

**REPORT OF  
THE NINTH MEETING OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC  
FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG)**

**Bangkok, Thailand  
7-8 December 2006**



**THE SECRETARIAT  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

## **PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS DOCUMENT**

Report of the Ninth Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) was prepared by the Secretariat of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), in collaboration with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Document is distributed to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries, SEAFDEC Departments and concerned institutions.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION**

SEAFDEC. 2007. Report of the Ninth Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG), Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Bangkok, Thailand. 51 pp.

### **NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT**

This publication may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, by any method or process, without written permission from the copyright holder. Applications for such permission with a statement of the purpose and extent of the reproduction desired should be made through and addressed to:

SEAFDEC Secretariat  
Suraswadi Building  
Kasetsart University Campus  
P.O. Box 1046 Kasetsart Post Office  
Bangkok 10903, Thailand.

ISBN 978-974-7293-65-4

All rights reserved  
©SEAFDEC 2007

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The Ninth Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) was held from 7 to 8 December 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand with the main objective of discussing the ASEAN-SEAFDEC fisheries collaborative programs as well as policy considerations on important issues related to the collaborative programs.

### **ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR 2006-2007**

2. The Meeting endorsed the progress and achievements of the activities undertaken by SEAFDEC under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism in 2006, the proposed programs of activities for the year 2007 as well as the programs, which are still in the pipeline.

3. The Meeting took note of the suggestion that the programs under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG collaborative mechanism could be formulated by both the ASEAN and SEAFDEC, and that the ASEAN could still submit proposals for additional proposed programs.

4. The Meeting expressed concerns on the situation that currently there is no clear funding sources for some of the programs/projects for 2007, e.g., the Special 5-year Project on Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region; Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement; The Use of Indicators for Sustainable Development and Management of Capture Fisheries in the ASEAN Region; and Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries.

5. The Meeting suggested that these programs should be maintained and identified the following possible solutions, e.g.; (1) to seek funding from the lead countries or beneficiary countries; (2) identify linkage with other projects and explore the possibility of using part of the budget of such projects; or (3) seek funding support from other sources.

### **ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP)**

#### **Overview and Status of ASSP**

6. The Meeting was informed that the Letter of Understanding (LoU) for the ASSP has not been signed by the ASEAN Secretary-General and the SEAFDEC Secretary-General during the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting and related meetings. However, with the endorsement of the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF on the ASSP, SEAFDEC and ASEAN could proceed in initiating cooperative activities under the ASSP.

#### **Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund**

7. The Meeting also noted that the ASEAN Member Countries and regional organizations including SEAFDEC are eligible for the JAIF. Thus, the ASEAN Member Countries could submit project proposals to the JAIF through the ASEAN Secretariat for processing and documentation.

#### **Formulation of Initiatives Supporting the Implementation of ASSP**

8. While expressing support of the proposal under the ASSP for SEAFDEC to work with the ASEAN in developing a joint project that would undertake a comprehensive study on the

Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector, the Meeting suggested the Secretariat should work closely with the ASEAN Member Countries, which have been assigned specific responsibilities to undertake studies on the Roadmap, in developing the proposal. The SEAFDEC Secretariat would also explore with the ASEAN Secretariat, for the sourcing of technical and funding support for the proposed project.

## **POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES**

### **International Fisheries Issues**

9. The Meeting agreed that the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries should take leading role in monitoring the progress and in proposing joint actions on respective issues of their interests, with technical support from the SEAFDEC Departments and coordinated by SEAFDEC Secretariat. The Meeting then took note of the offer of Thailand to be the lead country for the issue on fisheries subsidies.

10. The Meeting requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to prepare a draft Terms of Reference for the Lead Country on specific international fisheries issues, for circulation to the Member Countries prior to the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation on International Fisheries Related Issues (February 2007).

11. For urgent issues, the Meeting agreed to seek the approval of the SEAFDEC Council and the ASWGF<sub>i</sub> by ad referendum on the proposed coordinated/common positions of the Member Countries on such issues.

12. The Meeting emphasized its importance in the formulation of the Legal Text on Fisheries Subsidies and its consequent effect to the Member Countries. Issues that require particular consideration will need different treatment in specific developing countries.

13. With respect to the proposed “Moratorium on the High Seas Bottom Trawling” under the framework of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the Meeting took note of the proposal by the SEAFDEC Secretariat that in the discussion for future course of action, “the Member Countries should not support any proposal to regulate the High Seas Bottom Trawl including the proposed moratorium without clear scientific data supporting the evidence and justification”.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

14. The Meeting suggested that future FCG meetings should have an additional standing agenda on “Follow-up Actions to the Directives from the SEAFDEC Council and the ASWGF<sub>i</sub> Meetings”, where important policy and program matters could be discussed.

## CONTENTS

	<b>Paragraph No.</b>
I. INTRODUCTION	1-4
II. ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR 2006-2007	5-8
III. ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP)	
Overview and Status of ASSP	9-11
Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund	12
Formulation of Initiatives Supporting the Implementation of ASSP	13-14
IV. POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES	
International Fisheries Issues	15-20
Human Resources Development for Fisheries Management in the ASEAN Region	21
V. OTHER MATTERS	22-23
VI. CONCLUSION	24
VII. CLOSING OF THE MEETING	25

## ANNEXES

	<b>Page</b>
1. List of Participants	5
2. Opening Speech by SEAFDEC Co-chair, Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj	13
3. Agenda	15
4. Programs of Activity under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) mechanism for the Year 2006-2007	17
5. Updated Information from the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) -28th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) Meeting	21
6. Proposed Project under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP): to Assist ASEAN in the Integration of the Fisheries Sector	25
7. Executive Report on International Fisheries Issues 2006	27
8. Executive Report on Human Resources Development for Fisheries Management in ASEAN Region 2006	37
9. Closing Speech by ASEAN Co-Chair, Dr. Jonathan O. Dickson	51

**REPORT OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES  
CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG)**

**BANGKOK, THAILAND  
7-8 December 2006**

---

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The Ninth Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) was held from 7 to 8 December 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand with the main objective of discussing the ASEAN-SEAFDEC fisheries collaborative programs as well as policy considerations on important issues related to the collaborative programs. The Meeting was attended by representatives from the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries (except Lao PDR), the ASEAN Secretariat as well as the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments. The list of participants appears as **Annex 1**.

2. The Meeting was co-chaired by SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj and Mr. Jonathan Dickson, on behalf of Dir. Malcolm Sarmiento Jr., Director of Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Philippines and the current Chairman of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi).

3. The Co-chair from SEAFDEC, Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj highlighted on the importance of the Meeting and emphasized that the discussions would be focused on the activities under the collaborative programs in 2006 and the programs for 2007, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership, related international fisheries issues; and encouraged the Member Countries to come up with suggestions for future actions considering the benefits of the programs to the fisheries development in the region. His opening speech appears as **Annex 2**.

4. The Agenda, which appears as **Annex 3** was adopted.

**II. ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE  
YEAR 2006-2007**

5. The Meeting endorsed the progress and achievements of the activities undertaken by SEAFDEC under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism in 2006, the proposed programs of activities for the year 2007 as well as the programs, which are still in the pipeline. The list of programs and activities under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG mechanism in 2006 and for 2007, and the pipeline projects appears as **Annex 4**.

6. The Meeting took note of the suggestion that the programs under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG collaborative mechanism could be formulated by both the ASEAN and SEAFDEC, and that the ASEAN could still submit proposals for additional proposed programs. In this connection, the ASEAN Secretariat informed the Meeting that the priority issues of the ASEAN are described in the Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector under the ASEAN Framework Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors and the ASEAN Charter. Since additional projects from the ASEAN will still be discussed at the next meeting of the ASWGFi, additional proposals from the ASEAN may be submitted later for consideration by the FCG. The Meeting, while addressing the increasing importance of improved standards for fishery products in the Member Countries, suggested that programs related to such issue should also be developed in the future for the benefit of the Member Countries.

7. The Meeting expressed concerns on the situation that currently there is no clear funding sources for some of the programs/projects for 2007, e.g., the Special 5-year Project on

Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region; Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement; The Use of Indicators for Sustainable Development and Management of Capture Fisheries in the ASEAN Region; and Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries.

8. The Meeting, however, suggested that these programs should be maintained considering that they are still ongoing and are considered among the priority needs of the ASEAN Member Countries. In order to continue implementing the activities under these programs in 2007, the Meeting identified the following possible solutions, e.g.; (1) to seek funding from the lead countries or beneficiary countries; (2) identify linkage with other projects and explore the possibility of using part of the budget of such projects; or (3) seek funding support from other sources.

### **III. ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP)**

#### **Overview and Status of ASSP**

9. The Meeting was informed on the outcome of the PREP-SOM and the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) held from 13 to 16 November 2006 in Singapore. At the PREP-SOM Meeting and the Ministerial Meeting, the Secretary-General presented the progress of the collaborative programs under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG mechanism. He also informed the Ministers on the completion of the ASEAN Regional Guidelines on the CCRF and the implementation of the project on capacity building to address international fishery issues of concern to the ASEAN. He sought the guidance and advice of the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF for the enhancement of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP).

10. The 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting recognized the importance of sustainable fisheries development in the ASEAN and expressed its appreciation to SEAFDEC for the contributions it has made especially in the implementation of the various ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative fisheries programs. The 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF also expressed support for the continuation of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation in fisheries, and endorsed the proposal for the establishment of the ASSP including the terms of reference, scope and cooperation mechanism developed for the ASSP.

11. The Meeting was informed that the Letter of Understanding (LoU) for the ASSP has not been signed by the ASEAN Secretary-General and the SEAFDEC Secretary-General during the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting and related meetings, as planned. However, with the endorsement of the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF on the ASSP, SEAFDEC and ASEAN could proceed in initiating cooperative activities under the ASSP. The SEAFDEC Secretariat would liaise with the ASEAN Secretariat in order to set a suitable date and venue for the signing of the LoU for the ASSP. The Secretariat paper appears as **Annex 5**.

#### **Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund**

12. The Meeting also took note of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), which was established at the Ninth ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur in 2005. During the said Summit Meeting, priority activities have been defined mainly on economic integration including the fisheries sector but focusing on policy matters. The Meeting also noted that the ASEAN Member Countries and regional organizations including SEAFDEC are eligible for the JAIF. Thus, the ASEAN Member Countries could submit project proposals to the JAIF through the ASEAN Secretariat for processing and documentation.



## **Formulation of Initiatives Supporting the Implementation of ASSP**

13. The Secretariat presented a proposed concept paper on a new initiative of SEAFDEC under the ASSP for discussion and consideration at the Meeting. The new initiative is for SEAFDEC to work with the ASEAN in developing a joint project that would undertake a comprehensive study on the Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector. As proposed, the study could include among its other activities, a review of the progress made, information available, and suggestions and recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Roadmap. The paper appears as **Annex 6**.

14. While expressing support of the proposal, the Meeting, requested that the SEAFDEC Secretariat should work closely with the ASEAN Member Countries, which have been assigned specific responsibilities to undertake studies on the Roadmap (i.e., Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand), in developing the proposal. The Meeting was also informed by the ASEAN Secretariat that Thailand had expressed interest in organizing a workshop on the Roadmap, and that SEAFDEC could also take this into consideration in developing the proposed project. The Meeting agreed on the development of the project proposal by the SEAFDEC Secretariat for submission to the SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi for approval. The SEAFDEC Secretariat would also explore with the ASEAN Secretariat, for the sourcing of technical and funding support for the proposed project.

## **IV. POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES**

### **International Fisheries Issues**

15. The Meeting took note of the important international issues that may have impact on fisheries in the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries, as discussed at the ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference on Impacts of the International Fisheries Related Issues (June 2006) and at the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation on International Fisheries Issues (September 2006), i.e., 1) Fisheries Subsidies, 2) MoU between FAO and CITES, 3) Concerned Aquatic Species under CITES, 4) By-catch of Sea Turtles, 5) Safety and Quality Standards/Requirement, 6) Traceability and Labelling in Fish Trade, and 7) Moratorium on the High Seas Bottom Trawling. The Executive Report on International Fisheries Issues appears as **Annex 7**. The Meeting encouraged SEAFDEC to maintain its role in monitoring the important issues, and in assisting the Member Countries in developing their common/coordinated position on such issues.

16. However, due to the increasing number of international issues, the Meeting agreed that the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries should take leading role in monitoring the progress and in proposing joint actions on respective issues of their interests, with technical support from the SEAFDEC Departments. The effort, however, should be coordinated by SEAFDEC Secretariat.

17. The Meeting took note of the plan of the SEAFDEC Secretariat to organize a Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on International Fisheries Issues at the end of January or early February 2007, in order to monitor important fisheries issues and prepare the Member Countries on issues that may be discussed during the next FAO-COFI Meeting (5-9 March 2007) and COP14-CITES (June 2007). In this connection, the Member Countries agreed to use the Report of the SEAFDEC Secretariat as basis for the Member Countries to provide relevant inputs and expressed their desire to serve as lead countries on the respective issues, for discussion at the RTC. The Meeting requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to prepare a draft Terms of Reference for the Lead Country on specific international fisheries issues, for circulation to the Member Countries prior to the RTC.

18. For urgent issues, the Meeting agreed to seek the approval of the SEAFDEC Council and the ASWGFi by ad referendum on the proposed coordinated/common positions of the Member Countries on such issues. The Meeting then identified the lead Member Countries for the various international fisheries issues.

19. With regards to the issue on fisheries subsidies, the Meeting emphasized its importance in the formulation of the Legal Text on Fisheries Subsidies and its consequent effect to the Member Countries. Issues that require particular consideration will need different treatment in specific developing countries, e.g., the exemption of fisheries subsidies for artisanal fisheries (not to include small-scale fisheries due to its contribution in poverty alleviation and people's livelihood), high sea fisheries (as technology is not well-developed). However, the Meeting also expressed concern on the issue of fisheries subsidies, which may be broader than the scope of fisheries and may be beyond the competence of SEAFDEC. The Meeting then took note of the offer of Thailand to be the lead country for the issue on fisheries subsidies.

20. With respect to the proposed "Moratorium on the High Seas Bottom Trawling" under the framework of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the Meeting took note of the proposal by the SEAFDEC Secretariat that in the discussion for future course of action, "the Member Countries should not support any proposal to regulate the High Seas Bottom Trawl including the proposed moratorium without clear scientific data supporting the evidence and justification".

#### **Human Resources Development for Fisheries Management in the ASEAN Region**

21. The Meeting took note of the Executive Report on Human Resources Development for Fisheries Management in the ASEAN Region, which appears as **Annex 8**.

#### **V. OTHER MATTERS**

22. The Meeting suggested that future FCG meetings should have an additional standing agenda on "Follow-up Actions to the Directives from the SEAFDEC Council and the ASWGFi Meetings", where important policy and program matters could be discussed.

23. The Meeting suggested that future mechanism and arrangement of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Meetings should be improved, e.g., preparation of Program Executive Report to be available at the FCG Meeting. The ASEAN Secretariat would further consult with the SEAFDEC Secretariat to improve/standardize the reporting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Programs as outcomes of the FCG Meeting to be further submitted to the ASWGFi Meeting.

#### **VI. CONCLUSION**

24. The recommendations and report of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Meeting was adopted on 8 December 2006. The Meeting agreed that the recommendations and the report be submitted to the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Council and the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) for consideration and endorsement.

#### **VII. CLOSING OF THE MEETING**

25. The Co-chair for the ASEAN expressed his appreciation for the active participation and contribution of the Member Countries to the Meeting. He also highlighted the strong collaborative effort shown by the Member Countries to strengthen the cooperation between ASEAN and SEAFDEC on issues of common concern. His Speech appears as **Annex 9**.

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries

#### Brunei Darussalam

Mr. Abd. Halidi Mohd. Salleh  
Deputy Director of Fisheries,  
SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director and  
National Coordinator for Brunei  
Darussalam

Fisheries Department  
Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources  
Jalan Menteri Besar, Berakas BB3910  
Brunei Darussalam  
Tel: +673 2 383067  
Fax: +673 2 382069  
E-mail: halidi\_salleh@fisheries.gov.bn

Ms. Hajah Siti Amin Mahali  
Head, Research and Development Section

Fisheries Department  
Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources  
Jalan Menteri Besar, Berakas BB3910  
Brunei Darussalam  
Tel: +673 2 383412  
Fax: +673 2 382069  
E-mail: sitiamin\_mahali@fisheries.gov.bn

#### Cambodia

Mr. Ing Try  
Deputy Director-General,  
SEAFDEC National Coordinator for  
Cambodia

Fisheries Administration  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
186 Norodom Blvd., Sangkat Tonle Basac  
Khan Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh  
Cambodia  
Tel/Fax: +855 23 219 256  
H/P: +855 12 735 099; +855 11 384 899  
Fax: +855 23 215 796  
E-mail: tmmp.cam@online.com.kh

Mr. Sok Long  
Deputy Chief of Planning and Accounting  
Division

Fisheries Administration  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
186 Norodom Blvd., Sangkat Tonle Basac  
Khan Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh  
Cambodia  
H/P: +855 11 667 353  
Tel/Fax: +855 23 216 829  
E-mail: longsonita@yahoo.com

#### Indonesia

Mr. Anto Sunaryanto  
Director of Aquaculture Business  
Development and Services,  
SEAFDEC National Coordinator for  
Indonesia

Directorate General of Aquaculture  
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries  
Jl. Harsono RM No.3, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Building B  
Ragunan, Pasar Minggu  
Jakarta 12550, Indonesia  
Tel/Fax : +62 21 7883 6255  
E-mail : asunaryanto@yahoo.com

Dr. Reza Shah Pahlevi  
Head of Program Division

Directorate General of Aquaculture  
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries  
Jl. Harsono RM No.3, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Building B  
Ragunan, Pasar Minggu  
Jakarta 12550, Indonesia  
Tel/Fax: +62 21 782 2779  
E-mail: ksp\_program\_djpb@yahoo.co.id

Mr. Andriyanto Winarkusumo  
Staff Planning and Foreign Cooperation  
Bureau

Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries  
MMAF Building, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Jl. Medan Merdeka Timur No. 16  
Jakarta, Indonesia  
Tel/Fax : +62 21 352 0337  
E-mail : dan\_gan1991@yahoo.com

Mr. Shingo Ota  
Assistant Director, Office of Overseas  
Fisheries Cooperation, and  
SEAFDEC National Coordinator for Japan

#### **Japan**

Fisheries Agency  
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo, Japan 100-8907  
Tel : +81 3 3503 8971  
Fax : +81 3 3502 0571  
E-mail : shingo\_ota@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr. Mohamad Shaupi bin Derahman  
Director of Planning, Development &  
International Division,  
SEAFDEC National Coordinator for  
Malaysia

#### **Malaysia**

Department of Fisheries Malaysia  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Tower Block Lot 4G2, Presint 4  
Federal Government Administrative Centre  
62628 Putrajaya, Malaysia  
Tel : +60 3 8870 4212  
Fax : +60 3 8889 1195  
E-mail : shaupi@dof.gov.my

Mr. Abu Talib bin Ahmad  
Senior Researcher

Fisheries Research Institute  
Jl. Batu Maung  
11960 Batu Maung  
Palau Pinang  
Tel : +60 4 6263925 to 26  
Fax : +60 4 6262210  
E-mail : abutalib@fri.gov.my

Ms. Tan Geik Hong  
Head of International Section, Planning ,  
Development and International Division

Department of Fisheries Malaysia  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Tower Block Lot 4G2, Presint 4  
Federal Government Administrative Centre  
62628 Putrajaya, Malaysia  
Tel : +60 3 8870 4210  
Fax : +60 3 8889 1195  
E-mail : geikhong88@hotmail.com ;  
geikhong@dof.gov.my

Mr. Abd. Rahman bin Abd. Wahab  
Senior Fisheries Officer, Planning,  
Development and International Division

Department of Fisheries  
Department of Fisheries Malaysia  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Tower Block Lot 4G2, Presint 4  
Federal Government Administrative Centre  
62628 Putrajaya, Malaysia  
Tel : +60 3 8870 4362  
Fax : +60 3 8889 1195  
E-mail : rahman\_wahab@dof.gov.my

Mr. Win Myint Maung  
Director,  
SEAFDEC National Coordinator  
for Myanmar

#### **Myanmar**

Department of Fisheries  
Sinmin Road, Ahlone Township  
Yangon, Myanmar  
Tel: +95 1 228620; 220 618  
Fax: +95 1 228258  
E-mail: dof@mpt.mail.net.mm

Dr. Jonathan O. Dickson  
Chief, Capture Fisheries Division,  
SEAFDEC National Coordinator for the  
Philippines

#### **Philippines**

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, PCA Main Bldg., Elliptical Road  
Diliman 1100, Quezon City, Philippines  
Tel/Fax : +63 2 929 4296  
E-mail : jod\_bfar@yahoo.com

Dr. Alma C. Dickson  
Chief, Marine Fisheries Development Center  
(MFDC)

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, PCA Main Bldg., Elliptical Road  
Diliman 1100, Quezon City, Philippines  
Tel/Fax : +63 2 929 6668  
E-mail : alma\_dickson@yahoo.com ;  
almadickson@gmail.com

Mr. Leslie Cheong  
Director, Food Supply & Technology  
Department,  
SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director for  
Singapore

#### **Singapore**

Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of  
Singapore  
5 Maxwell Road #04-00  
Tower Block, MND Complex  
Singapore 069110  
Tel : +65 6325 7604  
Fax : +65 6324 9340  
E-mail : leslie\_cheong@ava.gov.sg

Dr. Somying Piumsombun  
Deputy Director-General,  
SEAFDEC Alternate Council Director for  
Thailand

#### **Thailand**

Department of Fisheries  
Kasetsart Klang  
Phaholyotin Road, Chatchak  
Bangkok 10900, Thailand  
Tel/Fax: +66 2 579 8094  
E-mail: somyingp@fisheries.go.th

Dr. Wimol Jantrarotai  
Senior Expert on International Fisheries  
Affairs

Department of Fisheries  
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives  
Kaset-Klang, Jatuchak  
Bangkok 10900, Thailand  
Tel : +66 2 940 6211  
E-mail: Jantrarotai@yahoo.com

Dr. Waraporn Prompoj  
Chief of International Cooperation Group,  
Fisheries Foreign Affairs Division

Department of Fisheries  
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives  
Kaset-Klang, Jatuchak  
Bangkok 10900, Thailand  
Tel : +66 2 579 8215  
Tel/Fax : +66 2 562 0529  
E-mail : wprompoj@yahoo.com

Mrs. Lukhana Boonsongsrikul  
Fishery Biologist, Fisheries Foreign Affairs  
Division

Department of Fisheries  
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives  
Kaset-Klang, Jatuchak  
Bangkok 10900, Thailand  
Tel : +66 2 579 7939  
Tel/Fax : +66 2 562 0529  
E-mail : lukhana91@yahoo.com

#### **Vietnam**

Dr. Vu Van Trieu  
Director-General of International  
Cooperation Department

Ministry of Fisheries  
10 Nguyen Cong Hoan Street  
Ba Dinh District, Hanoi, Vietnam  
Tel: +84 4 771 6709  
Fax: +84 4 771 6702  
E-mail: vuvantrieu@mofi.gov.vn ;  
vuvantrieu@gmail.com

Mr. Tran Van Qui  
Deputy Director, Legislation Department

Ministry of Fisheries  
10 Nguyen Cong Hoan Street  
Ba Dinh District, Hanoi, Vietnam  
Tel: +84 4 771 8640  
Fax: +84 4 771 6702  
E-mail: tranvanqui@mofi.gov.vn

Ms. Nguyen Thi Trang Nhung  
Expert of International Cooperation  
Department

Ministry of Fisheries  
10 Nguyen Cong Hoan Street  
Ba Dinh District, Hanoi, Vietnam  
Tel: +84 4 831 7693  
Fax: +84 4 771 6702  
E-mail: nguyentrangnhung@mofi.gov.vn

#### **ASEAN Secretariat**

Dr. Somsak Pipoppinyo  
Assistant Director

ASEAN Secretariat  
Jl. Sisingamangaraja 70A  
Jakarta 12110, Indonesia  
Tel: +62 21 726 2991  
Fax: +62 21 739 8234  
E-mail: somsak@aseansec.org

**SEAFDEC**

**SEAFDEC Secretariat**

Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj Secretary-General, and Chief of SEAFDEC/TD	SEAFDEC/Secretariat P.O. Box 1046, Kasetsart Post Office Bangkok 10903, Thailand Tel: +66 2 940 6326 Fax: +66 2 9406336 E-mail: sg@seafdec.org
Mr. Hideki Tsubata Deputy Secretary-General, and Deputy Chief of SEAFDEC/TD	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: dsg@seafdec.org
Dr. Yasuhisa Kato Special Advisor	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: kato@seafdec.org
Mr. Robert Lee Yuen Tong Advisor (based in Singapore)	c/o 22 Jalan Rendang Singapore 428353 E-mail: theleeg@starhub.net.sg
Dr. Magnus Torell Senior Advisor to SEAFDEC-Sida Project	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: magnus@seafdec.org
Mr. Somnuk Pornpatimakorn Administration and Finance Coordinator	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: somnuk@seafdec.org
Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn Policy and Program Coordinator	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: suriyan@seafdec.org
Mrs. Pouchamarn Wongsanga Information Program Coordinator	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: pouch@seafdec.org
Ms. Kannika Boonkananurak Finance Officer	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: kannika@seafdec.org
Mr. Ikuya Tanaka Assistant Trust Fund Manager	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: tanaka@seafdec.org
Ms. Nualanong Tongdee Senior Information Officer	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: nual@seafdec.org
Miss Rujarek Bumrasarinpai Program Administration Officer	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: rujarek@seafdec.org
Dr. Worawit Wanchana SEAFDEC-Sida Project Manager	SEAFDEC/Secretariat E-mail: worawit@seafdec.org

### **The Training Department**

Mr. Bundit Chokesanguan Head of Information and Training Division, and Special Departmental Coordinator	SEAFDEC/TD P.O. Box 97, Phrasamutchedi Samut Prakan 10290, Thailand Tel: +66 2 425 6100 Fax : +66 2 425 6110 to 11 E-mail: bundit@seafdec.org
Dr. Yuttana Theparoonrat Head of Coastal Fisheries Management Division	SEAFDEC/TD E-mail: yuttana@seafdec.org
Mr. Aussanee Munprasit Assistant Training Department Chief (Technical)	SEAFDEC/TD E-mail: aussanee@seafdec.org
Dr. Somboon Siriraksophon Head of Capture Fishery Technology Division	SEAFDEC/TD E-mail: somboon@seafdec.org
Mr. Seiichi Etoh Project Leader/ Socio-economist	SEAFDEC/TD E-mail: etoh@seafdec.org
Miss Apiradee Kulthai Information and Communication Section Head	SEAFDEC/TD E-mail: apiradee@seafdec.org

### **The Marine Fisheries Research Department**

Mrs. Tan-Low Lai Kim Chief	SEAFDEC/MFRD 2 Perahu Road, off Lim Chu Kang Road Singapore 486541 Tel : +65 6790 7973 Fax : +65 6861 3196 E-mail: TAN-LOW_Lai_Kim@ava.gov.sg
-------------------------------	--

### **The Aquaculture Department**

Dr. Joebert D. Toledo Chief	SEAFDEC/AQD Tigbauan, 5021 Iloilo Philippines Tel: +63 33 336 2965; 511 9174 Fax: +63 33 335 1008 E-mail: jdtoledo@aqd.seafdec.org.ph
Dr. Koichi Okuzawa Deputy Chief	SEAFDEC/AQD Tel: +63 33 511 8878; 336 2965 Fax: +63 33 511 8878; 335 1008 E-mail: okuzawa@aqd.seafdec.org.ph
Dr. Evelyn Grace T. De Jesus Ayson Head, Research Division	SEAFDEC/AQD Tel: +63 33 336 2965 Fax: +63 33 511 9070 E-mail: edjayson@aqd.seafdec.org.ph



Mr. Renato F. Agbayani  
Head, Training & Information Division

SEAFDEC/AQD  
Tel: +63 33 511 9172; 335 1009  
Fax: +63 33 511 8709; 335 1008  
E-mail: ragbayani@aqd.seafdec.org.ph

Mrs. Belen O. Acosta  
Special Departmental Coordinator

SEAFDEC/AQD  
Tel: +63 33 336 2965; 511 9174  
Fax: +63 33 335 1008  
E-mail: bacosta@aqd.seafdec.org.ph

**The Marine Fishery Resources Development  
and Management Department**

Mr. Raja Mohammad Noordin Raja Omar  
Chief

SEAFDEC/MFRDMD  
Taman Perikanan Chendering  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia  
Tel : +60 9 617 5940 ; +60 9 6171543  
Fax: +60 9 617 5136  
E-mail: rnoordin@mfrdmd.org.my

Dr. Yoshinobu Konishi  
Deputy Chief

SEAFDEC/MFRDMD  
E-mail: ykoni@mfrdmd.org.my

Mr. Rosidi Ali  
Senior Research Officer

SEAFDEC/MFRDMD  
E-mail: rosidi@mfrdmd.org.my

**Secretariat of the Meeting**

Ms. Saowanee Wanothayaranchai  
Miss Saivason Klinsukhon  
Mr. Julasak Markawat  
Mr. Sonthikarn Soetphannuk



**OPENING SPEECH**

By SEAFDEC Co-chair  
Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj, SEAFDEC Secretary-General

The ASEAN Co-Chair, Distinguished delegates from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries and ASEAN Secretariat, SEAFDEC Senior Officials, Ladies and Gentlemen.  
Good morning to you all.

It is indeed my great pleasure to extend my warm welcome to all delegates and participants of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Meeting. All of you may have noticed that the arrangement of the FCG Meeting has been changed in line with the decision made at the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Council and the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries. This will therefore allow us time to better identify and prepare issues for consideration and decision at both SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi meetings.

After the establishment of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG in 1999, a number of regional collaborative programs have been implemented to assist the ASEAN Member Countries in achieving sustainable fisheries on the basis of common fisheries policies. To date, the FCG has proved to be an effective consultative forum for ASEAN and SEAFDEC to address regionally important issues and actions in fisheries.

At this one and a half day intensive meeting, we will be able to discuss collaborative programs of activity for the year 2006 and 2007. Continuously, issues of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) will be deliberated at length with the view to strengthen closer cooperation and collaboration between ASEAN, SEAFDEC and their respective Member Countries. Further, in taking steps toward addressing our regional interests on international fisheries issues, we will review issues that are of regional importance. It is expected that the Meeting could come up with suggestions for future actions considering the benefits of the region.

Based on the major issues of discussion, I am confident that with your active deliberations, the Meeting will be productive and able to make this Meeting a success. With that, I hereby declare the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG – open.

Thank you.



**AGENDA**

- Agenda 1**      Opening of the Meeting
- Agenda 2**      Adoption of the Agenda
- Agenda 3**      ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Collaborative Programs for the Year 2006-2007
- Agenda 4**      ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)  
4.1 Overview and Status of ASSP  
4.2 ASEAN-Japan Integration Fund  
4.3 Formulation of Initiatives Supporting the Implementation of ASSP
- Agenda 5**      Policy Consideration on Important Issues  
5.1 International Fisheries Issues  
5.2 Human Resources Development for Fisheries Management in the ASEAN Region  
5.3 Other Issues
- Agenda 6**      Adoption of Recommendations and Report of the Meeting
- Agenda 7**      Closing of the Meeting



**PROGRAMS OF ACTIVITY UNDER ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG) MECHANISM  
FOR THE YEAR 2006-2007**

**I. Existing Programs<sup>a</sup>**

<b>Programs</b>	<b>Lead ASEAN Country</b>	<b>Lead SEAFDEC Depts.</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
1. Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries <sup>1</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Component I</u>: Formulation and Dissemination of the Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries</li> <li>○ <u>Component II</u>: Human Resource Development on the Support to the Implementation of the CCRF in the ASEAN Region                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fishing capacity in Southeast Asia</li> <li>- Integration of fisheries management into habitat management</li> <li>- Development or establishment of incentives or rewards for fishermen in promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable fisheries e.g. eco-labeling</li> <li>- Promotion of regional and sub-regional agreements on fisheries and aquatic/coastal environmental management</li> <li>- Fisheries/environmental management together with increasing of efforts to find a balance between large and small-scale fisheries in managing the fishing capacity</li> <li>- Integration of local knowledge and local organization in planning process</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Indonesia	SEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>
2. Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues <sup>2</sup>	Thailand	SEC	✓	✓
3. Special 5-year Program on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the ASEAN Region (2006-2010)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Component I</u>: Fisheries Management</li> </ul>				
3.1 Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries Management through the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management	Indonesia	SEC	✓	✓

<sup>1</sup> The program is scheduled to end by the year 2006; however the activities under Component II of the program have been extended until the year 2007.

<sup>2</sup> The program was formerly referred to as 'Fish Trade and Environment'; the new title has been endorsed since 2005.

3.2 Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region	Thailand	SEC	✓	✓ <sup>b</sup>
3.3 Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices (Fishing in Harmony with Nature)	Thailand	TD	✓	✓
3.4 Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement	Thailand	TD	✓	✓ <sup>b</sup>
3.5 Sustainable Utilization of Potential Fisheries Resources and Reduction of Post-harvest Losses	Thailand	TD	✓	✓
3.6 The Use of Indicators for Sustainable Development and Management of Capture Fisheries in the ASEAN Region	Malaysia	MFRDMD	✓	✓ <sup>b</sup>
3.7 Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries	Malaysia	MFRDMD	✓	✓ <sup>b</sup>
○ <u>Component II</u> : Aquaculture				
3.8 Development of Technologies for Sustainable Aquaculture	Philippines	AQD	✓	✓
3.9 Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture	Philippines	AQD	✓	✓
○ <u>Component III</u> : Utilization of Fish and Fishery Products				
3.10 Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries	Singapore	MFRD	✓	✓
3.11 Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries	Singapore	MFRD	✓	- <sup>c</sup>
3.12 Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries	Singapore	MFRD	✓	- <sup>c</sup>
4. Information Collection for Sustainable Pelagic Fisheries in the South China Sea (in collaboration with TD and MFRD)	Cambodia	MFRDMD	✓	-
5. Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast Asia (in collaboration with the Departments) <sup>3</sup>	Malaysia	SEC	✓	✓
6. Establishment of Disease Surveillance System of Aquatic Animals	Philippines	AQD	✓	✓
7. Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia	Singapore	MFRD	✓	✓
8. Research and Development (R&D) of Stock Enhancement for Species under International Concerns	Philippines	AQD	✓	✓

<sup>3</sup> The program was formerly referred to 'Management of Fisheries and Utilization of Shark in Southeast Asia' (2002-2006 in Japan fiscal year), the new titled has been endorsed since 2005



9. Research for Stock Enhancement of Sea Turtles (in collaboration with TD) <sup>4</sup>	Malaysia	MFRDMD		✓
10. Capacity Improvement of Fisheries Community for Fisheries Management and Alleviation of Poverty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Component I: Follow-up of the on-going projects</u></li> <li>○ <u>Component II: Extension of the project concept to other member countries</u></li> <li>○ <u>Component III: International Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management for Fishery Managers</u></li> </ul>	Thailand	TD	✓	✓
11. Human Resource Development (HRD) for Sustainable Development of Fisheries in Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Region (in collaboration with the Departments) <sup>5</sup>	-	SEC	✓	-

## II. Proposed New Programs for the Year 2007

Programs	Lead ASEAN Country	Lead SEAFDEC Depts.
12. SEAFDEC-Sida Project on Support to Tsunami Rehabilitation of Affected Countries in the ASEAN Region	TBD	SEC
13. Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for M.V. SEAFDEC 2	TBD	TD
14. Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea (in collaboration with TD)	TBD	MFRDMD
15. Deep Sea Fisheries Resources Exploration in the Southeast Asia (in collaboration with MFRDMD)	TBD	TD

Note: TBD – To be decided

<sup>4</sup> The program was formerly under component II of the program ‘Research and Development (R&D) of Stock Enhancement for Species under International Concerns’, in order to follow-up the progress initiatives on ‘Conservation and Management of Sea Turtles in Southeast Asian Countries’ in 2004. The program is proposed to entitle as appears in the table in the year 2007.

<sup>5</sup> The program started since 2005 but did not report under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG mechanism. The program is expected to complete by early 2007.

### III. Pipeline Programs<sup>d</sup>

<b>Programs</b>	<b>Lead SEAFDEC Depts.</b>
1. Community Fisheries – Strengthening Organization of Communities for Sustainable Livelihoods in Coastal Areas	SEC
2. Human Resource Development (HRD) on Poverty Alleviation and Food Security by Fisheries Intervention in the ASEAN Region	SEC
3. Promotion of “One Village, One Fisheries Products (FOVOP)” System to Improve the Livelihood for the Fisheries Communities in ASEAN Region	SEC
4. Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement	TD
5. Transboundary Collaborative Arrangement Supporting Aquatic Resources and Habitat Management for Sustainable Fisheries	TD
6. Genetic Improvement of Commercially Important Aquaculture Species for Food Security	AQD
7. Institutional Capacity Development on Sustainable Aquaculture	AQD
8. Use of Indicators for the Management of Fishing Capacity of ASEAN Countries	MFRDMD

<sup>a</sup> The programs have been endorsed at the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG, 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Council, and the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASWGFi.

<sup>b</sup> Some part of activities is on going and to be implemented in the year 2007 based on the availability of fund.

<sup>c</sup> The programs are deferred until funding is available.

<sup>d</sup> The programs are in the process of discussion and coordination with the donors.

**Annex 5**

**UPDATED INFORMATION FROM THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (SOM) -  
28<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY (AMAF) MEETING**

**13 to 18 November 2006, Singapore**

SEAFDEC participated at the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting held in Singapore from the 13-18 Nov 2006 at the invitation of ASEAN. In preparation for the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting, the Secretary-General Dr Siri also attended the Prep SOM-AMAF and made a presentation to the Senior Officials on the progress made on the ASEAN-SEAFDEC programs under the FCG mechanism. SEAFDEC expressed the hope that the Letter of Understanding (LOU) for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) could be signed during the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting and the 9<sup>th</sup> AMAF +3 Meeting. The SOM-AMAF reiterated its support for ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation as reflected in the extracted paragraphs from the Report of the Prep SOM-AMAF Meeting and the Report of the Chairman of SOM-AMAF to the ASEAN Ministers at the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting as listed below.

**REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING OF THE  
TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY (PREPSOM – 28<sup>TH</sup> AMAF)**

*13 – 14 November 2006, Singapore:*

9.1.2 ASEAN- SEAFDEC

42. Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj, the Secretary General of SEAFDEC, presented the progress made on the ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative programmes in 2006 under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) mechanism, which appears as **ANNEX 21**.

43. The presentation highlighted the completion and achievement of the Special 5-year Programme (implemented from 2002-2005) as well as a new phase of the Special 5-year Programme to be implemented from 2006-2010, which would focus on three major components, namely Fisheries Management, Aquaculture and Utilisation of Fish and Fishery Products. SEAFDEC also expected the implementation of the ASEAN- SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) to further strengthen ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation and expressed appreciation to SOM-AMAF for giving SEAFDEC the opportunity to participate in the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting.

44. With regard to the proposed signing of the Letter of Understanding (LOU), some Member Countries would need more time to consult relevant authorities and obtain internal clearance for the signing of the LOU.

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF CHAIRMAN OF SOM-AMAF ON THE  
PROGRESS OF SECTORAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES TO THE 28<sup>TH</sup> MEETING  
OF AMAF**

D.3 Cooperation in Fisheries

23. Significant progress of cooperative projects and activities in fisheries has been made, among others, Development of Aquaculture, ASEAN Network of Fisheries Post Harvest Technology (FPHT), Harmonisation of Fishery Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Collaboration on Sustainable Fisheries Management in the Southeast Asia

Region, and fisheries related projects under the ASEAN Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP).

#### D.3.4 ASEAN-SEAFDEC Collaboration in Sustainable Management of Fisheries Resources in the Southeast Asia Region

27. Acknowledging the concern expressed by the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF<sub>i</sub>) on the impending decline of financial support from Japan for SEAFDEC that would have impact on the effective implementation of cooperation projects and activities as well as the existing close ASEAN-Japan cooperation through SEAFDEC, SOM-AMAF agreed to the recommendation of the ASWGF<sub>i</sub> to request the AMAF to convey this ASEAN's concern to the Government of Japan.

Recommendation:

- AMAF may wish to consider and provide guidance to convey the ASEAN's concern on the impending decline of financial support from Japan for SEAFDEC that would have impact on the effective implementation of cooperation projects and activities as well as the existing close ASEAN-Japan cooperation through SEAFDEC to the Government of Japan.

28. With a view to further enhance closer collaboration between the ASEAN and SEAFDEC by strengthening implementation of regional fisheries programmes and mechanism, Member Countries supported a proposal to establish the "ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)". Toward this end the terms of reference, scope and cooperation mechanism of the ASSP has been prepared and submitted for endorsement by AMAF.

Recommendation:

- AMAF may wish to consider and endorse the terms of reference, scope and cooperation mechanism of the ASSP, which appears as **APPENDIX 8.**"

The Secretary-General was also invited to make a presentation on the progress made in ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation to the ASEAN Ministers at the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF. After Dr Siri's presentation, the Ministers noted the importance of sustainable fisheries development in ASEAN and express their appreciation to SEAFDEC for her contributions to ASEAN in the implementation of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative programs. Though the LOU for the ASSP could not be signed during the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF and the 9<sup>th</sup> AMAF + 3 meetings, the ASEAN Ministers endorsed the ASSP including the Terms of Reference, Scope and cooperation Mechanism. This is reflected in the extracted paragraphs of the official Report of the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF Meeting as listed below.

#### **REPORT OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY (28<sup>th</sup> AMAF)**

*16 November 2006, Singapore*

19. To further enhance closer collaborative efforts between the ASEAN and SEAFDEC in strengthening implementation of regional fisheries programmes and mechanism, the Meeting endorsed a proposal to establish the "ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)" including the terms of reference, scope and cooperation mechanism of the ASSP.

## **COLLABORATION WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS AND THIRD PARTIES ON FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

23. The Meeting noted the good progress made in the collaborative activities with dialogue partners, in particular Australia, China, Germany, Japan, and Republic of Korea and international organisations like Asian Development Bank (ADB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), World Animal Health Organisation (OIE), and the Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC), for their technical assistance and financial support for the past year.

### **9.1.2 ASEAN-SEAFDEC**

40. Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj, the Secretary General of SEAFDEC presented the good progress made in the nine ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative programs in 2006. He highlighted the implementation of the Special ASEAN-SEAFDEC 5-year Program for 2006-2010 consisting of the Fisheries Management, Aquaculture and Utilization of Fish and Fishery Products components covering a total of 12 projects. He also informed the Meeting of the completion and publication of the ASEAN Regional Guidelines on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries during the year. Projects to assist ASEAN in capacity building to address international fishery issues of concern to ASEAN have also been implemented. He sought AMAF guidance and advice to enhance ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation in sustainable fisheries development under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP). His presentation is in **ANNEX 14**.

41. The Meeting recognised the importance of sustainable fisheries development in ASEAN and expressed appreciation to SEAFDEC for her contributions in the implementation of the various ASEAN-SEAFDEC collaborative fisheries programs. The Meeting also expressed support for the continuation of ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation in fisheries.”

The LOU for the ASSP could not be signed as scheduled/planned, by the ASEAN Secretary-General and the SEAFDEC Secretary-General during the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF and 9<sup>th</sup> AMAF + 3 meetings due to internal procedural process in some ASEAN member countries. However, it is envisaged that the LOU will be signed in the very near future as the ASSP has already been endorsed by the 28<sup>th</sup> AMAF. SEAFDEC Secretariat will liaise with the ASEAN Secretariat on a convenient date and venue for the signing of the LOU for the ASSP.



## **Annex 6**

### **PROPOSED PROJECT UNDER ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP): TO ASSIST ASEAN IN THE INTEGRATION OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR**

ASEAN Leaders at the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit (Oct 2003, Bali) endorsed the integration of eleven priority sectors as part of the process towards the establishment of the ASEAN Community comprising of three pillars, namely the ASEAN Security Community (ASC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC). The Fisheries Sector is one of the eleven identified sectors for ASEAN economic integration under the AEC.

In the “Tokyo Declaration for the Dynamic and enduring ASEAN-Japan Partnership in the New Millennium” issued at the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit, 11 -12 Dec 2003 in Tokyo, Japan agreed to give high priority to ASEAN’s economic development and integration to realise the ASEAN Community through its development assistance and support programmes. In addition, Japan wants to strengthen cooperation and support the realisation of ASEAN integration goals by implementing projects, particularly those under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), and enhance cooperation in food security and food safety.

At the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit held on 29<sup>th</sup> Nov 2004, Vientiane, Lao PDR, the ASEAN Leaders signed the ASEAN Framework Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors for ASEAN Economic Integration. The Summit called for the implementation of the ASEAN Road Maps of the priority sectors, including the Road Map for the Integration of the Fisheries Sector, to ensure successful integration of the priority sectors within the time frame.

Though the Road Map for the Integration of the Fisheries Sector has been formulated in 2004, SEAFDEC understand that implementation of the Road Map by ASEAN will require much more technical and policy inputs which might also require a review of what have been achieved so far and what further action is needed to further implement the ASEAN Road Map. SEAFDEC, with her membership of ASEAN member countries and Japan, can play a useful role in assisting ASEAN in achieving her goal of an integrated fisheries sector in respond to the ASEAN Summit goal of an ASEAN economic community. SEAFDEC would like to propose to ASEAN to jointly develop a Project proposal for assistance to ASEAN for the integration of the fisheries sector as a major cooperative project under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP).

ASEAN member countries are major fish and fishery products producer and exporters in the world, while Japan as a member of SEAFDEC, is a major seafood importer from the ASEAN member countries and has valuable knowledge and experience in fisheries sector of ASEAN.

In the proposed project, SEAFDEC could propose to ASEAN to undertake a joint comprehensive study of the ASEAN Road Map for the Integration of the Fisheries Sector. The study among other activities could include a review of progress made for the Road Map, information available, and make suggestions or recommendations as to how the Road Map for the integration of the ASEAN Fisheries Sector could be enhanced and implemented within the desired timeframe. Such a study will assist ASEAN towards the integration of the fisheries sector, and will contribute towards ASEAN’s goal of achieving an ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in the context of the greater ASEAN Community.

#### **Consideration and Approval of 29<sup>th</sup> PCM and 9<sup>th</sup> FCG**

The 29<sup>th</sup> PCM and the 9<sup>th</sup> FCG meetings might wish to consider and discuss the above Project proposal. If the concept of the Project is agreeable, PCM and FCG is requested to provide suggestions, comments and inputs for the further development of the project proposal by

SEAFDEC Secretariat in consultation with the ASWGF/ASEAN Secretariat. SEAFDEC will then explore with ASEAN Secretariat possible third party technical and funding support for such a Project proposal. Such a project proposal will also require the endorsement of the SEAFDEC Council.



## EXECUTIVE REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES ISSUES 2006

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference on the Impacts of the International Fisheries Related Issues was organized by SEAFDEC Secretariat from 24 to 25 June 2006. The highlight of this Conference was recommendations on formulation of 'Strategy and Mechanism for Fisheries Policy', as well as coordination mechanism among the Member Countries, as the framework and working mechanism for SEAFDEC future activities in assisting the Member Countries to tackle with international issues related to fisheries.

2. SEAFDEC Secretariat also organized the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on International Fisheries Related Issues held on 18 September 2006 in Phuket, Thailand. The Consultation was held as part of the program on "Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues" implemented under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) mechanism and funded by the Japanese Trust Fund to SEAFDEC.

3. The main objectives of the RTC were to review priority fisheries issues discussed at international level and their status by focusing on the proposed moratorium on high sea bottom trawls under the framework of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and commercially exploited aquatic species under the CITES framework, and identify potential impacts on fisheries in the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries in order to develop recommendations for actions to address such impacts and formulate common/coordinated positions to be used as a basis for participation of the Member Countries in relevant international fora.

4. At both Meetings, the Secretariat also provided basic information of important international/regional fora related to fisheries in 2006, which may have potential impacts on fisheries in the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries. The fora include those of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF) (6 to 8 June), the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO Sub-Committee on Fish Trade (30 May to 2 June), 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) (12 to 16 June), and the CITES Animals Committee (7 to 13 July).

5. The Meetings reiterated that the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries to prepare relevant inputs and participate actively in the regional/international fora, in order to voice the common concerns and safeguard the regional fisheries interests particularly at the:

- 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group (AEG) on CITES, 28-30 December 2006;
- 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS), May or June 2007;
- 27<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries, 5-9 March 2007;
- First Session of Regional Fishery Bodies Secretariat's Network, 12-13 March 2007
- 39<sup>th</sup> SEAFDEC Council Meeting, April 2007;
- 15<sup>th</sup> Session of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries, May 2007;
- 14<sup>th</sup> Session of Conference of Party (CoP14) of CITES, 3-15 June 2007; and
- 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of UN General Assembly, 18 September-28 December 2007

6. Therefore, this paper was prepared to provide information and regional views on substantive issues related to fish trade and anti-fisheries campaigns derived from the Consultations as well as conclusions and recommendations from the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-SEAFDEC

FCG Meeting and the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Council. After going through the document, it is envisaged that the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries would express future directions and follow-up actions to reflect regional interested and/or coordinated positions at the regional/international fora as well as expected roles and inputs of SEAFDEC to support the Member Countries in respective areas.

## **II. CONTEXT/ISSUES**

### **Fisheries Subsidies**

7. At the 38<sup>th</sup> SEAFDEC Council Meeting, it was informed that the legal text on fishery subsidies was under preparation process of WTO and would be finalized by the end of 2006, and that subsidies relevant to small-scale fisheries would be an exempt due to its contribution to poverty alleviation and people's livelihood. The Meeting therefore requested that the Member Countries should develop common characteristics of small-scale fisheries in the region including criteria for prohibiting the use of fisheries subsidies.

8. At the High Level Conference, the Member Countries agreed to provide position, e.g. on preferable option between top down/bottom-up approaches, definition of small scale fisheries and artisanal fisheries, to the Chairman of Rule Negotiation group before the legal text was to be submitted. In addition it was suggested that in-country coordination with responsible agency needed to be established to properly reflect the concerns from fisheries aspect before the legal text would be released.

#### ***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

9. The Meeting is invited to discuss on progress of the issue as well as to consider and suggest on the follow-up of the progress of WTO negotiation and coordination mechanism of fishery agency in the process of policy coordination for WTO negotiations as well as provision of technical inputs based on scientific evidence to trade negotiators.

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FAO-CITES**

10. Since 2002, the issue of the MoU between CITES and FAO has been seriously discussed at FAO and CITES in order to strengthen the collaboration between the two organizations on commercial exploited aquatic species. There are many FAO members expressed their strong view that some of CITES listings species have potentially serious negative impact for normal fishing activities and their economies particularly developing and coastal states. In order to accommodate both the CITES and FAO's interests in the potential MoU, CITES standing Committee Chairman and FAO Secretariat discussed and prepared a "compromised text" for the draft MoU in 2004.

11. In October 2006, CITES and FAO have formalized their working relationship in a MoU signed by CITES Secretary-General and FAO Assistant Director-General for Fisheries. Under the MoU, FAO and CITES will review and consult together on the scientific, legal and technical evaluation of commercially exploited aquatic species listed or proposed for listing in the CITES Appendices. This MoU provides FAO to work more closely with CITES in promoting and encouraging sustainable fisheries and responsible fish trade.

#### ***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

12. The Meeting is invited to take note of the status of MoU between FAO and CITES and also suggest the Member Countries and SEAFDEC for future follow-up actions including support to and collaboration with FAO in providing technical advice to CITES on commercially exploited aquatic species.

## **Concerned Aquatic Species of under CITES**

### **a) Sharks**

13. At the 38<sup>th</sup> SEAFDEC Council Meeting held in April 2006, Japan expressed her opposing view against listing of two shark species (to be proposed by Germany during the next CoP of CITES) as they should be managed by FAO or the relevant regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), and requested the Member Countries to support such a position.

14. At the ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference, Japan urged that in addition to Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand, other Member Countries consider adopting a National Plan of Action on Sharks (NPOA-Shark) as soon as possible; and thereby the existing shark management scheme applied in the region should be appealed when discussing any proposal to list shark species into the CITES Appendices at the forthcoming CoP14-CITES.

### ***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

15. The Meeting is invited to suggest future directions and follow-up actions in the region for the Member Countries and SEAFDEC.

### **b) Sea Cucumbers**

16. At the RTC on International Fisheries Related Issues held in September 2006, the Member Countries took note of the recommendations made at the 22<sup>nd</sup> of CITES Animal Committee Meeting held in Lima, Peru from 7 to 13 July 2006, particularly on the conservation and management of sea cucumbers commercial species in families Holothuriidae and Stichopodidae under the CITES appendices as well as other activities implemented by CITES. The RTC also took note of the planned study to be conducted by FAO at the global level in compiling information on sea cucumbers as a basis for technical inputs to the CITES Animal Committee (AC). It was recommended that, the AC requests CoP-14 to evaluate the outcomes of the FAO Workshop on Sustainable Use and Management of Sea Cucumbers Fisheries to be conducted in late 2007.

17. As soon as possible, SEAFDEC in collaboration with the Departments and Member Countries will conduct the regional study on information collection of sea cucumber fisheries, utilization, and trade, and when appropriate establish the 'Regional Working Group on Sea Cucumbers Fisheries', which will be mobilized for planning and coordination work on sea cucumber status, resources utilization, management and trade in order to assess possibility in the development of country's initiative or action plan and policy recommendation, for further submission to the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Council and the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASWGFi for consideration and support.

18. The RTC also supported the development of appropriate management policy, taking into account of local livelihood option and suggested to further explore aquaculture potentials and resource enhancement in order to sustain the resources. However, there are some countries expressed that the listing of sea cucumbers in commercial species should not be made under any CITES Appendices.

### ***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

19. The Meeting is invited to take note of the status of development initiatives on the issue and suggest future directions and follow-up actions in the region for the Member Countries and SEAFDEC.

### **c) CITES Related Issues**

20. At the ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference, in preparation for the CoP14-CITES, Japan requested other Member Countries, once receive the information and scientific opinion provided by SEAFDEC Secretariat, to transfer its comments to agency responsible for CITES and provide comment on the proposal to amend the CITES Appendices by 4 January 2007. The common/coordinated position of ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries on the issues will be then confirmed at the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Council.

21. During 28 to 30 November 2006, SEAFDEC supported the fisheries representatives from the Member Countries to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Expert Group on CITES (AEG-CITES) held in Manila, the Philippines; the participating countries included Cambodia, Indonesia, and Singapore, whose delegate reflected fisheries interests and views relevant to commercially exploited species. The representatives from SEAFDEC Secretariat also presented the 'ASEAN-SEAFDEC Collaboration on CITES Issues Affecting Fisheries' as well as activities related to the regional study on sea cucumber.

#### ***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

22. The Meeting is invited to take note of information on the issue and suggest future directions and roles and responsibilities of Member Countries and SEAFDEC for future preparation for and actions at the CoP14- CITES.

#### **By-catch of Sea Turtles**

23. Effort in managing and conserving sea turtles was viewed as a good example of the collaboration among the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries in addressing issues related to endangered species under the broad framework of sustainable development of fisheries. As for the comparative studies on the two hook types, the information showed insignificant difference in terms of catch efficiency while avoiding by-catch of sea turtles. Some concern was also raised on the high cost implication related to the introduction of circle hooks particularly in small-scale fisheries.

24. At the ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference, Japan informed of the discussion at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Sea Turtles organized in April 2006 in Greece, and that increasing incidence of sea turtle by-catch from coastal small-scale fisheries was reported to the Conference. Japan urged other Member Countries to set up countermeasure, as this may have negative impact to coastal small-scale fisheries in Southeast Asia. The Japanese delegate also urged the Member Countries to proceed with effort to reduce the sea-turtle by-catch, and implement the FAO Guidelines to reduce number of sea turtle by-catch. In addition, Japan also expressed willingness to continue support to SEAFDEC activities on sea turtles by-catch issue.

#### ***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

25. The Meeting is invited to take note of information on the issue and suggest future directions including roles of and actions by the Member Countries and SEAFDEC.

#### **Safety and Quality Standards/Requirements**

26. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of FAO Sub-committee on Fish Trade held in June 2006, the concern was made on increasing complexity of safety and quality requirements as well as burden imposing on developing countries particularly SMEs. Taking into account of the worldwide implementation of HACCP-based systems, the focus has been made to develop an integrated multidisciplinary approach to safety and quality in support the food chain approach. The

development areas include risk assessment, traceability, harmonization of fish quality and safety standard and equivalence on food safety system.

27. At the High Level Conference, it is suggested that discussion among fishery agency and trade related agencies, including private organizations, which set standards for quality and safety, should be initiated to obtain views and more precise information.

***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

28. The Meeting is invited to take note of information on the issue and suggest future directions including roles and responsibilities of Member Countries and SEAFEC for future follow-up actions.

**Traceability and Labelling in Fish Trade**

29. The issue of traceability was raised at the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO COFI at both national and international level and its possible impact on existing regulation including import regulation. Some countries expressed their concern related to traceability requirement in some key markets for fish product by 2005, while some developing countries requested extra time in meeting these requirements.

30. Implementation of regulatory traceability at the international level has proceeded since the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO Sub-committee on Fish Trade. However, some areas remain unclear for fish inspection services and exporters in developing countries. Recently, the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) held in Italy at the beginning of July 2006, adopted a principles for traceability/product tracing as a tool within a food import and export inspection and certification system.

31. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, the issues were addressed as important on both ensuring safety requirements for consumer and improving sustainability and management of fisheries. Developing Countries noted that complying with international standards; which are being increasingly imposed by fish imports by many authorities, involves significant financial and technical burdens as well as social difficulties in implementation those schemes. It was requested the assistance from the importing countries on traceability application (simple system) for small-scale, and make sure that the standards are fair and based on good science.

32. At the ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference, the concerns were expressed on the applicability in implementation of traceability in Member Countries due to the multi-species small-scale fisheries; the extend of traceability; and the implication of traceability to various scales of fisheries.

***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

33. The Meeting is invited to take note of information on the issue and suggest future directions including roles and responsibilities of Member Countries and SEAFEC for future follow-up actions.

**Moratorium on the High Seas Bottom Trawling**

34. Moratorium on trawling in the high seas is demanded by some environmental NGOs (Deep Sea Conservation Coalition: <http://www.savethehighseas.org>) and countries at meetings related to United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) since 2004. The 2004 UNGA Resolution requests States to consider “the interim prohibition of destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling that has adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems. Moreover, the

Resolution also states that the UNGA this year will discuss whether a moratorium in the high seas is necessary.

35. Similar indication had happened before, which resulted in unscientific moratorium on the use of drift net in the high seas in 1991. It is foreseen that if countries allowed the moratorium on trawling in the high seas, they might also lose their rationale for protecting their EEZ bottom trawling, which will have adverse effect considering that bottom trawling plays significant roles in food security and the development of local communities.

36. At the UN Informal Consultations on resolution of fisheries related issues held from 2 to 9 October and 17 to 22 November 2006, the chairman of the UN Informal Consultation presented the final text to participating countries especially on the sustainable fisheries that *call upon* the regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements with the competence to regulate bottom fisheries to adopt and implement measures, in accordance with the precautionary approach, ecosystem approaches and international law, for their respective regulatory areas as a matter of priority, but not later than December 31, 2008. Further that, the states participating in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries to expedite such negotiations and, by no later than December 31, 2007, to adopt and implement interim measures.

37. It is invited that the FAO for its work on the management of deep sea fisheries in the high seas, to establish at its next Committee on Fisheries meeting a timeframe of relevant work with respect to the management of the deep sea fisheries in the high seas, including enhancing data collection and dissemination, promoting information exchange and increased knowledge on deep sea fishing activities, such as through convening a meeting of States engaged in such fisheries, developing standards and criteria for use by States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in identifying vulnerable marine ecosystems and the impacts of fishing on such ecosystems, and establishing standards for the management of deep sea fisheries, such as through the development of an international plan of action.

38. At the RTC held in September 2006, the Member Countries took note of the outcomes and progress at the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) held from 12 to 16 June 2006. The concerns were raised that there is a need for analysis on both direct and indirect impact to fisheries management in the region based on the legal aspects. It is also noted that coordination among Member Countries as well as the representative from fisheries agencies at the UN meetings are lacking, much of which the technical input from fisheries especially on the impact caused from high sea bottom trawl in the particular areas should be conveyed to the UNICPOLOS and taken into consideration of UNGA respectively.

39. Along this line, the Member Countries reaffirmed that the importance of and the need for achieving sustainable development of fisheries using various management tools including ecosystem based approaches, and agreed the following ***proposed coordinated position***:

- It is a consensus by the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries to take action against any proposals that are not supported by comprehensive scientific evidence and undermining on-going efforts and initiatives in fisheries management. On this basis, the Member Countries do not support the proposed moratorium on high seas bottom trawls.
- Considering the need for scientific evidence for management planning and the technical competency on fisheries related issues, it was strongly pointed out that FAO, RFMOs and relevant national agencies responsible for fisheries should be fully involved. It was suggested that FAO should take a leading role in the said undertaking and make representation to the UNGA through UNICPOLOS.

- SEAFDEC was requested to inform the Chair of UN Informal Consultation related to fisheries on the outcome of this meeting and, where possible, to dispatch a representative to convey the common concerns and coordinated positions, reached at this meeting to the UN Informal Consultation.

***Recommendations for Future Actions:***

- SEAFDEC was requested to take initiatives to consult with other Asian countries on the above common concerns in order to strengthen the position to the future UNICPOLOS.
- Most ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries have some forms of fisheries management plans or restrictions for bottom trawl fisheries to be operated in their EEZs. However, there is a need to improve such management in a proactive manner following the principles of sustainable development and responsible fisheries, including
  - Studies to understand the current status of the fisheries and impacts to marine ecosystem in the region should be conducted.
  - Based on such scientific evidence and information, investigation should be made on possible management interventions to rectify fisheries practices such as improving gear selectivity to minimize impacts to resources and eco-systems, formulation of practical approaches to fishing capacity and fleet reduction, capacity and awareness building for stakeholders and fishermen, and so on.
- Investigation of deep-sea resources in Southeast Asia to determine status of such resources to provide scientific basis for future formulation of management policy and interventions measures.
- The initiatives on reduction of by-catch particularly in trawl fisheries i.e. TEDs and JTEDs should be continued.
- Investigation should be made on the need for and the possibility to establish, based on existing mechanism, a regional fisheries management organization (RFMO) in Southeast Asia in order to tackle regional fisheries management issues.
- Considering the potential vast impacts on any global management measures i.e. the proposed moratorium, “precautionary approach” should not be used to undermine the need for scientific evidence as the bases for determining the management measures.

***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

40. The FCG Meeting is invited to take note of the proposed coordinated positions and suggest future directions including roles and responsibilities of Member Countries and SEAFDEC for future follow-up actions.

**Responsible Fishing Practices in the Region**

41. A Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) for the Preparation of the Regional Ministerial Conference on Promoting Responsible Fishing Practices (May 2007) was organized by the Ministry for Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries of Australia, in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 29 to 30 November 2006. The meeting was attended by representatives from 12 countries, namely, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, PR China, The Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and Timor-Leste; and four organisations, namely INFOFISH, ASTUIN (Asosiasi Tuna Indonesia), ATLI, and GAPINDO (Gabungan Pengusaha Perikanan Indonesia).

42. Since the issue on world’s fish stocks depleting are serious problem and should be addressed regionally, the meeting’s objective was to discuss on the preparation of a draft Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to promote Responsible Fishing Practices and address Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in regional seas (including South China Sea and

Sulu Sea) to be considered at the Regional Ministerial Conference to be held in Bali, Indonesia, in May 2007. A 2<sup>nd</sup> SOM is scheduled in March 2007 in Australia.

43. The draft RPOA prepared covered the following areas:
- a) **Current situation in the region**, including overview of the current situation of the fishing industry and the fisheries and its resources; description of the current national legislation and application of international arrangements in the countries concerned; current trade and market situation for fish and fish products.
  - b) **Regional Coastal State Actions and Responsibilities**, including collection of statistics and exchange of data, and managing fishing capacity.
  - c) **Regional Market Measures**, including standardization of catch and landing documentation in the region; sharing information on landings; implementing catch documentation and trade certification for high value products (fish) in the region; and working with INFOFISH to provide market reports for better management of fish stocks.
  - d) **Port State Measures**, including consider adopting the FAO measures for port State control; and exchange of information from exporting countries on fish catch.
  - e) **Regional Capacity Building**, including development information networks; ratifying international arrangements and agreements, where appropriate; developing stock assessment capacity; strengthening fisheries management capabilities; cooperating to assist in improving regional fisheries management; evaluating current legislation to combat IUU fishing and improving, if necessary; providing training; and cooperating in sharing of information on use of fishing gears and reduction of destructive fishing practices.
  - f) **Strengthening Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)**, including cooperating in developing a regional MCS network to prevent and deter IUU fishing and support proper fisheries management; preventing / reducing trans-shipment of illegally-caught fish; regulating flags of convenience vessels; regulating and strengthening licences; strengthening vessel identification systems and also Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS); cooperating in investigations of IUU fishing; and cooperating in acquisition of MCS data and information.

#### ***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

44. The Meeting is invited to take note of information on the issue and suggest future directions for ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries especially on Responsible Fishing Practice and IUU fishing as well as future follow-up actions on the draft RPOA.

#### **Other issues**

45. At the ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference, the Member Countries took note that SEAFDEC will apply as candidate for Margarita Lizarraga award for the biennial 2006-2007. The award is to be given to person/organization with substantial contribution to implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

46. SEAFDEC Secretariat has developed the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategy and Mechanism to Minimize the Negative Impact of International Fisheries Related Issues, and that the Conference provided guidance and recommendations. It is stated that this strategy to be addressed and developed under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership Framework.

47. At the Fourth Session of the biennial meeting of Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) held from 14 to 15 March 2005, it was concluded that future biennial meetings of RFBs would be change to biennial meetings of RFB Secretariat's Network. The network meeting aims at addressing important fisheries issues particularly directed to regional fishery bodies (i.e. regional fisheries management organizations, regional technical advisory bodies). At the last



biennial meeting, SEAFDEC participated in and raised the importance of issues related to small-scale fisheries and requirements of developing countries. As previous biennial meetings have been attended mainly by tuna RFMOs, the Fourth Session therefore appointed SEAFDEC representative as a vice-chair to coordinate with other RFBs, which share similar concerns. The FCG Meeting may wish to advise issues to be raised at the next biennial meeting such as co-management for small-scale fisheries, RFBs and aquaculture development, issues and concerns of ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries in tuna RFMOs, etc.

***Suggested Action by the Meeting***

48. The Meeting is invited to take note of the information and discuss follow-up actions by the Member Countries and SEAFDEC on respective issues.



## **EXECUTIVE REPORT ON HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN ASEAN REGION 2006**

### **“Human Resource Development on the Support of Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Management for the ASEAN Region”**

Supported by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)  
through Technical Cooperation with Swedish Board of Fisheries

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report presents the findings from a Collaborative Project of SEAFDEC and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The Collaborative Project of SEAFDEC and Sida was a four-year initiative to support human resource development activities/initiatives in SEAFDEC Member Countries on the support of implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) for ASEAN Region. The project activities were implemented, under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group Mechanism (FCG), by SEAFDEC Secretariat through collaboration with SEAFDEC Departments and relevant institutions/agencies.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Southeast Asian countries that have less financial and technical capabilities including general poverty situation prevailing especially in rural areas make them difficult to take appropriate action to implement and promote CCRF, even though they wish to do so. In addition, the following specific factors of – (a) fisheries structure (most in small-scale and coastal nature), (b) ecological situation (multi-species and using multi-gear), and (c) socio-economic and culture (traditional way of fish utilization and usages, socio-economic integration with local community of small-scale), have to be accommodated for effectively implementation of CCRF in the region.

In this connection, Sida supports ASEAN Member Countries in facilitating and initiating the programs of activities related to fisheries management to work towards the achievements of sustainable fisheries development. The support is channeled through the Swedish Board of Fisheries, program activities implemented in collaboration with the regional fisheries development body, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC).

#### **AIMS OF THE PROJECT**

The Project supported regional and national implementation of the issues related to fisheries management contained in the CCRF, through appropriate human resource development activities including awareness building and training activities.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT**

- To enhance awareness of the necessity of appropriate fisheries management to achieve sustainable fisheries
- To advise the stakeholders on mechanisms of the innovative fisheries management system

- To promote various HRD activities on fisheries management with identified target groups
- To identify various options to alleviate the problems caused by the excessive levels of fishing capacity

## IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES

The project consisted of two components, (1) HRD activities with respect to the priority issues contained in the Regional Guidelines for Fisheries Management (RCCRF), and (2) HRD activities on the issues related to the reduction of “fishing capacity” that can be a key to achieve sustainable fisheries in the region. The project implementation had followed a process oriented (step-by-step) approach, seeking consensus and recommendations from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries along the way with the aim to set directions and priorities through a sequence of regional consultation and meeting organized by the project and other relevant initiatives.

In the regional consultations and expert meetings organized it was made clear by the participants that “*HRD in fisheries is specific to the national situation*” and the project was recommended to embark upon a “**pilot process**” in a representative set of countries. The pilot process/studies of the project aimed at enhancing management of fishery resources through effective implementation and regional application of the CCRF/RCCRF. This pilot process involved a sequence of meetings, workshops and on-site training in the representative set of countries – including four countries, Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam – by addressing both fisheries management and fishing capacity issues. Experiences and lessons learned from the process were exchanged at the regional level.

## KEY FINDINGS

### Major issue

In this region, the major issues<sup>6</sup> – with regards to fisheries management related to the management of fisheries, relates to the *management of fishing capacity* and to *reduce over-capacity*.

*Empowering community and strengthening local institutions* should be key elements of capacity building for sustainable coastal resource management.

The major long-term policy issue or area for collaboration is to aim towards the establishment of a “*regional and sub-regional fisheries management/development body*”, that would allow member countries jointly to work out solutions to common issues.

### Major problems to be addressed

#### A Current Situation

- Illegal and/or destructive fishing practices particularly push nets and trawls in coastal areas.

---

<sup>6</sup> As resulted from and can be referred to the series of reports of the meetings/events organized by the project.

#### **Four Limitations**

- Capacity for alternative/supplementary livelihoods
- Coordination among agencies concerned
- Participation of resource users and local administrative organizations in development and management of coastal resources
- Budget and knowledge capacity of local administrative organizations

#### **Unclear, Unorganized, Weak, and Ineffective**

- Unclear institutional arrangement and weak institutional capability for coastal fisheries management particularly at the local level
- Unorganized policy for development and management of coastal resources use and weak translation of the policy into action
- Ineffective implementation of existing management measures and law enforcement

### **SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **Recommendations for Better Planning and Implementation of HRD Activities to Support Fisheries Management**

- Packaging policy and technical advices and awareness building for policy makers/high level officials in fisheries management including management of fishing capacity
- Community organization and empowerment toward improved livelihood and capacity building towards coastal resources management
- Establishment of model areas and networking to support capacity building
- Sustainability of initiatives and what will go beyond when project finish
- Mainstreaming practice and enabling environment
- Establishment of a regional network for HRD in fisheries management
- Skill enhanced and knowledge development to put into use
- Capacity building: resource users rights
- Make use of regional initiatives/projects (such as SEAFDEC, WorldFish Center, UNEP/GEF/SCS, etc.) as the external factors to facilitate national planning/activities for HRD

#### **Recommendations for Policy, Legal and Institutional Framework**

- Policy framework for sustainable coastal fisheries development and management should be developed as a basis for actions to be taken at the provincial and local levels as well as for outside project assistance and funding support.
- Where excessive fishing capacity exists, exit scheme from the fisheries sector may be considered but only when due consideration is given to social and economic consideration.
- Alternative and supplementary livelihoods should aim at diversifying occupations and sources of income and be identified considering potentials and capacity of community in the broader coastal area development and management.

#### **Recommendation for Sustainable Development and Management of Coastal Resources**

- Fisheries should be integrated into sustainable development and management of coastal areas, which can be considered as a long-term process. It is important that the development balances three important objectives – social, economic, and environment/ ecological.

- The major roles of Department of Fisheries at the central and local levels are to ensure sustainable fisheries resource utilization as well as management and conservation of critical coastal habitats.
- Management and conservation of coastal resources including endangered species should be incorporated into the overall coastal development and management plan.
- Recognition were made on the benefits of the traditional system (e.g. traditional management practices of Awig Awig in Lombok) and district models to be developed should incorporate those were available. HRD should also include training in understanding of the traditional systems and their relevance for the implementation of the CCRF.

### **Recommendation for Cooperation and Networking of Agencies and Projects/Initiatives**

- Inter-agency coordination mechanism and dialogue among line agencies concerned for coastal development are strongly encouraged. As a result, an overarching policy framework for sustainable coastal development including institutional arrangement and demarcation of responsibilities could be developed to facilitate actions to be taken by respective agencies.
- In the context of management and conservation of habitat and transboundary resources, dialogues among neighboring areas/countries should be initiated and supported by collaborative mechanism for sharing information and expertise.
- Networking of national centers in coastal resource management at the regional level could facilitate sharing of information and experience.
- Target goal and strategy for management of coastal resources of the agencies concerned should be connected and streamlined.
- Coordinator needs to have characteristics of: leadership, flexible, transparent, and high level of acceptance in the villagers/communities. These could lead to the success and improvement of the effectiveness of the coordination.
- Strengthen capacity for group of villagers/communities for being a center of cooperation for effective continuation of collaboration among all agencies concerned.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

It is obviously that formulation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) was a coherent and important step toward the world sustainable fisheries and provided comprehensive framework and principles to guide the countries for their consideration and appropriate actions harmonizing fisheries with aquatic environment. However, as the consequences of the process to develop CCRF that was greatly involved by developed countries, the condition and context of CCRF were mainly based on the concerns and situation of fisheries of these countries, less consideration for the issues of developing countries were provided. This process has given, to some extent, the negative effect on the internalization by these developing countries on their use of CCRF.

The developing countries that may have less technical and financial capabilities including general poverty situation prevailing especially in rural areas make them difficult to take appropriate action, even though they wish to do so. In addition to these general situations, the following three factors will have to be accommodated into CCRF, when the fisheries situation in the developing countries are reviewed and if it is considered that CCRF is effectively implemented in these developing countries.

- 1) Fisheries Structure: The main fishing industries in developing countries are categorized as small scale/ coastal nature (In case of ASEAN Countries, 95 % of fishers are involved in this sub-sector). The management of such sub-sector should be differentiated with these of large scale/industry type of fisheries.
- 2) Ecological Situation: The fisheries resources are more multi-species natures. For example, there is no clear definition and understanding on the by-catch issue, since the most of fishers are depending on the harvest from these multi-species for their livelihood not on particular target species. In addition, such ecological factors as fecundity, replenishment, migration and productivity of these species are different with these of temperate water. Furthermore, the tropical climate and topographical condition are unique and provide the basis of the above ecological specificity. These factors will also differentiate the management measures and methodologies to assess the aquatic resources in these developing countries.
- 3) Socio-Economic and Cultural factors: It is apparent that the most of the developing countries, especially in these in ASEAN region have traditionally developed their own culture on the fish for food, as seen in the great diversification of local fisheries products. In addition, socio-economic integration of fisheries with local community, especially if these small scale/coastal fisheries are considered, is another specificity to be considered if appropriate management mechanisms will be implemented in these countries.

In this connection, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) supports the ASEAN member countries in facilitating programs/activities related to fisheries management to work towards the achievement of sustainable fisheries. The support is channeled through the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SBF) in collaboration with the regional fisheries development body, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), project title "Sida-SEAFDEC Collaborative Project".

The Project is dealing with Human Resource Development (HRD) with a focus on awareness building and training activities at national and regional levels, to be implemented during the period 2003-2006 and coordinated by staff at SEAFDEC Secretariat Office in Bangkok, Thailand, in full collaboration with relevant SEAFDEC Departments and ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries. The activities of the project are implemented under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Mechanism and specifically under the program known as the Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Management (RCCRF), implemented by SEAFDEC since the year 2002.

The project envisages various activities including the preparation of training materials using the RCCRF, organizing Regional Technical Consultations related to fisheries human resource development and management of fishing capacity, organizing National on-site training/workshop on the fisheries management in ASEAN member countries, translation of training text books on fisheries management related to the RCCRF to national languages, and collecting regional information on the fisheries management and management of fishing capacity.

## II. OBJECTIVES, OUTPUT, AND COURSE OF THE PROJECT

Overall **objectives** of the project is to facilitate the national implementation of the issues related to fisheries management contained in the CCRF through appropriate human resource development (HRD) activities including awareness building and training activities. In addition to the overall objectives, it has the following detailed objectives:

1. To enhance awareness of the necessity of appropriate fisheries management to achieve sustainable fisheries
2. To advise the stakeholders on the mechanisms of the innovative fisheries management system
3. To promote various HRD activities on fisheries management with identified target groups
4. To identify the various options to alleviate the problems caused by the excessive levels of fishing capacity.

In order to meet the above objectives, the following two **project components** are programmed in the proposed project.

*Component 1:* HRD activities with respect to the priority issues contained in the Regional Guidelines for the Fisheries Management (RCCRF)

*Component 2:* HRD activities on the issues related to the reduction of “Fishing Capacity” that can be a key to achieve sustainable fisheries in the region.

Under above objectives, formulation of the project detailed objectives as **outputs** for the achievement of the overall objectives would imply:

- Output 1:* Awareness enhanced of the necessity of appropriate fisheries management to achieve sustainable development (central and local)
- Output 2:* Stakeholders advised on the mechanism of innovative fisheries management system
- Output 3:* HRD activities promoted on fisheries management with identified target groups
- Output 4:* Various options identified to alleviate the problems caused by excessive levels of fishing capacity

The following procedures are used in the **Course of the Project**.

### 1) *Consensus building among the recipient countries*

In order to systematically and effectively implement the proposed activities, consensus building exercise among the recipient countries will be sought. In this connection, at least, the regional technical consultation meetings will be organized once a year. The project activities including context of training materials, organization of national training courses, and identification of target group of the project activities will be consulted with ASEAN Member Countries.



2) *ASEAN/SEAFDEC Collaborative Program*

In accordance with the establish mechanism, the proposed project will be considered as one of the ASEAN/SEAFDEC Collaborative Project. Therefore, in addition to above technical consultation, the project performance will be reviewed by the established collaborative mechanism: ASEAN/SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group Meeting (FCG), in March every year in order to establish ownership of the project by ASEAN Member Countries.

3) *Close collaboration with the ASEAN Member Countries.*

In order to ensure the sustainable implementation of the project, some activities, especially conducted at national level such as on-site trainings will be conducted along line with national priority program and in cost share basis at practical level. Such arrangement will firstly enhance the ownerships of the project by the respective ASEAN Member Countries; secondly maximize the use of project resources. Furthermore, in conjunction with above policies, the project will continuously discuss with the ASEAN Member Countries and find the way that the activities initiated by the project will be accommodated into the national human resource development program on the implementation of RCCRF in the long run.

### III. ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTATION

HRD in fisheries management is specific to the situation in each country. Consequently, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries have been encouraged to take initiatives and ownership in addressing HRD issues in accordance with their overall national objectives of fisheries development and management. The challenge for international and regional organization is to use their position to support or facilitate these national initiatives. An important factor is for these organizations to embark on process and dialogues that allow for individual countries to maintain their ownership through all stages, including implementation.

The project implementation has followed a process oriented (step-by-step) approach, seeking consensus and recommendations from ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries along the way. To set directions and priorities a sequence of regional consultation and meeting were organized by the project:

1. Co-organization of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Workshop on Human Resource Development in Fisheries, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 20 – 23 February 2004
2. Organization of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) on Human Resource Development in Fisheries Management, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 3 – 6 June 2004
3. Organization of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Preparatory Expert Meeting on Fishing Capacity and Related Human Resource Development Needs in the ASEAN Region, Bangkok, Thailand, 14 – 16 September 2004.
4. Organization of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation on Management of Fishing Capacity and HRD in Support of Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia, Phuket, Thailand, 19-22 September 2006.

Reports of the first three meetings were done in the Annual Report for 2004. In summary it is worth recapturing that during the meeting in Kuala Lumpur **a strategy for HRD in fisheries** were developed and an increased awareness on the need to address also non-technical aspects were documented in terms of stating that there is a need to *“integrate social, environmental, legal and other issues”*. This message has been a central part in subsequent activities as an important element in defining appropriate fisheries management (in line with the CCRF), in order to address fishing capacity and to achieve sustainability.

RTC in Phnom Penh were important in terms of defining the directions and priorities to take.

The RTC indicated two parallel tracks a) **fisheries management (and habitat management)** and b) **over fishing capacity**. The need to integrate social, legal and environmental aspects was confirmed and the meeting came up with three “thematic” thrusts of priorities in defining priority areas for HRD, namely:

- Management of over fishing capacity
- Strengthening of local fisheries management capacity
- Integrating fisheries management into habitat management

In the regional consultations and expert meetings organized it was made clear by the participants that “**HRD in fisheries is specific to the national situation**” and the project was recommended to embark upon a “**pilot process**” in a representative set of countries.

The **pilot process/studies** of the project aimed at enhancing management of fishery resources through effective implementation and regional application of the CCRF/RCCRF. This pilot process involves a sequence of meetings, workshops and on-site training in four countries, Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam, addressing both fisheries management and fishing capacity issues. Experiences from the processes will be shared at the regional level. The pilot process has been the main focus for activities during 2005 and 2006.

The national consultations organized by the project in the representative set of countries and their sequence of the workshops/training included:

**Cambodia:**

- Organization of the planning meetings and consultations for pilot process in Cambodia, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 9 – 10 February 2005 (8 participants) and 17 March 2005 (16 participants)
- Organization of the national workshop, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 6 – 8 July 2005 (53 participants)
- Organization of on-site training, in Kampot 20 – 22 September 2005 (70 participants), in Koh Kong Province, 27-31 March 2006 (59 participants).

**Indonesia:**

- Organization of the planning meeting for pilot process in Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia, 28 June 2005 (20 participants).
- Organization of national workshop, in Jakarta, 27 – 29 September 2005 (40 participants).

**Vietnam:**

- Organization of planning meeting for pilot process in Vietnam, Hanoi, 13 July 2005 (26 participants).
- Organization of the national workshop, in Do Son, 4 – 6 October 2005 (34 participants)
- Organization of the on-site training in Phu Quoc, 14-16 June 2006 (37 participants), and in Quang Binh 2-4 August 2006 (31 participants)

**Thailand:**

- Organization of planning meetings for pilot process in Thailand, Bangkok, 24 February 2005 (4 participants) and 28 June 2006 (15 participants)
- Organization of National Workshop in Koh Chang 2 – 4 August 2005 (30 participants)
- Organization of on-site training in Trang and in Satun

#### **IV. MAJOR FINDINGS AND IMPLICATIONS**

From meetings, reports and other indications highlighted during the process it is clear that in the ASEAN region **the major issue with regards to fisheries management relates to the management of fishing capacity and to reduce over-capacity** – be it large-scale or small-scale, seasonal or the whole year, site specific or more general.

Issues, Experiences, Lessons Learned from the Project Implementation in the Representative Set of Countries (Pilot Process) and through the regional/national consultation process include as follow:

##### **Problems encountered in management of coastal fisheries**

- Illegal and destructive fishing particularly push nets and trawls in coastal areas
- Limited capability for alternative/supplementary livelihoods
- Debt and financial management of small-scale fishers
- Unorganized policy for development and management of coastal resource use and weak translation of the policy into action
- Unclear institutional arrangement and weak institutional capability for coastal fisheries management particularly at the local level
- Ineffective implementation of existing management measures and law enforcement
- Limited coordination among agencies concerned
- Limited participation of resource users and local administrative organizations in development planning and management of coastal resource, sometimes actual stakeholders did not involve in the process of formulating of the policy/development plan and management
- Limited budget and knowledge capacity of local administrative organizations

##### **Priority HRD Needs and Directions for Various Stakeholders at Various Levels**

- Management of fishing capacity
- Data and information management system (collection, storing and retrieval, analysis, reporting, dissemination and user-friendly presentation)
- Research on issues/site specific with community involvement
- Participatory decision-making and project planning
- Financial management for fishers and fisher's groups
- Alternative/supplementary livelihoods
- Local organizations and networking

##### **Capacity Building and Supporting Resources for Sustainable Development and Management of Coastal Resources**

- There is an immediate need to improve human capacity in fisheries management at all levels, however, it might important at this step to assist them in identifying the gap between 'necessary competences' and 'current competences' by assessing the current competences level, which the necessary competencies might need to achieve the organizational objectives.
- Empowering community and strengthening local institutions are key elements of capacity building for sustainable coastal resource management.
- Awareness and understanding of civil society, communities and stakeholders on potential benefits of natural resource management is crucial for ensuring their support, cooperation and compliance of management intervention.

- Development of guidelines for best fisheries practices for sustainable coastal development. This could assist in fisheries monitoring and control by coastal provinces as well as coastal resource and habitat protection.
- Data collection technique is important to obtain reliable data and information. Community should be involved in the process to ensure that the results are realistic. This will provide a basis for consensus building in developing solutions to fisheries conflicts and formulation of management intervention as well as to ensure compliance among fishers.
- Awareness and capacity building including information distribution strategies should be regularly monitored and improved to ensure their effectiveness.
- Skill and knowledge of the local villagers/community leaders in facilitating/cooperating locally-communities coastal resources management.
  - Communication and coordination skill
  - Multi-criteria analysis
  - Local data collection and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)
  - Laws, rights, and responsibility of the local villagers/communities with regards to coastal resources management
  - Writing technique for project proposal
- Management should take into account multi-dimension of capacity building, including:
  - Knowledge and skills groupings
    - Fisheries science (i.e. fisheries techniques, biology/resources, statistics and information)
    - Fisheries sector management (i.e. policy development, sectoral planning, MCS, fisheries economics, laws and regulations)
    - Societal skills and knowledge (i.e. conflict management, trade, good governance, ICT, environment)
  - Domains – knowledge (indigenous and scientific), skills and attitudes
  - Multi-level needs and appropriate focus
    - Individuals – policy, fishery managers, fishers and other stakeholders
    - Institutions – government agencies (central and local), private sector, community
    - Sectors – fisheries and non-fisheries

### **Human Capacity Building in Support of Establishment of Fisheries Refugia<sup>7</sup> in Southeast Asia**

With the priority to integrate fisheries to habitat management – one of the project thematic issue, it is obvious, all the way through the project implementation, that dialogues among neighboring areas/countries for management and conservation of habitat and transboundary resources should be initiated and supported by collaborative mechanism. The concept of “fisheries refugia” considered as a marine protected area with regulated fishing could be considered along this line.

Human capacity building in support of establishment of fisheries refugia in SEA has been carried out since 2004 by collaboration and coordination works with relevant initiatives/institutes such as MOFI-Vietnam, DOF-Cambodia, Ministry of Environment – Cambodia, UNEP/GEF South China Sea Program and IUCN/MPA-Vietnam. For this, at the same time with the sequence of project implementation events organized in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam, consultations with the local/provincial concerned in management of coastal habitats and fisheries were carried out with specific to review concepts and basic design for establishment of “Fisheries Refugia”; to clarify linkage of “Fisheries Refugia” in the context of coastal resource management; to identify capacity building needs and activities including HRD

---

<sup>7</sup> “Fisheries refugia” in Southeast Asia are commonly understood as: “Spatially and geographically defined marine or coastal areas in which specific management measures are applied to sustain important species (fisheries resources) during critical stages of their lifecycle, for their sustainable use”.

materials in support of the establishment of “Fisheries Refugia”, and to discuss potential collaborative mechanism between Cambodia and Thailand in the implementation of “Fisheries Refugia”.

As the major outputs from the events organized/mentioned, a set of recommendation with regards to the establishment of fisheries refugia in Thailand-Cambodia-Vietnam were made as follow:

- Suggested process for the establishment of fisheries refugia
  - Criteria for selection/establishment of fisheries refugia
  - Motivation to establish fisheries refugia
  - Establishing of fisheries refugia
  - Management of fisheries refugia
- Suggested activities for future cooperation among neighboring countries to establish and manage fisheries refugia
  - Cooperation between Cambodia-Thailand (Koh Kong and Trad Provinces)
  - Cooperation between Cambodia-Vietnam (Kampot and Kien Giang Provinces)
- Suggested mechanisms of neighboring provinces for the process of establishment of fisheries refugia
  - Provincial working group establishment
  - Technical working group establishment

#### **Research and Development**

- Involvement of communities and fishers in identifying and conduct of research could help strengthen management capacity for coastal resources at the local level.
- Appropriate market information should be improved to help better marketing of fish products.

#### **Improvement of Future Planning and Implementation of HRD Activities**

- Clear objectives and goals should be defined and measurable
- Create enabling environments and conditions for sustainable/continuous learning process
- Key stakeholders should be actively involved in the whole process of HRD to ensure relevance of needs and selection of target groups
- Detailed HRD plan should be tailored to specific needs
- Available HRD resources and expertise among various relevant institutions/agencies should be shared and fully mobilized
- Practical monitoring and evaluation including performance indicators of HRD activities should be developed
- Where appropriate, learning by doing
- Local knowledge, expertise, initiatives and networking of organizations should be mobilized

### **V. RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE HRD FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT**

<p><b>1. Priority areas for better planning and implementation of HRD activities to support fisheries management</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Packaging policy on technical advices and awareness building for policy makers/high level officials in fisheries management including management of fishing capacity</li> <li>• Community organization and empowerment toward improved livelihood and capacity building towards coastal resources management</li> <li>• Establishment of model areas and networking to support capacity building</li> </ul>
--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability of initiatives and what will go beyond when project finish</li> <li>• Mainstreaming practice and enabling environment</li> <li>• Establishment of a regional network for HRD in fisheries management</li> <li>• Skill enhanced and knowledge development to put into use</li> <li>• Capacity building: resource users rights</li> <li>• Make use of regional initiatives/projects (such as SEAFDEC, WorldFish Center, UNEP/GEF/SCS, etc.) as the external factors to facilitate national planning/activities for HRD</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Policy, legal and institutional framework</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy framework for sustainable coastal fisheries development and management should be developed as a basis for actions to be taken at the provincial and local levels as well as for outside project assistance and funding support.</li> <li>• Where excessive fishing capacity exists, exit scheme from the fisheries sector may be considered but only when due consideration is given to social and economic consideration.</li> <li>• Alternative and supplementary livelihoods should aim at diversifying occupations and sources of income and be identified considering potentials and capacity of community in the broader coastal area development and management.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Fisheries in sustainable development and management of coastal resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisheries should be integrated into sustainable development and management of coastal areas, which can be considered as a long-term process. It is important that the development balances three important objectives – social, economic, and environment/ ecological.</li> <li>• The major roles of Department of Fisheries at the central and local levels are to ensure sustainable fisheries resource utilization as well as management and conservation of critical coastal habitats.</li> <li>• Management and conservation of coastal resources including endangered species should be incorporated into the overall coastal development and management plan.</li> <li>• Recognition were made on the benefits of the traditional system (e.g. traditional management practices of Awig Awig in Lombok) and district models to be developed should incorporate those were available. HRD should also include training in understanding of the traditional systems and their relevance for the implementation of the CCRF.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Cooperation and networking of agencies and projects/initiatives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-agency coordination mechanism and dialogue among line agencies concerned for coastal development are strongly encouraged. As a result, an overarching policy framework for sustainable coastal development including institutional arrangement and demarcation of responsibilities could be developed to facilitate actions to be taken by respective agencies.</li> <li>• In the context of management and conservation of habitat and transboundary resources, dialogues among neighboring areas/countries should be initiated and supported by collaborative mechanism for sharing information and expertise.</li> <li>• Networking of national centers in coastal resource management at the regional level could facilitate sharing of information and experience.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Target goal and strategy for management of coastal resources of the agencies concerned should be connected and streamlined.</li><li>• Coordinator needs to have characteristics of: leadership, flexible, transparent, and high level of acceptance in the villagers/communities. These could lead to the success and improvement of the effectiveness of the coordination.</li><li>• Strengthen capacity for group of villagers/communities for being a center of cooperation for effective continuation of collaboration among all agencies concerned.</li></ul>
--	--





**CLOSING SPEECH**

By ASEAN Co-Chair, Dr. Jonathan O. Dickson  
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Philippines

Delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

After one and a half day intensive deliberation on collaborative programs of activity for the year 2006 and 2007, issues of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) to strengthen closer cooperation and collaboration between ASEAN, SEAFDEC and the Member Countries, and important issues of ASEAN and SEAFDEC mutual interests and common concern, we have come to the end of the Meeting. I firstly wish to thank you all for your active participation and contribution to make this Meeting a success. I am convinced that the fruitful deliberation we had will greatly contribute to our on-going efforts to strengthen cooperation between ASEAN and SEAFDEC.

In the course of our Meeting, we have made considerable progress of collaboration and partnership between ASEAN, SEAFDEC and the Member Countries, with my strong belief, the consequence made at this meeting be followed-up and earnestly put into action. Further, it is also no doubt among us that such collaborative effort and spirit accumulated over the years here bring about setting regional fisheries agenda and actions as well as voice our common positions at the global fora.

Lastly, I urge all of us here to ensure continuous support to keep this collaboration active and forward. And I wish to thank the Secretariat for their hard work and support to this Meeting. With that I hereby declare the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group, close. Thank you.