sector engagement. At the 4th Meeting of the Taskforce held last week in Jakarta, Indonesia, the Taskforce focal points agreed to have Indonesia serve as the interim Secretariat of the Taskforce, which will be submitted to the ASEAN Sectoral Working on Fisheries (ASWGFi) in June 2015 for consideration and endorsement.

Moving forward, Indonesia will continue the work of the Taskforce in the priority areas (aquatic health management, zonal aquaculture improvement, sustainable feed management and development, and fishery improvement projects) in collaboration with the Taskforce members and other private sector and regional/international organizations including SEAFDEC and the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA). As discussed at the 4th Taskforce Meeting, Indonesia will also explore options on how best to formalize public private sector engagement initially started through the Taskforce, and to strengthen private sector involvement in ASEAN fisheries working groups, fora and affiliated organizations.

Indonesia will need the support of multiple stakeholders, both regional and international, moving forward to identify, mainstream and scale effective partnership implementation strategies and mechanisms in the region. Regional organizations like SEAFDEC can play a leading role to create a space for dialogue and to enhance and create new partnerships in the region.

I want to thank the Secretary-General, Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri for his statement at the 4th Taskforce Meeting, to discuss the future of the Taskforce and public private sector engagement with the SEAFDEC Council. The project appreciates SEAFDEC's continued engagement with the Taskforce and efforts to engage the private sector and farmers/fisheries in its programs.

In closing, there will be challenges in formalizing and scaling regional public private partnerships, which have special considerations and benefits, especially to align objective, tasks and risks between the private and public sectors in multiple countries. However, with the right incentives and partnerships mechanism, the ASEAN governments can harness significant and growing private investment and innovation to become a global leader in the sustainable seafood industry, and promote food security and safeguard livelihoods across the ASEAN region.

Finally, I would like to thank our hosts, the Government of Thailand and the Department of Fisheries for hosting us here in beautiful Chang Rai.

Thank you.

STATEMENT

By Dr. Craig Starger

United States Agency for International Development's Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID/RDMA)

Good morning everyone. Mr. Secretary General, Madam Chairperson, Council Directors, distinguished guests, and officials from the SEAFDEC Member Countries and other partner countries and organizations. On behalf of the United States Agency for International Development, I sincerely thank you for the invitation to attend the 47th SEAFDEC Council Director's meeting.

Over the past year since the last Council Directors' Meeting in Singapore, a lot has happened in the United States with respect to oceans and fisheries. Last June, our Secretary of State held the first ever Oceans conference at the US Department of State in Washington DC. That same week, the United States declared one of the largest new Marine Protected Area in the world in the Pacific Ocean, and President Obama formed a U.S. Presidential Task Force to Combat IUU Fishing and Seafood Fraud.

Also last year, USAID's Regional Development Mission for Asia signed an MOU with SEAFDEC, agreeing to work together to design and implement a new program for sustainable fisheries. This new program will be called the *Oceans and Fisheries Partnership*, and was first announced as a pipeline project of SEAFDEC at the last Program Committee meeting. We are tremendously grateful to SEAFDEC for partnering with USAID on its design. We anticipate an official launch of the *Oceans and Fisheries Partnership* in a few months.

The main objective will be to assist the SEAFDEC and Coral Triangle Member Countries to implement the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme and other regional guidelines through the development of a catch documentation and traceability system for marine fisheries products. The specific details and parameters of this system will be developed in full collaboration with the SEAFDEC and CTI countries.

While the Oceans and Fisheries Partnership is not a direct follow on to previous USAID programs such as the MARKET Project and the U.S. CT Support Partnership, many of the elements of those programs will continue in the new Oceans and Fisheries Partnership such as a continued focus on the EAFM, strengthening public private partnerships, and maintaining an overarching objective to conserve marine biodiversity.

I look forward to sharing more details with you when the project is officially launched in a few months, and I thank you again for your partnership in achieving our shared vision for sustainable fisheries.

REPORT OF THE SEAFDEC SECRETARY-GENERAL

On the Efforts of SEAFDEC in Response the Requests of Member Countries During the 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council

Honorable, SEAFDEC Council Directors,

Under this Agenda, I would like to report to you the progress made by SEAFDEC in response to the directives given by the Council during the Forty-sixth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council held on 1-5 April 2014 in Singapore.

During the 46th Council Meeting, the important directives given to SEAFDEC were for SEAFDEC to take into consideration the **prioritized issues** in developing the Plan of Operation and Program of Work of the respective SEAFDEC Departments to be implemented in the next five years. Along this line, the Departments and the Secretariat have revised their Plans of Operation and Programs of Work, and will present the proposed revision of the documents under the subsequent agenda on Management of the Center.

For the conduct of **cost-benefit analysis** of SEAFDEC programs, projects and activities as well as post-implementation reviews, SEAFDEC has informed to the last meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee that the current financial system of SEAFDEC does not categorize expenditures that could be tracked for such cost-benefit analysis. However, SEAFDEC is now in the process of developing the SEAFDEC program database, which would follow the format of the SEAFDEC Program Document submitted to the PCM. And from this, we anticipate that SEAFDEC would be able to track information on cost for implementation of SEAFDEC programs starting from this year.

For benefit from programs implementation, it should be noted that most of SEAFDEC Programs aim to generate outputs and benefits that could not be quantified in term of monetary value, but for the betterment of public resources and people's well-being. Nevertheless, in order to evaluate benefits from SEAFDEC Programs, an Evaluation Form was agreed upon during the last Program Committee Meeting, and such form shall be filled-up by the Program Committee members in order to evaluate the benefit that countries have gained from SEAFDEC programs and activities. It is planned that SEAFDEC would start gathering such information in 2015 onwards, and would be able to provide information on cost and benefit of SEAFDEC programs at the future meetings of the SEAFDEC Program Committee in order that this would be use as a basis for scrutinizing SEAFDEC programs and enhance the efficiency of future programs and activities.

And for the last point, on the **Collaborating Centre** for SEAFDEC, the Post-harvest Technology Department of Singapore continues to serve as Collaborating Centre under the conditions as agreed by the SEAFDEC Council in 2007.

In this occasion, I would also like to convey some important issues raised by Member Countries during the past year for consideration by the Council.

Although SEAFDEC has established partnership with ASEAN through the ASSP mechanism, and SEAFDEC during the recent years has been in the process of generating policy recommendations on several important issues for consideration by ASEAN; there has been **no involvement of ASEAN Secretariat in important Meetings of SEAFDEC** including the Council and FCG/ASSP Meetings during the past few years. The last FCG/ASSP Meeting therefore suggested that this matter should be brought up by Myanmar as the next Chair of the ASWGFi and tabled for discussion at the next ASWGFi meeting.

During the last FCG/ASSP Meeting, the issue on the need for establishment of a **mechanism to reflect a unified voice on ASEAN common position** in the international fora was also raised; and the Meeting also suggested that this concern, including the possibility and required process of developing common positions, should be raise during the ASWGFi meeting.

I therefore wish to seek guidance from the Council on the appropriate procedure and strategy to raise such concerns for consideration by the ASEAN.

In addition to the matters that I've mentioned earlier, the Council may wish to raise other important issues, and provide directives for improving the operation of SEAFDEC in the future.

With that, I wish to end my report. Thank you very much.

PLANS OF OPERATION AND PROGRAMS OF WORK OF SEAFDEC DEPARTMENTS AND SECRETARIAT

I. INTRODUCTION

1. During the recent years, SEAFDEC has formulated and implemented its programs of activities as guided by the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 (adopted by the Ministers and Senior Officials of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries in 2011); while the SEAFDEC Program Framework, comprising five Program Thrusts (adopted by the SEAFDEC Council in 2009), was also used as a frame for enhancing integration among programs and projects with similar nature. Nevertheless, the Resolution and Plan of Action cover very broad fisheries issues without clear indication on their priorities; while the SEAFDEC Program Framework is very generic and could lead to unclear interpretation, making SEAFDEC programs and projects not directed toward fisheries priority of the region. Furthermore, with the set-up of SEAFDEC that allows its technical Departments to formulate and implement their respective programs and projects in an independent manner, it is difficult to ensure that different projects implemented by Departments would generate results towards to ultimate goal of the organization.

2. The SEAFDEC Council, during its 45th Meeting in 2013 and subsequent 46th Meeting in 2014, raised concerns on the duplication and overlapping of programs and activities among SEAFDEC Departments. It was also viewed that some of the programs proposed by SEAFDEC Departments are not directly in line with the mandates of SEAFDEC; and thus, SEAFDEC programs need to be refocused to meet the priorities and needs of the Member Countries, as well as the arising global issues and requirements. During the Meeting, SEAFDEC Departments were also recommended to prioritize their programs of activities, in order that responsibilities, staff and funds could be appropriately allocated.

3. In response to the recommendation of the SEAFDEC Council, it is deemed necessary for SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments to work together to consolidate their respective Plans of Operation, taking into consideration the SEAFDEC Program Framework, and incorporating priority fisheries issues that have been agreed upon by the Member Countries. While the five Program Thrusts would continue to be used as a framework for SEAFDEC programs and projects, it is also essential for SEAFDEC to have clearer visionary goal and long-term plan for the whole organization, in order that the future functions and operations of SEAFDEC Departments could be guided toward the similar direction. Each Department also needs to have clear programs that are supportive to the organizational objectives, with strategies to achieve such objectives; while the future programs and projects of SEAFDEC would also need to be consolidated and aligned with the direction of the organization. It is anticipated that the clearer objective and direction of the organization would not only allow SEAFDEC to enhance its technical capacity to address the need of Member Countries in a more efficient manner, but also facilitate the establishment of collaboration between SEAFDEC and other organizations in working towards sustainable development of fisheries in the region.

4. Toward this end, SEAFDEC organized the “Inter-Departmental Workshop for Preparation of SEAFDEC Strategic Plan of Operation” in Bangkok, Thailand from 1 to 3 October 2014. The Workshop were attended by the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, and senior officials of SEAFDEC Secretariat, as well as the Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs and Special Departmental Coordinators from TD, AQD, MFRD, MFRDMD, and IFRDMD. The Workshop concluded with the SEAFDEC’s Strategic Plans of Operation including Programs of Work that was used as a basic document for further development of the Department’s Plans of Operation and Programs of Work.

II. THE PROPOSED DEPARTMENT’S PLANS OF OPERATION AND PROGRAMS OF WORK

5. In the process of development for the Plans of Operation and Programs of Work of each Department, it is necessary to consider the SEAFDEC Strategic Plans of Operation as well as the priority issues adopted by the Council at its 46th Meeting in 2014. The priority issues are grouped into seven components as shown below:

Component-1:	Fisheries management
Component-2:	Fishing technologies and practices
Component-3:	Post-harvest technology and trade-related issues
Component-4:	Sustainable aquaculture
Component-5:	Fisheries information and statistics
Component-6:	Human Resource Development
Component-7:	Inland Fisheries

6. The Revised Plans of Operation and Programs of Work for TD, MFRD, AQD, MFRDMD, IFRDMD and Secretariat are developed as shown as in the WP09.1a, WP09.1b, WP09.1c, WP09.1d, WP09.1e, and WP09.1f, respectively of working documents for the 47th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council.

III. THE PROPOSED PLANS OF OPERATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENT OF AMSs PRIORITY ISSUES

7. **Appendix 1** shows the summary on the proposed SEAFDEC Program Strategies aligned with the AMSs prioritized issues.

8. Taking into accounts the proposed Plans of Operation and Programs of Work for all SEAFDEC Departments except for the Secretariat are aligned with the requirement of the AMSs Priority Issues. However, only one priority issues on “management of fishing capacity, including shifting from open-access to limited-access” (Component 1.4) presently is not implementing by SEAFDEC Departments, but under the Secretariat.

9. For the Secretariat’s Plans of Operation and Programs of Work are clearly shown on the role of Secretariat to support SEAFDEC Departments and AMSs particularly on development of regional policy recommendations and common position on important fish trade-related issues and emerging issues. In addition, the Secretariat would work as a Center of Data and Information including publications to be disseminated to the Southeast Asian Region and outside the region.

IV. INCREASING EFFICIENCY OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

10. SEAFDEC in the past: lack of proper management including planning, monitoring and evaluation process; lacking of cost benefit analysis, because of most of SEAFDEC activities were based on the requests from SEAFDEC Member Countries. Moreover, SEAFDEC did not aware how important of data records as well as database system to manage training, research and information programs/projects that have been implemented of more than 4 decades. Therefore, the financial records related to types of activities had not also been in place. This is a reason why SEAFDEC could not response to the Council when SEAFDEC was asked about cost benefit of each program/project in the past.

11. In order to increase the efficiency of SEAFDEC Program Management, which would be aligned with the proposed SEAFDEC Plans of Operation and Programs of Work as mentioned in this paper, SEAFDEC considers to apply the Results-Based Management (RBM) - a management strategy which uses feedback loops to achieve strategic objectives and goals - that support the planning, monitoring and evaluation processes.

12. SEAFDEC develop a new template of the project document (**Appendix 2**) that includes the comments from Japan. The new project document template - aligned with RBM - is applied for all ongoing projects from past few years and for a new project starting from 2015 under the FCG/ASSP collaborative programs.

13. In addition, the evaluation template (**Appendix 3**) and Database Management System are developed based on the comments from SEAFDEC Member Countries to ensure that in near future SEAFDEC could increase the efficiency of SEAFDEC program management, and could also analyze the cost benefit of each project.

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to take note and invite to comments on the revision of Plans of Operation and Programs of Work for all SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat appear as **Appendix 4 – Appendix 9**, respectively of working documents for the 47th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council. The Council is also requested to approve for the Plans of Operation and Programs of Work for TD, MFRD, AQD, MFRDMD, IFRDMD and Secretariat as amend or it is.

**Summary on the proposed SEAFDEC Program Strategies
aligned with the AMSs prioritized issues**

Components/Issues	Rank of Priority	Program's Strategies from SEAFDEC related to Priority Issues					
		TD	MFRDMD	MFRD	AQD	IFRDMD	SEC
Component 1: Fisheries Management							
1) Conservation and management of fishery resources, taking into consideration tropical specificity of fisheries and applying precautionary approach	1	Strategy-1.1 Strategy-1.2 Strategy-4.2 Strategy-4.3 Strategy-4.4	Strategy-1.1 Strategy-4.1				√
2) Combating IUU fishing, including encouraging cooperation in the implementation of MCS among countries*	1	Strategy-2.1 Strategy-2.3	Strategy-4.1 Strategy-4.2				√
3) Enhancing good management practices, e.g. responsible fisheries, EAF; and development of guidelines for fisheries management	2	Strategy-1.2					√
4) Management of fishing capacity, including shifting from open-access to limited-access	3						√
5) Promoting community – based fisheries management, co-management and empowering of fishers in fisheries management	4	Strategy-1.3					√
6) Providing recommendations for management of shared stocks, and resolving conflicts among countries in fisheries outside their respective EEZ	4		Strategy-2.2 Strategy-2.3				√
7) Harmonization of vessel registration and fishery licensing	5	Strategy-2.2 Strategy-2.3					√
Component 2: Fishing Technology and Practices							
1) Promotion and awareness building on responsible fishing	1	Strategy-1.1 Strategy-3.4					√
2) Improving fish quality through on-board fish handling technologies and good practices for small-scale fisheries	2	Strategy-3.1 Strategy-3.2 Strategy-3.3					√
3) Developing and enhancing the use of automated and mechanized fishing gears and energy saving technologies	3	Strategy-3.4					√
Component 3: Post-harvest Technology and Trade-related Issues							
1) Improving post-harvest technologies and safety/quality of products for export	1			Program a Program b Program c Program d			√

Components/Issues	Rank of Priority	Program's Strategies from SEAFDEC related to Priority Issues					
		TD	MFRDMD	MFRD	AQD	IFRDMD	SEC
2) Addressing emerging requirements for traceability/ certification of fishery products for export*	1		Strategy-4.1 Strategy-4.2	Program e			√
3) Preventing trade of IUU fishing products	2		Strategy-4.1 Strategy-4.2				√
4) Developing new technologies for fishery post-harvest, including value-added products and reduction of wastes	3			Program a Program b			√
5) Enhancing market access of products from small-scale fishers	4			Program b Program e			√
Component 4: Sustainable Aquaculture							
1) Promoting best management practices in aquaculture	1				Strategy-1.1 Strategy-1.2 Sub-strategy-1.2-1 Sub-strategy-1.2-2 Sub-strategy-1.2-3 Sub-strategy-1.2-4 Sub-strategy-1.2-5 Strategy-1.3 Strategy-1.4 Strategy-2.1 Strategy-2.2		√
2) Fish Health Management: transboundary-disease control**	1				Sub-strategy-1.2-2		√
3) Development of feeds to reduce dependence on fish meal and fish-based products	2				Sub-strategy-1.2-2		√
4) Minimizing impacts of aquaculture on the environment/ biodiversity	3				Sub-strategy-1.2-1 Sub-strategy-1.2-2 Sub-strategy-1.2-3 Sub-strategy-1.2-4		√
5) Advancing aquaculture technologies	4				Sub-strategy-1.2-1 Sub-strategy-1.2-2 Sub-strategy-1.2-3 Sub-strategy-1.2-4		√
6) Implementing regional guidelines for good aquaculture practices	5				Sub-strategy-1.2-1 Sub-strategy-1.2-2 Sub-strategy-1.2-3 Sub-strategy-1.2-4		√

Components/Issues	Rank of Priority	Program's Strategies from SEAFDEC related to Priority Issues					
		TD	MFRDMD	MFRD	AQD	IFRDMD	SEC
7) Undertaking R&D on aquaculture that are required for different objectives, e.g. for economic development, food security, livelihood improvement, resources enhancement, etc.	6				Sub-strategy-1.2-1 Sub-strategy-1.2-2 Sub-strategy-1.2-3 Sub-strategy-1.2-4 Sub-strategy-1.2-5		√
8) Giving more emphasis on the roles of aquaculture for food security and poverty alleviation, especially using indigenous species, as well as technology verification and extension activities	7				Strategy-1.1 Strategy-1.2 Sub-strategy-1.2-1 Sub-strategy-1.2-3 Sub-strategy-1.2-4 Sub-strategy-1.2-5 Strategy-1.3 Strategy-1.4 Strategy-2.1 Strategy-2.2		√
Component 5: Fisheries Information and Statistics							
1) Improving the harmonization and collect/compilation of fishery statistics and information	1		Strategy-1.1 Strategy-1.2 Strategy-1.3 Strategy-2.1 Strategy-3.1				√
2) Enhancing the analysis, interpretation and analysis of available data and information to provide information status and trends of fisheries and aquaculture, and support science-based policy planning and management of fisheries	1	Strategy-4.1	Strategy-1.1 Strategy-1.2 Strategy-1.3 Strategy-2.1 Strategy-2.2 Strategy-2.3 Strategy-3.1 Strategy-3.2				√
3) Improving database of fishery information and statistics to facilitate sharing/dissemination of data an information	1	Strategy-4.1	Strategy-1.1 Strategy-1.2 Strategy-1.3 Strategy-2.1 Strategy-3.1				√
Component 6: Human Resources Development							
1) Assessing human resources requirements of the Member Countries, and providing human resources development program, particularly in the areas where shortage could be envisaged in the future	1	Strategy-5.1 Strategy-5.2 Strategy-5.3 Strategy-5.4	Strategy-3.2		Strategy-1.2 Sub-strategy-1.2-1 Sub-strategy-1.2-2 Sub-strategy-1.2-5 Strategy-1.3 Strategy-1.4 Strategy-2.1 Strategy-2.2		√
Component 7: Inland Fisheries							
1) Habitat conservation/rehabilitation and resource enhancement for inland fisheries, including inundated forest and wetland	1					Strategy-3.1 Strategy-3.2	√

Components/Issues	Rank of Priority	Program's Strategies from SEAFDEC related to Priority Issues					
		TD	MFRDMD	MFRD	AQD	IFRDMD	SEC
2) Co-management, rights-based fisheries, strengthening institutions, alternative livelihood	2	Strategy-1.3				Strategy-3.1 Strategy-3.2	√
3) Ecosystem approach to inland fisheries	3					Strategy-3.1 Strategy-3.2	√
4) Enhancing awareness on the importance of inland fisheries, including contribution to food security	4					Strategy-2.1 Strategy-2.4	√
5) Measures needed to mitigate effects of climate change and to build adaptive capacity	5		Strategy -1.1			Strategy-2.3	√
6) Indicators for sustainable inland fisheries	6					Strategy-2.3	√
7) Improving methodologies for collection of data and information on inland fisheries	6					Strategy-2.1 Strategy-2.2	√
8) Management of fishing capacity and combating IUU fishing	7					Strategy-3.1 Strategy-3.2	√
9) Enhancing interconnectivity of habitat and mitigating impacts from water infrastructure	8					Strategy-2.3	√

Remarks: * The high priority level was recommended at the 46th CM
 ** This new issue was raised as high priority at the 46th CM

**PROJECT DOCUMENT
ACHIEVEMENTS FOR YEAR 20XX
AND
PROPOSED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR 20XX+1**

			Project id: [xxyyyzz]
Program Categories:	<i>Project under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC ASSP and FCG Mechanism</i>		
Project Title:	<i>Project Titles</i>		
Program Thrust:	<i>Program Thrust No.</i>	Total Duration¹:	<i>2013 - 2017</i>
Lead Department:	<i>Department Name</i>	Lead Country:	<i>Thailand</i>
Donor/Sponsor:	<i>Name</i>	Total Donor Budget:	<i>USD XXXXXX</i>
Project Partner:	<i>None</i>	Budget for 2015:	<i>USD XXXX</i>
Project leader:	<i>Name</i>	<i>Involved Country</i>	

PART I: OVERALL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Brief Project Description (300 words max) :

This could be an executive summary thus it should be specific and concise, without going into the detailed aspects of the document since these are further clarified at the later part. The overview should include: the problem statement; the project's objectives; implementing organizations; key project activities; and the expected outputs of the project.

2. Background and Justification

This part included the problem analysis, baseline data and information (describe the underlying causes of the problem and the present situation), regionality, participation and beneficiaries. Include any related and relevant ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution, policies and plans of action

3. Project Overall Objectives, Outcomes, Outputs, Indicators and Activities

3.1. Objectives, Outcome and Output of the Project

Objective	Outcomes	Outputs	Activities
Objective 1:	Outcome 1:	Output 1:	Activity 1:
Objective 2:	Outcome 2:	Output 2:	Activity 2: Activity 3: (if any)
		Output 3: (If any)	Activity 4:

¹ For an example of 5 years project starting from 2013-2017, but in case of new project then the starting year should be from 2015.

3.2 Overall Scope/Description of Project

Activity	Description
Activity 1	
Activity 2	
.....	
Activity 4	

3.3 Activity, Sub-activity and Proposed Budget for 2013-2017) (in case of 5 year project from 2013) (Unit: USD)

Activity	Sub-Activity	Y1 2013	Y2 2014	Y3 2015	Y4 2016	Y5 2017
Activity 1:	Sub-activity 1.1	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
	Sub-activity 1.2	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
Activity 2:	Sub-activity 2.1:	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
Activity 3	Sub-activity 3.1:	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx
.....	Sub-Total Budget	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxx

PART II: ACHIEVEMENT OF 2014 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

1. Achievements of the Project Implementation for the present year <2014>

Explain briefly the major achievements of the project conducted in the past year based on overall project objectives

2. Information of Present Year Activity including Involved Stakeholders

List of Actual Sub-activity	Type of activity*	Number of Participants			Spent Budget (USD)
		MCs	SEAFDEC	Others	
Activity 1					
Sub-activity 1.1					
Sub-activity 1.2					
Activity 2					
Sub-activity 2.1					
Sub-activity 2.2 (if any)					
Activity 3					
Sub-activity 3.1					
Sub-activity 3.2 (if any)					
Activity 4					
Sub-activity 4.1					
Sub-activity 4.2 (if any)					

3. Achievements and Expected Outcome/Outputs of the Activity:

Planned activity	Expected outcome/output	Achievements
Activity 1		
1. Sub-activity 1.1		
2. Sub-activity 1.2		
Activity 2		
3. Sub-activity 2.1		
4. Sub-activity 2.2 (if any)		
Activity 3		
5. Sub-activity 3.1		
6. Sub-activity 3.2 (if any)		
Activity 4		
7. Sub-activity 4.1		
8. Sub-activity 4.2 (if any)		

4. List of Completed Publications and Others (e.g. technical report, VDO, presentation file, etc.)

List of completed publications for the year 2014	Type of media	Attached e-file
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

5. Evaluation from Participants of Member Countries for WS and Training Course

Planned activity	Evaluation/ Views from Participants
Activity 1	
1. Sub-activity 1.1	
2. Sub-activity 1.2	
Activity 2	
1. Sub-activity 2.1	
2. Sub-activity 2.2 (if any)	
Activity 3	
5. Sub-activity 3.1	
6. Sub-activity 3.2 (if any)	
Activity 4	
7. Sub-activity 4.1	
8. Sub-activity 4.2 (if any)	

6. Major impacts/issues

Report on any issues or problems that have impacted on the development and implementation of the project during the reporting period. Provide detail on impacts of any issues on the achievement of project targets, and set out a plan on how to tackle these issues.

PART III: PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR 2015

1. Proposed Activity/sub-activity, work plan and estimated budget for the year 2015

(Unit: USD)

Proposed Activity	Description of Proposed Activity	Proposed Budget
Activity 1		
1. Sub-activity 1.1		
2. Sub-activity 1.2		
Activity 2		
3. Sub-activity 2.1		
4. Sub-activity 2.2 (if any)		
Activity 3		
5. Sub-activity 3.1		
6. Sub-activity 3.2 (if any)		
Activity 4		
7. Sub-activity 4.1		
8. Sub-activity 4.2 (if any)		

2. Expected Outcomes/Outputs of Activity for the year 2015

Proposed Activity	Expected Outcomes/Outputs of Activity
Activity 1	
1. Sub-activity 1.1	
2. Sub-activity 1.2	
Activity 2	
3. Sub-activity 2.1	
4. Sub-activity 2.2 (if any)	
Activity 3	
5. Sub-activity 3.1	
6. Sub-activity 3.2 (if any)	
Activity 4	
7. Sub-activity 4.1	
8. Sub-activity 4.2 (if any)	

3. Schedule of Activity for the year 2015

Proposed Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Activity 1												
1. Sub-activity 1.1												
2. Sub-activity 1.2												
Activity 2												
3. Sub-activity 2.1												
4. Sub-activity 2.2 (if any)												
Activity 3												
5. Sub-activity 3.1												
6. Sub-activity 3.2 (if any)												
Activity 4												
7. Sub-activity 4.1												
8. Sub-activity 4.2 (if any)												

PROJECT EVALUATION FORM

				Project id: [xyyyyyzz]
Program Categories:	<i>Project under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC ASSP and FCG Mechanism</i>			
Project Title:	<i>Project Titles</i>			
Program Thrust:	<i>Program Thrust No.</i>	Total Duration²:	<i>2013 - 2017</i>	
Lead Department:	<i>Department Name</i>	Lead Country:	<i>Thailand</i>	
Donor/Sponsor:	<i>Name</i>	Total Donor Budget:	<i>USD XXXXXX</i>	
Project Partner:	<i>None</i>	Budget for 2015:	<i>USD XXXX</i>	
Project leader:	<i>Name</i>	<i>Involved Country</i>		

PART I: Report of Actual Result of Activities and Invested Budget/ Manpower by Project Leader/Secretariat
1. Result of activities and invested budget/manpower

Planned-activity	Expected outcome/output	Achievement	Spent Budget	Invested manpower
Activity 1				
<i>Sub-Activity 1.1</i>				
<i>Sub-Activity 1.2</i>				
<i>Sub-Activity 1.3</i>				
Activity 2				
<i>Sub-Activity 2.1</i>				
<i>Sub-Activity 2.2</i>				
<i>Sub-Activity 2.3</i>				

2. Actual Outcome/Output

Objective	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Actual Outcomes	Actual Outputs
Objective 1	Outcome 1:	Output 1:		
	Outcome 2:	Output 2:		
Objective 2	Outcome 1:	Output 1:		
	Outcome 2:	Output 2:		

3. Key Problems and Challenges, and Other Remarks on implementation of the project

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² For an example of 5 years project starting from 2013-2017, but in case of new project then the starting year should be from 2015.

PART II: Evaluation by SEAFDEC Member Countries

1. Evaluation sheet

	Criteria	Score	Comments
Effectiveness: How is the effectiveness of project activities?			
1	Project activities are able to meet the desires and needs of target beneficiaries/Priority issues of the region?		
2	Objectives/outcomes could be achieved or are likely to be achieved		
3	How much of satisfaction to the achievement by the project		
4	How much of validity of outputs/publications		
Efficiency: How is the efficiency of project activities?			
5	Objectives/outcomes are achieved in the project period		
6	Project activities are implemented within allocated budget		
7	Project activities are implemented within appropriate manpower		
Total Score			

※ Scores should be given in a scale from 0 to 5, where 5 means enough satisfaction, while 0 means dissatisfaction.

The total perfect score for all the criteria should be 35.

Total Score: ≥30 objectives and target have been achieved;
 18-29 fairly achieved;
 6-17 partially achieved; and
 ≤5 not achieved.

2. Additional input on the following aspects:

<p>1. Relevance <i>Objectives of the project are still valid with respect to the current situation</i></p> <p>2. Impact <i>Positive and negative changes obtained the project's interventions, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended, where the positive and negative impacts of external factors, such as changes in political will, donor funding support and others, are taken into account</i></p> <p>3. Sustainability <i>Benefits of the project could be sustained after project ends and funding ceases</i></p> <p>4. Others</p>
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**PLAN OF OPERATION AND PROGRAM OF WORK:
TRAINING DEPARTMENT (TD)
(REVISED 2015)**

I. PLAN OF OPERATION

1. The Training Department has the following functions:
 - (i) To train fishery personnel of Member Countries and other countries in various aspects of sustainable capture fisheries, optimum utilization of fishery resources, resource enhancement, coastal and small-scale fishery management and emerging issues concerns, in order that available fishery resources would be effectively and rationally utilized;
 - (ii) To undertake research and development (R&D) on fishing grounds, fishing gear improvement, statistics and socio-economic aspects related to marine capture fisheries, to facilitate the management and sustainable utilization of fishery resources in the Southeast Asian region; and
 - (iii) To develop and promote regional fisheries information to the Member Countries for policy consideration at national level and sub-regional areas.
2. The Government of Thailand provides the Training Department, in accordance with the provisions of the Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as appeared in Appendix I.
3. The Government of Japan provides the Training Department, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as appeared in Appendix II.
4. In accordance with Article 13 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the Training Department seeks financial and technical assistance from potential donor governments and agencies, to enable it to fulfill its functions and the objectives of the Center.

II. THE PROGRAM OF WORK

The Training Department focuses on capture fisheries with the prime concerns are on fisheries resources enhancement and applications of new concepts and tools for fisheries resources management. The Department is responsive to the immediate needs of the 10 AMSs and to the emerging issues such as climate change, combating IUU fishing, etc. Being the SEAFDEC's training center, the Department is keen to develop more systematic and robust training platform that addresses long-term strategies for in-house staff development programs and capacity development programs for the AMSs.

A. Program of the Training Department

1. *Developing the innovative fisheries management tools based on EAFM concept*
 - Strategy-1.1: Tailor-made EAFM concept to suit with ASEAN region context
 - Strategy-1.2: Raise awareness and support the application of EAFM in the AMSs in form of operational guideline
 - Strategy-1.3: Promote co-management/community-based fisheries management
2. *Reduction of IUU fishing activities in the ASEAN region*
 - Strategy-2.1: Assess current status of the IUU fishing and examine negative impacts in the AMSs and the whole region
 - Strategy-2.2: Develop ASEAN policy recommendations and guidelines on the IUU fishing countermeasures

Strategy-2.3: Support the development and use of effective IUU fishing counter-measures in collaboration with AMSs and relevant regional/international organizations

3. *Developing of tools and effective solution to reduce post-harvest losses and energy optimization*

Strategy-3.1: Research on practices leading to post-harvest losses in different types of fishing activities in the AMSs

Strategy-3.2: Develop effective solutions to reduce post-harvest losses and recommend to AMSs on methodologies for effective fish handling onboard

Strategy-3.3: Support AMSs to educate fishers and fishing operators on methods to reduce losses and improve fish handling onboard

Strategy-3.4: Develop effective solutions on energy saving for fisheries sectors

4. *Establishment of appropriate fisheries management measures/tools to enhance fisheries resources*

Strategy-4.1: Collaborate with academic institutions in AMSs to review the scientific data and information on critical habitat of historical life cycle of fish

Strategy-4.2: Develop fisheries resource enhancement measures and engaging stakeholders in decision making

Strategy-4.3: Engage EMS to adopt appropriate fisheries resource enhancement measures/tools

Strategy-4.4: Continuously promote implementation of appropriate fisheries resource enhancement measures/tools in AMSs

5. *Developing human resource development platform to enhance technology transfer on fisheries management and development*

Strategy-5.1: Develop HRD platform and standards process to deliver capacity development programs and modules

Strategy-5.2: Map training needs and develop 5 years training master plan for SEAFDEC government staff in the AMSs

Strategy-5.3: Mobilize resources for implementation of capacity development programs

Strategy-5.4: Update regularly capacity development programs in accordance with emerging needs in AMSs and the region

B. Strategy, List of Activities and Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues³

Program/Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Program 1: Developing the innovative fisheries management tools based on EAFM concept		
Strategy-1.1: Tailor-made EAFM concept to suit with ASEAN region context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a pilot project and research on the impact of EAFM concept and its application through the dimensions of economic, human and ecosystem • Strengthen human capacity of AMSs on the concept of EAFM and its application • Support AMSs on the tailor-made fisheries management through the application of EAFM concept 	Component 1.1 Component 2.1

³ Regional Prioritized Issues that were recommended and endorsed by all SEAFDEC Member Countries at 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council Director, 1-4 April 2014 (See Appendix III for reference)

Program/Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Strategy-1.2: Raise awareness and support the application of EAFM in the AMSs in form of operational guideline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the operational guideline of EAFM and its application which appropriate for the region • Encourage AMSs on the application of the EAFM operational guideline through the use of extension campaign and promotion materials 	Component 1.1 Component 1.3
Strategy-1.3: Promote co-management/community based fisheries management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and develop activities to support sustainable livelihoods • Develop capacity building on co-management, right-based fisheries, communities-based fisheries management and its application in fisheries management. 	Component 1.5 Component 7.2
Program 2: Reduction of IUU fishing activities in the ASEAN region		
Strategy-2.1: Assess current status of the IUU fishing and examine negative impacts in the AMSs and the whole region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey and assess the current status of the IUU fishing and examine negative impacts of it in the AMSs and the whole region under the collaboration with AMSs 	Component 1.2
Strategy-2.2: Develop ASEAN policy recommendations and guidelines on the IUU fishing countermeasures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with AMSs to develop ASEAN policy recommendations and guidelines on the IUU fishing countermeasures • Facilitate and assist AMSs to implement activities in follow up ASEAN policy recommendation and guideline on the IUU fishing countermeasures 	Component 1.7
Strategy-2.3: Support the development and use of effective IUU fishing countermeasures in collaboration with AMSs and relevant regional/ international organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the appropriate countermeasure tools to reduce IUU fishing in AMSs through the collaboration with AMSs and relevant regional/ international organization • Keep updating, and make use of the RFVR database and <i>etc.</i> to reduce IUU fishing in AMSs • Strengthen and enhance human capacity building on the negative impact of IUU fishing and the relevant countermeasures to combat IUU fishing in AMSs 	Component 1.2 Component 1.7
Program 3: Developing of tools and effective solution to reduce post-harvest losses and energy optimization		
Strategy-3.1: Research on practices leading to post-harvest losses in different types of fishing activities in the AMSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify main issues and problems on the quality and economic loss of marine product in AMSs • Research and survey on the marketing chain of the marine product 	Component 2.2
Strategy-3.2: Develop effective solutions to reduce post-harvest losses and recommend to AMSs on methodologies for effective fish handling onboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find solutions (plans/methods/technologies/ incentive) to reduce the post harvest loss, improve fish handling on board and value added of the marine product through the research and development program in collaboration with AMSs 	Component 2.2
Strategy-3.3: Support AMSs to educate fishers and fishing operators on methods to reduce losses and improve fish handling onboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and extension support to AMSs through human capacity building programs • Publicize the extension medias to reduce post-harvest losses and develop effective fish handling onboard to AMSs • Develop and conduct monitoring and evaluation process on the reduction of post-harvest losses and effective fish handling onboard of AMSs 	Component 2.2

Program/Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Strategy-3.4: Develop effective solutions on energy saving for fisheries sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct research and develop of marine engine for fishing vessel with energy optimization and minimizing impact to environment 	Component 2.3 Component 2.1
Program 4 : Establishment of appropriate fisheries Management measures/tools to enhance fisheries resources		
Strategy-4.1: Collaborate with academic institutions in AMSs to review the scientific data and information on critical habitat of historical life cycle of fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Scientific/Technical Working Group Network to review the scientific data and information on critical habitat of historical life cycle of fish 	Component 5.2 Component 5.3
Strategy-4.2: Develop fisheries resource enhancement measures and engage stakeholders in decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply EAF concept to develop fisheries resource enhancement measures/plans 	Component 1.1
Strategy-4.3: Engage AMSs to adopt appropriate fisheries resource enhancement measures / tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop appropriate platform to promote appropriate fisheries resource enhancement measures / tools • Encourage AMSs to adopt appropriate fisheries resource enhancement measures/ tools 	Component 1.1
Strategy-4.4: Continuously promote implementation of appropriate fisheries resource enhancement measures / tools in AMSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop series of activities and promotional material in implementation of appropriate fisheries resource enhancement measures/ tools in AMSs • Support the implementation of appropriate fisheries resources enhancement measures/ tools in AMSs 	Component 1.1
Program 5: Developing human resource development platform to enhance technology transfer on fisheries management and development		
Strategy-5.1 Develop HRD platform and standards process to deliver capacity development programs and modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop HRD platform and standards process to deliver human capacity development programs and modules. 	Component 6.1
Strategy-5.2 Map training needs and develop 5 years training master plan for SEAFDEC government staff in the AMSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and prioritize training needs and develop (5 years) training master plan for SEAFDEC government staff in the AMSs 	Component 6.1
Strategy-5.3 Mobilize resources for implementation of capacity development programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop AMSs trainers team and network on the emerging issue need through the Training of the Trainers program • Support AMSs through the mobilizing resources for implementation of capacity development programs 	Component 6.1
Strategy-5.4 Update regularly capacity development programs in accordance with emerging needs in AMSs and the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop series of human resource capacity building program in line with training master plan and emerging needs in AMSs and the region • Develop appropriated media (guideline, textbook, toolkit and etc.) to support human resource capacity building program 	Component 6.1

III. ORGANIZATION OF TD DEPARTMENT

The Training Department Chief shall be responsible for the administration and operations of the Department. Under the Chief are the following Offices and Divisions.

1. Research and Development Division

The Research and Development Division (RDD) shall be responsible for the planning and implementation of all research projects and activities of the Department, for providing supportive technical information to the Training Department, and supporting researchers and assistant researchers in the conduct of research/training activities, as and when necessary.

The Research and Development Division is composed of 3 Sections as follows:

- Fishing Technology Section;
- Fishing Ground and Oceanography Section; and
- Socio-Economic Section.

2. Training and Research Support Division

The Training and Research Support Division (TRSD) of the Training Department shall be responsible for ship, marine engineering, information, extension and training that are supportive to technical works of the Department.

The Training and Research Support Division is composed of 3 Sections as follows:

- Training Section;
- Marine Engineering Section; and
- Ship and Fleet Operation Section.

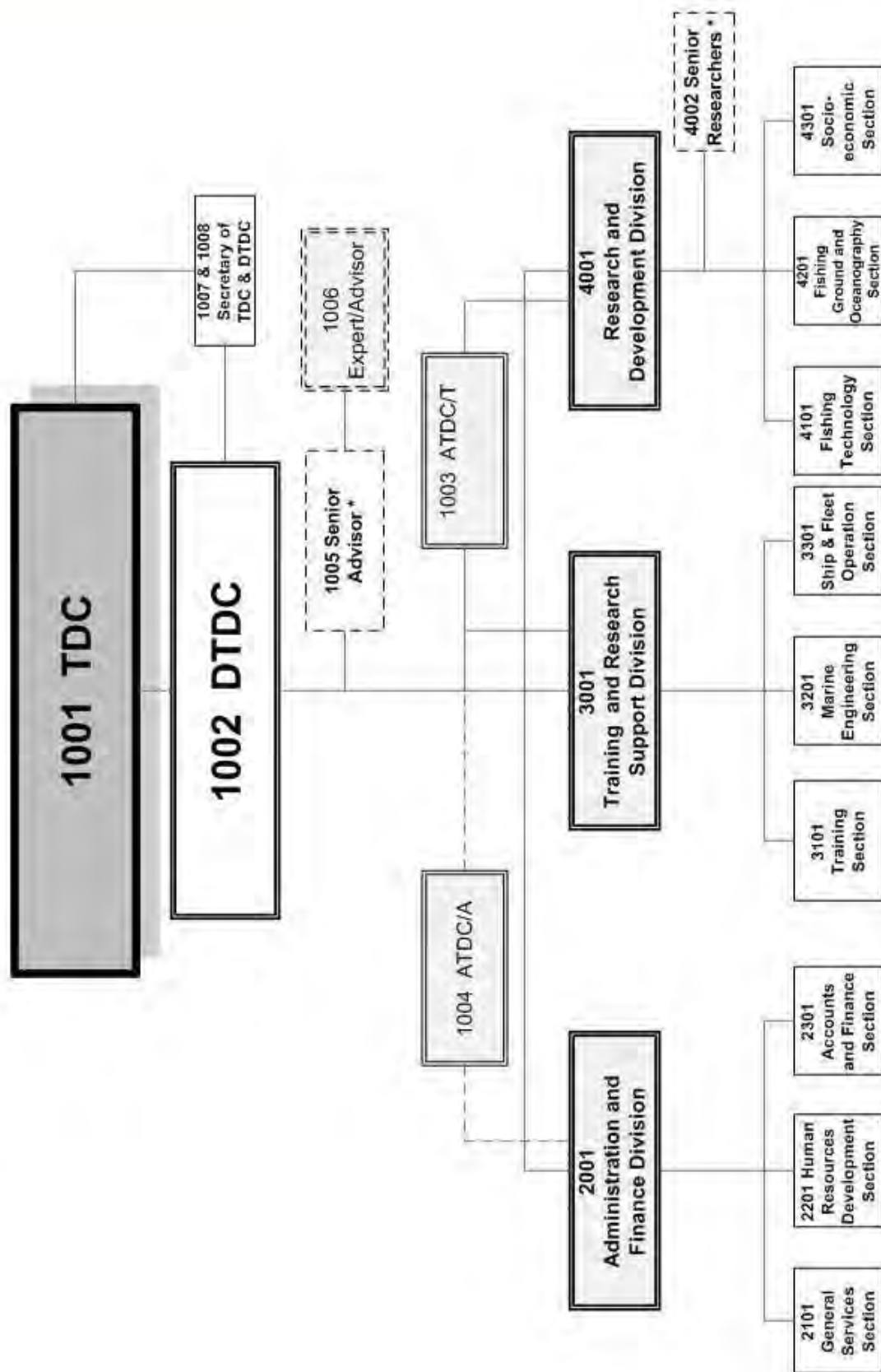
3. Administrative and Finance Division

The Administrative and Finance Division (AFD) of the Development shall be responsible for the administrative works, personnel affairs, external affairs, including general affairs and maintenance of the Department properties, procurement of equipment, arrangement of living quarters for participants and staff, overall coordination with experts and other Division Heads, administrative supervision and technical works as well as the financial administration of the Secretariat and Training Department.

The Administrative and Finance Division is composed of 3 Sections, as follows:

- General Services Section;
- Human Resources Development Section; and
- Accounts and Finance Section.

Re-Organization Chart of the Training Department



Contribution of the Host Government

2. The Government of Thailand provides the Training Department, in accordance with the provisions of the Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, with the following:
 - (i) An area of land located in Samut Prakan as the site of the Training Department;
 - (ii) Buildings with floor space to accommodate the Training Department, including a trainees' dormitory and other facilities;
 - (iii) Office furniture and equipment, including vehicles;
 - (iv) Services of professional and general staff; and
 - (v) An amount of money as an annual contribution towards the operational expenses of the Training Department; and fellowship funds for Thai trainees.

Contribution of the Government of Japan

3. The Government of Japan provides the Training Department, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, with the following:
 - (i) Services of professional staff;
 - (ii) A fully equipped steel training and research purse seiner of 1,178 gross tons, and an FRP purse seiner of approximately 65 gross tons from Japan;
 - (iii) A fully equipped steel fishery research and training vessel of 211 gross tons from Japan
 - (iv) An amount of money in Yen for the purchase of training and research instruments and equipment;
 - (v) An amount of money in U.S. dollars to provide fellowships and training equipment for trainees from Member Countries; and
 - (vi) An amount of money in U.S. dollars as an annual contribution towards the operational expenses of the Training Department.

Regional Prioritized Areas and Issues Adopted by the 46th Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC

Components/Issues	Rank of Priority
Component 1: Fisheries Management	
1) Conservation and management of fishery resources, taking into consideration tropical specificity of fisheries and applying precautionary approach	1
2) Combating IUU fishing, including encouraging cooperation in the implementation of MCS among countries*	1
3) Enhancing good management practices, e.g. responsible fisheries, EAF; and development of guidelines for fisheries management	2
4) Management of fishing capacity, including shifting from open-access to limited-access	3
5) Promoting community – based fisheries management, co- management and empowering of fishers in fisheries management	4
6) Providing recommendations for management of shared stocks, and resolving conflicts among countries in fisheries outside their respective EEZ	4
7) Harmonization of vessel registration and fishery licensing	5
Component 2: Fishing Technology and Practices	
1) Promotion and awareness building on responsible fishing	1
2) Improving fish quality through on-board fish handling technologies and good practices for small-scale fisheries	2
3) Developing and enhancing the use of automated and mechanized fishing gears and energy saving technologies	3
Component 3: Post-harvest Technology and Trade-related Issues	
1) Improving post-harvest technologies and safety/quality of products for export	1
2) Addressing emerging requirements for traceability/ certification of fishery products for export*	1
3) Preventing trade of IUU fishing products	2
4) Developing new technologies for fishery post-harvest, including value-added products and reduction of wastes	3
5) Enhancing market access of products from small-scale fishers	4
Component 4: Sustainable Aquaculture	
1) Promoting best management practices in aquaculture	1
2) Fish Health Management: transboundary-disease control**	1
3) Development of feeds to reduce dependence on fish meal and fish-based products	2
4) Minimizing impacts of aquaculture on the environment/ biodiversity	3
5) Advancing aquaculture technologies	4
6) Implementing regional guidelines for good aquaculture practices	5
7) Undertaking R&D on aquaculture that are required for different objectives, e.g. for economic development, food security, livelihood improvement, resources enhancement, etc.	6
8) Giving more emphasis on the roles of aquaculture for food security and poverty alleviation, especially using indigenous species, as well as technology verification and extension activities	7
Component 5: Fisheries Information and Statistics	
1) Improving the harmonization and collect/compilation of fishery statistics and information	1
2) Enhancing the analysis, interpretation and analysis of available data and information to provide information status and trends of fisheries and aquaculture, and support science-based policy planning and management of fisheries	1
3) Improving database of fishery information and statistics to facilitate sharing/dissemination of data an information	1
Component 6: Human Resources Development	
1) Assessing human resources requirements of the Member Countries, and providing human resources development program, particularly in the areas where shortage could be envisaged in the future	1

Component 7: Inland Fisheries	
1) Habitat conservation/rehabilitation and resource enhancement for inland fisheries, including inundated forest and wetland	1
2) Co-management, rights-based fisheries, strengthening institutions, alternative livelihood	2
3) Ecosystem approach to inland fisheries	3
4) Enhancing awareness on the importance of inland fisheries, including contribution to food security	4
5) Measures needed to mitigate effects of climate change and to build adaptive capacity	5
6) Indicators for sustainable inland fisheries	6
7) Improving methodologies for collection of data and information on inland fisheries	6
8) Management of fishing capacity and combating IUU fishing	7
9) Enhancing interconnectivity of habitat and mitigating impacts from water infrastructure	8

Remarks

* The high priority level was recommended at the 46th CM

** This new issue was raised as high priority at the 46th CM

**PLAN OF OPERATION AND PROGRAM OF WORK:
MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH DEPARTMENT (MFRD)
(REVISED 2015)**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At the 39th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2007¹, the Council approved the proposal and endorsed the Post-Harvest Technology Centre of the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA), Singapore (PHTC/AVA) to be a Collaborating Centre of SEAFDEC to undertake the activities of the Marine Fisheries Research Department (MFRD) under the SEAFDEC regional programmes including those supported by the Japanese Trust Fund.

II. THE PROGRAM OF WORK

2. The purpose of the MFRD Programmes is to enhance the development of fisheries post-harvest technology in the region according to resources available at the PHTC/AVA.

3. The MFRD Programmes and activities cover research and development in fisheries post-harvest technology with focus on sustainable development and food security, including:

- a. optimizing utilization of available fisheries resources;
- b. development of value-added fisheries products from under-utilized resources;
- c. seafood safety such as the monitoring of chemical contaminants such as heavy metals, antibiotic and pesticide residues, marine biotoxins;
- d. seafood quality assurance, such as handling, quality preservation, application of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) to fish processing establishment in the region; and
- e. traceability systems for aquaculture products;

4. The results of the activities will be transferred and disseminated to the region through workshops, training programs, publications, etc.

¹ Paragraphs 43-44 and Annex 15 (pages 85-89) the Report of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre, 3-7 April 2007, Cambodia.



**PLAN OF OPERATION AND PROGRAM OF WORK:
AQUACULTURE DEPARTMENT (AQD)
(REVISED 2015)**

I. PLAN OF OPERATION

(1) The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department has the following functions:

- i. To promote and undertake aquaculture research and development (R&D) that is relevant to and appropriate for the Southeast Asian region;
- i. To build the capacity of human and institutional resources for aquaculture development;
- ii. To publish, disseminate and exchange information on aquaculture and responsible practices; and
- iii. To serve as a regional forum for cooperation and consultation on aquaculture R&D among Member Countries.

(2) The Government of the Philippines provides the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as shown in **Appendix I**.

(3) The Government of Japan provides the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as shown in **Appendix II**.

(4) In accordance with Article 13 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department (AQD) seeks financial and technical assistance from the Philippine Government and potential donor agencies, to enable it to fulfill its functions and the objectives of the Center.

II. THE PROGRAM OF WORK

With the functions indicated in the Plan of Operation, AQD will implement research, technology verification and demonstration, and training and information activities, as approved by the Council of the Center, in order to promote sustainable aquaculture development in Southeast Asia.

The activities will also include focused targeting of stakeholders in responding to emerging issues that affect sustainable aquaculture development in Southeast Asia. Emphasis of work will be given to the following priorities of the region: (i) development of responsible aquaculture technologies and practices; (ii) responsible use of aquatic resources for the purpose of aquaculture; (iii) adoption of measures to avoid environmental degradation; and (iv) promotion of environmentally sound aquaculture methods and commodities.

A. Programs of the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department

AQD's program of work is categorized into the following:

1. *Supporting the growth of aquaculture sector through development and transfer of responsible and sustainable aquaculture technologies and practices*

Strategy1-1: Assess stakeholders' specific needs and requirements for aquaculture technologies

Strategy1-2: Develop and transfer appropriate technologies based on priorities of Member Countries

- Strategy1-3: Strengthen and sustain collaboration and partnerships with relevant stakeholder groups in aquaculture
 Strategy1-4: Accelerate adoption of technologies in ASEAN Member States

2. *Strengthening the capacities of the aquaculture sector to enhance technology transfer*

- Strategy2-1: Enhance capacity of relevant stakeholders through need-based capacity building programs and information dissemination
 Strategy2-2: Generate/publish science-based information that contribute to formulation of policies for sustainable aquaculture

B. Strategy, List of Activities and Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues¹

Program/Strategy	List of Activities	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Program 1: Supporting the growth of aquaculture sector through development and transfer of responsible and sustainable tropical aquaculture technologies and practices		
Strategy-1.1: Assess stakeholders' specific needs and requirements for aquaculture technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct of expert consultation meetings/partnership dialogues, survey and desk study to assess the needs and priorities of the Member Countries 	Component 4.1 Component 4.8
Strategy-1.2: Develop and transfer appropriate technologies based on priorities of Member Countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Programs/Projects based on identified priorities in the Member Countries 	Component 4.1 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
<i>Sub-strategy-1.2-1:</i> <i>Generate, verify and promote technologies to ensure sustainable production of quality seedstock for aquaculture and stock enhancement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of good quality broodstock through genetic intervention and implementation of proper stock management protocols 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of schemes for the production, management and maintenance and dissemination of genetically selected and improved stocks 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.6 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refinement of hatchery and nursery management methods to increase seed production and improve the quality of seedstocks 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment and adoption of economically viable seed production system to achieve seedstock sufficiency 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.6 Component 4.7 Component 4.8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building the capacity of fishfarmers and other industry stakeholders in appropriate breeding and larval rearing technologies through training and dissemination of relevant information materials 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.7 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
<i>Sub-strategy-1.2-2:</i> <i>Improve aquaculture production through innovations in nutrition and feeding and fish health management in aquaculture and in maintaining the environmental</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding different sources of fish meal and fish oil substitutes and development of effective feeding management schemes that incorporate sound environmental management 	Component 4.1 Component 4.3 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.6 Component 4.7

¹ Regional Prioritized Issues that were recommended and endorsed by all SEAFDEC Member Countries at 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council Director, 1-4 April 2014 (See Appendix III for reference)

Program/Strategy	List of Activities	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
<i>integrity of aquaculture</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and refinement of effective dietary formulations for various species at different growth stages 	Component 4.1 Component 4.3 Component 4.5 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and dissemination of effective biosecurity measures that will help keep out exotic pathogens, especially transboundary pathogens 	Component 4.1 Component 4.2 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.6 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of the wider use of conventional as well as new diagnostic methods, especially for detection of newly reported, emerging diseases 	Component 4.1 Component 4.2 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.6 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding effective alternative safe drugs and chemicals to manage aquaculture diseases in lieu of harmful chemicals and drugs 	Component 4.1 Component 4.2 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.6 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of marker-assisted breeding programs to address disease issues 	Component 4.1 Component 4.2 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of capacity building programs including <i>in-situ</i> training on disease diagnostics using level 1,2, and 3 techniques; prevention; and management. 	Component 4.1 Component 4.2 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.7 Component 6.1
<i>Sub-strategy-1.2-3: Develop environment-friendly aquaculture technologies and promoting responsible aquaculture practices</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of impacts of aquaculture on biodiversity and water and sediment qualities in culture areas and adjacent ecosystems 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and promotion of efficient and suitable environment-friendly culture systems 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.6 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of guidelines, protocols for environmentally safe resource enhancement programs. 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.6 Component 4.7 Component 4.8
<i>Sub-strategy-1.2-4: Identify accompanying changes in the environment brought about by the changing climate that may affect the aquaculture sector</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct research that will generate scientific information on susceptibilities of various aquaculture species to combined effects of increased seawater temperature and acidity 	Component 4.1 Component 4.4 Component 4.5 Component 4.7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of public awareness on the possible effects of climate change to aquaculture activities and to fish farmers 	Component 4.1 Component 4.6 Component 4.7 Component 4.8
<i>Sub-strategy-1.2-5:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of R&D activities that 	Component 4.1

Program/Strategy	List of Activities	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
<i>Develop and implement social and economic strategies in aquaculture and resource enhancement to secure food and income through stakeholder collaboration</i>	explore the participatory and community-based modality in promotion of aquaculture technologies in rural areas	Component 4.7 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
Strategy-1.3: Strengthen and sustain collaboration and partnerships with relevant stakeholder groups in aquaculture	• Development of policy guidelines in engaging project partners	Component 4.1 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
	• Establishment of strategies that will enhance and sustain partnership arrangements with relevant stakeholders	Component 4.1 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
Strategy-1.4: Accelerate adoption of technologies in ASEAN Member States	• Systematic packaging of research results into commercially viable aquaculture technologies	Component 4.1 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
	• Development of technology transfer and adoption pathways anchored on well-defined relevant policies, infrastructure and linkages to better equip the ASEAN Member States in adopting new technologies appropriate to their countries	Component 4.1 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
Program 2: Strengthening the capacities of the aquaculture sector to enhance technology transfer		
Strategy-2.1: Enhance capacity of relevant stakeholders through need-based capacity building programs and information dissemination activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/assessment of impacts, gaps, and training needs; • Conduct of the following types of training programs, based on needs assessment: (i) on-site and AQD-based training courses; (ii) on-the-job and research internships; (iii) specialized and client-driven training courses; (iv) distance or e-learning courses; and (v) study tours; 	Component 4.1 Component 4.8 Component 6.1
Strategy-2.2: Generate/publish science-based information that contribute to formulation of policies for sustainable aquaculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of scientific papers, books, proceedings, manuals, policy briefs, and other information materials for target stakeholders • Dissemination and exchange of information through: (i) symposia, seminars and workshops; (ii) Library services; (iii) AQD webpage and other forms of social media; (iv) Print and broadcast media; and (v) exhibitions in industry-led congress. 	Component 4.1 Component 4.8 Component 6.1

III. ORGANIZATION OF SEAFDEC/AQD

The Aquaculture Department consists of a Department Chief, a Deputy Department Chief and Department staff. The organizational chart of the Department is in Appendix IV.

The Department Chief is responsible for the administration and overall operation of the Department. Under the Chief are the following offices and divisions:

- (i) **Office of Department Chief** comprises the Office the Deputy Chief, Performance Management Group, Management Information Systems Office, and the Manila Office.



- (ii) **Research Division** is responsible for the research activities of the Department. The Research Division comprises the five Sections: Breeding and Seed Production, Nutrition and Feed Development, Farming Systems and Ecology, Fish Health, and Socio-Economics. The Division operates service laboratories and units; namely, Larval Food Laboratory, Centralized Analytical Laboratory, Fish Health Diagnostics Laboratory, and a Feed Preparation Laboratory and Feed Mill. The Division also operates the Laboratory Facilities for Advanced Aquaculture Technologies (LFAAT) and the Binangonan Freshwater Station.
- (iii) **Technology Verification and Demonstration Division** is responsible for testing the economic viability of various aquaculture technologies and packaging these into commercially viable production systems. The Technology Verification and Demonstration Division comprises the Technology Verification, and Demonstration and Packaging Sections. The Division operates the Dumangas Brackishwater Station and Igang Marine Station.
- (iv) **Training and Information Division** is responsible for the capacity development of human and institutional resources and dissemination of information on aquaculture. This Division comprises the Training, Development Communication, Library and Databanking Services Sections, and Fish world Museum.
- (v) **Administration and Finance Division** is responsible for providing administrative support to the programs and for the financial administration of the Department. It comprises the Human Resource Management, Engineering, Accounting, and Budget- Cashiering Sections and the Materials Control Unit.

Appendix I

Contribution of the Host Government

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines provides the Aquaculture Department, in accordance with the provisions of the Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, with the following:

- i. A parcel of land situated in the barrio of Buyuan, Municipality of Tigbauan, Province of Iloilo, as the site of Aquaculture Department's Tigbauan Main Station
- ii. A parcel of land situated in the Barrios of Pipindan, Kalinawan and Tapao Point, Municipality of Binangonan, Province of Rizal, as the site of Aquaculture Department's Binangonan Freshwater Station
- iii. Buildings for administrative offices, laboratories, classrooms, dormitories, staff houses, experimental and demonstration ponds; an adequate water system for research, production and drinking.
- iv. Office furniture and equipment, including vehicles;
- v. Services of the following local staff: (a) A Department Chief; (b) A sufficient number of professional staff; and (c) A sufficient number of service staff
- vi. An agreed amount of money as a contribution for the operation of the Department

Appendix II

Contribution of the Government of Japan

The Government of Japan shall provide the Department with the following, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center:

- i. Research and training instruments and equipment, or the necessary amount in yen for the purchase thereof from Japan;
- ii. Services of the following Japanese staff:
 - (a) A Deputy Department Chief
 - (b) An appropriate number of professional staff members, to be sent to assume positions in the Department as specifically requested by the Secretary General of the Center
 - (c) An appropriate number of fellowships for trainees from Member Countries.

Regional Prioritized Areas and Issues Adopted at the 46th Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC

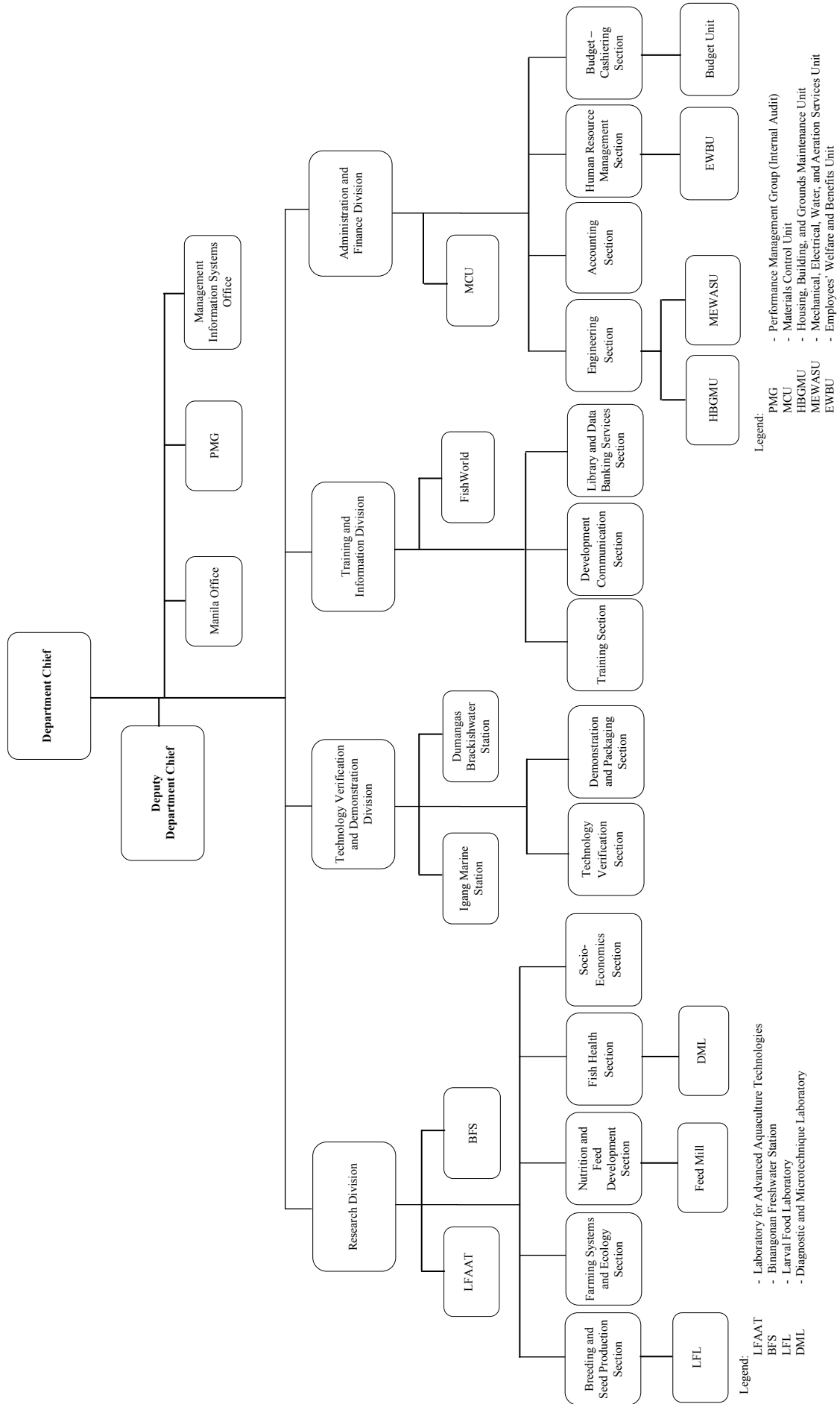
Components/Issues	Rank of Priority
Component 1: Fisheries Management	
1) Conservation and management of fishery resources, taking into consideration tropical specificity of fisheries and applying precautionary approach	1
2) Combating IUU fishing, including encouraging cooperation in the implementation of MCS among countries*	1
3) Enhancing good management practices, e.g. responsible fisheries, EAF; and development of guidelines for fisheries management	2
4) Management of fishing capacity, including shifting from open-access to limited-access	3
5) Promoting community – based fisheries management, co- management and empowering of fishers in fisheries management	4
6) Providing recommendations for management of shared stocks, and resolving conflicts among countries in fisheries outside their respective EEZ	4
7) Harmonization of vessel registration and fishery licensing	5
Component 2: Fishing Technology and Practices	
1) Promotion and awareness building on responsible fishing	1
2) Improving fish quality through on-board fish handling technologies and good practices for small-scale fisheries	2
3) Developing and enhancing the use of automated and mechanized fishing gears and energy saving technologies	3
Component 3: Post-harvest Technology and Trade-related Issues	
1) Improving post-harvest technologies and safety/quality of products for export	1
2) Addressing emerging requirements for traceability/ certification of fishery products for export*	1
3) Preventing trade of IUU fishing products	2
4) Developing new technologies for fishery post-harvest, including value-added products and reduction of wastes	3
5) Enhancing market access of products from small-scale fishers	4
Component 4: Sustainable Aquaculture	
1) Promoting best management practices in aquaculture	1
2) Fish Health Management: transboundary-disease control**	1
3) Development of feeds to reduce dependence on fish meal and fish-based products	2
4) Minimizing impacts of aquaculture on the environment/ biodiversity	3
5) Advancing aquaculture technologies	4
6) Implementing regional guidelines for good aquaculture practices	5
7) Undertaking R&D on aquaculture that are required for different objectives, e.g. for economic development, food security, livelihood improvement, resources enhancement, etc.	6
8) Giving more emphasis on the roles of aquaculture for food security and poverty alleviation, especially using indigenous species, as well as technology verification and extension activities	7
Component 5: Fisheries Information and Statistics	
1) Improving the harmonization and collect/compilation of fishery statistics and information	1
2) Enhancing the analysis, interpretation and analysis of available data and information to provide information status and trends of fisheries and aquaculture, and support science-based policy planning and management of fisheries	1
3) Improving database of fishery information and statistics to facilitate sharing/dissemination of data an information	1
Component 6: Human Resources Development	
1) Assessing human resources requirements of the Member Countries, and providing human resources development program, particularly in the areas where shortage could be envisaged in the future	1

Component 7: Inland Fisheries	
1) Habitat conservation/rehabilitation and resource enhancement for inland fisheries, including inundated forest and wetland	1
2) Co-management, rights-based fisheries, strengthening institutions, alternative livelihood	2
3) Ecosystem approach to inland fisheries	3
4) Enhancing awareness on the importance of inland fisheries, including contribution to food security	4
5) Measures needed to mitigate effects of climate change and to build adaptive capacity	5
6) Indicators for sustainable inland fisheries	6
7) Improving methodologies for collection of data and information on inland fisheries	6
8) Management of fishing capacity and combating IUU fishing	7
9) Enhancing interconnectivity of habitat and mitigating impacts from water infrastructure	8

Remarks:

- * The high priority level was recommended at the 46th CM
- ** This new issue was raised as high priority at the 46th CM

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF AQD



**PLAN OF OPERATION AND PROGRAM OF WORK:
MARINE FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT
DEPARTMENT (MFRDMD)
(REVISED 2015)**

I. PLAN OF OPERATION

The Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) gives priority to shared stock management. It emphasizes on data acquisition and assessing recent status of fish stock in the ASEAN Member States (AMSs). The department will use advanced methods to support shared stock management measures and actions.

- (1) MFRDMD has the following functions:
 - (i) To provide regional fora for consultation and cooperation in research and management of fishery resources.
 - (ii) To coordinate and implement research programmes to support sustainable development and management of fishery resources in AMSs through:
 - Monitoring condition and exploitation of the state of fishery resources.
 - Providing scientific basis and appropriate guidelines.
 - Providing advice on management of fishery resources.
 - (iii) To provide expertise in the field of stock assessment and fishery management towards improving the capability of AMSs in sustainable development and management of fishery resource.
 - (iv) To publish, disseminate and exchange information through:
 - Regional fora and consultations in research and management.
 - Intensification of publications.
- (2) The Government of Malaysia provides the MFRDMD, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as appeared in **Appendix I**.
- (3) The Government of Japan provides the MFRDMD in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as appeared in **Appendix II**.
- (4) In accordance with Article 13 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department, in consultation with the Secretary-General, may seek financial and technical assistance from potential donor governments and agencies to enable it to fulfill its functions.

II. THE PROGRAM OF WORK

With the functions indicated in the Plan of Operation, the MFRDMD will implement research, training, and information dissemination activities as approved by the Council of the Center with emphasizes on the management of shared stocks. These activities will serve to promote sustainable development and management of fishery resources in Southeast Asia.

A. Programs of the SEAFDEC MFRDMD:

1. *Coordinate, collaborate and implement research programmes to support in assessing status of shared stocks and plan for appropriate interventions in AMSs.*

Strategy-1.1: Regularly examine existing status and monitor current change of shared stocks

- Strategy-1.2: Assess stock of commercially important and/or endangered species for every 5 years
- Strategy-1.3: Develop mechanism for engaging AMSs to assess and update status of shared stocks
2. *Compile, analyse and publish information and reports on status of shared stocks to be shared with key actors in AMSs.*
- Strategy-2.1: Encourage participation of AMSs to compile information on status of shared stocks of commercially important and/or endangered species
- Strategy-2.2: Report of stock assessment results and provide policy recommendations for management of shared stocks in AMSs
- Strategy-2.3: Engage AMSs to formulate policies on shared stocks
3. *Provide mechanism and guidelines for AMSs to improve the capability in conducting stock assessment at national level.*
- Strategy-3.1: Enable AMSs to formulate stock assessment and related practices
- Strategy-3.2: Update knowledge and skill of AMSs staff to perform methods of stock assessment
4. *Provide mechanism for AMSs to adopt and implement regional policies/ guidelines on important emerging issues on marine fisheries.*
- Strategy-4.1: Formulate regional policies and guidelines in response to emerging issues on marine capture fisheries
- Strategy-4.2: Engage AMSs to implement the guideline (e.g. Catch Documentation Scheme) for ASEAN with technical support from SEAFDEC

B. Strategy, List of Activities and Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues¹

Program/ Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Program 1: Coordinate, collaborate and implement research programmes to support in assessing status of shared stocks and plan for appropriate interventions in AMSs		
Strategy -1.1: Regularly examine existing status and monitor current change of shared stocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor catches and analyse catch effort data from commercial fishing vessels. • Collect and compile landing data of pelagic species from all fishing gears at selected major landing areas. • Conduct biological studies of major pelagic species to provide information for resources assessment. • Assess shared stocks for proper development and management of the resources. • Conduct fishery oceanography studies to determine the relationship between physico-chemical parameters of the ocean water and the pelagic fishery resources. • Provide Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for data collection • Provide database for data entering, 	Component 1.1 Component 5.1 Component 5.2 Component 5.3 Component 7.5

¹ Regional Prioritized Issues that were recommended and endorsed by all SEAFDEC Member Countries at 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council Director, 1-4 April 2014 (See Appendix III for reference)

Program/ Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
	compiling, analysis and updating.	
<p>Strategy-1.2: Assess stock of commercially important and/or endangered species for every 5 years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct training on taxonomic identification of commercially important and/or endangered species. • Provide books, hand out and booklets on taxonomic identification of commercially important and/or endangered species. • Collect and compile landing data of commercially important and/or endangered species • Provide database for data entering, compiling, analysis and updating. • Provide SOP for data collection of commercially important and/or endangered species. • Conduct assessment of commercially important and/or endangered species for every 5 years. 	<p>Component 5.1 Component 5.2 Component 5.3</p>
<p>Strategy-1.3: Develop mechanism for engaging AMSs to assess and update status of shared stocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct training of researchers from AMSs on data collection, fish stock assessment and fisheries management. • Provide training materials on fish stock assessment. • Provide SOP for data collection. • Provide database for data entering, compiling, analysis and updating. • Conduct collaborative fishery resources studies with AMSs. • Provide platform for on-the-job training for researchers and fishery managers of AMSs at the department. • Organize seminars and workshops for information sharing and dissemination. 	<p>Component 5.1 Component 5.2 Component 5.3</p>
<p>Program 2: Compile, analyse and publish information and reports on status of shared stocks to be shared with key actors in AMSs</p>		
<p>Strategy-2.1: Encourage participation of AMSs to compile information on status of shared stocks of commercially important and/or endangered species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct training of researchers from AMSs on data collection, fish stock assessment and fisheries management. • Provide training materials on fish stock assessment • Provide SOP for data collection. • Provide database for data entering, compiling, analysis and updating. • Organize seminars and workshops for information sharing and dissemination. 	<p>Component 5.1 Component 5.2 Component 5.3</p>
<p>Strategy-2.2: Report of stock assessment results and provide policy recommendations for management of shared stocks in AMSs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize seminars and workshops for updating status and information sharing on shared stocks. • Organize Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on developing guidelines on the management of shared stocks. 	<p>Component 1.6 Component 5.2</p>

Program/ Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist AMSs on compiling, collating, analyse and interpret data/ information on shared stocks for the purpose of formulating policy recommendations for the management of shared stocks. 	
<p>Strategy-2.3: Engage AMSs to formulate policies on shared stocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize seminars and workshops for information sharing and dissemination. Organize Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on developing guidelines on the management of shared stocks. Assist AMSs on compiling, collating, analyse and interpret data/ information on shared stocks for the purpose of formulating policy recommendations for the management of shared stocks. 	<p>Component 1.6 Component 5.2</p>
<p>Program 3: Provide mechanism and guidelines for AMSs to improve the capability in conducting stock assessment at national level</p>		
<p>Strategy-3.1: Enable AMSs to formulate stock assessment and related practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct training of researchers from AMSs on data collection, fish stock assessment and fisheries management. Provide training materials on fish stock assessment. Provide SOP for data collection. Provide database for data entering, compiling, analysis and updating. Conduct collaborative fishery resources studies with AMSs for the Transfer of Technology. Provide platform for on-the-job training for researchers and fishery managers of AMSs at the department. Organize seminars and workshops for information sharing and dissemination. 	<p>Component 5.1 Component 5.2 Component 5.3</p>
<p>Strategy-3.2: Update knowledge and skill of AMSs staff to perform methods of stock assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly conduct training of researchers from AMSs on data collection, fish stock assessment and fisheries management. Provide updated training materials on fish stock assessment. Provide updated SOP for data collection. Provide database for data entering, compiling, analysis and updating. Conduct collaborative fishery resources studies with AMSs for Transfer of Technology. Provide platform for on-the-job training for researchers and fishery managers of AMSs at the department. Organize seminars and workshops for information sharing and dissemination. 	<p>Component 5.2 Component 6.1</p>

Program 4: Provide mechanism for AMSs to adopt and implement regional policies/ guidelines on important emerging issues on marine capture fisheries		
<p>Strategy-4.1: Formulate regional policies and guidelines in response to emerging issues on marine capture fisheries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize seminars and workshops for updating status and information on emerging issues of marine capture fisheries. • Organize Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on developing guidelines and regional policies in response to emerging issues on capture fisheries. • Assist AMSs on compiling, collating and analyse data/ information in response to emerging issues on marine capture fisheries. • Periodically publish and disseminate information to AMSs in response to emerging issues on marine capture fisheries. 	<p>Component 1.1 Component 1.2 Component 3.2 Component 3.3</p>
<p>Strategy-4.2: Engage AMSs to implement the guideline (e.g. Catch Documentation Scheme) for ASEAN with technical support from SEAFDEC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on developing National Plan of Action (NPOA) in implementing guidelines for ASEAN. • Assist AMSs on implementing the NPOA • Periodically publish and disseminate information to AMSs in response to the status of implementing NPOA and other emerging issues on marine capture fisheries. 	<p>Component 1.2 Component 3.2 Component 3.3</p>

III. ORGANIZATION OF THE MARINE FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (MFRDMD)

The Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department consists of a Chief, a Deputy Chief, Special Departmental Coordinator and Department staff.

The Chief is responsible for the administration and operation of the Department. Under the Chief are the following Four Sections:

- (i) **Administration and Finance Section:** to be responsible for providing administrative support to the Department including general services and maintenance of the Department buildings and research facilities. It will also be responsible for all the financials and administration of the Department.

The Administrative and Finance Section shall comprise the Administrative Unit and the Finance Unit.

- (ii) **Biology and Resource Assessment Section:** to be responsible for the implementation of research activities on biology and resource assessment of marine fishery resources. The activities include marine fishery biological studies, fish stock assessment and genetic study. Assessment on shared stocks of pelagic and commercially important and/or endangered species are the main focus of the section.

The Biology and Resource Assessment Section shall comprise the Biology and Genetic Unit and Resource Assessment Unit.



- (iii) **Fishery Oceanography and Resources Enhancement Section:** to be responsible for the implementation of research activities on fishery oceanography and resources enhancement studies. The main focus of the section is to determine the relationship between physico-chemical parameters of the ocean waters and the fishery resources; determine suitable sites for the deployment of artificial reefs and develop mechanism for assessing the status and effectiveness of the artificial reefs.

The Fishery Oceanography and Resources Enhancement Section shall comprise the Fishery Oceanography Unit and Resources Enhancement Unit.

- (iv) **Fishery Resources Management Advisory Section:** to be responsible for providing management advice on the exploitation, management and conservation of the marine fishery resources in the EEZ of Member Countries and management of information. The main focus of the section is to compile, collate and disseminate information as well as developing management advices on fishery resources based on the information collected.

The Fishery Resources Management Advisory Section shall comprise Fishery Resources Management Advisory Unit and Information Management Unit.

The organization chart of the Department is given as **Appendix IV**:

Appendix I

Contribution of the Host Government

The Government of Malaysia provides the MFRDMD, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, with the following:

- (i) Services of the following professional staff;
 - a. A Department Chief, and
 - b. Professional and service staff.
- (ii) Adequate infrastructure facilities for marine fishery resources research, training and information dissemination programs of the MFRDMD; and
- (iii) Appropriate funds towards the operational expenses of the MFRDMD.

Appendix II

Contribution of the Government of Japan

The Government of Japan has provided the MFRDMD in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, with the following:

- (i) Services of the following professional staff;
 - a. A Deputy Department Chief, and
 - b. An appropriate number of professional staff to implement the Department's programs.
- (ii) An amount of money in Yen for the purchase of research instruments and equipment;
- (iii) Appropriate fellowship grants and an amount of money in U.S. dollars for the purchase of research equipment for scientists from ASEAN Member States to conduct research at the Department and to upgrade the professional and technical expertise of the Department's staff; and
- (iv) An amount of money in US Dollars as an annual contribution for the operational expenses of the Department.

Regional Prioritized Areas and Issues Adopted at the 46th Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC

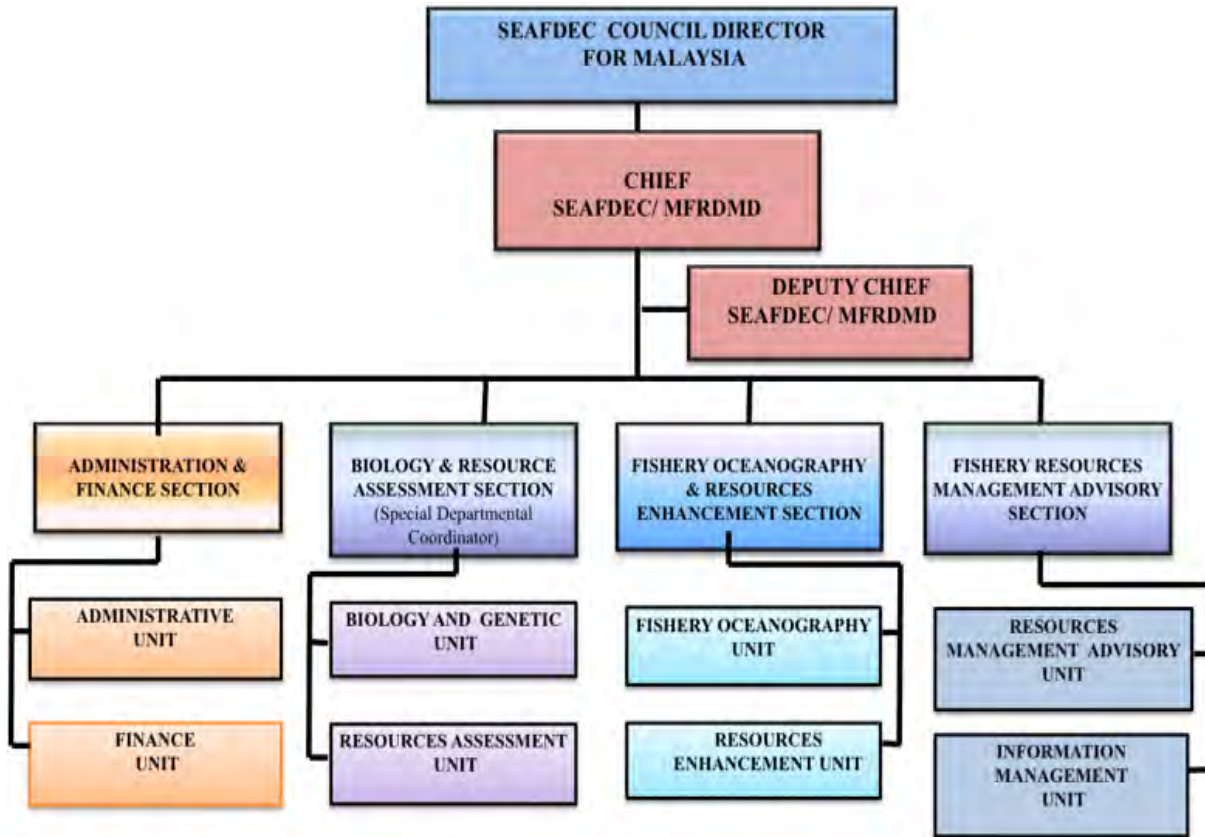
Components/Issues	Rank of Priority
Component 1: Fisheries Management	
1) Conservation and management of fishery resources, taking into consideration tropical specificity of fisheries and applying precautionary approach	1
2) Combating IUU fishing, including encouraging cooperation in the implementation of MCS among countries*	1
3) Enhancing good management practices, e.g. responsible fisheries, EAF; and development of guidelines for fisheries management	2
4) Management of fishing capacity, including shifting from open-access to limited-access	3
5) Promoting community – based fisheries management, co- management and empowering of fishers in fisheries management	4
6) Providing recommendations for management of shared stocks, and resolving conflicts among countries in fisheries outside their respective EEZ	4
7) Harmonization of vessel registration and fishery licensing	5
Component 2: Fishing Technology and Practices	
1) Promotion and awareness building on responsible fishing	1
2) Improving fish quality through on-board fish handling technologies and good practices for small-scale fisheries	2
3) Developing and enhancing the use of automated and mechanized fishing gears and energy saving technologies	3
Component 3: Post-harvest Technology and Trade-related Issues	
1) Improving post-harvest technologies and safety/quality of products for export	1
2) Addressing emerging requirements for traceability/ certification of fishery products for export*	1
3) Preventing trade of IUU fishing products	2
4) Developing new technologies for fishery post-harvest, including value-added products and reduction of wastes	3
5) Enhancing market access of products from small-scale fishers	4
Component 4: Sustainable Aquaculture	
1) Promoting best management practices in aquaculture	1
2) Fish Health Management: transboundary-disease control**	1
3) Development of feeds to reduce dependence on fish meal and fish-based products	2
4) Minimizing impacts of aquaculture on the environment/ biodiversity	3
5) Advancing aquaculture technologies	4
6) Implementing regional guidelines for good aquaculture practices	5
7) Undertaking R&D on aquaculture that are required for different objectives, e.g. for economic development, food security, livelihood improvement, resources enhancement, etc.	6
8) Giving more emphasis on the roles of aquaculture for food security and poverty alleviation, especially using indigenous species, as well as technology verification and extension activities	7
Component 5: Fisheries Information and Statistics	
1) Improving the harmonization and collect/compilation of fishery statistics and information	1
2) Enhancing the analysis, interpretation and analysis of available data and information to provide information status and trends of fisheries and aquaculture, and support science-based policy planning and management of fisheries	1
3) Improving database of fishery information and statistics to facilitate sharing/dissemination of data an information	1
Component 6: Human Resources Development	
1) Assessing human resources requirements of the Member Countries, and providing human resources development program, particularly in the areas where shortage could be envisaged in the future	1

Component 7: Inland Fisheries	
1) Habitat conservation/rehabilitation and resource enhancement for inland fisheries, including inundated forest and wetland	1
2) Co-management, rights-based fisheries, strengthening institutions, alternative livelihood	2
3) Ecosystem approach to inland fisheries	3
4) Enhancing awareness on the importance of inland fisheries, including contribution to food security	4
5) Measures needed to mitigate effects of climate change and to build adaptive capacity	5
6) Indicators for sustainable inland fisheries	6
7) Improving methodologies for collection of data and information on inland fisheries	6
8) Management of fishing capacity and combating IUU fishing	7
9) Enhancing interconnectivity of habitat and mitigating impacts from water infrastructure	8

Remarks

- * The high priority level was recommended at the 46th CM
- ** This new issue was raised as high priority at the 46th CM

ORGANIZATION CHART OF THE MARINE FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (MFRDMD)



**PLAN OF OPERATION AND PROGRAM OF WORK:
INLAND FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
(IFRDMD)
(REVISED 2015)**

II. PLAN OF OPERATION

1. The Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department has the following functions:
 - a) To act as a center for providing guidelines for the proper development and management of inland fishery resources of Member Countries. The inland water systems consist of fresh water, saline water and mixture of them. Those are distributed throughout the land, such as rivers, lakes, floodplains, reservoirs, wetlands, estuaries, and inland saline systems. Their properties and usage are dominated by the permanent, seasonal, or intermittent occurrence of flooded conditions;
 - b) To establish partnership with other organizations, such as Mekong River Commission, to mobilize research results and extend to other Member Countries;
 - c) To develop guidelines of basic data collection for routine monitoring activities of different types of habitat;
 - d) To provide the tools for assessment and management that can be applied in the region;
 - e) To monitor the state and its exploitation of inland fishery resources;
 - f) To provide scientific basis for proper development and management of the inland fishery resources of Member Countries;
 - g) To serve as a regional forum for cooperation and consultation on research, conservation and management of inland fishery resources among Member Countries;
 - h) To coordinate and implement programs to improve the capability of Member Countries in the development, management and conservation of the inland fishery resources; and
 - i) To develop master plan that covers all programs of activities that will be undertaken for sustainable inland fisheries.
2. The Government of Indonesia provides the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department, in accordance with the provisions of the Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as appeared in **Appendix I**.
3. The Government of Japan provides the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, as appeared in **Appendix II**.
4. In accordance with Article 13 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department seeks financial and technical assistance from potential donor governments and agencies, to enable it to fulfill its functions and the objectives of the Center.

III. PROGRAM OF WORK

A. Program of the IFRDMD

1. *Development of the baseline information on policies and regulations related to inland fisheries in AMSs.*

Strategy-1.1: Gather and compile information related to inland fisheries policies and regulations from the AMSs

Strategy-1.2: Provide accessibility of the information through collaboration with the AMSs

2. *Urging AMSs to be aware of status of the inland fisheries resources in the region.*

Strategy-2.1: Assess applicability of existing scientific data and information, and effectiveness of data collection tools

Strategy-2.2: Develop inland fisheries scientific data collection mechanism and guidelines

Strategy-2.3: Engage AMSs and relevant agencies in collection of scientific data and generation of useful information for policy formulation

Strategy-2.4: Increase visibility of IFRDMD as information hub for inland fishery research and development

3. *Formulation of policy recommendations and guidelines on inland fisheries management, in close collaboration with AMSs.*

Strategy-3.1: Formulate and disseminate policies and guidelines on inland fisheries management in AMSs

Strategy-3.2: Support adoptability of policies and guidelines on inland fisheries management by the AMSs

B. Strategy, List of Activities and Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues¹

Program/ Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Program 1: Development of the baseline information on policies and regulations related to inland fisheries in AMSs.		
Strategy-1.1: Gather and compile information related to inland fisheries policies and regulations from the AMSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection. • Review information. • Database construction. • Workshop. 	Component 6. 1
Strategy-1.2: Provide accessibility of the information through collaboration with the AMSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection. • Review information. • Database construction. • Workshop. 	Component 6. 1
Program 2: Urging AMSs to be aware of status of the inland fisheries resources in the region.		
Strategy-2.1: Assess applicability of existing scientific data and information, and effectiveness of data collection tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation in Lab. • Field survey. • Data collection. • Review information. • Database construction. • Workshop. 	Component 7. 4 Component 7. 7

¹ Regional Prioritized Issues that were recommended and endorsed by all SEAFDEC Member Countries at 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council Director, 1-4 April 2014 (See Appendix III for reference)

Program/ Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Strategy-2.2: Develop inland fisheries scientific data collection mechanism and guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation in Lab. • Field survey. • Data collection. • Review information. • Database construction. • Workshop. 	Component 7. 7
Strategy-2.3: Engage AMSs and relevant agencies in collection of scientific data and generation of useful information for policy formulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation in Lab. • Field survey. • Data collection. • Review information. • Database construction. • Workshop. • Capacity building / training. 	Component 7. 5 Component 7. 6 Component 7. 9
Strategy-2.4: Increase visibility of IFRDMD as information hub for inland fishery research and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection. • Review information. • Database construction. • Workshop. • Capacity building / training. 	Component 7. 4
Program 3: Formulation of policy recommendations and guidelines on inland fisheries management, in close collaboration with AMSs.		
Strategy-3.1: Formulate and disseminate policies and guidelines on inland fisheries management in AMSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation in Lab. • Field survey. • Data collection. • Review information. • Workshop. • Capacity building / training. • Dissemination. 	Component 7. 1 Component 7. 2 Component 7. 3 Component 7. 8
Strategy-3.2: Support adoptability of policies and guidelines on inland fisheries management by the AMSs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation in Lab. • Field survey. • Data collection. • Review information. • Workshop. • Capacity building / training. • Dissemination. 	Component 7. 1 Component 7. 2 Component 7. 3 Component 7. 8

IV. ORGANIZATION OF INLAND FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

The Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department consists of a Chief, a Deputy Chief and Department staff.

The Chief is responsible for the administration and operation of the Department. Deputy Chief supports the Chief. In case of Chief's vacancy, absence or inability to act, the Deputy Chief shall act as the Chief. Under the Chief, there are the following Divisions and Sections:

1. Administration and Finance Section

This section is responsible for providing administrative support to the Department including general services and maintenance of the Department buildings and research facilities. It will also be responsible for all the financial administration of the Department. The Administrative and Finance Division shall comprise the General Affairs Section and the Finance Section.



2. Research and Development Section

These sections are responsible for the implementation of research and development activities on inland fishery resources. The activities include inland fishery biological studies, fishery limnology studies; fish stock assessment and resources exploration as well as fishing gear selectivity studies. Shared stocks of fish resources and conservation of endangered species; research on fisheries policy and management are also conducted by the department. The Research Sections comprises the Biology and Resource Assessment; Fishery, Limnology and Resource Enhancement and Fisheries Policy and Management.

3. Technical Services Section

This section is responsible for library and dissemination, data center and laboratories operation including research programs conducted in the laboratory. The Laboratories comprises Chemical Laboratory, Hydrology Laboratory and Fish Biology Laboratory. Moreover, this section will be responsible for the compilation, collation and dissemination of information and provide management advice on the exploitation, management and conservation of the inland fishery resources of Member Countries.

Appendix I

Contribution of the Host Government

1. The Government of Indonesia provides the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department, in accordance with the provisions of the Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, with the following:
 - (vi) An area of land located in Palembang as the site of the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department;
 - (vii) Buildings with floor space to accommodate the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department and other facilities (office furniture and equipment, including vehicles);
 - (viii) Services of the following professional staff and general staff:
 - (a) A Department Chief, and
 - (b) Professional and service staff
 - (ix) An amount of money as an annual contribution towards the operational expenses of the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department.

Appendix II

Contribution of the Government of Japan

2. The Government of Japan provides the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department, in accordance with the provision of the Article 11 of the Agreement Establishing the Center, with the following:
 - (i) An amount of money in U.S. dollars for the cost of travel (including invitation cost) and the meeting to hold workshops that are for exchanging information of catadromous eels and for reviewing the activities and methodologies for promotion of inland fisheries.
 - (ii) An amount of money in U.S. dollars for the cost of studies about catadromous eels and management of inland fisheries. These include both routine and special surveys.
 - (iii) An amount of money in U.S. dollars as an annual contribution towards the operational expenses of Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department.

Regional Prioritized Areas and Issues Adopted at the 46th Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC

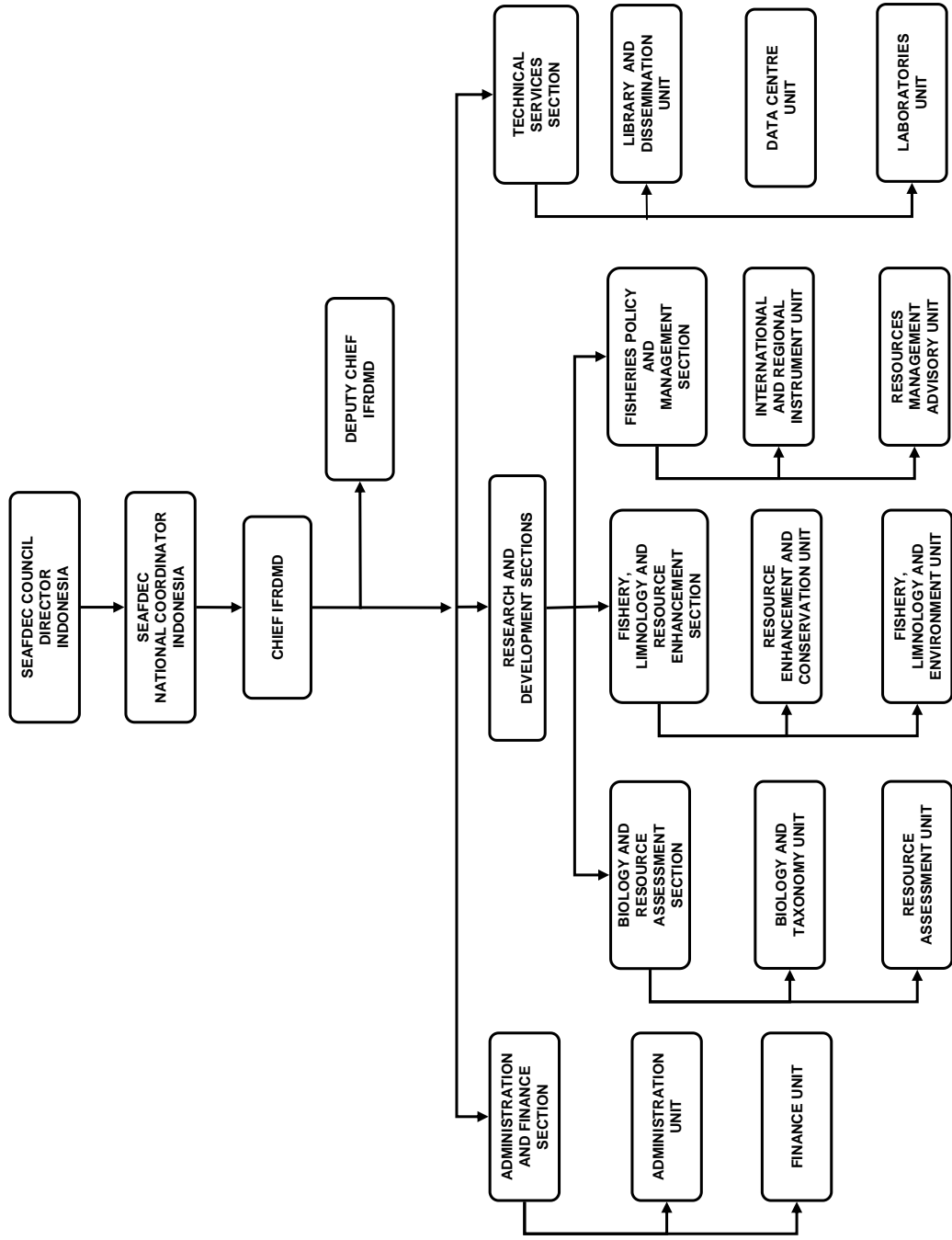
Components/Issues	Rank of Priority
Component 1: Fisheries Management	
1) Conservation and management of fishery resources, taking into consideration tropical specificity of fisheries and applying precautionary approach	1
2) Combating IUU fishing, including encouraging cooperation in the implementation of MCS among countries*	1
3) Enhancing good management practices, e.g. responsible fisheries, EAF; and development of guidelines for fisheries management	2
4) Management of fishing capacity, including shifting from open-access to limited-access	3
5) Promoting community – based fisheries management, co- management and empowering of fishers in fisheries management	4
6) Providing recommendations for management of shared stocks, and resolving conflicts among countries in fisheries outside their respective EEZ	4
7) Harmonization of vessel registration and fishery licensing	5
Component 2: Fishing Technology and Practices	
1) Promotion and awareness building on responsible fishing	1
2) Improving fish quality through on-board fish handling technologies and good practices for small-scale fisheries	2
3) Developing and enhancing the use of automated and mechanized fishing gears and energy saving technologies	3
Component 3: Post-harvest Technology and Trade-related Issues	
1) Improving post-harvest technologies and safety/quality of products for export	1
2) Addressing emerging requirements for traceability/ certification of fishery products for export*	1
3) Preventing trade of IUU fishing products	2
4) Developing new technologies for fishery post-harvest, including value-added products and reduction of wastes	3
5) Enhancing market access of products from small-scale fishers	4
Component 4: Sustainable Aquaculture	
1) Promoting best management practices in aquaculture	1
2) Fish Health Management: transboundary-disease control**	1
3) Development of feeds to reduce dependence on fish meal and fish-based products	2
4) Minimizing impacts of aquaculture on the environment/ biodiversity	3
5) Advancing aquaculture technologies	4
6) Implementing regional guidelines for good aquaculture practices	5
7) Undertaking R&D on aquaculture that are required for different objectives, e.g. for economic development, food security, livelihood improvement, resources enhancement, etc.	6
8) Giving more emphasis on the roles of aquaculture for food security and poverty alleviation, especially using indigenous species, as well as technology verification and extension activities	7
Component 5: Fisheries Information and Statistics	
1) Improving the harmonization and collect/compilation of fishery statistics and information	1
2) Enhancing the analysis, interpretation and analysis of available data and information to provide information status and trends of fisheries and aquaculture, and support science-based policy planning and management of fisheries	1
3) Improving database of fishery information and statistics to facilitate sharing/dissemination of data an information	1
Component 6: Human Resources Development	
1) Assessing human resources requirements of the Member Countries, and providing human resources development program, particularly in the areas where shortage could be envisaged in the future	1

Component 7: Inland Fisheries	
1) Habitat conservation/rehabilitation and resource enhancement for inland fisheries, including inundated forest and wetland	1
2) Co-management, rights-based fisheries, strengthening institutions, alternative livelihood	2
3) Ecosystem approach to inland fisheries	3
4) Enhancing awareness on the importance of inland fisheries, including contribution to food security	4
5) Measures needed to mitigate effects of climate change and to build adaptive capacity	5
6) Indicators for sustainable inland fisheries	6
7) Improving methodologies for collection of data and information on inland fisheries	6
8) Management of fishing capacity and combating IUU fishing	7
9) Enhancing interconnectivity of habitat and mitigating impacts from water infrastructure	8

Remarks

- * The high priority level was recommended at the 46th CM
- ** This new issue was raised as high priority at the 46th CM

ORGANIZATION CHART OF INLAND FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (IFRDMD)



**PLAN OF OPERATION AND PROGRAM OF WORK
FOR SECRETARIAT
(REVISED 2015)**

I. PLAN OF OPERATION

1. The operation of the SEAFDEC Secretariat has been undertaken taking into account the directives given by the SEAFDEC Council, and the provisions as stipulated in the Agreement Establishing SEAFDEC, as well as the Administrative and Financial Regulations. During the past decades, the works of the Secretariat have been strengthened on regional policy development along the line with the Resolution on SEAFDEC Strategic Plan (1998), the formalization of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership or ASSP (2007), the SEAFDEC Program Framework (2009), and the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region toward 2020.
2. The SEAFDEC Secretariat has the following functions:
 - (i) To serve as the focal point for channeling and implementing the decisions and resolutions of the SEAFDEC Council;
 - (ii) To provide administrative services and facilitate the implementation of the overall activities of SEAFDEC, including organizing the agreed Annual Meetings, and preparing budget requirements and audited consolidated financial reports of the Center;
 - (iii) To facilitate overall planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of SEAFDEC programs and projects, based on the SEAFDEC Program Framework, and the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020;
 - (iv) To involve in the implementation of programs and projects, particularly those related to regional fisheries policy, fisheries statistics and information, and other multi-disciplinary programs;
 - (v) To support ASEAN in the development of the common/coordinated positions among countries on important fisheries-related issues, enhancing coordination of projects under the FCG/ASSP mechanism; and seek policy support from the higher authorities of ASEAN on priority fisheries issues;
 - (vi) To strengthen close cooperation between SEAFDEC and the Member Countries, other international/regional organizations and donor agencies in the implementation of programs and projects, as well as to explore financial support to the activities of SEAFDEC; and
 - (vii) To enhance the visibility of SEAFDEC through the appropriate tools and materials.

II. THE PROGRAM OF WORK

3. Programs under the Secretariat were developed taking into consideration for Regional Prioritized Areas and Issues adopted at the 46th Meeting of the Council in 2014 and the emerging issues including fisheries and trade that may impact to the development for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in the ASEAN region. In addition, programs will support the implementation of the 2011 Resolutions and Plans of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020.

A. Programs of the Secretariat

1. *Supporting and Assisting AMSs and SEAFDEC Departments in Developing the ASEAN/Regional Policies and Guidelines on Fisheries and Aquaculture*

- Strategy-1.1: Enhance participation of the Departments and AMSs in policy dialogue and consultation forum for formulation of regional policies and guidelines on fishery and aquaculture
 - Strategy-1.2: Encourage rigor engagement of AMSs to support the endorsement of the regional policies and guidelines
 - Strategy-1.3: Create buy-in of high authority of ASEAN for the adoption of the regional fishery and aquaculture policies
2. *Development the ASEAN standards, guidelines to enhance intra-regional/international trade and ASEAN Common Positions to address the regional concerned on international fisheries-related issues*
- Strategy-2.1: Benchmark the new standards with prominent international organizations/bodies
 - Strategy-2.2: Engage the Departments, AMSs and relevant agencies to formulate guidelines and/or common positions for the ASEAN
 - Strategy-2.3: Raise awareness and support adoption of ASEAN standards, guidelines, and common positions by AMSs and relevant stakeholders
3. *Development mechanism/system to monitor the implementation of the adoption of ASEAN regional policies and guidelines*
- Strategy-3.1: Establish regional platform and mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the regional policies and guidelines
4. *Strengthening the collaboration and partnership with prominent regional, international organizations and donor agencies*
- Strategy-4.1: Map regional development strategies of SEAFDEC with that of international organizations and donor agencies
 - Strategy-4.2: Explore important points of entry to promote regional, international collaborations and partnerships
 - Strategy-4.3: Create platform for regular consultations and dialogues with potential international organizations and agencies
5. *Dissemination of fishery and aquaculture data and information for policy formulation*
- Strategy-5.1: Develop tools and mechanism to collect data and generate information that are highly relevant for policy formulation
 - Strategy-5.2: Maintain reliability and usability of data and information
 - Strategy-5.3: Develop platform and tools to transform data into well-packaged information to support regional and national policy formulation
6. *Ensuring the contribution of resources and strongly support to undertake action on emerging issues*
- Strategy-6.1: AMSs and SEAFDEC jointly implement fisheries management surveillance framework and develop effective reporting mechanism for emerging issues
 - Strategy-6.2: Engage key policy makers in AMSs in preparing long-term regional plan and resource mobilization plan for emerging issues

B. Strategy, List of Activity and Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues¹

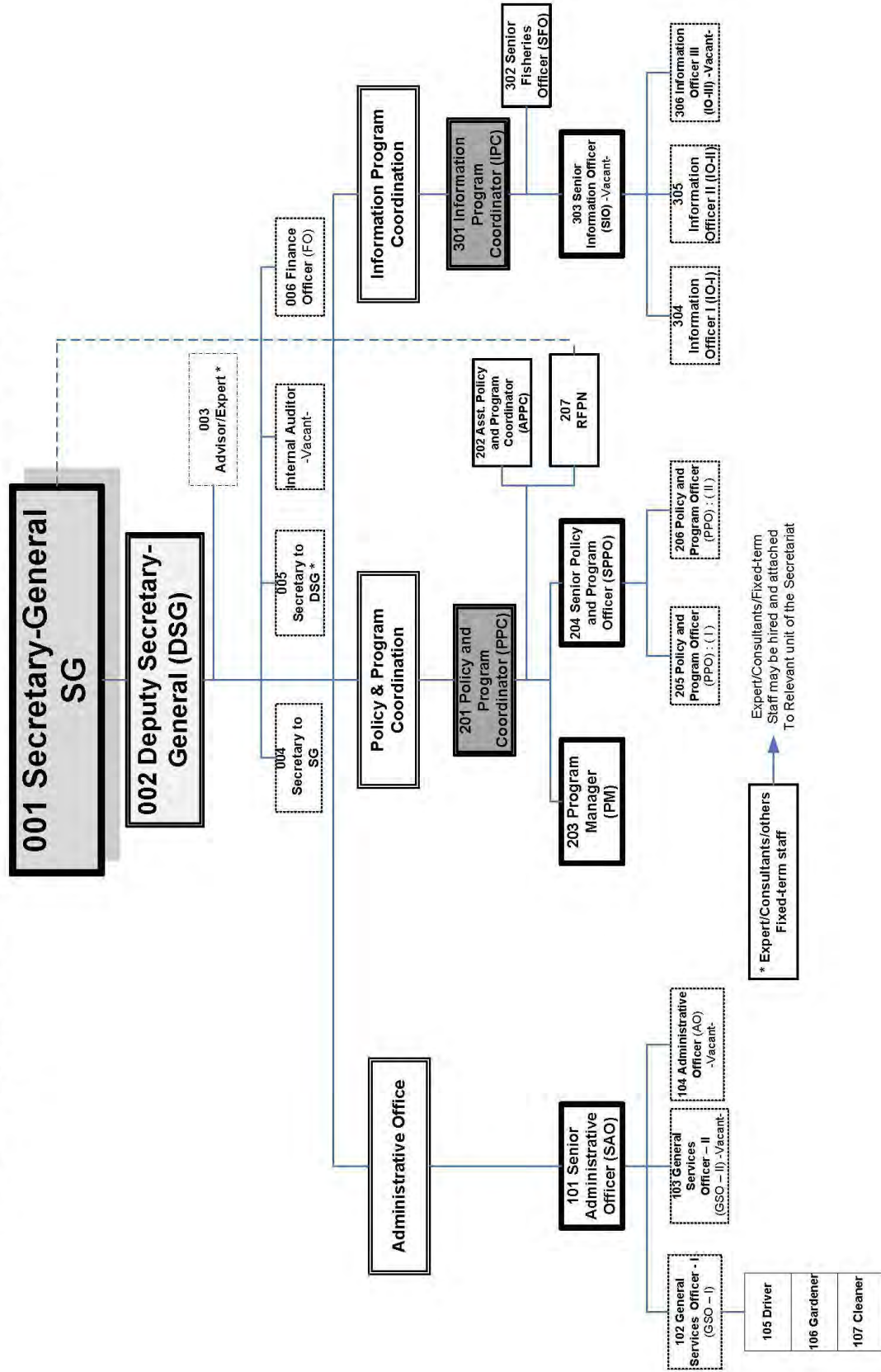
Program/Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
Program 1: Supporting and Assisting AMSs and Departments in Development the ASEAN/Regional Policies and Guidelines on Fisheries and Aquaculture:		
Strategy-1.1: Enhance participation of the Departments and AMSs in policy dialogue and consultation forum for formulation of regional policies and guidelines on fishery and aquaculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for participation of SEAFDEC Departments and AMSs in policy dialogues and consultation fora organized by SEAFDEC and other regional and international organization; Share information on the relevant events to the Departments and AMSs. 	To all regional prioritized areas that concerns on ASEAN/ Regional Policies development. This program also aims to support SEAFDEC Department(s) on capacity building and for in-depth study/analysis of the fisheries and aquaculture-related issues
Strategy-1.2: Encourage rigor engagement of AMSs to support the endorsement of the regional policies and guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide clear objectives and reasons on the required regional policies and guidelines to AMSs in advance; Consultation visit to provide a brief call to AMSs (if urgent requirement) 	
Strategy-1.3: Create buy-in of high authority of ASEAN for the adoption of the regional fishery and aquaculture policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop the Policy Concept Note for consideration of high authority of ASEAN; Strengthen cooperation with ASEAN Secretariat and other relevant authorities to support the adoption. 	
Program 2: Development of the ASEAN standards, guidelines to enhance intra-regional/international trade and ASEAN Common Positions to address regional concerns on international fisheries-related issues		
Strategy-2.1: Benchmark the new standards with prominent international organizations / bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address the needs for development of the ASEAN standards/guidelines at the SEAFDEC Council Meeting for consideration and support; Organize the Expert Consultation, Regional Technical Consultation meetings for drafting of the standards/guidelines. 	To all regional prioritized areas that concerns to development of the ASEAN/ Regional Policies and the ASEAN Common or Coordinated Positions to reflect the regional concerns and interest and to address at the International fora.
Strategy-2.2: Engage the Departments, AMSs and relevant agencies to formulate guidelines and/or common positions for the ASEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support participation of SEAFDEC Department(s), AMSs and relevant agencies to involve in drafting of the standards/guidelines. 	
Strategy-2.3: Raise awareness and support adoption of ASEAN standards, guidelines, and common positions by AMSs and relevant stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct the awareness building on the needs for ASEAN standards/ guidelines to the relevant stakeholders for their support. 	
Program 3: Development mechanism/system to monitor the implementation of the adoption of ASEAN regional policies and guidelines		
Strategy-3.1: Establish regional platform and mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the regional policies and guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the existing platform of PCM to monitor and evaluate the program that support the implementation of regional policies and guidelines; Develop the monitoring and 	To all regional prioritized areas that concerns to implementation of the adoption of ASEAN

¹ Regional Prioritized Issues that were recommended and endorsed by all SEAFDEC Member Countries at 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, 1-4 April 2014 (See Appendix 1 for reference)

Program/Strategy	List of Activity	Linkage to Relevant Prioritized Issues
	evaluation worksheet/ online database worksheet for AMSs feedback and report effectiveness, outcomes and lessons from national implementation; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize meeting(s) in collaboration with the relevant Departments for Monitoring and Evaluation of the effectiveness regional policies and guidelines. 	regional policies and guidelines. In addition the program will support the Plan of Operation and Program of Work of each Department that needed to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness regional policies and guidelines.
Program 4: Strengthening the collaboration and partnership with prominent regional, international organizations and donor agencies		
Strategy-4.1: Map regional development strategies of SEAFDEC with that of international organizations and donor agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and disseminate the SEAFDEC development strategies for aquaculture and fisheries in the region; 	To all regional prioritized areas that concerns to collaboration and partnership with other donors; and the Program will support SEAFDEC Departments in implementation of the work plan.
Strategy-4.2: Explore important points of entry to promote regional, international collaborations and partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in the regional, international fora and partners annual meetings to explore the important points that may be relevant to the region; 	
Strategy-4.3: Create platform for regular consultations and dialogues with potential international organizations and agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct the Technical Consultation (TC) meeting(s) regularly to discuss and share information on the current situation, lessons learnt and possible collaboration with organizations and donors. 	
Program 5: Dissemination of fishery and aquaculture data and information for policy formulation		
Strategy-5.1: Develop tools and mechanism to collect data and generate information that are highly relevant for policy formulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and encourage SEAFDEC Departments to generate information and data for policy formulation through the regional workshop on relevant subjects /issues; • Revise/ and develop the tools and mechanism to compile data, scientific findings and other updated information for policy formulation; 	Component 5; Component 6; Component 7.6 and 7.7
Strategy-5.2: Maintain reliability and usability of data and information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the SEAFDEC database systems to pool and link with all data system from the Departments; 	
Strategy-5.3: Develop platform and tools to transform data into well-packaged information to support regional and national policy formulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support SEAFDEC programs in establishing scientific working group that AMSs are involved for long-term implementation; • Consult with potential donors to support the platform for analysis and development of the integral database system for quick assessment. 	

Program 6: Ensuring the contribution of resources and strongly support to undertake action on emerging issues		
<p>Strategy-6.1 AMS and SEAFDEC jointly implement fisheries management surveillance framework and develop effective reporting mechanism for emerging issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with all SEAFDEC Member Countries on possibility to conduct fisheries management surveillance with the aims to analyze the gaps, and improve SEAFDEC program; • Conduct the fisheries management surveillance based on agreed framework with AMSs; • Develop an effective reporting mechanism for emerging issue 	<p>The program supports the AMSs in case of emerging issues required for the urgent solutions. In addition, the long-term regional plan resource mobilization plan for emerging issues could be useful and supports any urgent matter arise in the ASEAN Region.</p>
<p>Strategy-6.2 Engage key policy makers in AMSs in preparing long-term regional plan and resource mobilization plan for emerging issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on needs for the long-term regional plan and resources mobilization plan; • Consultation with SEAFDEC Member Countries based on the study to finalize the needs: • Address the issues at the council meeting for their consideration, comments, and endorsement (if appropriate). 	

Re-Organization Chart of the SEAFDEC Secretariat



Regional Prioritized Areas and Issues Adopted by the 46th Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC

Components/Issues	Rank of Priority
Component 1: Fisheries Management	
1) Conservation and management of fishery resources, taking into consideration tropical specificity of fisheries and applying precautionary approach	1
2) Combating IUU fishing, including encouraging cooperation in the implementation of MCS among countries*	1
3) Enhancing good management practices, e.g. responsible fisheries, EAF; and development of guidelines for fisheries management	2
4) Management of fishing capacity, including shifting from open-access to limited-access	3
5) Promoting community – based fisheries management, co- management and empowering of fishers in fisheries management	4
6) Providing recommendations for management of shared stocks, and resolving conflicts among countries in fisheries outside their respective EEZ	4
7) Harmonization of vessel registration and fishery licensing	5
Component 2: Fishing Technology and Practices	
1) Promotion and awareness building on responsible fishing	1
2) Improving fish quality through on-board fish handling technologies and good practices for small-scale fisheries	2
3) Developing and enhancing the use of automated and mechanized fishing gears and energy saving technologies	3
Component 3: Post-harvest Technology and Trade-related Issues	
1) Improving post-harvest technologies and safety/quality of products for export	1
2) Addressing emerging requirements for traceability/certification of fishery products for export*	1
3) Preventing trade of IUU fishing products	2
4) Developing new technologies for fishery post-harvest, including value-added products and reduction of wastes	3
5) Enhancing market access of products from small-scale fishers	4
Component 4: Sustainable Aquaculture	
1) Promoting best management practices in aquaculture	1
2) Fish Health Management: transboundary-disease control**	1
3) Development of feeds to reduce dependence on fish meal and fish-based products	2
4) Minimizing impacts of aquaculture on the environment/ biodiversity	3
5) Advancing aquaculture technologies	4
6) Implementing regional guidelines for good aquaculture practices	5
7) Undertaking R&D on aquaculture that are required for different objectives, e.g. for economic development, food security, livelihood improvement, resources enhancement, etc.	6
8) Giving more emphasis on the roles of aquaculture for food security and poverty alleviation, especially using indigenous species, as well as technology verification and extension activities	7
Component 5: Fisheries Information and Statistics	
1) Improving the harmonization and collect/compilation of fishery statistics and information	1
2) Enhancing the analysis, interpretation and analysis of available data and information to provide information status and trends of fisheries and aquaculture, and support science-based policy planning and management of fisheries	1
3) Improving database of fishery information and statistics to facilitate sharing/dissemination of data and information	1
Component 6: Human Resources Development	
1) Assessing human resources requirements of the Member Countries, and providing human resources development program, particularly in the areas where shortage could be envisaged in the future	1

Component 7: Inland Fisheries	
1) Habitat conservation/rehabilitation and resource enhancement for inland fisheries, including inundated forest and wetland	1
2) Co-management, rights-based fisheries, strengthening institutions, alternative livelihood	2
3) Ecosystem approach to inland fisheries	3
4) Enhancing awareness on the importance of inland fisheries, including contribution to food security	4
5) Measures needed to mitigate effects of climate change and to build adaptive capacity	5
6) Indicators for sustainable inland fisheries	6
7) Improving methodologies for collection of data and information on inland fisheries	6
8) Management of fishing capacity and combating IUU fishing	7
9) Enhancing interconnectivity of habitat and mitigating impacts from water infrastructure	8

Remarks

* The high priority level was recommended at the 46th CM

** This new issue was raised as high priority at the 46th CM

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SEAFDEC FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

I. BACKGROUND

During the 39th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2007, the Member Countries agreed to provide the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) to sustain the operation of SEAFDEC; and at the 40th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, the Council further agreed that the level of MRC should be reviewed every 5 years and appropriately adjusted in order to ensure the sustainable operation of SEAFDEC. Along this line, the Council at its 44th Meeting in 2012 agreed in principle the proposed adjustment of MRC based on the formula for the calculation of the MRC as agreed by the SEAFDEC Council since 2007, and suggested the possibility that the adjusted new MRC could be put into effect starting in 2013. The Council during its 45th Meeting in 2013 further requested SEAFDEC Secretariat to include the MRC and its formula in the Financial Regulations of SEAFDEC.

At the Special Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council (3-4 October 2013), the Council took note of the proposed amendment of the SEAFDEC Financial Regulations in order to reflect the MRC, which has been put into practice in SEAFDEC financial system since 2007. The Council Directors for Singapore and Indonesia requested that the approved method of calculation be included in the financial regulation as annexure. After the discussion, the Council recommended that the Financial Regulation 4.1 should be amended to *wit*:

The annual contribution from Member Countries in the form of Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) shall be made in United States Dollars, not later than 31 March of the current fiscal year. The method to calculate the MRC from Member Countries should be unanimously agreed upon by the Council.

The amendment to the financial regulation was proposed and discussed at the 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in April 2014, where the Council recommended that in addition to the amendment to the Financial Regulation 4.1, information should also be provided on **the background of the MRC** together with the **formula used in computing the MRC** as agreed in 2007 and revised in 2012. In addition, the **procedure for obtaining the approval of the Council for future adjustment of the MRC** should also be stated. In addition, it was recommended that the table on calculation of the MRC should not be included as part of the Financial Regulation

II. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATION

In response to the aforementioned recommendations, it is proposed that the Financial Regulation 4.1, which states that *“The annual contributions from Member Countries, except host countries in which the Departments of the Center are located, and Japan shall be made in United States dollars, not later than 31 March of the current fiscal year.”*, would be amended as follows:

Revised 4.1¹ The annual contributions from Member Countries in the form of Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) shall be made in United States Dollars, not later than 31 March of the current fiscal year. The method to calculate the MRC from Member Countries should be unanimously agreed upon by the Council.

Remarks:

¹ The Financial Regulation 4.1 was amended by the decision of the SEAFDEC Council in [YEAR¹] to reflect the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC), which was put into practice since 2007. The explanatory notes and formula used in computing the MRC appears as **Appendix 1**. Adjustment of the MRC could be proposed for consideration by the SEAFDEC Council as and when necessary.

Appendix 2 and **Appendix 3** are the tables for calculation of the MRC for SEAFDEC Member Countries as agreed during the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in 2007, and the 44th Meeting of the SEAFDEC

¹ The year that the SEAFDEC Council approve the amendment of the Financial Regulation

Council in 2012, respectively for information. Nevertheless, this will not be included as part of the Financial Regulation.

III. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to consider the proposed amendment to the Financial Regulations, or provide further directives on this matter.

EXPLANATORY NOTES ON THE COMPUTATION OF MRC

The Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) was first introduced in 2006 for SEAFDEC Member Countries to provide annual contributions at the least minimum level, to SEAFDEC for its operations. The fundamental principle used in calculating the MRC is the Gross Domestic Products (GDP) of respective countries. However, additional criteria are also considered in the calculation of the MRC, *i.e.* whether a country is a donor country or recipient countries; whether the country is a city or urban state or landlocked; host and non-host countries; and the total fishery production of the country from all its fishery sectors was also considered. As agreed upon by the SEAFDEC Council in 2007 and put into practice starting 2007, the total amount of MRC from the Member Countries should be 400,000 US\$ annually to enable SEAFDEC to operate effectively. The SEAFDEC Council further agreed that the level of MRC should be revised every five years; and thus, the SEAFDEC Council in 2012 agreed in principle that henceforth, the total amount of MRC should be increased to 500,000 US\$ annually. The revised MRC was put into practice starting 2014. The calculation of the revised MRC was based on the formula for the calculation of the MRC as agreed by the SEAFDEC Council in 2007, with special adjustment factors that result in varying amounts of the MRC from the Member Countries.

The computation of the percent membership fee and adjustment factors of the Member Countries based on the aforementioned criteria, and used for the calculation of the MRC (in **Table 1**), could be explained as follows:

1. Computation of Percent Membership Fee of Member Countries (A)

The Percent Membership Fee (A) is computed based on the principle that countries with high GDPs should provide more contribution to SEAFDEC than those countries with low GDP. The latest available information on GDPs should be used for the calculation.

$$A \text{ (in \%)} \text{ of each country} = (\text{GDP of corresponding country} / \text{total GDP of all countries}) \times 100$$

2. Computations of the Adjustment Factors

2.1 Computation of Adjustment Factor (B): Donor and Recipient Countries

Computing the Adjustment Factor (B) takes into consideration the fact that donor Member Countries usually receive less benefit than recipient countries. Thus, 100% is deducted from individual donor countries' membership fees (A) to get their respective adjustment factor B (*a negative factor*). The remaining recipient countries shall equally share the responsibility of compensating for the adjustment factors B of donor countries (*positive factors*). Since Japan is the only Donor Country, 100% is deducted from its membership (A), the result of which is the adjustment factor B of Japan (*negative factor*). The recipient countries shall therefore equally share responsibility of compensating for the negative adjustment factor B of Japan, resulting in the adjustment factors B for the recipient countries (*positive factors*).

$$B \text{ (in \%)} \text{ of Japan} = \text{Percent Membership Fee of Japan} - 100 \text{ (negative factor)}$$

$$B \text{ (in \%)} \text{ of each recipient country} = B \text{ of Japan} / \text{number of recipient countries (positive factor)}$$

2.2 Computation of Adjustment Factor (C): City or Urban State or Landlocked Countries

The Adjustment Factor (C) considers the fact that small states and landlocked countries could have certain disadvantages in availing of the services delivered through SEAFDEC programs, therefore, contributions from countries classified as city or urban states (*e.g.* Brunei Darussalam and Singapore), and landlocked countries (*e.g.* Lao PDR), should be decreased by 1/3¹ of their respective adjustment factors (B), the result of which are the respective adjustment factors (C) of these countries (*negative factors*). Meanwhile, since

¹ Decrease by 1/3 because there are three majors adjustment factors (in column C, D and E)

Cambodia has the Great Lake, it could avail of certain benefits from SEAFDEC services¹, thus, its membership fee should be increased by 10% of its adjustment factor (**B**), giving the adjustment factor **C** of Cambodia (*positive factor*). In this regard, the remaining countries (excluding Japan being a Donor Country) shall share the responsibility to compensate for the adjustment factors of Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and Lao PDR (*negative factors*), and Cambodia (*positive factor*).

C (in %) of Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and Lao PDR = B of corresponding country / 3 (negative factor)

C (in %) of Cambodia = B of Cambodia / number of recipient countries (positive factor)

C (in %) of each remaining country (excluding Japan) = Total C of Brunei Darussalam, Singapore, Lao PDR and Cambodia / number of remaining countries

C (in %) of Japan = 0

2.3 Computation of Adjustment Factor (**D**): Host or Non-host Countries

For Adjustment Factor (**D**), contributions of countries hosting SEAFDEC Departments in terms of administrative operating costs to concerned Departments are taken into account. Therefore, host countries should reduce their respective contributions by 1/3 of their respective adjustment factor (**B**) resulting in adjustment factors **D** of host countries (*negative factors*). This implies that the remaining non-host countries (excluding Japan) shall share the responsibility of providing additional contributions to compensate for the adjustment factors of host countries (*positive factors*). This Adjustment Factor is not applicable for Japan being a Donor Country.

D (in %) of each host country = B of corresponding country / 3 (negative factor)

D (in %) of each non-host country (excluding Japan) = Total D of host countries / number of non-host countries (positive factor)

D (in %) of Japan = 0

2.4 Computation of Adjustment Factor (**E**): Fishery Production

Computation of Adjustment Factor (**E**) is based the Total Fishery Production of the countries, using the latest information available in the Fishery Statistical Bulletin of Southeast Asia. Considering that countries with high fisheries production could have gained more from the services delivered through the SEAFDEC programs than those countries with lower fisheries production, therefore, with the exception of Japan as Donor Country, countries that ranked in the upper 50% of the region's total fishery production should increase the percentage of their MRC by 1/3 of their respective adjustment factor (**B**) resulting in adjustment factors **E** (*positive factors*), while the remaining countries shall equally take the responsibility of compensating for the adjustment factors **E** of the aforementioned countries (*negative factors*). In order to determine the fishery production that rank in the upper 50% of the region's total fishery production, the respective countries' production are arranged from lowest to highest and the 50th percentile (to determine whether a certain production falls above the 50% level of the total production) is computed following the formula $(k/100) \times (n+1)$, where k is the percentile being determined, in this case k=50.

$(k/100) \times (n+1) = 50/100 \times 11$ ($n = 10$ countries, Japan is excluded) = 5.5 (position in the array). Since this means that the 50th percentile is between 5 and 6, therefore the average production corresponding to the 5th and 6th positions is determined. All productions that are higher than this average belong to the upper 50%, while those below are in the lower 50% of the total fishery production.

¹ Cambodia has the advantage for having the Great Lake, the increment of this advantage is the amount of the MRC of the country divided by the number of recipient countries (10), thus an increment of 10% of the concerned country's adjustment factor

E (in %) of countries above 50% production rank = B of corresponding country / 3 (positive factor)

E (in %) of remaining countries = Total E of countries in upper 50% production rank / number of remaining countries (negative factor)

E (in %) of Japan = 0

3. Special Adjustment Factor (F): Retaining the Contributions of Donor or GDP Non-progressing Countries

This Special Adjustment Factor (F) was applied in the calculation of the MRC in 2012, with special consideration that the MRC of Japan would decrease if it is calculated based on its recent GDP. Nevertheless, Japan agreed to retain the level of its MRC to that of 2007. Moreover, it was agreed that countries with GDPs that are not progressing, e.g. Brunei Darussalam, should be allowed to retain their respective MRCs until such time that improvements in its GDP is attained. Special Adjustment Factors are therefore required in order to retain the respective MRCs of Brunei Darussalam and Japan. Corresponding to this, Special Adjustment Factors F should also be applied to the other countries to compensate for the special adjustment factors of Brunei Darussalam and Japan, of which the other countries' special adjustment factors in the 2013 MRC are negative.

F (in%) of countries that retain MRC = [(Value of retained MRC of corresponding country / proposed total MRC – (A+B+C+D+E)] x 100

F (in %) of remaining countries = Total F of Brunei Darussalam and Japan / number of remaining countries (negative factors)

4. MRC After Adjustments (G, H and I)

The percentage of the MRC after all the adjustments (G) is computed by getting the sum of the Membership Fees (A), the four adjustment factors (B, C, D, E), and the special adjustment factor (F).

G (in %) of each country = A+B+C+D+E+F (of corresponding country)

MRC in US\$ (H) is computed by multiplying the total amount of MRC as agreed by the SEAFDEC Council with the proportion of MRC after all adjustments (G) of the respective country

H (in US\$) of each country = Total MRC (in US\$) x G (in %) of corresponding country/100

Proposed New MRC (I) is derived by rounding-off the value of H of the respective countries.

I (in US\$) of each country = Rounded-off figure H of corresponding country

Table 1. Calculation of the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) For SEAFDEC Member Countries

Country	GDP (US\$)	% of Membership Fee (A)	Total Fishery Production of All Fishing Areas (MT)	Adjustment Factors of % of MRC				Special Adjustment Factor	MRC after Adjustment		Round off Figure (I)
				Donor & Recipient Countries (B)	City or Urban State/Land-locked Countries (C)	Host/ Non-host Countries (D)	Fishery Production (E)	(F)	% (G)	US\$ (% of 500,000) (H)	
Brunei Darussalam											
Cambodia											
Indonesia											
Japan											
Lao PDR											
Malaysia											
Myanmar											
Philippines											
Singapore											
Thailand											
Viet Nam											
Total											

CALCULATION OF MINIMUM REGULAR CONTRIBUTION (MRC) FOR SEAFDEC MEMBER COUNTRIES

(As proposed during the 38th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2006, and subsequently agreed during the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in 2007)

Country	GDP ¹ (Million US\$)	% of Member- ship Fee	Total Fishery Production of All Fishing Areas ² (MT)	Adjustment Factors of % of MRC				MRC after Adjustment		Round-up Figure by Countries Grouping
				Donor & Recipient Countries	City or Urban State/Landlocked Countries	Host/Non- host Countries	Fishery Production	%	US\$ (of 400,000)	
Brunei	54,626	1	2,175	+1.5	-0.5	+0.33	-0.5	1.83	7,320	7,000
Cambodia	4,215	0	382,857	+1.5	+0.15	+0.33	-0.5	1.48	5,920	6,000
Indonesia	208,625	4	5,671,795	+1.5	+0.22	+0.33	+0.5	6.55	26,200	26,000
Japan	4,326,000	85	5,455,828	-15	-	-	-	70.00	280,000	280,000
Lao PDR	12	0	94,700	+1.5	-0.5	+0.33	-0.5	0.83	3,320	4,000 ³
Malaysia	103,737	2	1,454,244	+1.5	+0.22	-0.5	-0.5	2.72	10,880	10,000
Myanmar	9,605	0	1,606,252	+1.5	+0.22	+0.33	+0.5	2.55	10,200	10,000
Philippines	79,270	2	2,628,779	+1.5	+0.22	-0.5	+0.5	3.72	14,880	15,000
Singapore	91,355	2	7,109	+1.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	2.00	8,000	8,000
Thailand	143,303	3	3,590,452	+1.5	+0.22	-0.5	+0.5	4.72	18,880	20,000 ⁴
Viet Nam	39,021	1	2,604,388	+1.5	+0.22	+0.33	+0.5	3.55	14,200	14,000
Total	5,059,769	100	23,498,579	0	0.03	0.02	0	99.95	399,800	400,000

Source: Report of the 38th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council (18-21 April 2006, Brunei Darussalam)

¹ GDP of ASEAN Member Countries for the year 2003 base on the background information appeared in ASEAN Secretariat website (www.aseansec.org).

GDP of Japan base on fact at the ASEAN-Japan Center - - <http://www.asean.or.jp/eng/general/base/glance2004.html>

² FAO Fisheries Department Statistical Databases and Software: Total production 1950-2003 (Release date: March 2005)

³ The current Membership Fee is US\$4,000.

⁴ The current annual contribution of Thailand to the Secretariat is US\$20,000.

CALCULATION OF THE PROPOSED NEW MINIMUM REGULAR CONTRIBUTION (MRC) FOR SEAFDEC MEMBER COUNTRIES
(As proposed during the 43rd Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2011, and agreed during the 44th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2012)

Country	GDP (US\$)	% of Membership Fee (A)	Total Fishery Production of All Fishing Areas (MT)	Adjustment Factors of % of MRC				Special Adjustment Factor** (F)	MRC after Adjustment		Round off Figure by Countries Grouping (I)
				Donor & Recipient Countries (B)	City or Urban State/Land-locked Countries (C)	Host/ Non-host Countries (D)	Fishery Production (E)		% (G)	US\$ (% of 500,000) (H)	
Brunei	14,417,000,000	0.23	2,400	2.37	-0.79	+0.52	-0.79	-0.14	1.40 *	7,000	7,000
Cambodia	10,344,342,200	0.16	471,500	2.37	+0.24	+0.52	-0.79	-0.36	2.14	10,700	11,000
Indonesia	510,504,000,000	7.97	9,052,127	2.37	+0.36	+0.52	+0.79	-0.36	11.65	58,250	58,000
Japan	4,886,970,000,000	76.31	5,541,171	-23.69	-	-	-	+3.38	56.00*	280,000	280,000
Lao PDR	5,474,535,050	0.01	145,687	2.37	-0.79	+0.52	-0.79	-0.36	0.96	4,800	5,000
Malaysia	221,161,000,000	3.45	1,753,310	2.37	+0.36	-0.79	-0.79	-0.36	4.24	21,200	21,000
Myanmar	31,367,000,000	0.49	3,168,630	2.37	+0.36	+0.52	+0.79	-0.36	4.17	20,850	21,000
Philippines	167,491,000,000	2.62	4,966,890	2.37	+0.36	-0.79	+0.79	-0.36	4.99	24,950	25,000
Singapore	193,332,000,000	3.02	5,141	2.37	-0.79	-0.79	-0.79	-0.36	2.66	13,300	13,000
Thailand	272,456,000,000	4.25	3,831,208	2.37	+0.36	-0.79	+0.79	-0.36	6.62	33,100	33,000
Viet Nam	90,644,972,320	1.42	4,584,900	2.37	+0.36	+0.52	+0.79	-0.36	5.10	25,500	26,000
Total	6,404,161,849,570		33,522,964						99.93	499,650	500,000

Source: Report of the 44th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council (2-6 April 2012, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar)

Remarks:

GDP of ASEAN Member Countries for the year 2008 based on the data from <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.CD>

GDP (Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar) based on the data from <http://imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?sy=2007&ey=2009&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=&br=1&c=518%2C516&s=NGDPD&grp=0&a=&pr.x=42&pr.y=10>

* MRC of Japan and Brunei Darussalam should be retained

** Special Adjustment Factor when Japan and Brunei Darussalam retain the same amount of MRC

G=A+B+C+D+E+F

Explanatory Notes of Calculation of Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) for SEAFDEC Member Countries

Allocation of Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC)

Considering sustainability issues of SEAFDEC, it becomes necessary to revise the non-host countries' regular contribution to SEAFDEC from the current flat rate of US\$400,000 to 500,000 US\$. The proposed revised scheme would require that the Member Countries share the financial responsibility for the sustainability of SEAFDEC. The principle of allocation of MRC is calculated based on certain criteria that include mainly the GDP (Gross Domestic Product). Thus, it can be justified that countries having high GDP should provide more beneficial contribution to the organization than those with low GDP.

Criteria and Factors used in the Calculation of Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC)

The use of GDP as one of the main criteria for allocation of MRC is an appropriate indicator that has been widely applied in other regional fisheries organizations, for example the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA). However, considering the GDP rate only could not reflect the real beneficial contribution of the Member Countries to SEAFDEC, therefore, other relevant factors are also taken into consideration for the appropriate allocation of MRC. Accordingly, the other significant criteria and factors for the calculation of MRC for SEAFDEC take into account the Donor's Contribution, City State/Urban Government/Landlocked Countries, Host and Non-host Countries, and Total Fishery Production. The adjustment factors for the percentage of MRC as shown in the Table can be explained as follows:

- Donor Contribution: Based on percentage calculation from respective GDPs (**Column A**), the donor country should be responsible for 76.31% of the MRC. However, since Japan as a donor will receive less benefit than the recipient countries, the adjustment scale should consider decreasing the percentage of its membership fee by 23.69%. With this reason, it is proposed that the recipient countries shall share the responsibility of the equivalent reduced percentage, and each recipient country would increase its percentage contribution by 2.37% (**Column B**);
- City State/Urban Government/Landlocked Countries: It is understood that small states and/or landlocked countries could have certain disadvantage as far as delivery of services from the various projects of SEAFDEC is concerned. Thus, the percentage of MRC of Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR and Singapore should be decreased accordingly by 0.79% (**Column C**), which is equivalent to 1/3 of the percentage of MRC as recipient countries (1/3 of 2.37). In addition, since Cambodia has the Great Lake, it is projected that its membership fee should be increased by 0.24% or 10% of the percentage of its MRC as recipient country (10% of 2.37). Consequently, the other countries shall each share the responsibility of providing additional 0.36% as equivalent and to compensate for the remaining required percentage. (It should be noted that this factor is not applicable for Japan due to its position as donor.);
- Host/Non-host Countries: For the administrative operating costs of the Departments, most Departments receive operating cost as part of the regular contribution from the respective host countries. It can therefore be justified that the diminishing percentage of MRC could be applied, which is 0.79% for Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand (**Column D**). Consequently, the remaining countries shall share the responsibility for the remaining 0.52% as equivalent and to compensate for the remaining required percentage. (It should be noted that this factor is not applicable for Japan due to its position as donor.);
- Fishery Production: It is assumed that the country which has high total fishery production could gain more benefit from the organization than the others. Therefore, an increase of 0.79% of MRC is applied to five countries (**Column E**) with total fishery production which is ranked in the upper 50% of the region's total fishery production. (It should be noted that this is not applicable to Japan due to its position as donor.); and

- A Special Adjustment factor is required when the MRC of Japan and Brunei Darussalam are fixed. Hence, decrease of 0.14 % and 0.36% will be applied to Brunei Darussalam and other countries respectively, except Japan (Column F). The required equivalent of 3.38% will added to the percentage of the membership fee of Japan in order to maintain the present level of its MRC.

Consequently, the percentage of the MRC after adjustment is calculated by adding all the adjustment factors of the percentage of MRC (**Column G**). Converting the percentage of MRC into US Dollars on the basis of the proposed minimum operating costs for the sustainability of SEAFDEC, the corresponding proposed new MRC is shown in **Columns H and I**.

OPERATIONS OF THE M.V. SEAFDEC AND M.V. SEAFDEC 2

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center/Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD) operates two training/research vessels constructed with the financial support from Government of Japan. The vessels of SEAFDEC/TD include 1) M.V. SEAFDEC and 2) M.V. SEAFDEC 2. Over the years, they have been utilized mainly for training activities which are envisaged to deliver intensive practical experiences and expertise at sea to ensure effective technology transfer and assessment of national fisheries resources in the EEZ waters of the Member Countries of SEAFDEC and other governmental related agencies upon request.

In connection with this, SEAFDEC/TD has been providing technical assistance and facilities for research and training programs through these two vessels for national/regional activities including: (i) cruises for fishery resources surveys; and (ii) human resources capacity building program on fishing gear trials, sampling, oceanography, and navigation for both national and regional levels.

An operation plan of the training/research vessels of SEAFDEC/TD is therefore, envisaged to report their milestones, their contributions to the SEAFDEC Member Countries and the utilization plan for the upcoming year of those two vessels and to be endorsed by the Council.

II. UTILIZATION OF THE VESSELS

In case of M.V. SEAFDEC, it was recorded that her service has decreased drastically from 100~200 days/year (during 1993 to 2000) to be only 25~100 days/year since 2001. This was due to the fact that regular training course onboard M.V. SEAFDEC has terminated around the year 2001. Referring to the record of utilization of M.V. SEAFDEC over the past 10 years (from 2004 to 2014), her utilization included: (i) fisheries, environmental, and oceanographic survey in several areas such as Gulf of Thailand, Andaman Sea, Indian Ocean, East Timor Sea; (ii) regional research program under technical cooperation with BIMSTEC¹; and (iii) deployment and maintenance of Tsunami warning system in Andaman Sea and Indian Ocean under technical arrangement with Thailand National Disaster Warning Center.

For the Year 2014, M.V. SEAFDEC has served both national and regional levels for a total of 128 days. Her missions were mainly for the deployment and maintenance of Tsunami warning system in the Andaman Sea and Indian Ocean (23 days) and the research survey in the Bay of Bengal under technical cooperation with BIMSTEC (87 days). The other two cruises were carried out to serve the oceanographic survey in collaboration with the Phuket Marine Biological Center, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Thailand and to retrieve observation buoys for Tsunami warning system in the Andaman Sea in collaboration with the National Disaster Warning Center, Thailand (17 days) and a sea trial and demonstration on the fishing activities in the Upper Gulf of Thailand (1 day).

M.V. SEAFDEC 2 has been utilized to assess fishery resources by means of extensive scientific surveys of coastal and offshore fisheries resources. The vessel is also used to implement various fishery training programs with regard to promote utilization of fishery resources in offshore/deep sea fisheries as well as exploration of un-trawlable grounds in the EEZ waters of the Member Countries.

In a broader sense, the acquisitions of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 help strengthen technical cooperation and effective fisheries and environmental management in the ASEAN region through the enhancement of research and training capability.

For the Year 2014, M.V. SEAFDEC 2 has served for a total period of 58 days which was 54 days, allocated mainly for the “Joint Research Program for Tuna Research Survey in Sulu-Sulawesi Seas” upon a request from 3 Member Countries namely; Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines. The survey included

¹ Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

Oceanographic survey, Hydro-acoustic survey and Fishing trials. Besides, she had spent 3 days for a sea trial on ship running system, navigation system and alarm test and a day for a shipboard training on navigation, seamanship and engineering for participants from the Department of Fisheries, Thailand in the Gulf of Thailand.

In addition, **Table 1** shows the total number of days at sea of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 since 2004 was 1,030 days, averaged approximately at 103.0 days/year. It was also recorded that Brunei, Thailand, and Viet Nam were the countries that utilized M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for totally about 200 days.

In following-up with the countries and regional initiatives for utilizing M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2015, there are up-to-date two (2) main cruises that would be carried out, including (i) Sulu-Sulawesi Seas collaborative research in collaboration among Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines; and (ii) National research survey for Malaysia.

Table 1 Number of days at sea of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 utilized by the Member Countries of SEAFDEC during 2004 to 2014 (unit = number of days)

Year	BN	KH	ID	MY	MM	PH	TH	VN	Total days
2004	34						14		48
2005	27	13	20	42		46	26	30	204
2006	29		22	29		23	40	30	173
2007					43	40	40		123
2008	31						64		95
2009			30						30
2010	41			45					86
2011	27						24		51
2012								143	143
2013							23		23
2014			28*	3*		23*			54*
Sub-total	189	13	100	119	43	132	231	203	1,030
Utilization by the Countries	18%	1%	10%	12%	4%	13%	22%	20%	100%
								Total	1,030

Remark: *Mainly for the “Joint Research Program for Tuna Research Survey in Sulu-Sulawesi Seas” (Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines, excluding a partial number of 4 days for a sea trial and a shipboard training as carried out by SEAFDEC/TD)

III. OBJECTIVES

In general, utilization of the research and training vessels M.V. SEAFDEC and M.V. SEAFDEC 2 is mainly for:

- Assisting Member Countries and requesting country/agency in conducting research surveys
- Assisting Member Countries and requesting country/agency in building human resources capacity in various technical fields during the cruise survey based on their request and competency of SEAFDEC; and
- Providing technical support in order to analyze potential fishery resources

IV. OPERATION OF THE TRAINING/RESEARCH VESSELS OF SEAFDEC TRAINING DEPARTMENT IN 2015

• M.V. SEAFDEC 2

A total of 153 days and 2 cruises will be proposed for the program of activities of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for the Year 2015. The first program is the “Joint Research Program for Tuna Research Survey in Sulu-Sulawesi Seas” which is a collaborative research program among Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines and to be carried out during 20th of March until 12th May 2015 (54 days). While the second program is the

“National Research Survey for Malaysia” which will be carried during 1st of June to 9th September 2015 (100 days) in Malaysian Waters.

- **M.V. SEAFDEC**

For the Year 2015, a national research survey on the “Research survey in the East Indian Ocean” which will be proposed to carry out in collaboration with the Phuket Marine Biological Center, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Thailand for duration of 65 days during 24th October to 27th December 2015.

The proposed annual operation plan of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 and M.V. SEAFDEC for the Year 2015 appears as **Table 2**.

Table 2 Program of activities of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 and M.V. SEAFDEC for the Year 2015

Vessel's Name	Month											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
M.V. SEAFDEC 2												
<i>Joint Research Program for Tuna Research Survey in Sulu-Sulawesi Seas (Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines)(20 Mar. to 12 May, 53 days)</i>												
<i>National Research Survey for Malaysia (1 June to 9 Sep., 100 days)</i>												
M.V. SEAFDEC												
<i>Research survey in the East Indian Ocean in collaboration with the Phuket Marine Biological Center, Thailand (24 Oct. to 27 Dec., 64 days)</i>												

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

- 1) To take note of the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC in 2014; and
- 2) To take note of the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2014, and endorse the proposed plan of operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2015.

THIRD REVISION OF THE GUIDELINES ON COST SHARING POLICY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE M.V. SEAFDEC 2

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document aims to report the progress of the proposed 3rd Revision of the Guidelines on Cost Sharing Policy for the Operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 as recommended by the SEAFDEC Council at its 46th Meeting held in Singapore in 2014. The Council agreed in principle that whenever a request of Member Countries to use the vessel for a total period that requires higher operation costs than the budget allocated through the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC, *e.g.* 60 days), additional operation costs would be shouldered by requesting countries. The Council also suggested that priority for the utilization of the vessel should be according to collaborative resources surveys involving more than one Member Country, and to request from countries that do not have their own research vessels. In this connection, the Secretariat and Training Department provides the current revision of the Guidelines on Cost Sharing Policy for the Operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 as follows and to be considered and endorsed by the Council.

II. INTRODUCTION

With favorable understanding of the Government of Japan about the function of SEAFDEC to assist in the sustainable development of fisheries of the Member Countries, the Government of Japan agreed to provide a new research vessel, the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 under the Japanese Grant Aid Program to SEAFDEC in 2004.

Through a series of consultations with the Government of Japan, SEAFDEC and Japan reached the agreement that the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should be secured for the benefit of the countries which are eligible to the Japanese Grant Aid Program. On the other hand, it was also agreed among the SEAFDEC Member Countries that the operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should be based on cost-sharing policy taking into account both aspects, such as the benefits of the operation of the vessel to the Member Countries and the expected budgetary constraints of SEAFDEC in the future. The cost-sharing policy regarding the operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 has also been recognized as an important element to establish the ownership of research activities by the Member Countries and to promote sustainable research activities using the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in the region.

In exploring the research needs of the Member Countries, SEAFDEC established two mechanisms, namely: the Eligible Countries Committee where the eligible countries¹ could provide or propose their own research needs or plans for the use of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2; and the Operations Committee where the annual plan of operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 would be developed taking into account of needs of the SEAFDEC Member Countries other than the eligible countries as well.

During the 26th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee held in Manila, Philippines in 2004, three categories of the expected operation using the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 were presented. It was also recommended that all categories of collaborative operations that are related to the needs of the Member Countries and operation in the national waters would be under the cost-sharing policy except the operation by SEAFDEC to verify the application of standardized research methods using the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, which have been considered through the Technical Consultative Meeting in October 2003 and November 2004.

At the 45th Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC held in Cebu of the Philippines in 2013, SEAFDEC/TD proposed a revision of the Guidelines on Cost Sharing policy for operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 particularly on the proposed modification of the cost-sharing policy for countries requesting for the use of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, the Council expressed apprehension that the Member Countries might not be able to shoulder the increased costs as proposed by SEAFDEC considering the difficulties in the internal negotiations with the respective national budget agencies of the countries.

¹ Including Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Viet Nam

However, with regards to data sharing, the Council agreed that some basic data collected onboard during the survey should be shared with SEAFDEC/TD. The data to be shared should be finalized at the planning meeting of the cruise survey between the requesting country and SEAFDEC. Such basic data will be kept confidential and to be used only for the SEAFDEC regional database and for future regional analysis. (Appears as a new Para 4 of the Part IV in this document).

III. OUTLINES OF THE PROPOSED COST-SHARING POLICY

Regardless of whether it is in cash or in kind, the following financial items related to the operations cost should be borne as a matter of principle, by the Member Country requesting for the collaborative operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in her national waters in response to her needs and interests.

- 1) **Supply of fuel** for the entire duration of the research including cruising to and back to the requesting country²;
- 2) **Supply of freshwater** that would be consumed by the vessel during the operation of research in the national waters;
- 3) **Salary and necessary DSA of the local or national participants** onboard, who are involved in the research activities should be borne by the Member Country based on its own national standard;
- 4) **Agency fee and port clearance fee and other expenditures** *i.e.* Port fee, tug fee, pilot fee, ferry boat fee (if necessary), customs and immigration fees and other fees concerned according to the national regulation should be borne by the Member Country when the vessel visits and stays at the port for implementation of the collaborative research program; and

- 5) **Additional operation costs**, *i.e.* food and sea allowance of crews and TD staffs onboard the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 and other expenditures occurred from research activities on board *i.e.* fish baits, materials and supplies. This applies only when the estimated operation costs based on the vessel operation plan exceed the allocated annual MRC budget. In the case where there are more than one country propose to use the vessel, additional operation costs should be shared by all countries, and calculated according to the number of days on-board the cruise of the respective countries.

IV. WORKING SCHEME FOR THE COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH WITH THE MEMBER COUNTRIES

1) Each Member Country is requested to prepare her research proposal, if any, taking into account of the short or medium-term activities. The proposal should be presented to the Eligible Countries Committee and/or Operations Committee to consider the cruise plans for the M.V. SEAFDEC 2. As a matter of principle, the staying period for the operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in the national waters could be limited to **one month (1 month) or more**, taking into account of the availability also of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for the other Member Countries;

2) Through consultation with the Operations Committee, each proposal from the Member Countries and Departments should be reviewed and finalized based on priority, practicability, readiness and financial background of the proposed research programs. The schedule of the research program of the country finalized by the Operations Committee could be adjusted to cater to the next priority country's needs or could be postponed until financial arrangements become ready by the requesting country;

3) Two months prior to the implementation of the individual research program, TD staff in charge of the operation will communicate through E-mail/or visit each beneficiary Member Country to discuss with the concerned staff on the detailed arrangements of the cruise and research program. The concerned

² As amended by the SEAFDEC Council at its 41st Meeting in 2009

members of the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) could be mobilized for effective communication with their respective countries, as the case may be;

4) With regards to data sharing, Member Country agreed that the **basic data**³ collected onboard during the survey should be shared with SEAFDEC/TD. The data to be shared should be finalized at the planning meeting of the cruise survey between the requesting country and SEAFDEC. Such basic data will be kept confidential and to be used only for the SEAFDEC regional database and for future regional analysis⁴; and

5) Preliminary cruise report including comments on the immediate impacts of the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 as well as the results of the national research program should be submitted to SEAFDEC/TD within six months (6 months) after the cruise.

- 6) Priority to use the vessel should be given to the followings:
- i. Collaborative survey involving more than one Member Country;
 - ii. Eligible Member Countries;
 - iii. Member Countries that do not have national research vessel;
 - iv. Other Member Countries.

V. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

To consider and endorse the 3rd Revision of the Guidelines on Cost Sharing Policy for the Operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2.

³ Basic data refers to any types of data from scientific instruments such as current data, ICTD or CTD data, sea surface temperature data, etc., including navigation and fishing logsheet. (Insertion based on the comment made at 37th PCM in 2014)

⁴ As amended by the Council at its 45th Meeting in 2013

PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR CHARTERING/RENTING OF M.V. SEAFDEC 2

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The SEAFDEC-Training Department's research vessel-M.V. SEAFDEC 2 was granted by the Government of Japan under the Japanese Grant Aid Program. While it was agreed that the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should be secured for the benefit of the countries, particularly those that are eligible to the Japanese Grant Aid Program¹. The annual plan of operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 had been developed taking into account the needs of all SEAFDEC Member Countries, and the operation of the vessel had been undertaken under the **cost-sharing policy** as agreed upon by the SEAFDEC Council.

Nevertheless, the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 by the Member Countries has been drastically reduced since 2007, and the concern on less utilization of the vessel was expressed by the SEAFDEC Council over the years. To enhance future utilization of the vessel, SEAFDEC was requested during the Special Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council (3-4 October 2013) to "explore other types of systems/sources of funds to cover the cost of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in the future". Subsequently during the 46th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council (1-4 April 2014), the Council further agreed in principle "to allow national agencies of the Member Countries to charter the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 with approval by the respective Member Countries, and requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to develop draft guidelines for chartering or renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, including the criteria for utilization and the corresponding charges and expenditures", for the consideration and comments by the 37th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee held in 2014, Thailand and later consideration and endorsement by the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2015.

In connection with this, this Proposed Guidelines provide the outlines for chartering/renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 to requesting national agencies (other than fisheries authority) of the SEAFDEC Member Countries and to be considered and endorsed by the Council.

II. CRITERIA FOR CHARTERING/RENTING OF THE M.V. SEAFDEC 2

To enhance the utilization of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2, while maintaining the benefits that could be gained from the vessels to the Member Countries of SEAFDEC, following criteria should apply for chartering/renting of the vessel:

- i. Chartering/renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should be allowed for other agencies of the Member Countries for the conduct of marine research survey in the national waters, provided that this is agreed upon by fisheries authority of the respective Member Countries.
- ii. Duration for chartering/renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should not overlap/conflict with those of research surveys proposed by the fisheries authorities of the Member Countries.

III. FINANCIAL SCHEME FOR THE CHARTERING/RENTING OF THE M.V. SEAFDEC 2

Agency requesting to charter/rent the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should be responsible for all costs related to the operation of the vessel, as follows:

- 1) **Cost of fuel** for the entire duration of the cruise including cruising from and back to the port of the SEAFDEC/TD;
- 2) **Cost of freshwater** that would be consumed by the vessel during the cruise;
- 3) **Salary, DSA and food allowance of all personnel** onboard, who are involved in the research activities;

¹ Including Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippine, and Vietnam

- 4) **Ship agency fee and port clearance fee**, including customs and immigration fees and all concern costs when the vessel visits and stays at the port of country according to the survey plan;
- 5) **Costs of vessel maintenance include** spare parts during the charter/renting period;
- 6) **Average cost of docking of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2**;
- 7) **Ship and personnel insurance** during chartering or renting period;
- 8) **Miscellaneous expenditures in the cruise such as sanitary matter, lubrication oil, etc.;** and
- 9) **Agency cost, at least 15% of the total expenditure according to the status of the national agency.**

Agency requesting to charter/rent the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 is requested to deposit the amount equal to estimated costs as agreed upon by SEAFDEC/TD and the agency to the bank account of SEAFDEC/TD at least 2 weeks before the embarkation of the vessel from the port of SEAFDEC/TD, except for Items No. 1, 2 and 4 which national agency may be responsible for arrangement of those items during the cruise.

IV. WORKING SCHEME FOR CHARTERING/RENTING THE M.V. SEAFDEC 2

- 1) Agency requesting to charter/rent the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 should submit a proposal including a project details and survey plan to SEAFDEC/TD through the national fisheries authority of country.
- 2) The proposal should be submitted to SEAFDEC/TD at least 2 months in advance to the survey.
- 3) SEAFDEC/TD would consider the proposal. If the proposed survey overlaps/conflicts with the cruise requested by national fisheries authority of the Member Countries, priority would be given to the national fisheries authority.
- 4) SEAFDEC/TD would consider the scope of the survey; while SEAFDEC/TD staffs that are in-charge of the operation would communicate with the requesting agency to discuss on the detailed arrangements of the cruise and research program.
- 5) SEAFDEC/TD would inform all SEAFDEC Member Countries once SEAFDEC accepts the plan for chartering/renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2.
- 6) Written agreement should be prepared/signed between SEAFDEC and the requesting agency to charter/rent the M.V. SEAFDEC 2;
- 7) For chartering/renting of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 for operation beyond national jurisdictions of Member Countries, approval should be sought from the SEAFDEC Council (by ad referendum).
- 8) Some basic data² collected during the survey would be shared with SEAFDEC/TD. The data to be shared should be agreed upon between the requesting agency and SEAFDEC/TD. Such basic data will be kept confidential and used exclusively for the SEAFDEC regional database and for future regional analysis.

V. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION BY THE 47TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is requested to consider and endorse the Proposed Guidelines for Chartering/Renting of M.V. SEAFDEC 2.

² Basic data refers to any types of data from scientific instruments such as current data, ICTD or CTD data, sea surface temperature data, etc., including navigation and fishing logsheet. (Insertion based on the comment made at 37th PCM in 2014)

COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN SEAFDEC AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN 2014

SEAFDEC has been continuing its efforts in enhancing its collaboration and cooperation with other international and regional organizations involved in the sustainable development of fisheries. In 2014, SEAFDEC has approached closer cooperation with organizations, educational institutions and the government agencies as follows;

I. NEW COLLABORATIONS

1) Japan Society of Fish Pathology (JSFP) of Japan

The Japan Society of Fish Pathology (JSFP) and SEAFDEC have agreed with the scientific and technical cooperation between the two organizations. The 5-year agreement was signed in May 2014 to allow the SEAFDEC-Aquaculture Department (AQD) to take responsibility in the implementation of the scientific and technical cooperation on behalf of SEAFDEC. The scope of the cooperation covers: the exchange of scientific information; provision of the journal – “Fish Pathology” to SEAFDEC; and planning together in order to achieve scientific cooperation as well as scientific seminars.

2) The United States Agency for International Development’s Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID/RDMA), United States of America

Due to the consideration of interest of SEAFDEC and the USAID/RDMA, USA in formalizing relevant collaborative in the design and implementation activities for enhancing food security and biodiversity conservation in the countries around the Asia-Pacific supported by USAID, SEAFDEC and USAID/RDMA mutually agreed to establish a cooperation. The MOU in this relation was signed on 16 June 2014 by SEAFDEC Secretary-General and the Mission Director of USAID/Regional Development Mission for Asia. The areas of cooperation as agreed in the MOU, SEAFDEC and USAID developed a new 5-year program on “The Oceans and Fisheries Partnership”. Main objectives are: to combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud; to promote sustainable fisheries management, food security, and biodiversity conservation in Southeast Asia. The project is aimed to come up with a catch documentation and traceability (CDT) system for living marine resources, with particular focus on the Sulu-Celebes Seas.

3) Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) of the Philippines

SEAFDEC/AQD has entered into the MOU with the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) of the Philippines in October 2014. Base upon the MOU, ADMU and SEAFDEC agreed to promote and develop academic cooperation in the areas of: the exchange of staffs and students for education and training; cooperation in research and development including use of materials and facilities; and the exchange of academic materials, publications and other scientific information.

4) The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF)

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) and SEAFDEC have agreed to establish cooperation to formalize relevant collaborative efforts in fostering Research and Development (R&D) in fisheries in the countries around the Coral Triangle that comprises the CTI-SEAFDEC partnership. The MOU will be valid for 10 years. It is tentatively scheduled to be signed in March 2015.

II. RENEWAL OF THE COLLABORATION IN 2014

1) The Fisheries Research Agency (FRA) of Japan

The Fisheries Research Agency (FRA) of Japan and SEAFDEC agreed to extend their cooperation which was initiated in 2004 on scientific and technical collaboration. The collaborative Arrangement aims at developing the scientific and technical cooperation in various fields of interest of the organizations, as well as exchanging information and expertise between the two organizations. Since the first Arrangement has been made in 2004 and renewed in 2010. The second renewal of the Arrangement has been made on 23 January 2014.

2) The Faculty of Fisheries, Kagoshima University (KUFF) of Japan

The Faculty of Fisheries, Kagoshima University (KUFF) of Japan and SEAFDEC agreed to extend their cooperation which was initiated in 2003 on academic and educational collaboration. The cooperation aims at developing the sustainable fisheries in the Southeast Asian region. The collaborative Arrangement covers: the collaboration in research, symposia and other academic pursuits; the exchange of staff members and students for education, training and research; and the exchange of data, documentation and research materials in fields of mutual interest. Since the first Arrangement has been made in 2003 and renewed in 2008. The second renewal of the Arrangement has been made in May 2014.

3) National Fisheries University (NFU) of Japan

The National Fisheries University (NFU) of Japan and SEAFDEC agreed to extend their cooperation which was initiated in 2005 on academic and educational collaboration. The cooperation aims at developing the sustainable fisheries in the Southeast Asian region. The collaborative Arrangement covers: the collaboration in research, symposia and other academic pursuits; the exchange of staff and students for education, training and research; and the exchange of data, documentation and research materials in fields of mutual interest. The first Arrangement was made in 2005 and renewed in 2009. The second renewal of the Arrangement has been made in November 2014.

4) Vocational Education Commission, Thailand

The Vocational Education Commission of Thailand, Ministry of Education and SEAFDEC/TD agreed to extend their cooperation on academic and educational collaboration which has been encouraged since 2011. After 5-year validity, the MOU was renewed and signed on 10 November 2014 with objectives of the cooperation on the exchange of staff members and students for education, training, seminar and research; and sharing ideas and the development of system on information network.

STATEMENT

*By Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, Secretary-General
Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)
at the CTI-CFF – SEAFDEC MOU Signing Ceremony
3 April 2015, Chiang Rai, Thailand*

Honorable Council Directors and delegates from the SEAFDEC Member Countries;
Prof. Widi A Pratikto, Executive Director of the Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security;
Representatives from international/regional organizations;
Ladies and Gentlemen, A very Good Afternoon!

First of all, please allow me on behalf of SEAFDEC and the SEAFDEC Council to congratulate *Prof. Widi Pratikto* on your recent appointment as Executive Director of the CTI-CFF. I would like to also extend you a warm welcome to this MOU Signing Ceremony, held in conjunction with the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in Chiang Rai Province of Thailand.

It is indeed a very good opportunity that this signing ceremony could be witnessed by the SEAFDEC Council of Directors and delegates from the respective SEAFDEC Member Countries, as well as representatives from international/regional organizations; and this ceremony is considered as a very auspicious occasion considering that the formalization of MOU between the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC has been discussed since 2013, when the SEAFDEC Council endorsed in principle the establishment of collaborative arrangement between the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC.

Although only through this event that the formalization of the collaboration between the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC could be signified, it should be noted that SEAFDEC since 2013 has collaborated with the CTI-CFF in the conduct of the “Intergovernmental Forum on Live Reef Food Fish Trade” that came up with adoption of the Resolution, which was subsequently endorsed by the SEAFDEC Council. In addition, there are also several initiatives undertaken by SEAFDEC in the overlapping areas of SEAFDEC and CTI-CFF, such as the project on “Strategies for Trawl Fisheries By-catch Management” or “REBYC-II CTI” which aims to address issues on by-catch from trawl fisheries for countries bordering the Coral Triangle areas; the promotion of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management or EAFM, the promotion of sub-regional cooperation for sustainable fisheries management in the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas sub-region, as well as the recent initiatives on conservation and management of neritic tunas.

With the signing of the MOU between the CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC, which will be valid for the period of five years, it is anticipated that the future activities of CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC in such overlapping areas could be implemented in a more coherent manner; while other subjects of mutual interest, could be explored and discussed for further collaboration. SEAFDEC also views that this MOU would provide a very good platform for sharing of knowledge and experiences as well as several materials produced by SEAFDEC, which could also be mobilized and applied by the CTI-CFF as appropriate, for the betterment of fisheries development in the region as a whole.

Once again, on behalf of the SEAFDEC Member Countries, I would like to express our appreciation to the CTI-CFF for extending cooperation with SEAFDEC. I would also wish to assure to the SEAFDEC Council Directors that under this collaborative arrangement between SEAFDEC and the CTI-CFF, SEAFDEC would continue to work with our full capacity bearing in mind the benefits that could be gained by our Member Countries as our first and foremost priority.

Thank you very much, and have a good day!

STATEMENT

*By Dr. Widi A. Pratikto, Executive Director
Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF)
at the CTI-CFF – SEAFDEC MOU Signing Ceremony
3 April 2015, Chiang Rai, Thailand*

Honorable Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri,
Distinguished delegates from the SEAFDEC and CTI-CFF member-countries SEAFDEC officials,
Development Partners, colleagues at CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat,
Ladies and gentlemen, very good afternoon.

At the onset, may I extend my utmost gratitude on behalf of the CTI-CFF member countries to thank SEAFDEC the opportunity to collaborate on marine and fisheries management in the Asia Pacific region. I believe, the MOU we are forging is a strategic opportunity between these two organizations to pursue initiatives of mutual concerns and benefits to their respective member-countries.

CTI-CFF especially will benefit by partnering with SEAFDEC which is being an older Organization, therefore much more stable organization with infrastructure and facilities in place across Southeast Asia and more importantly learnings to share for the benefit of non-SEAFDEC member countries especially the CTI-CFF member countries in the Pacific.

On a personal note, this is especially significant since this is one of my first official acts as the newly appointed Executive Director of CTI-CFF. I note that there are several areas of concern that both our organizations can cooperate with, hence cooperating with SEAFDEC I believe is an exciting prospect for myself personally and for CTI-CFF in general.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies, and Gentlemen

The discussions about the proposed cooperation between SEAFDEC and CTI-CFF took a long time. With me officially on the helm, I wish to expedite implementation of this cooperation especially in pursuing application of EAFM across six-member countries where three of CTI-CFF member countries from Southeast Asia are current and active members of SEAFDEC.

SEAFDEC has demonstrated its willingness to collaborate with CTI-CFF sans formal Memorandum of Understand (MOU) by jointly organizing the Live Reef Food Fish Trade (LRFFT) Intergovernmental Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, where the delegates in the said Forum among others to designate SEAFDEC as the Interim Secretariat of the Forum with support from CTI Interim Regional Secretariat. This initial collaborative action on LRFFT was followed through with a meeting with counterparts in the government of Hong Kong to explore ways and means on the demand or market side of LRFFT and engage the government of Hong Kong accordingly.

In the same vein, SEAFDEC has actively participated in CTI-CFF endeavor as a member of the CTMPAS Advisory Committee, which reviewed nominations of regionally significant Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) during the first round of nominations. CTI-CFF anticipates SEAFDEC's valuable role to continue in next rounds of CTMPAS nominations in coming months and years.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies, and Gentlemen

Given application of EAFM in CTI-CFF as indicated in the RPOA is quite extensive – including forging common EAFM policy, IUU fishing (including Port State Measure), coastal fisheries, tuna and LRFFT management, collaboration with existing regional fisheries organizations such as SEAFDEC is vital.

From my perspective, let outline some of the areas of interest that are beneficial to CTI-CFF and SEAFDEC as we move forward with the implementation of this MOU, which includes areas on: Human

Resource Development; Research and Development; Consultancy; Information Management and Networking; and Other possible areas in the near future.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my sincere thanks and best wishes to SEAFDEC Organization to further developing in areas marine and fisheries. I believe that this cooperation will also be beneficial to CT 6 States of CTI CFF and all developing countries.

Thank you for your kind attention and your patience.



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
THE ORGANIZATION FOR SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
**THE CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE ON CORAL REEFS,
FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY (CTI CFF)**
And
THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SEAFDEC)

PREAMBLE

Recognizing the mutual benefits that could be gained through enhanced cooperation, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (hereinafter referred to as “SEAFDEC”) and the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (hereinafter referred to as “CTI CFF”), agreed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize relevant collaborative efforts in fostering Research and Development (R&D) in fisheries in the countries around the Coral Triangle that comprise the CTI CFF-SEAFDEC partnership.

INTRODUCTION

SEAFDEC is an inter-governmental organization established in 1967 with the mandate to promote fisheries development and management in the Southeast Asian region. Governed by the Council Directors representing its Member Countries, 10 ASEAN member states and Japan, SEAFDEC comprises five departments located in Thailand, Singapore, Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia, with the Secretariat in Bangkok, Thailand. SEAFDEC focuses on R&D in responsible fishing technologies and practices, fishery post-harvest and food safety, sustainable aquaculture, and fishery resources development and management.

The CTI CFF is a multilateral partnership among six countries, namely: Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Timor Leste, and the Solomon Islands, with the main objective of addressing the urgent threats facing the coastal and marine resources of one of the most biologically diverse and ecologically rich regions on earth, the Coral Triangle. Embracing about 4 million square miles of ocean and coastal waters in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, the Coral Triangle is also home to some 363 million people and encompasses economic zones where each country has exclusive rights to the marine resources. Being recognized as the global center of marine biodiversity, the Coral Triangle serves as the spawning and juvenile growth areas for important fish species in the world, directly sustains the lives of more than 120 million people living within this area, and benefit millions more worldwide.

Since SEAFDEC and CTI CFF share common interests in fostering research and training in fisheries, both Parties agreed to cooperate in the promotion of sustainable fisheries management in the Coral Triangle, utilizing their joint expertise.

PURPOSE / OBJECTIVE

While SEAFDEC aims to promote sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture for food security in the Southeast Asian region: improve management and mechanism for sustainable development of aquatic resources; improve socio-economic well-being; and strengthen regional programs to sustainable use of aquatic resources including aquatic production systems for food security of the region; CTI CFF aims to address the threats that confront the natural resources of the Coral Triangle area.

Taking into consideration the relevant functions of SEAFDEC and CTI CFF, this general MOU shall focus on the following aspects:

1. Human Resource Development
 - 1.1 Training
 - Collaborative curricula development, especially in Responsible Fisheries, Seafood Product Development, and Ecological Sustainable Development
 - Exchange of expertise, *e.g.* staff/lecturers/experts/trainees/students exchange
 - Bi-/multi-lingual in-service training, tertiary level training
 - 1.2 Workshops, Seminars and Symposia
 - Participation of Parties by sending participants, contributors and resource speakers
2. Research and Development
 - Conduct of collaborative and joint research program using SEAFDEC research vessels
 - Extension of technological advancements and promotion of social development and socio-economic well-being, especially through regional workshops, seminars, symposia and on-site events
3. Consultancy
 - Collaborative consultancy by drawing on the expertise of SEAFDEC and CTI CFF
4. Information Management and Networking
 - Information development, exchange, and dissemination
 - Cooperation in information networking

GENERAL PROVISION

In order to carry out and fulfill the objectives of this MOU, SEAFDEC and CTI CFF will seek to work together on activities that would be of mutual interest of both Parties. Therefore, either Party may initiate proposals for activities that would be carried out under this MOU. Specific details for such activities shall be set forth in a Letter of Agreement which, upon

signing by the Head Delegate of the two organizations, shall become an integral part of this MOU. The Letter of Agreement shall include such terms as:

- Elaboration of the responsibilities of each Party for the agreed upon activity;
- Schedule of implementation for the specific activity;
- Budgetary allocations and sources of funds for each activity; and
- Any other items necessary for the efficient achievement of the activity.

The respective Parties shall be responsible for the evaluation of the activities under this MOU in accordance with the practices of their respective organizations.

Both Parties will share all information derived from the activities undertaken, *i.e.* scientific technological research, marine capture fisheries, fisheries post-harvest technology, aquaculture, and fishery resources development and management.


DURATION AND TERMINATION

This MOU shall become effective on the date of signing and shall be valid for a period of five (5) years. The MOU may be renewed or extended by mutual consent, and may be terminated by either Party at any time provided that the terminating Party gives written notice of its intention at least three months before termination.

The MOU is done at the SEAFDEC Council Meeting in Chiang Rai, Thailand on 3 April 2015, in two copies. In witness whereof, the Head Delegate of SEAFDEC and CTI CFF, have hereto provided their endorsement.

For Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs,
Fisheries and Food Security:

For the Southeast Asian Fisheries
Development Center:



By: Prof. Widi Agoes Pratikto Ph.D.

By: Chumnarn Pongsri, Ph.D.

Executive Director,
Regional Secretariat

Secretary-General and
Chief of Training Department

Date: April 3, 2015

Date: 3 April 2015

AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2013

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
ABRIDGED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012

	In US\$	
	2013	2012
REVENUES		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	7,800,490	8,002,957
Other sources	1,940,026	1,908,611
Other income	784,074	624,406
TOTAL REVENUES	10,524,590	10,535,974
EXPENDITURES		
Operating and Capital Expenditures		
Research	3,723,779	3,459,315
Training	723,813	1,053,758
Information	569,536	612,736
Collaborative	86,236	177,863
Others	700,134	412,780
Administrative	3,252,299	3,437,903
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	9,055,797	9,154,355
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY), For the year	1,468,793	1,381,619
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	5,937,813 ⁽¹⁾	5,004,647
FUND ADJUSTMENT	2,507	-
FUND BALANCE, End of year	7,409,113	6,386,266 ⁽¹⁾
REPRESENTED BY:		
Cash and cash equivalents	7,944,280	6,586,261
Other receivables	376,899	448,496
Advances and Deposits	47,549	169,486
Supplies inventory	71,824	62,075
Fuel for vessels	102,768	188,783
Prepayments	25,729	14,959
Total Current assets	8,569,049	7,470,060
Reserved budget for vessel periodic maintenance	102,889	70,068
Termination indemnity fund	1,949,619	1,953,013
Long-term investments	217,543	199,273
Other non-current assets	337,252	220,229
Total Assets	11,176,352	9,912,643
Less: Liabilities		
Accrued payable	617,700	598,185
Contribution received in advance	856,351	760,373
Funds held in trust	329,689	212,336
Total Current Liabilities	1,803,740	1,570,894
Provision for staff termination indemnity	1,949,619	1,953,013
Total Liabilities	3,753,359	3,523,907
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale financial assets	13,880	2,470
TOTAL NET ASSETS	7,409,113	6,386,266

⁽¹⁾ The difference of US\$ 448,453 (US\$ 5,937,813 – US\$ 6,386,266) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
THE SECRETARIAT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

	In US\$	
	2013	2012
REVENUES		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	438,000	400,000
Other sources	104,043	47,285
Other income	10,067	3,418
TOTAL REVENUES	552,110	450,703
EXPENDITURES		
Operating and Capital Expenditures		
Information	41,398	56,124
Collaborative	86,236	177,863
Others	-	40,118
Administrative	200,041	187,610
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	327,675	461,715
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY), For the year	224,435	(11,012)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	237,051	265,230
FUND BALANCE, End of year	461,486	254,218
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash and cash equivalents	442,729	230,716
Other receivables	50,983	16,950
Advances and Deposits	700	36,256
Prepayments	932	47
Total Current assets	495,344	283,969
Reserved budget for vessel periodic maintenance	102,889	70,068
Total Assets	598,233	354,037
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	136,747	99,819
Total Liabilities	136,747	99,819
TOTAL NET ASSETS	461,486	254,218

⁽¹⁾ The difference of US\$ 17,167 (US\$ 237,051– US\$ 254,218) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
TRAINING DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

	In US\$	
	2013	2012
REVENUES		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	2,520,273	2,534,562
Other sources	925,302	947,833
Other income	178,876	156,990
TOTAL REVENUES	3,624,451	3,639,385
EXPENDITURES		
Operating and Capital Expenditures		
Research	381,427	413,526
Training	600,690	887,099
Information	226,821	241,444
Others	700,134	372,662
Administrative	877,393	1,095,054
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,786,465	3,009,785
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY), For the year	837,986	629,600
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	3,692,531	3,330,329
FUND BALANCE, End of year	4,530,517	3,959,929
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,231,529	4,481,244
Other receivables	89,623	27,131
Advances and Deposits	13,781	90,984
Fuel for vessels	102,768	188,783
Prepayments	24,797	14,912
Total Current assets	5,462,498	4,803,054
Termination indemnity fund	1,949,619	1,953,013
Total Assets	7,412,117	6,756,067
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	75,630	82,752
Contribution received in advance	856,351	760,373
Total Current Liabilities	931,981	843,125
Provision for staff termination indemnity	1,949,619	1,953,013
Total Liabilities	2,881,600	2,796,138
TOTAL NET ASSETS	4,530,517	3,959,929

⁽¹⁾ The difference of US\$ 267,398 (US\$ 3,692,531 – US\$ 3,959,929) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
AQUACULTURE DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012**

	In US\$	
	2013	2012
REVENUES		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	3,828,829	4,141,291
Other sources	910,681	913,493
Other income	595,131	463,998
TOTAL REVENUES	5,334,641	5,518,782
EXPENDITURES		
Operating and Capital Expenditures		
Research	3,342,352	3,045,789
Training	123,123	166,659
Information	301,317	315,168
Administrative	1,161,477	1,228,135
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,928,269	4,755,751
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY), For the year	406,372	763,031
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	2,008,231 ⁽¹⁾	1,409,088
FUND ADJUSTMENT	2,507	-
FUND BALANCE, End of year	2,417,110	2,172,119 ⁽¹⁾
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,270,022	1,874,301
Receivables	235,071	376,137
Advances and Deposits	33,068	42,246
Supplies inventory	71,824	62,075
Other Current Assets	1,222	28,278
Total Current assets	2,611,207	2,383,037
Long-term investments	217,543	199,273
Other non-current assets	337,252	220,229
Total Assets	3,166,002	2,802,539
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	405,323	415,614
Funds held in trust	329,689	212,336
Total Liabilities	735,012	627,950
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale financial assets	13,880	2,470
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,417,110	2,172,119

⁽¹⁾ The difference of US\$ 163,888 (US\$ 2,008,231 – US\$ 2,172,119) 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, 2013 AND 2012**

	In US\$	
	2013	2012
REVENUES		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	1,013,388	927,104
TOTAL REVENUES	1,013,388	927,104
EXPENDITURES		
Operating and Capital Expenditures		
Administrative	1,013,388	927,104
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,013,388	927,104
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY), For the year	-	-
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	-	-
FUND ADJUSTMENT	-	-
FUND BALANCE, End of year	-	-
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-
Advances and Deposits	-	-
Total Current assets	-	-
Total Assets	-	-
Less : Liabilities		
Accrued payable	-	-
Total Liabilities	-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS	-	-

UN-AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2014

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS
DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013
(In US dollars)

	2014	2013
	(Un-audited)	(Audited)
ACCUMULATED FUND		
As at December 31	<u>7,492,013</u>	<u>7,409,113</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Current assets		
Cash in hand and at banks	9,674,773	7,944,280
Other receivables and Advances	858,795	424,448
Supplies inventory	53,063	71,824
Fuel for vessels	94,326	102,768
Prepayments	21,452	25,729
Total Current assets	<u>10,702,409</u>	<u>8,569,049</u>
Reserved budget for vessel periodic maintenance	746	102,889
Termination indemnity fund	2,100,028	1,949,619
Other assets	451,391	554,795
Total Other assets	<u>2,552,165</u>	<u>2,607,303</u>
Total Assets	<u>13,254,574</u>	<u>11,176,352</u>
<u>Less</u> : Liabilities		
Accounts payable	1,957,072	617,700
Contribution received in advance	1,336,718	856,351
Funds held in trust	368,947	329,689
Unrealized gain on available for sale finance assets		13,880
Provision for staff termination indemnity	2,099,824	1,949,619
Total Liabilities	<u>5,762,561</u>	<u>3,767,239</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>7,492,013</u>	<u>7,409,113</u>

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES
 FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

	In US\$				Total	
	Operating Fund		Fellowship	Others	2014	2013
	Host Department	MRC	Fund	Fund	(Un-audited)	(Audited)
REVENUES						
Contributions from :-						
Government of Brunei Darussalam		7,000			7,000	7,000
Government of Cambodia		11,000			11,000	6,000
Government of Indonesia		26,000			26,000	26,000
Government of Japan		280,000			280,000	280,000
Government of Lao PDR		5,000			5,000	5,000
Government of Malaysia	1,206,957	21,000			1,227,957	1,034,388
Government of Myanmar		21,000			21,000	21,000
Government of Philippines	3,804,170	25,000			3,829,170	3,853,829
Government of Singapore		13,000			13,000	13,000
Government of Thailand	2,615,846	33,000	23,616		2,672,462	2,540,273
Government of Viet Nam		14,000			14,000	14,000
Sub-total	7,626,973	456,000	23,616	0	8,106,589	7,800,490
Other sources	718,737	-4,412	2,367	2,972,561	3,689,253	2,724,100
TOTAL REVENUES	8,345,710	451,588	25,983	2,972,561	11,795,842	10,524,590

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

	In US\$				Total	
	Operating Fund		Fellowship	Others	2014	2013
	Host Department	MRC	Fund	Fund	(Un-audited)	(Audited)
EXPENDITURES						
Operating Expenditures						
Program of Activities :						
Research	2,863,323			1,382,267	4,245,590	3,723,779
Training	678,246		10,824	334,379	1,023,449	723,813
Information	451,316	55,875		135,867	643,058	569,536
Collaborative		188,710			188,710	86,236
Others				938,891	938,891	700,134
	<u>3,992,885</u>	<u>244,585</u>	<u>10,824</u>	<u>2,791,404</u>	<u>7,039,698</u>	<u>5,803,498</u>
Administrative & Capital expenditures	4,353,101	181,929		105,848	4,640,878	3,252,299
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>8,345,986</u>	<u>426,514</u>	<u>10,824</u>	<u>2,897,252</u>	<u>11,680,576</u>	<u>9,055,797</u>
 SURPLUS(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	 <u><u>-276</u></u>	 <u><u>25,074</u></u>	 <u><u>15,159</u></u>	 <u><u>75,309</u></u>	 <u><u>115,266</u></u>	 <u><u>1,468,793</u></u>

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FUND BALANCE
 DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013**

In US\$

	Balance as at January 1, 2014	Adjustment of fund	Surplus (Deficit)	Balance December 31, 2014 (Un-audited)	Balance as at December 31, 2013 (Audited)
Operating fund	5,562,434	-548,032	24,798	5,039,200	5,588,060
Fellowship fund	185,839		15,159	200,998	186,466
Others fund	1,642,264	534,242	75,309	2,251,815	1,634,587
Net	<u>7,390,537</u> <u>1/</u>	<u>-13,790</u>	<u>115,266</u>	<u>7,492,013</u>	<u>7,409,113</u> <u>1/</u>

(1) The difference of US\$ 18,576 (US\$ 7,409,113 – US\$ 7,390,537) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation

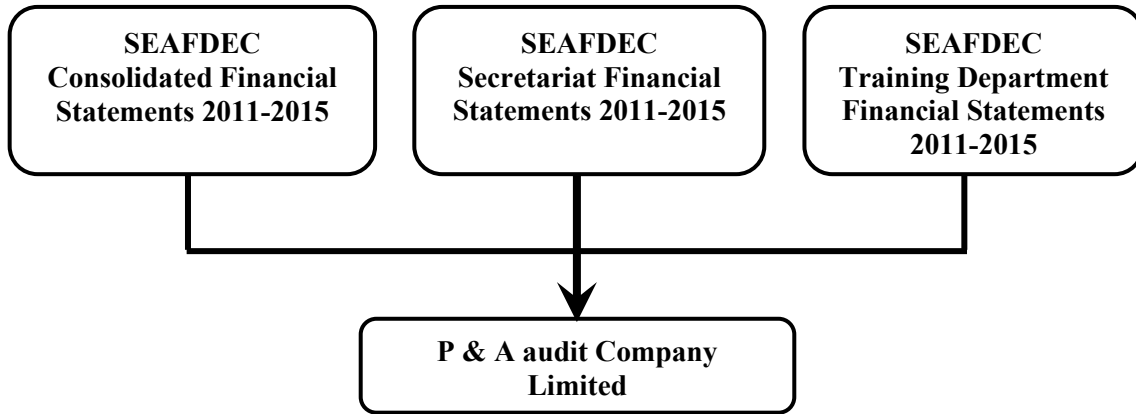
Annex 41

STATUS OF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION FOR THE YEAR 2014

**Contributions received from SEAFDEC Member Countries
as Annual Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) in 2015**

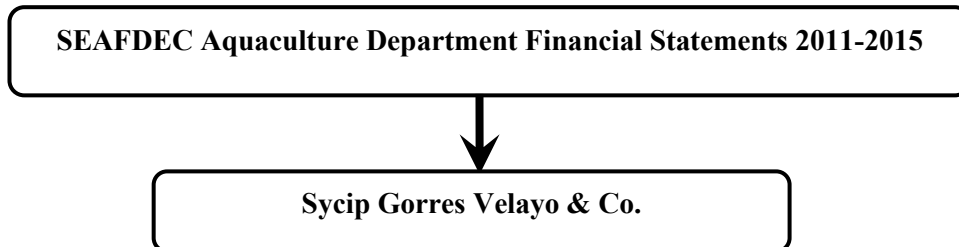
Countries	Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC)	Amount Received (In US\$)
Brunei Darussalam	7,000	
Cambodia	11,000	
Indonesia	58,000	
Japan	280,000	280,000
Lao PDR	5,000	
Malaysia	21,000	
Myanmar	21,000	
Philippines	25,000	
Singapore	13,000	13,000
Thailand	33,000	33,000
Viet Nam	26,000	
	500,000	326,000

CONTACT PERSON AND AUDIT FIRM



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CONTACT PERSON AND AUDIT FIRM



Auditor' name : Ms. Jessie D. Cabaluna
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Telephone : (632) 894-8106
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CONTACT PERSON AND AUDIT FIRM

SEAFDEC Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department Financial Statements 2011-2015



Adib Azhar & Co. (AF 1446)

Auditor' name : Mr. Mohd Badaruddin Bin Ismail
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CONTACT PERSON AND AUDIT FIRM

SEAFDEC Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department Financial Statements 2015



???

Auditor' name :
Address :

Telephone :
Fax :
Email :

PROPOSED BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CENTER FOR THE YEAR 2016

Table 1: Estimated Contributions received by SEAFDEC from Member Countries and Other sources (in US Dollars) in fiscal Year 2015

Sources	Secretariat	Training Department	Marine Fisheries Research Department	Aquaculture Department	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Total	
							In US\$	%
Brunei Darussalam	7,000						7,000	0.04
Cambodia	11,000						11,000	0.06
Indonesia	58,000					1,901,308 ^{h/}	1,959,308	11.37
Japan	280,000						280,000	1.62
Lao PDR	5,000						5,000	0.03
Malaysia	21,000				1,816,193 ^{g/}		1,837,193	10.66
Myanmar	21,000						21,000	0.12
Philippines	25,000			5,077,900 ^{f/}			5,102,900	29.60
Singapore	13,000		0 ^{e/}				13,000	0.08
Thailand	33,000	2,723,390 ^{d/}					2,756,390	16.00
Viet Nam	26,000						26,000	0.15
Sub-total	500,000	2,723,390	0	5,077,900	1,816,193	1,901,308	12,018,791	69.73
Others ^{i/}	2,757,097 ^{b/}	1,158,555 ^{c/}		1,302,435			5,218,087	30.27
Total	3,257,097 ^{a/}	3,881,945	0	6,380,335	1,816,193	1,901,308	17,236,878	100%

a/ Including Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) from all SEAFDEC Member Countries = US\$500,000

b/ Including extra-budgetary sources from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,514,597(Excluded MRC=US\$280,000) and Sweden Fund = US\$1,242,500

c/ Including extra-budgetary sources from FAO = US\$372,255, RIHN(Japan) = US\$63,800, UNEP/GEF=US\$692,500 and others

d/ Contribution in cash from Thailand

e/ No contribution from Singapore

f/ Contribution in cash from the Philippines

g/ Contribution in kind from Malaysia

h/ Contribution in kind from Indonesia = US\$173,560 and Contribution in cash from Indonesia = US\$1,727,748

i/ Including contributions from non-member governments, international organizations/agencies and miscellaneous receipts

Table 2: Estimated Expenditures of the Center for 2015 (In US\$)

Category	SEC ^{1/}	TD ^{2/}	MFRD ^{3/}	AQD ^{4/}	MFRDMD ^{5/}	IFRDMD ^{6/}	Total	%
I Program of Activities								
1.1 Research Programs		640,030		3,101,305			3,741,335	21.71
1.2 Training Programs	5,000	885,850		482,091			1,372,941	7.97
1.3 Information Programs	71,000	408,160		719,615			1,198,775	6.95
1.4 Collaborative Programs	150,000 ^{7/}	83,990					233,990	1.36
1.5 Other Programs	2,835,097 ^{8/}	1,128,555 ^{9/}		889,654			4,853,306	28.15
Sub-total	3,061,097	3,146,585	0	5,192,665	0	0	11,400,347	66.14
II Administrative and Non-Program Expenditures								
2.1 Operating Expenditures	188,500	735,360		1,054,751		74,522	2,053,133	11.91
2.2 Capital Expenditures	7,500			132,919		1,653,226	1,793,645	10.41
	196,000	735,360		1,187,670		1,727,748	3,846,778	22.32
2.3 In-kind Expenditures					1,816,193	173,560	1,989,753	11.54
Sub-total	196,000	735,360	0	1,187,670	1,816,193	1,901,308	5,836,531	33.86
TOTAL	3,257,097	3,881,945	0	6,380,335	1,816,193	1,901,308	17,236,878	100%

- Remarks:
- 1/ Secretariat
 - 2/ Training Department: The Program of Activities included administrative and others expenses which are directly related to the programs
 - 3/ Marine Fisheries Research Department
 - 4/ Aquaculture Department: The Program of Activities are included administrative and other expenses which are directly related to the programs
 - 5/ Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
 - 6/ Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
 - 7/ Included operation cost, maintenance cost, insurance and expenses for vessel periodic maintenance of M.V. SEAFDEC 2
 - 8/ Included program expenses from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,514,597 and Sweden Fund = US\$1,242,500
 - 9/ Included program expenses from FAO = US\$372,255, RIHN (Japan) = US\$63,800, UNEP/GEF=US\$692,500 and Others

Table 3: Expected Contributions received by SEAFDEC from Member Countries and Other sources (in US Dollars) in fiscal Year 2016

Sources	Secretariat	Training Department	Marine Fisheries Research Department	Aquaculture Department	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Total	
							In US\$	%
Brunei Darussalam	7,000						7,000	0.04
Cambodia	11,000						11,000	0.06
Indonesia	58,000					2,335,434 ^{h/}	2,393,434	13.89
Japan	280,000						280,000	1.62
Lao PDR	5,000						5,000	0.03
Malaysia	21,000				1,907,003 ^{g/}		1,928,003	11.19
Myanmar	21,000						21,000	0.12
Philippines	25,000			4,949,381 ^{f/}			4,974,381	28.87
Singapore	13,000		0 ^{e/}				13,000	0.08
Thailand	33,000	2,837,390 ^{d/}					2,870,390	16.66
Viet Nam	26,000						26,000	0.15
Sub-total	500,000	2,837,390	0	4,949,381	1,907,003	2,335,434	12,529,208	72.71
Others ^{i/}	2,577,626 ^{b/}	918,300 ^{c/}		1,206,642			4,702,568	27.29
Total	3,077,626 ^{a/}	3,755,690	0	6,156,023	1,907,003	2,335,434	17,231,776	100%

a/ Including Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) from all SEAFDEC Member Countries = US\$500,000

b/ Including extra-budgetary sources from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,335,126 (Excluded MRC=US\$280,000) and Sweden Fund = US\$1,242,500

c/ Including extra-budgetary sources from RIHN (Japan) = US\$14,300, UNEP/GEF=US\$874,000 and Others

d/ Contribution in cash from Thailand

e/ No contribution from Singapore

f/ Contribution in cash from the Philippines

g/ Contribution in kind from Malaysia

h/ Contribution in kind from Indonesia = US\$222,531 and contribution in cash from Indonesia = US\$2,112,903

i/ Including contributions from non-member governments, international organizations/agencies and miscellaneous receipts

Table 4: Proposed Expenditures of the Center for 2016 (In US\$)

Category	SEC ^{1/}	TD ^{2/}	MFRD ^{3/}	AQD ^{4/}	MFRDMD ^{5/}	IFRDMD ^{6/}	Total	%
I Program of Activities								
1.1 Research Programs		668,620		2,955,386			3,624,006	21.03
1.2 Training Programs	5,000	916,150		512,221			1,433,371	8.32
1.3 Information Programs	71,000	428,800		729,597			1,229,397	7.13
1.4 Collaborative Programs	150,000 ^{7/}	83,990					233,990	1.36
1.5 Other Programs	2,655,626 ^{8/}	888,300 ^{9/}		708,763			4,252,689	24.68
Sub-total	2,881,626	2,985,860	0	4,905,967	0	0	10,773,453	62.52
II Administrative and Non-Program Expenditures								
2.1 Operating Expenditures	188,500	769,830		1,113,514		2,016,129	4,087,973	23.72
2.2 Capital Expenditures	7,500			136,542		96,774	240,816	1.40
2.3 In-kind Expenditures	196,000	769,830		1,250,056	1,907,003	2,112,903	4,328,789	25.12
						222,531	2,129,534	12.36
Sub-total	196,000	769,830	0	1,250,056	1,907,003	2,335,434	6,458,323	37.48
TOTAL	3,077,626	3,755,690	0	6,156,023	1,907,003	2,335,434	17,231,776	100%

- Remarks:
- 1/ Secretariat
 - 2/ Training Department: The Program of Activities included administrative and other expenses which are directly related to the programs
 - 3/ Marine Fisheries Research Department
 - 4/ Aquaculture Department: The Program of Activities are included administrative and other expenses which are directly related to the programs
 - 5/ Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
 - 6/ Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
 - 7/ Included operation cost, maintenance cost, insurance and expenses for vessel periodic maintenance of M.V. SEAFDEC 2
 - 8/ Included program expenses from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,335,126 and Sweden Fund = US\$1,242,500
 - 9/ Included program expenses from RIHN (Japan) = US\$14,300, UNEP/GEF=US\$874,000 and Others

ADOPTED PRESS STATEMENT

1. At the kind invitation of the Government of Thailand, the Forty-seventh Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council was held from 31 March to 3 April 2015 and hosted by the Department of Fisheries of Thailand. Situated in the northernmost province of Thailand, Chiang Rai has historical structures that depict a very unique culture.
2. In attendance at the Meeting were the Council Directors and delegations from the SEAFDEC Member Countries, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The Inaugural Ceremony of the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council was held on 31 March and presided over by *Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai*, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. The Meeting unanimously elected the Council Director for Thailand, *Dr. Joompol Sanguansin* as the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for the Year 2015-2016, succeeding *Mr. Lee Kwong Weng*, SEAFDEC Council Director for Singapore who served as the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for the year 2014-2015, succeeded by *Dr. Tan Lee Kim*.
3. The Council noted the good progress and achievements of SEAFDEC in 2014, and approved the proposed program of activities to be undertaken by SEAFDEC in 2015, which have been formulated taking into consideration the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2020 adopted by the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministers and Senior Officials in June 2011. The Council appreciated the establishment of Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (IFRDMD) as the fifth SEAFDEC Department to promote sustainable development and management of inland fishery resources in Southeast Asia.
4. The Council provided directives on important issues, particularly on the implementation of CITES-related activities especially on improving data collection on sharks and rays, as well as the regional approach to be developed by SEAFDEC for the Southeast Asian region and the preparation for the upcoming CITES COP-17 in October 2016. On the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain, the Council approved the Guidelines in principle.
5. The Council noted the progress on the development of the “Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR) for Vessels 24 meters in Length and Over” and agreed to launch the RFVR Database although some countries need to review and update their data as inputs into the database. The Council foresees that the development of the RFVR would enhance cooperation among the Member Countries. As the next step of activity, SEAFDEC was requested to conduct study on the legality of vessels moving across borders of the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) taking into account the experiences of other RFMOs and regions in the world.
6. On the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ACDS) which would serve as one of the fisheries management tools for combating IUU fishing and enhance international and intra-regional trade of fish and fishery products from the AMSs, the Draft ACDS had been circulated to the Member Countries in early 2015. The Council suggested that SEAFDEC should convene a stakeholders’ consultation in order to ensure the applicability of the ACDS in the region and communicate with the importing markets to ensure its acceptance. With regards to the implementation of the Port State Measures (PSM), the Council supported the plan to conduct of a regional workshop, and SEAFDEC was requested to consider extending technical assistance and capacity building activities relevant to the implementation of the PSM in the AMSs. The Council also extended the appreciation to the Government of Singapore for supporting the conduct of the training course on vessels inspection on 5-9 January 2015, and encouraged similar training course to be conducted in the future with involvement of wider groups of participants.
7. Considering regional cooperation to promote fisheries and aquaculture in ASEAN region, the Council endorsed the Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas (RPOA-Neritic Tunas) in the ASEAN Region and the TORs of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tuna Stock Assessment. The Council also endorsed the Regional Policy Recommendations on Conservation and

Management of the Eel Resources and Promotion of Sustainable Eel Aquaculture to enable SEAFDEC and concerned agencies of the respective countries to conduct activities on eel resources conservation in the future. In addition, the Council endorsed in principle the Policy Recommendations for Development and Use of Alternative Dietary Ingredients in Aquaculture Feed Formulations, and requested AQD to conduct technical works as well as compile necessary information on this aspect to serve as basis for countries in the region to develop strategies to reduce dependence of fish-based materials as ingredients in aquaculture feeds. Moreover, the Council took note of the progress on the development of the Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity (RPOA-Capacity) which aims to serve as guide for development of NPOA-Capacity, enhance regional cooperation, sustain fisheries resources in managing shared stocks in the region as well as develop a mechanism to improve management of fishing capacity in the region.

8. On the proposed Concept Note for the conduct of High-level Consultation on Regional Cooperation in Sustainable Fisheries Development Towards the ASEAN Economic Community 2015: Combating IUU Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products proposed by SEAFDEC, the Council endorsed in principle the proposed Concept Note, and requested SEAFDEC to conduct regional technical consultation(s) prior to the stakeholders' consultation while the conduct of the High-level Consultation should be postponed to 2016. While supporting the Concept Note on Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in view of its objectives in achieving the well-being in ecology, humans and good governance, the Council requested SEAFDEC to support the Member Countries in the selection of appropriate demonstration sites for the implementation of the EAFM and looked forward to seeing SEAFDEC as the leader in the conduct of training course on EAFM in the Member Countries.

9. The Council witnessed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) and SEAFDEC on 3 April 2015, to promote sustainable fisheries in the coral triangle area especially on conservation and management of fishery resources, R&D, human resources development, consultancy, information management, and networking.

10. At the closing of the 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, the Council extended its appreciation to the Government of Thailand for the excellent hosting of the Meeting and the warm hospitality accorded to the Council throughout the event. The Council then announced that the 48th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in 2016 would be hosted by Viet Nam.

For further information, please contact:

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Ms. Nualanong Tongdee, Information Program Coordinator, SEAFDEC Secretariat, Thailand:
nual@seafdec.org.

VOTE OF THANKS FOR THE HOST GOVERNMENT

*By Abdul Halidi Mohd Salleh,
SEAFDEC Council Director for Brunei Darussalam and Acting Director of Fisheries*

The Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council,
SEAFDEC Council Directors,
Distinguished participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good Afternoon!

On behalf of the SEAFDEC Council Directors and representatives from our collaborating partners attending this 47th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, I wish to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Thailand, particularly to the Department of Fisheries of Thailand for their warm hospitality and arrangement that make out stay in this historical beautiful city of Chiang Rai, Thailand; very comfortable one.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please allow me, once again, to congratulate the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for the successful conduct of the Meeting. I would also like to take this opportunity to also express appreciation to all the Council Directors for your contribution which allow this Meeting to come up with fruitful outcomes, as well as the policy and guidance for SEAFDEC to take into account in its future operation to maximum benefit to the Member Countries.

Finally, please allow me to also thank the Secretariat of the Meeting especially the staff of Department of Fisheries of Thailand and SEAFDEC for the smooth arrangement of our Meeting and for our memorable stay in Chiang Rai.

Hope to see you again in Viet Nam.

Thank you very much.

CLOSING REMARKS

*By Dr. Kom Silapajarn
Director of the Coastal Fisheries Research and Development Division
Department of Fisheries, Thailand*

Distinguished Council Directors,
SEAFDEC Secretary-General,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we have come to the end of the forty-seventh Meeting of the Council of SEAFDEC, please allow me to express on my own behalf as well as the Council Director of Thailand and the Government of Thailand the most sincere appreciation and gratitude to all Council Directors for your active participation and contribution during the Meeting. I believe that we all agree that this Meeting has been truly beneficial and are fully satisfied with the outcome of this Meeting.

I also would like to extend my appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to the secretariat of the Meeting for this guidance, support and hard work resulting in the successful organization of the Meeting. Department of Fisheries, as the host of the Meeting wish to apologize for any inconveniences that may arise during the Meeting.

Thailand will be the chairperson of the council until 2016; I wish to reiterate my request for all your support and full cooperation in order to strengthen the contribution of the sustainable development of fishery and aquaculture as anticipated. During the Meeting, all policies and programs of work for the year 2015 – 2016 have been endorsed, therefore, the close cooperation between all SEAFDEC Council Directors, other collaborating and international organizations is the most crucial in order to ensure effectiveness of our goal on sustainable fisheries development in this region.

Lastly, please allow me to declare the Meeting closed. Thank you once again, and I wish you all have a safe journey back to your home countries. I hope that you will bring with you fond memories from this culturally-rich city of Chiang Rai.

Thank you.