

**Report of SEAFDEC Department Chiefs Meeting
25 November 2023, Bali, Indonesia**

I. Introduction

1. The SEAFDEC Department Chiefs Meeting (DCM2023) was organized on 25 November 2023 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting was attended by the SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, and Special Departmental Coordinators (SDCs) of SEAFDEC Departments, and officers of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and SEAFDEC Technical Departments. The List of Participants appears as **Annex 1**.
2. The SEAFDEC Secretary-General, *Dr. Suttinee Limthammahisorn*, in her capacity as a Chairperson of the Meeting, welcomed the participants and declared the Meeting open.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Agenda of the Meeting appears as **Annex 2**.

III. Follow-up Actions to SEAFDEC Annual Meetings

3.1 Follow-up Actions to the Fifty-fifth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council

4. The DCM2023 was informed of the updated follow-up actions to the directives given by the SEAFDEC Council at its 55th Meeting (55CM) in 2023, as shown in **Annex 3a**.

3.2 Follow-up Actions to the Forty-sixth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee

5. The DCM2023 noted the Follow-up Actions to the Forty-sixth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee (46PCM) as appears in **Annex 3b**.
6. The DCM2023 was inquired under AQD Departmental Programs, Paragraph 101, the request made by Thailand for “AQD to disseminate the results of the research under the Project also requested TD to organize relevant training courses and study visits to AQD for Member Countries”, In this connection, It was recalled that, in the past, Thailand had coordinated through the SEAFDEC Secretariat to explore the possibility of using a fellowship fund from the Thai Government to TD to support the participation of Thai officers in visiting AQD. The SG and TD Chief responded that TD would need to explore if such fund is available for the year 2024. If other Member Countries also acquire a visit to AQD, the activities should be shouldered by the budget from their respective government.

3.3 Follow-up actions to the Twenty-sixth Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)

7. The DCM2023 took note of the Follow-up Actions to the Twenty-sixth Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) (26FCG/ASSP) as appears in **Annex 3c**.
8. After discussion, the DCM2023 noted that after finalizing the Follow up Actions of the 55CM, 46PCM, and 26FCG/ASSP, the SEAFDEC Secretariat would circulate them to the Special Department Coordinators (SDCs) of the respective Departments to provide the updated information for the next quarter (October-December 2023) and return the accomplished Follow up Actions to the SEAFDEC Secretariat by 15 January 2024.

IV. Information-related Matters

4.1 Results from the Twenty-fourth Meeting of SEAFDEC Information Staff Program

9. The DCM2023 noted the results from the Twenty-fourth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Information Staff Program (24ISP) (**Annex 4**) which was organized on 17–19 October 2023 in Melaka, Malaysia. The DCM2023 discussed the particular issues, the results of which are summarized as follows:

1) Monitoring of Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication in the Year 2023

10. The DCM2023 took note of the request for all Departments to submit the updated progress of the implementation of the Information Strategies to cover a one-year period from January to December 2023 by the end of January 2024.

11. In order to ensure the production of technical materials from SEAFDEC projects that could be used by the Member Countries and target users, the Departments were encouraged to identify, in the project document at the beginning of their future projects, or the contract of project manager/consultants, the need to develop technical materials and articles as part of the expected outputs/deliverables.

2) Regular Information Materials/Tools in 2024

12. The DCM2023 took note of the material to be produced by the SEAFDEC Secretariat in 2024 including the timeline and focal persons of the Departments, and that the SEAFDEC Secretariat would communicate further with the respective focal persons to obtain inputs, namely:

- SEAFDEC Annual Report 2023
- Annual Compilation of Information Materials 2023
- SEAFDEC Newsletter Vol. 47 (4 issues)
- Special Publication “Fish for the People” Vol. 22 (3 issues)
- SEAFDEC e-News
- SEAFDEC Calendar 2025

13. While noting the policy to produce more electronic copies of the SEAFDEC publication with the need to maintain a certain amount of printed format as requested by the SEAFDEC Council, the DCM2023 was informed that the number of copies of the publications has been gradually reduced through the past years. Also noting the current number of printed copies of each publication required by each Department, the Departments were requested to update the number to the SEAFDEC Secretariat should it be further reduced in 2024.

• **Special Publication “Fish for the People”**

14. The 2023DCM noted the constrain faced in securing sufficient articles for “Fish for the People” resulting in a reduced number of issues that could be produced in 2023 from three to two issues. In order that the publications could be sustained, all Departments were requested to provide in the future at least one article per issue of “Fish for the People.” In this connection, the Departments were requested to prepare a list of possible articles in 2024 and provide it to the SEAFDEC Secretariat by the end of January 2024.

15. Specifically for 2024, as the year is the completion of Japanese Trust Fund (JTF)-VI Phase II, the DCM2023 noted that the last issue of “Fish for the People” will be dedicated to being a special issue of the JTF-VI Phase II, and the articles for this particular issue should be more. All Projects are encouraged to come up with one or more articles to showcase the success stories of the Project. It is requested that the list of articles should also be provided to the SEAFDEC Secretariat by the end of January 2024, while the articles be submitted to the Secretariat by August 2024. It was noted that the articles for “Fish for the People” would be different from the report of JTF achievement which is a report-style publication.

• **SEAFDEC eNews**

16. The DCM2023 took note of the progress of SEAFDEC eNews, the production of which started in January 2023 and currently it is six issues have been released. It was noted that the production of the eNews in 2023 was considered as a trial process with a limited number of recipients. However, in order to maximize

the benefit from the production of the eNews, it is necessary to have more recipients and subscriptions in the future, the Departments through the eNews focal person is therefore requested to provide e-mail accounts to be incorporated in the recipients list and share the subscription link to other potential audiences.

17. The DCM2023 suggested ways of obtaining more subscriptions to the SEAFDEC eNews by creating a pop-up for the subscription when opening the tap of downloading SEAFDEC documents and publications.

- **SEAFDEC Calendar 2025**

18. While noting the provisional themes for the SEAFDEC Calendar 2025 as proposed by the 24ISP, the DCM2023 reviewed such themes and agreed that the theme for the SEAFDEC Calendar 2025 would be “Species under international concern (*e.g.* sea cucumbers, seahorses, sharks and rays, marine mammals, eels).”

19. The DCM2023 suggested that the pictures and stories under this theme should not show only beautiful pictures of the species but should also contain information on relevant initiatives of the region with regards to the species, *e.g.* gear innovations to prevent catching of sharks, activities addressing MMPA, etc.

- **SEAFDEC Repositories**

20. While expressing appreciation to AQD for extending support to the SEAFDEC Secretariat and some other Departments in the maintenance of the server of institutional repositories, the SEAFDEC Secretariat requested AQD to issue an official letter with an invoice separately to the SEAFDEC Secretariat, TD, and MFRDMD requesting for payment of an annual operation fee for 2024.

3) Others

- **Proposed Conduct of Inter-Departmental Workshop**

21. The DCM2023 took note of the proposal made at the 24ISP for the SEAFDEC Secretariat to organize an Inter-Departmental Information Workshop which aims to improve the knowledge and skills, especially of the Department’s new staff to report the progress based on the template for monitoring of the implementation of the Information Strategies, among others. The Workshop is tentatively scheduled in February 2024 and all Departments will be invited to attend this Workshop, including AQD which could serve as resource persons.

- **Updating SEAFDEC Institutional Video**

22. The DCM2023 noted that the SEAFDEC Secretariat is planning to update the new officials, especially the SG, DSG, and Department Chiefs, in the current version of the SEAFDEC Institutional Video. It was noted that the updated Institutional Video should be available by early December 2023.

23. The DCM2023 requested that in addition to the current version of the Institutional Video, the SEAFDEC Secretariat should also consider developing another Video to introduce updates on SEAFDEC activities. In this connection, the SEAFDEC Secretariat would further develop a draft video script and communicate with Departments to finalize the script and obtain the appropriate video footage, by the first quarter of 2024.

- **SEAFDEC New Year Card**

24. Due to the timeline for producing printed SEAFDEC New Year Card 2024, with the picture of the SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, and all Department Chiefs taken during the DCM, that could be late for sending together with the SEAFDEC Calendar 2024, the DCM2023 noted that the SEAFDEC Secretariat will not produce hard-printed New Year Card 2024, but will send only the electronic card to the Departments. It is expected that the electronic card will be sent to the Departments by 1 December 2023, and this could be further printed by each Department as necessary.

- **ASFA Partnership Agreement: SEAFDEC Contribution**

25. With regards to the issue on renewal of the Partnership between the FAO/Aquatic Science and Fisheries Abstract (ASFA) and SEAFDEC with the new Terms of Reference (TOR) of ASFA, the DCM2023 noted that the new TOR is currently under review by the legal officer of AQD. The DCM was informed by the SEAFDEC Secretariat that under such a new collaboration, ASFA would harvest materials from SEAFDEC repositories, however, details on the collections that would be allowed for such harvest will be later on discussed with concerned officers of the Departments.

26. It was noted that in the past, there were two partnerships between SEAFDEC and ASFA, i.e. SEAFDEC serves as an International ASFA Partner, while AQD serves as a Collaborating ASFA Center; while ASFA is planning to have only one partnership with one agency/institution in the future. However, considering that the staff of AQD is taking a leading role in contributing materials of SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments to the ASFA, the SEAFDEC Secretariat suggested that this should be maintained and the officer-in-charge of ASFA from AQD could participate in the ASFA meeting on behalf of SEAFDEC, and if there is particular issue(s) that require policy decision, this could be raised to the Secretariat.

- **Hosting Arrangements for the 25ISP Meeting**

27. The DCM2023 noted that due to the anticipated difficulty of MFRD in hosting the 25ISP in 2024 in Singapore, the SEAFDEC Secretariat agreed to host the 25ISP Meeting in Thailand; and MFRD will host the ISP Meeting in Singapore in 2026.

V. Administration and Financial matters

5.1 New Audit Firms for 2023-2027

28. While noting the list of new external audit firms of the financial report of fiscal years from 2023 to 2027 (**Annex 5**) as presented by the representative from SEAFDEC Secretariat, the DCM2023 was informed the Finance Officer would report the new list of the audit firms to the SEAFDEC Council at its 56th Meeting in 2024 for their approval. The list of new external audit firms is as follows:

Secretariat and TD:	S.A.81 Audit Co.,Ltd. Mr. Terakarn Watrapasak
AQD:	Sycip Gorres Velayo & Co. (SGV)
MFRDMD:	Adib Azhar & Co.
IFRDMD:	Indonesia Government Internal Audit (General Inspectorate I Division)

5.2 Adjustment of Financial support to the Department hosting the Program Committee Meetings

29. The DCM2023 recalled the directives of the SEAFDEC Council for the SEAFDEC Program Committee (PCM) to be hosted by SEAFDEC Departments on a rotational basis. The SEAFDEC Secretariat allocated some support to the Departments with a view to reducing the burden of the Department, the amount of which has been fixed at USD 6,000 since 2018. This amount covers the cost for: 1) DSA and cost of accommodation for participants from the hosting Department; 2) Meeting package (incl. lunch) during the PCM period for all participants; 3) A welcome dinner for all participants; and 4) Domestic transportation for airport-pick-up and a field trip or sight-seeing program.

30. Noting the increasing cost for the conduct of the PCM during recent years, the Secretary-General agreed to increase the support to the department hosting the PCM to USD 12,000, starting from the 47PCM to be organized in 2024.

31. In response to the clarification sought on the hotel for the PCM, the SEAFDEC Secretariat informed the DCM2023 that the location (*e.g.* province, etc.) is to be proposed by the Departments, and it is preferred that there are direct flights from many countries. Once the location is decided, the Department shall propose a few choices of hotels to be further selected by the SEAFDEC Secretariat. However, the SEAFDEC Secretariat may

request the Departments to explore more choices if necessary. It was noted that the hotel does not need to be 5-star but in good condition with the availability of appropriate meeting and secretariat rooms and necessary meeting facilities. The location should be convenient for participants and the price should be affordable for the participants to stay.

5.3 Others

32. The Chief of MFRDMD requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to share the financial manual includes the standard rates of the daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for meetings and trainings as well as for terminal allowance (TA) for their adjustment in the Department Financial Rules as appropriate. In response, the SEAFDEC Secretariat will communicate with the Finance Division of TD to share the financial manual to all Departments.

VI. Preparation of the 56th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in 2024

33. Noting the proposed Agenda for the 56CM (**Annex 6**), the DCM2023 suggested additional agendas, namely:

- Outlook of the RFPN
- Revision of Regional Framework for Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia

34. The DCM2023 was informed that the SEAFDEC Secretariat will circulate the proposed Agenda of the 56th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in 2024 to the Departments for comments and additional to the Departments for comments and additional issues that the Departments wish to raise for the discussion at Council Meeting and requested to send it back to the SEAFDEC Secretariat by the end of 2023. Subsequently, the SEAFDEC Secretariat would finalize the Provisional Agenda and send it to the Member Countries for their consideration.

35. With regards to the dates of the 56CM, the DCM2023 suggested that the proposed dates possibly can be in the week of 22–26 April 2024. For the venue, based on an initial discussion with participants from the Philippines (*Ms. Rhoda S. Bacordo*) who is assigned by BFAR to be responsible for the 56CM, the Senior Administrative Officer (SAO) of SEAFDEC Secretariat will communicate with the National Coordinator for the Philippines on the proposed dates and venues of the 56CM by 28 November 2023 before the Philippines starts to conduct a survey for the hotel choices.

VII. Conclusion and Follow-up Actions

36. The DCM2023 took note of the actions that should be undertaken by the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments under the respective agenda of the Meeting, including timelines for the submission of the required inputs.

VIII. Closing of the Meeting

37. The SEAFDEC Secretary-General thanked the officers and staff of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments for their participation and discussion during the DCM2023 and declared the Meeting close.

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AGENDA

- Agenda 1:** Opening of the Meeting
- Agenda 2:** Adoption of Agenda
- Agenda 3:** Follow-up Actions to the Directive Given at
- 3.1 The 55th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council
 - 3.2 The 46th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee
 - 3.3 The 26th Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)
- Agenda 4:** Information-related Matters
- 4.1 Results from the 24th Meeting of Information Staff Program
- Agenda 5:** Administration and Financial matters
- 5.1 New Audit Firms for 2023-2027
 - 5.2 Adjustment of Financial support to Department hosting the Program Committee Meetings
 - 5.3 Others
- Agenda 6:** Preparation of the 56th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in 2024
- Agenda 8:** Conclusion and Follow-up Actions
- Agenda 9:** Closing of the Meeting

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE DIRECTIVES GIVEN AT THE 55th MEETING OF SEAFDEC COUNCIL 2023

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
II. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL				
7	<u>Thailand:</u> AQD and TD to consider organize a training program on broodstock management for the ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASA) in the year 2023 as a part of the ASA project proposal on regional collaboration for long-term genetic improvement of growth, robustness, and resistance to early mortality syndrome (EMS) in white shrimp.	AQD, SEC	AQD and SEC held internal discussions in response to Thailand's request. Consequently, SEAFDEC is unable to offer the requested support at this time due to the lack of technical and financial resources. Consequently, on 2 June 2023, SEC formally communicated this decision to the SEAFDEC Council Director for Thailand.	Completed
8	<u>Indonesia:</u> SEAFDEC to conduct all activities in 2023 in an in-person manner.	AQD, IFRDMD, MFRD, MFRDMD, TD, SEC	SEAFDEC acknowledged the suggestion.	Completed
10	<u>Malaysia:</u> AQD to consider conducting more capacity-building activities on broodstock and seed quality improvement as well as relevant research and development programs.	AQD	AQD conducts regular training courses each year, many of which cover broodstock management and seed production of economically significant species. Additionally, in collaboration with JTF, AQD offers fellowships for free training to SEAFDEC Member Countries and issues new invitations annually.	Completed
10	<u>Malaysia:</u> TD to include a session for the AMSs to share their respective current status of fishing gear marking, experiences, and best practices to improve the effectiveness of fishing gear marking.	TD	TD will organize the Regional Technical Meeting on Responsible Fishing: the Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG) and Marking of Fishing Gear on 15-17 November 2023, in Bangkok, Thailand. During the training, the agenda includes sharing information on current status of fishing gear marking, experiences, and best practices to improve the effectiveness of fishing gear marking.	70% (to be completed in Nov 2023)
11	<u>Philippines:</u> SEAFDEC to continue extending capacity-building activities to the AMSs to enhance their readiness to comply with the international obligations and commitments,	TD	SEAFDEC has consistently organized various events and activities within the scope of these subjects through its ongoing projects. In the near future, TD plans to conduct capacity-building activities on PSM in 2024. Additionally, TD will actively engage in the	Completed

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
	including the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.1 and Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA).		activities pertaining to SDG 14.1 which aims to reduce marine pollution, land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution, within both the ongoing projects and upcoming projects such as BOBLME Phase 2.	
12 (also 71, and 73)	<u>Myanmar</u> : SEAFDEC to consider reactivating the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) program and allocating sustainable financial resources for this program in the future.	SEC	SEAFDEC was requested to reactivate the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) program and allocate for other sources of funds in the future including the cumulative unspent budget of the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC). In response to the request by the SEAFDEC Council, the SEAFDEC Secretariat made views and concerns on the working paper outlook of RFPN from 2025 onwards presented during the 46PCM. After incorporating the comments from PCM, the Secretariat will present the document at the 56CM in 2024. <i>(updated as 16 Nov 2023)</i>	ongoing
III. NOTE OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE ON THE RESULTS OF THE FORTY-FIFTH MEETING				
15	<u>Thailand</u> : TD to consider adding a more detailed activity in the regional workshop on the implementation PSM to include the sharing of information among the AMSs on the national legislations, procedures related to the implementation of PSM for foreign fishing vessels at designated ports, and gap analysis of current legal and technical frameworks.	TD	To fulfillment of this request is contingent upon consulting with potential donors or securing funding support from existing programs. SEAFDEC will promptly notify the Council accordingly.	To be updated next Q4/2023
16	<u>Indonesia</u> : encouraged SEAFDEC to establish partnerships with relevant universities in Southeast Asian countries which could help facilitate and promote sustainable fisheries practices in the region.	AQD, IFRDMD, MFRD, MFRDMD, TD, SEC	SEC and all Departments have established partnership with universities, schools and colleges by inviting them to contribute as resource persons and interns in SEAFDEC projects.	Completed

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
17	<u>Myanmar</u> : AQD to extend technical assistance to Myanmar, either online or in-person mode, on the fattening technology of anguillid eels.	AQD	AQD is willing to provide assistance upon request from Myanmar.	Completed
VI. NOTE OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG) OF THE ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP) ON THE RESULTS OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING				
21	<u>Brunei Darussalam</u> : SEAFDEC to provide technical support on the implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines), particularly developing regional strategies and common understanding of sustainable small-scale aquaculture	SEC	Indonesia has successfully concluded the development phase and shared this update with SEAFDEC. During the 31 st ASWGFi meeting (26-27 July 2023), Indonesia reported on the progress made in developing regional strategies for the implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) and Small-scale Aquaculture (SSA). Indonesia also mentioned that they have conducted a national consultation and may involve relevant organizations for follow-up activities as the situation requires.	Completed
21	<u>Brunei Darussalam</u> : SEAFDEC to extend support to the AMSs in developing indicators to measure the contribution of small-scale aquaculture to better understand the issues on the operations and production of small-scale production.	AQD	AQD is willing to provide assistance upon request from Brunei Darussalam	Completed
V. POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES				
5.1 Efforts to Combating IUU Fishing				
5.1.1 Implementation of the SEAFDEC's Initiatives for Combating IUU Fishing				
26	<u>Viet Nam</u> : SEAFDEC to support Viet Nam by conducting capacity-building activities on the inspection of shipping containers based on the experiences of other countries and reviewing the existing legal frameworks to enable the AMSs in the inspection of shipping containers.	TD	Considering that the inspection of shipping containers may not fall within the scope of PSM requirements, TD will collaborate with experts from international organizations to design suitable capacity-building activities related to this matter.	Noted

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
26	<u>Viet Nam</u> : SEAFDEC to collaborate with other donors and develop the standard operating procedure (SOP) for the port inspection of shipping containers.	TD	As for the SOP, its adoption is currently under consideration by the respective countries. TD organized the regional training course on port state measures inspection in focus of shipping container for fish and fisheries product in 2022. The Training materials can be accessed via the link: www.seafdec.or.th/psm/psm-container-2022/index.html	Completed
30	<u>Malaysia</u> : TD to organize training courses for stakeholders in Malaysia to harmonize the eACDS with the existing system in the country.	TD	TD was invited by DOF Malaysia to serve as resource persons to provide technical support for eACDS during the training courses organized by DOF Malaysia.	Completed
31	<u>Indonesia</u> : ...encouraged SEAFDEC to invite the FAO to participate in regional activities to provide more information on the implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment and FAO Global Information Exchange System.	SEC, TD	The FAO/HQ organized the Regional Workshop on VG for Transshipment for Asia on 23-27 October 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand. Following this Workshop, SEAFDEC will continue to assist AMSs in implementing the guidelines.	Completed
32	<u>Myanmar</u> : TD to follow up and review the possible activities that could be undertaken by TD in line with recommendations from the Regional Workshop on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia organized by TD on 23–24 August 2022.	TD	TD is currently reviewing the requested activities, and any suitable ones will be incorporated into future programs as appropriate.	Completed
5.1.2 Intergovernmental Collaboration to Combat IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia: AN-IUU, RPOA-IUU, and RFVR				
36	<u>Myanmar</u> : since Myanmar is not a member of RPOA-IUU but wish to cooperate as an observer. He then requested SEAFDEC to provide the appropriate channel to obtain information from the RPOA-IUU.	TD	TD will communicate with Myanmar or RPOA-IUU (if appropriate) to gather additional detailed information regarding Myanmar.	0%
5.1.3 Global Initiatives to Combat IUU Fishing: FAO Global Information Exchange System and Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment				

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
38	<u>Malaysia:</u> SEAFDEC to promote the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment and consider providing technical support to the AMSs through training and capacity-building programs including vessel tracking by using the common guidelines as a basis for the region as well as seeking funding from potential donors until 2030.	TD	TD has accommodated the activity concerning the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment in the workplan of project workplan for 2023. Moreover, concerning training and capacity-building programs, which are found on common guidelines for the regional and include vessel tracking, TD intends to offer technical support through its existing programs.	Completed
39	<u>Viet Nam:</u> SEAFDEC to provide capacity-building activities in implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment and suggested SEAFDEC seek technical support from FAO.	TD	Same as para 38.	
40	<u>Thailand:</u> SEAFDEC to explore ways to help the AMSs actively and effectively use and provide information to the GIES system and provide training courses to promote the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment.	TD	For the GIES system, TD is actively exploring options to provide assistance to AMSs as per their requests. For FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment, same as para 38.	
5.2 Progress on the Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region				
44	<u>Indonesia:</u> MFRDMD to involve experts including those from relevant universities in the regional workshop on tuna-like species scheduled in the fourth quarter of 2023	MFRDMD	Noted.	
5.3 CITES-related Issues				
49	<u>Thailand:</u> SEAFDEC to invite more participants from the AMSs in future regional technical consultations on CITES issues to develop common positions of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries.	SEC	Noted.	

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
53	<u>Cambodia:</u> SEAFDEC to engage not only FAO but also other organizations in its future activities.	SEC	Noted.	
5.4 Combating Marine Debris and ALDFG in Southeast Asia: Policy Frameworks and Collaborative Projects by SEAFDEC				
55	<u>Malaysia:</u> SEAFDEC to follow up on the discussion at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) platform relevant to reporting of ALDFG and emphasized that fishing gear marking could be mandatory in the future.... and SEAFDEC to participate and obtain relevant information from this platform to be able to provide advice to the AMSs.	TD	TD is currently conducting research to determine whether ALDFG and fishing gear marking mandatory in the future is feasible. TD will provide prompt updates.	Completed
56, 58	<u>Thailand:</u> SEAFDEC to provide technical support and conduct training courses to build the capacity of the AMSs on the implementation of FAO Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gears <u>Philippines:</u> SEAFDEC to make an effort to provide capacity-building activities to the Member Countries in line with the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear	TD	SEAFDEC disseminated FAO Publications to fishing technologists of MCs, including: 1. FAO (2019) Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear. 2. Einarsson, H., He, P. & Lansley, J. 2023. Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear - Manual for the marking of fishing gear. Suppl. 2. In addition, TD will organize an in-person Regional Technical Meeting on Responsible Fishing: Abandoned, Lost, or Otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear and Marking of Fishing Gear, on 15 -17 November 2023. The meeting agenda incorporate a session dedicated to introducing the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear and, and Manual for the Marking of Fishing Gear. Suppl. 2.	70% (to be completed in Nov 2023)
VI. COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-MEMBER GOVERNMENTS				
No specific action was requested				

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
VII. OTHER MATTERS				
7.1 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2030: Results of the 2021 Baseline Information				
63	<u>Viet Nam:</u> the current evaluation is subjective and urged SEAFDEC to come up with clearer and more comprehensive indicators for the respective Plan of Action (POA) in order to obtain an in-depth and better picture of the implementation.	SEC	Noted.	
66	When submitting the Report to the ASEAN Mechanism, Viet Nam requested SEAFDEC reflect that the Report was approved by the majority of the Council as well as include the comments of the Council as supporting dossiers.	SEC		Completed
68	<u>Thailand:</u> SEAFDEC to add more key indicators for some POA as proposed by the Council Director for Viet Nam to be incorporated in the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of RES&POA-2030 (Mid-term Evaluation) in 2025.	SEC	Noted.	
70	SEAFDEC submission of the Report to the ASWGFi and higher authorities of the ASEAN through the FCG/ASSP <i>ad referendum</i>	SEC	Same as para 66.	Completed
VII.2 Others				
71	Thailand: SEAFDEC consider reactivating the RFPN program which could provide an excellent opportunity for fisheries officers from the AMSs to develop a professional network and gain international working experience	SEC	Same as Para 12	Completed
71	<u>Thailand:</u> SEAFDEC to conduct research and share with the AMSs the best practices to mitigate the impacts of fishing gear on marine mammals.	TD	TD distributed publications to fishing technologists of SEAFDEC Member Countries.	20%

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
			TD has successfully drafted a research proposal to investigate best practices in mitigating the impacts of fishing gears on marine mammals. The research activities on this topic are scheduled for 2024. Moreover, TD is actively maintaining communication with relevant organizations on this topic.	
73	<u>Philippines</u> : SEAFDEC to reactivate the RFPN program by looking into other sources of funds in the future including the cumulative unspent budget of the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC).	SEC	Same as Para 12	Completed
VIII. FUTURE DIRECTION OF SEAFDEC				
No specific action was requested				
IX. MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTER				
9.1 Operation of SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels				
76	<u>Philippines</u> : TD to put on hold the proposal on the use of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2023 until further notice.	TD	Noted.	Noted
77	<u>Thailand</u> : to postpone the use of M.V. SEAFDEC 2 from 2023 to 2024	TD following up with Thailand	Noted	Noted
78	<u>Malaysia and Philippines</u> : SEAFDEC to consider their request to join the training courses onboard M.V. SEAFDEC 2 on the operation of the scientific echosounder SIMRAD EK80.	TD	Two SIMRAD EK80 capacity-building workshops were concluded, covering the following areas: (1) Principles and Methods of Quantitative Echosounder EK80 (2) Capacity Building of researchers in Using Research Equipment, EK80 from Calibration, Data Collection to Analysis A total of four participants from SEAFDEC Member Countries attended, including one from Thailand, one from Indonesia, and two from Malaysia.	Completed
79	<u>Brunei Darussalam</u> : confirmed the request of the country to utilize the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 and	TD	SEAFDEC and Brunei Darussalam have mutually agreed to reschedule the cruise to March 2024, with plans to sign the MOA for utilizing M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in November 2023.	80%

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
	would further discuss with TD the survey cruise plan in 2023.			
80	<u>Japan</u> : suggested that the SEAFDEC Secretariat consider conducting a study on the future use of M.V. SEAFDEC.	SEC	SEAFDEC will include this study in the relevant program if applicable.	Completed
9.2 Collaborative Arrangements between SEAFDEC and Other Organizations				
81	SEAFDEC to proceed to the signing process of the new collaborative arrangement between SEAFDEC and US-DOI concerning Supporting Participation in Sustainable Fish Asia (SuFiA).	SEC, TD	The MOU between U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and SEAFDEC regarding “Supporting Participation in Sustainable Fish Asia (SuFiA)” has been successfully signed.	Completed
9.3 Updates on JTF budget request process in Japan and needs of SEAFDEC Member Countries Cooperation				
87	Member Countries to express their recognition of the contribution of the Government of Japan to the fisheries development of the region during international fora such as the AMAF, AMAF+3, and other relevant meetings.	SEC to coordinate with AMSs	Noted.	
9.4 SEAFDEC IMCS Network Membership				
100	The Council requested SEAFDEC to seek prior approval of the Council in accordance with Article 6 and Article 12 of the Agreement Establishing SEAFDEC when establishing cooperation with other organizations and governments in the future.	SEC	Noted.	
X. FINANCIAL MATTERS				
10.1 Adoption of Audited Financial Report for the Year 2021				
No specific action was requested				
10.2 Un-audited Financial Report for the Year 2022, and Status of the Financial Situation for the Year 2023				
103	<u>Indonesia</u> : SEAFDEC to explore alternative sources of funding and donors to ensure a sufficient budget to support the planned activities of SEAFDEC for the year 2023 which would be conducted in person and could be	AQD, IFRDMD, MFRD, MFRDMD, TD, SEC	Noted	

Para graph No.	Recommendations made by the Council	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC (as of 15 October 2023)	Status
	more expensive compared to virtual activities due to the associated travel and accommodation costs as well as other logistical expenses.			
104	Lao PDR informed the 55CM that Lao PDR would send the MRC to SEAFDEC as soon as possible.	SEC	SEC is a waiting for MRC from Lao PDR.	
10.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirements of the Center for the Year 2024				
No specific action was requested				
XI. CONCLUDING MATTERS				
11.1 Adoption of the Report and Press Statement				
No specific action was requested				
11.2 Date and Venue of the 56th Meeting of the Council				
108	Government of the Philippines accepted the responsibility of hosting the next Council Meeting in the Philippines in 2024	SEC		

**FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE DIRECTIVES GIVEN AT
46th MEETING OF SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE, 20-22 NOVEMBER 2023**

Issues	Para	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC	Status <i>Note: please indicate % of work done in progress</i>
III. REVIEW OF SEAFDEC PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE YEAR 2023 AND PROPOSED PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR 2024				
3.1 Programs under the FCG/ASSP Mechanism				
3.1.1 Strategy I: Securing the sustainability of fisheries to contribute to food security, poverty alleviation and livelihood of people in the region				
(1) Sustainable Utilization of Fisheries Resources and Resources Enhancement in Southeast Asia				
TD to conduct activities related to climate change	10	TD		
TD to provide technical assistance to <u>Cambodia</u> under the national program on resource enhancement by bringing back samples of juvenile blood cockles and snails to TD for identification	11	TD		
TD to explore the possibility of including MFRDMD in Activity 5.2 Participation in national/regional/international meetings to disseminate fisheries geographic information system (FGIS) and remote sensing (RS)	12	TD		
TD to consider including <u>Myanmar</u> in regional meetings on the utilization of geographic information system (GIS) and RS for effective fisheries management	13	TD		
TD to organize training or seminars on the use of software for fisheries stock assessment and fisheries management.	15	TD		
(2) Fisheries Management Strategies for Pelagic Fish Resources in the Southeast Asian Region				
MFRDMD to continue conducting the activities on stock assessment of pelagic species after the completion of the Project in 2024	17	MFRDMD		
TD to organize a training on neritic tuna stock assessment, which would include sharing fishery resource data.	17	MFRDMD, TD		
(3) Management Scheme for Inland Fisheries in the Southeast Asian Region				
<u>Thailand</u> requested IFRDMD to organize training sessions on the utilization of scientific echo sounders for inland	21	IFRDMD		

fisheries and proposed the exploration of freshwater fishery resources in Thailand as a pilot area.				
<u>Malaysia</u> requested IFRDMD to organize a workshop on inland fisheries management, specifically incorporating SPECTRA	22	IFRDMD		
(4) Harmonization and Enhancing Utilization of Fishery Statistics and Information				
SEAFDEC to follow up with <u>Malaysia</u> and <u>Viet Nam</u> on maps of marine sub-fishing areas and finalize the revised Regional Framework on Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia for submission to SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi	26, 28	SEC		
(5) Strengthening a Regional Cooperation and Enhancing National Capacities to Eliminate IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia				
TD to include <u>Cambodia</u> in the proposed activities in 2024 and send technical staff to support national activities including national training on eACDS for researchers	29	TD		
TD to continue supporting <u>Malaysia</u> and <u>Myanmar</u> in the implementation of eACDS	32,33	TD		
TD to provide technical support to Myanmar to strengthen coordination with international organizations with regard to the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies	33	TD		
(6) ASEAN-JICA Capacity Building Project on IUU Fishing Countermeasures in Southeast Asia				
TD to include Philippines in joining the training course for fisheries inspectors in the implementation of port State measures	34	TD		
TD to consider include Viet Nam in participating in Activities 2.2 and 3.2	35	TD		
TD to include Singapore in the training courses to be conducted under the project	37	TD		
(7) Small-scale Fisheries Management for Better Livelihood and Fisheries Resources				
TD to consider carrying out the activity to facilitate the exchange of knowledge of the management of small-scale fisheries among the Member Countries, e.g. national standards of capture fisheries and fish processing	38	TD		
TD to carry out activities related to the promotion of the equity of vulnerable groups in the fishing sector, e.g. occupational safety, innovations to improve fishing gear for disadvantaged groups	38	TD		

TD to continue implementing the activity on the fish processing group in <u>Cambodia</u> and the activities in community fisheries which should cover fish processing and the integration of gender equality and equity	39	TD		
TD to provide technical assistance to the <u>Philippines</u> in the country's ongoing development of the national plan of action for small-scale fisheries with assistance from FAO	40	TD		
TD to invite an expert from Japan to share lessons and key successes/challenges of the fishing rights system of Japan during the regional workshop on the compilation of lessons learned and key successes/challenges of EAFM implementation under Project Activity 1.1	42	TD		
(8) Responsible Fishing Technology and Practice				
TD to consider monitoring the greenhouse gas emissions not only during fishing operations but also at fishing ports	43	TD		
TD to include <u>Thailand</u> in the training to disseminate knowledge on the use of the sherbet ice system to preserve catches from small-scale fisheries activities	43	TD		
(9) Regional Collaborative Research and Capacity Building for Monitoring and Reduction of Marine Debris from Fisheries in Southeast Asia				
SEAFDEC to incorporate in the Project a study to investigate the primary source of microplastics in order to prove whether or not the abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gears (ALDFG) is the main source of microplastics in aquatic animals and fishery products in the region	44	TD		
SEAFDEC to organize activities to facilitate the exchange of ideas on the promotion of effective techniques for collecting data on the marine debris generated by fishing vessels, and to explore methods to collect marine debris data by the competent authorities without the engagement of fishers	44	TD		
(10) Research for Enhancement of Sustainable Utilization and Management of Sharks and Rays in the Southeast Asian Region			No follow-up actions required	
(11) Sustainable Utilization of Anguillid Eels in the Southeast Asian Region			No follow-up actions required	
(12) Development of Stock Assessment Method for Strengthening of Resources Management Measures of Tropical Anguillid Eels in AMS				

SEAFDEC to include <u>Thailand</u> to take part in the regional meeting which will be organized at the end of the Project in 2025 to share among the Member Countries the catch and biological data, resource assessment methods, and information on tropical anguillid eels	50	SEC		
SEAFDEC to include <u>Malaysia</u> in Project Activities 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 in 2024	52	SEC		
(13) Sustainable Management of Fisheries, Marine Living Resources and Their Habitats in the Bay of Bengal Region for the Benefit of Coastal States and Communities				
TD to conduct a comprehensive review of the activities and indicators of the Project to ensure their alignment with the current situations of the participating countries, noting that the indicator will be submitted to the Project Steering Committee for final review and approval	54	TD		
(14) Promoting the Blue Economy and Strengthening Fisheries Governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (GoTFish Project)			No follow-up actions required	
3.1.2 Strategy II: Supporting the sustainable growth of aquaculture to complement fisheries and contribute to food security, poverty alleviation and livelihood of people in the region				
(15) Sustainable Aquaculture through Cost-Effective Culture Systems, and Prompt and Effective Aquatic Animal Health Management				
AQD to communicate with <u>Malaysia</u> and provide the progress of Activity 1.4 focusing on developing the breeding and seed production industry for Kawakawa, chopping scad, slipper lobster, and seahorse	59	AQD		
AQD to consider inviting participants from <u>Myanmar</u> for Activity on disease control in crustaceans and fishes, and development of husbandry techniques	61	AQD		
AQD to consider inviting participants from <u>Lao PDR</u> to join Activity 3.1 Community-based freshwater aquaculture in remote rural areas	62	AQD		
(16) Blue Horizon: Ocean Relief through Seaweed Aquaculture			No follow-up actions required	
(17) ASEAN Regional Technical Consultation on Aquatic Emergency Preparedness Response Systems for Effective Management of Transboundary Disease Outbreak Southeast Asia (Phase 2)			No follow-up actions required	
3.1.3 Strategy III: Ensuring the food safety and quality of fish and fishery products for the Southeast Asian region				

(18) Enhancing Food Safety and Competitiveness of Seafood Products				
MFRD to consider including either a case study or a critical process in GMP and GHP as annex in the Regional Guidelines on GMP and GHP as its annex for the manufacturing of formulated feed for aquatic animals	68	MFRD		
MFRD to translate the Handbook on High Pressure Processing (HPP) of Fish and Fishery Products into the Thai and Vietnamese language	68,69	MFRD		
3.1.4 Strategy IV: Enhancing trade and compliance of the region's fish and fishery products with market requirements				
(19) ASEAN-JICA Food Value Chain Development Project				
SEAFDEC Secretariat to consider promoting eco-labeling as this could help add value to fishery products from artisanal fishers	75	SEC		
SEAFDEC Secretariat to discuss with Thailand to avoid possible duplication of the Project with the task of Thailand under the ASWGFi to develop Regional Guidelines for the ASEAN GAqP Certification Scheme	75	SEC		
3.1.5 Strategy V: Addressing cross-cutting issues, such as labor, gender and climate change, where related to international fisheries				
(20) Assistance for Capacity Development in the Region to Address International Fisheries-related Issues				
SEAFDEC Secretariat to consider providing a regional platform(s) for technical discussion to address fisheries-related issues in other platforms such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies	78	SEC		
SEAFDEC to consider providing a regional platform for technical discussion to address fisheries-related issues in other platforms including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) that may impact the development of fisheries and aquaculture in the region.	81	SEC		
SEAFDEC to provide a platform to discuss the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies	83	SEC		
3.1.6 Strategy VI: Empowering SEAFDEC to strengthen its roles in the region and to improve its services to Member Countries				
(21) Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for the M.V. SEAFDEC 2				
SEAFDEC to consider the future utilization of the vessel and what would SEAFDEC need to do with the vessel in the future	86	TD		

TD to communicate with the donor regarding the planned marine debris survey cruise in 2024 whether the Member Countries can participate, and to extend the invitation to the Member Countries accordingly	90	TD		
3.1.7 Special Project				
(22) USAID Southeast Asia Fisheries Partnership				
SEAFDEC Secretariat to consider extending a study visit to the institutions that are working on effective implementation of the U.S. Marine Mammals Protection Act (MMPA) for relevant staff from the Member Countries in addition to the SEAFDEC staff	91	SEC		
3.2 Departmental Programs				
3.2.1 Aquaculture Department				
Malaysia requested AQD to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide technical assistance with a focus on breeding technology for tropical eels - assistance in transferring the milkfish breeding technology through training programs at AQD or a visit of AQD researchers to Malaysia 	98	AQD		
Exchange of knowledge of aquaculture technologies for grouper, seabass, and milkfish, the Member Countries were encouraged to contact AQD directly and include the SEAFDEC Secretariat in the correspondence	99	AQD		
AQD to disseminate the results of the research under the Project. also requested TD to organize relevant training courses and study visits to AQD for Member Countries	101	AQD		
Viet Nam requested AQD to support aquaculture transformation and share expertise in seaweed aquaculture and techniques for coping with the impacts of climate change on aquaculture	104	AQD		
3.2.2 Training Department				
“Promotion on Strengthening of SEAFDEC Visibility and Enhancing Human Capacity Building.”	106	TD		
Thailand requested TD for assistance to support a specialist as a resource person for the implementation of the project				

“Compilation of Inland Fishing Gear and Methods in Thailand.”				
Cambodia requested TD to organize a training course on fishing gear classification, TD could provide a resource person for the training	107	TD		
For the program “Improvement of Fisheries Technology and Reduction of the Impact from Fishing Activities,”. TD to support the conduct of training on the development and application of advanced fisheries technology applications for the Member Countries.	108	TD		
Brunei Darussalam with the development of a database to support fisheries socioeconomic and small-scale fisheries, the willingness of Brunei Darussalam to obtain knowledge of the development of such database.	110	TD		
For the program “USAID DOI International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP),” TD to provide similar training to the Member Countries, especially for Sub-activity 1.1 Training and field practice on socioeconomic monitoring (SOCMON) for coastal and small-scale fisheries management in Southeast Asia and Sub-activity 2.1 Training course on the monitoring of fish stock life history parameters for observing the effect of climate change in the Southeast Asian region.	111	TD		
3.3 Other Program				
(1) Seminar-Workshop on Aquaculture Development in Southeast Asia (ADSEA)				
AQD and JTF consider supporting the participation of the Member Countries in the ADSEA.	116	AQD		
JTF to consider in the new phase of the JTF supporting the activities on aquaculture development including a similar workshop	117	AQD and JTF		
JTF to consider giving more support to aquaculture development in future projects.	117	AQD and JTF		
IV. PIPELINE PROJECTS AND EMERGING NEEDS FOR PREPARATION OF FUTURE PROJECT PROPOSALS				

(1) Implementation and Assessment of the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity			No follow-up actions required	
VI. OTHER MATTERS				
6.1 Update on the Japanese Trust Fund-7 (2025 onwards)			No follow-up actions required	
6.2 Outlook on the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) program				
The views of the Program Committee Members would be taken into consideration when the SEAFDEC Secretariat came up with a proposal on the RFPN program for consideration by the SEAFDEC Council in 2024	143	SEC		
6.3 Revision Regional Framework on Fishery Statistics of Southeast Asia			No follow-up actions required	

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE DIRECTIVES GIVEN AT THE 26th MEETING OF THE FCG/ASSP (23-24 November 2023)

Issues	Para	Responsible Department	Actions made by SEAFDEC	Status Note: please indicate % of work done in progress
III. FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE DIRECTIVES GIVEN AT THE MEETINGS OF SEAFDEC COUNCIL AND ASEAN BODIES RELATED TO FISHERIES				
3.1 Follow-up Actions to the Directives Given at the Fifty-fifth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council and the Twenty-fifth Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)				
SEAFDEC Secretariat will follow up with FAO, and once the regional guidelines are available, SEAFDEC will work with FAO and other partners to support the AMSs by conducting appropriate capacity-building activities	10	SEC, TD		
3.2 Follow-up Actions to the Directives Given at ASEAN Bodies Related to Fisheries during 2023				
SEAFDEC to explore how to support the promotion of the circular economy and nature-based solution initiative in the region.	14	SEC	No follow-up action required	
IV. ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP) AND FISHERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG) COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR 2023-2024				
4.1 Summary report on the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) Collaborative Programs for the Year 2023-2024				
Thailand suggested incorporating a case study or a critical process in good manufacturing practices (GMP) and	19	MFRD	The representative from MFRD indicated that MFRD would consider the suggestion of the representative from Thailand	

good hygiene practices (GHP) for the manufacturing of formulated feed for aquatic animals into the development of the Guidelines on GMP and GHP for Ready-to-Eat Raw Fish and Fishery Products				
Indonesia requested SEAFDEC to consider conducting capacity-building programs for fisheries extension officers in the future. The training could focus on inland fisheries, enhancing the capacity of officers to assist fishers and fish farmers in improving their livelihoods aligning with the program activities of IFRDMD	20	IFRDMD		
V. PROGRESS OF SEAFDEC-RELATED ACTIVITIES/PROPOSALS UNDER TO THE ASEAN RELATED BODIES				
5.1 ASEAN Steering Committee on Climate Change and Food Security			No follow-up action required	
5.2 ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF)			No follow-up action required	
5.3 Strategic Plan of Action on ASEAN Cooperation on Fisheries 2021–2025			No follow-up action required	
5.4 ASEAN Roadmap on Combating Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated Fishing			No follow-up action required	
5.5 ASEAN Network for Combating Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated Fishing (AN-IUU)			No follow-up action required	
5.6 ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASA)			No follow-up action required	
VI. POLICY CONSIDERATION ON INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES-RELATED ISSUES				
6.1 Combating IUU Fishing				
SEAFDEC organize a regional technical consultation to discuss the FAO draft	39	TD		

regional guidelines for the implementation of the FAO VGT				
6.2 Promotion on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture in ASEAN Region				
6.2.1 Regional Plan of Action for Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region				No follow-up action required
6.2.2 Mixed-stock Fisheries Management				No follow-up action required
6.2.3 Development of the Regional Guidelines on Good Manufacturing and Handling Practices for Ready-to-Eat Raw Fish and Fishery Products				No follow-up action required
6.3 Fish Trade-related Issues				
6.3.1 CITES-related Issues				
MFRDMD to explore possibilities to support AMSs in building capacity in species identification, especially for parts of CEAS as the AMSs are still lacking expertise in this area.	57	MFRDMD		
SEAFDEC establish a regional platform to facilitate development of NDF for sharks and rays as needed, to gather data and assist the AMSs in future management	58	MFRDMD/ SEC		
6.3.2 Summary of the Nineteenth Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade				No follow-up action required
6.4 Others/Emerging Issues				
6.4.1 Marine Biodiversity Policies for Sustainable Fisheries				No follow-up action required
6.4.2 FAO Global Initiative on Aquatic Genetic Resources				No follow-up action required

6.4.3 Establishment of the FAO Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM)			No follow-up action required	
VII. OTHER MATTERS				
7.1 Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2030			No follow-up action required	
7.2 Revision of the Regional Framework for Fishery Statistics in Southeast Asia			No follow-up action required	

INFORMATION-RELATED MATTERS

Results from the 24th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Information Staff Program

The 24th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Information Staff Program (24 ISP Meeting) was organized on 17–19 October 2021 in Melaka, Malaysia, and was hosted by SEAFDEC/MFRDMD. From the 24 ISP Meeting, there were information-related matters that required further discussion, notation, and support from the SEAFDEC Department Chiefs' Meeting, as follows:

1. Monitoring of Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication in the Year 2023

- The 24 ISP Meeting reviewed the progress of the implementation of the Information Strategies (January-October 2023) and agreed to provide the updated information, to cover the period from January-December 2023 to the Secretariat by the end of January 2024.
- Specifically, a suggestion was made on ways to ensure the production of outputs (both technical and promotional materials) from projects supported by donors (including for new projects such as USAID, BOBLME, GOTFISH, etc.) by indicating the production of such outputs as deliverables to be achieved by the project staff, *e.g.* consultants or project managers, at the beginning of the project or in the employment contract. This should be considered and undertaken by all concerned Departments as applicable.

2. Regular Information Materials/Tools in 2024

- The 24 ISP Meeting noted the materials to be prepared/produced by the Secretariat in 2024, and the required hard copies by Departments as follows:

	Total	Sec	TD	MFRD	AQD	MFRDM D	IFRDM D
SEAFDEC Annual Report 2023 (for CM)	700 650	300	25	0	150	50	100 50
Annual Compilation of Information Materials 2023 (for CM)	(Available through repositories)						
SEAFDEC Newsletter Vol. 47 (4 issue)	1,200	450	30	0	450	80	80
SEAFDEC e-News (at least 5 issues)	(only e-copies)						
“Fish for the People” Vol. 22 (3 issues)	1,200 1,000	375	50	0	250	80	80
SEAFDEC Calendar 2025	2,300	890	600	10	400	300	100

(It should be noted that the number of hard copies was reduced from previous years due to the policy to produce more electronic copies of the publication)

- The timeline for the production of the materials appears in **Appendix 1**, and the focal persons of the respective Departments for coordination on information materials in 2024 appear in **Appendix 2**.

- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to take note, and the Departments are requested to support by providing inputs, through the focal persons, to the respective materials.

2.1 Special Publication “Fish for the People”

- Although some SEAFDEC Department encountered difficulties in having the Departmental Review Committee members to review the articles resulting in delays in finalizing the articles, the 24 ISP Meeting agreed that the Mechanism of the Departmental Review Committee should be continued, and it is expected that the Departments would be able to adapt and come up with articles in a timelier manner in the future.
- Recognizing that SEAFDEC Secretariat and TD provided incentives to the first author of the articles of Fish for the People; while AQD also issued a Regulation to give scientific merit points for the authors; the other Departments are encouraged to also explore the appropriate incentives.
- The 24 ISP Meeting requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to also consider the possibility of providing incentives to external reviewers and authors or capacity building for authors such as through the support of the new Japanese Trust Fund (JTF) VII project that will commence in 2025 or Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC).
- Noting the shortage of articles for “Fish for the People,” the 24 ISP Meeting suggested the opportunity to seek articles from:
 - Experts who served as resource persons or delivered lectures at SEAFDEC events
 - Staff of counterpart agencies involved in the implementation of SEAFDEC activities at the national level
 - Writers who will popularize the scientific papers in collaboration with the author of such papers; the authorship should be subject to the agreement among the concerned staff
 - Project managers who should come up with articles as expected outputs or required deliverables of the projects
 - SEAFDEC staff who attended training in Japan supported by the JTF to write an article about what they learned from the training
- The Departments were requested to help identify potential articles for “Fish for the People” at the beginning of 2024. Based on such list, the Departments could further assign the respective staff to come up with articles within the appropriate timeframe; while the Editor of the “Fish for the People” could follow up with the Coordinators to submit the article.
- As 2024 is the final year of the JTF VI Phase II, the JTF Manager encouraged the Lead Technical Officers (LTO) to come up with articles, such as on best practices, success stories, etc. If sufficient articles could be prepared, the Issue of “Fish for the People” in 2024 (e.g. the last issue) could be dedicated to being a special Issue for the JTF VI Phase II.
- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to take note of the discussion. Considering the abovementioned opportunities to seek articles for Fish for the People,” each Department is requested to provide the list of potential articles for “Fish for the People” for 2024 to the Secretariat by the end of January 2024.

2.2 SEAFDEC eNews

- Noting the small number of recipients of the SEAFDEC eNews, the 24 ISP Meeting requested the Departments to provide the list of official email accounts of their staff, partners, stakeholders, and people who are engaged in SEAFDEC works to be included in the recipient list. The SEAFDEC Secretariat would also share the subscription link to the eNews focal persons of the Departments to further share this link with the target audience (including people using private email accounts) to subscribe to the SEAFDEC eNews.

- **Required action:** The Departments, through the eNews focal person, are requested to provide list of e-mail account (official), and share subscription link to other potential audiences.

2.3 SEAFDEC Calendar 2025

- The 24 ISP Meeting suggested the following potential themes of SEAFDEC Calendar 2025, in order of priority as follows:
 - i. Species under international concern (*e.g.* sea cucumbers, seahorses, sharks and rays, marine mammals)
 - ii. Fishing vessels, gears, and aquaculture facilities of the SEAFDEC Member Countries
 - iii. International agreements (*e.g.* Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, BBNJ)
 - iv. Fisheries conservation and management schemes applied in the region (*e.g.* *refugia*, stock enhancement, closed season, closed area, gear regulation, artificial reefs)
 - v. Effects of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture including mitigation and adaptation
 - vi. Emerging/current fisheries-related issues in the region and works of SEAFDEC to address such issues
- Selection of the theme should consider the possibility of having enough topics to cover 12-month pages and the possibility of having pictures that could represent the topic/text.
- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to decide on the theme for the SEAFDEC Calendar 2025.

2.4 SEAFDEC Repositories

- While expressing the gratitude to AQD for hosting the server of the repositories of the SEAFDEC Secretariat, TD, and MFRDMD, the 24 ISP Meeting requested AQD to issue a letter with an invoice separately to the SEAFDEC Secretariat, TD, and MFRDMD on payment of annual operating costs for 2024.
- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to take note.

3. Others

3.1 Proposed conduct of Inter-Departmental Workshop

- MFRDMD requested the SEAFDEC Secretariat to organize a workshop which aims to improve the knowledge and skills, especially of the Department's new staff to report the progress based on the template for monitoring of the implementation of the Information Strategies, including SEAFDEC websites, SEAFDEC repositories, social media monitoring, Google Search Console, and Meta Business Suite. It was noted that the Workshop could be after the end of January 2024 and all Departments should be also invited to attend this workshop, while information staff from AQD could serve as resource persons.
- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to take note.

3.2 Updating SEAFDEC Institutional Video

- SEAFDEC is planning to update the SEAFDEC Institutional Video, by updating the part of new senior officials, e.g. SEAFDEC Secretary-General and Chiefs of some Department, using the video taken during the recent events, e.g. 24 ISP Meeting, SEAFDEC Secretary-General's visit to AQD, and upcoming SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting. It is expected that the updated SEAFDEC Institutional Video will be available by February 2024.

- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to take note.

3.3 SEAFDEC New Year Card

- TD is planning to prepare an electronic New Year Card for 2024 with a similar style as in the previous year, *i.e.* having a picture of the SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, and all Department Chiefs to be taken during the DCM in November 2023. It was suggested that the hard-printed SEAFDEC New Year Card should also be produced to be sent together with the SEAFDEC Calendar 2024. (Note: The Card is to be to send to Departments by postage separately from the Calendar.)
- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to inform the required number of copies of hard print New Year Card.

3.4 ASFA Partnership Agreement: SEAFDEC Contribution

- Background: Recognizing that ASFA recently developed its new Terms of Reference (TOR) which will supersede the existing Partnership Agreement with all Partners, including the partnership with SEAFDEC which was established in 2013 (with AQD as a Collaborating ASFA Center), the SEAFDEC Secretariat had already circulated the draft TOR of ASFA to all Department Chiefs for information and comment (including to the legal advisor of AQD). the anticipated changes in the ASFA mechanism that affect partners which include changing from depositing the inputs by AQD staff to harvesting from the SEAFDEC repositories and that ASFA may no longer support the participation of staff of Collaborating ASFA Centers in its meetings. However, it was noted that during the ASFA Advisory Board Meeting, the Partners expressed difficulties for the Centers to participate in ASFA meetings on their own budget and ASFA is considering to continue supporting the participation of these Centers in the future.
- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to consider whether to continue the partnership with ASFA based on the new TOR. Considering that if SEAFDEC continues the partnership with ASFA, the information to be harvested from SEAFDEC repositories to OpenASFA would include the materials belonging to the Departments, the Departments will be requested (later on) to inform the SEAFDEC Secretariat that will convey to AQD later should there be any collection of publications that are allowed to be harvested.

3.5 Hosting Arrangements for the 25 ISP Meeting

- Due to the anticipated difficulty of MFRD in hosting the Twenty-fifth Meeting of SEAFDEC ISP in 2024 in Singapore, the SEAFDEC Secretariat agreed to host the 25 ISP Meeting in Thailand. MFRD is willing to host the ISP Meeting in Singapore in 2026.
- **Required action:** The DCM is requested to take note.

Workplan and Timeframe

Activity	Month (2024)											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1. Annual Report 2023												
• Submission of Inputs from Depts.	■											
• Preparation of Draft Annual Report		■										
• Circulation to Departments			■									
• Preparation of SG's Presentation			■									
• Approval by the Council				CM								
• Printing & Distribution					■	■						
2. Information Compilation Package												
• Compilation of inputs	■	■										
• Preparation of CD Rom Package		■	■									
• Distribution				CM								
3. Newsletter (4 issues)												
• Submission of Inputs from Depts.	■			■			■			■		
• Preparation/finalization of Draft	■			■			■			■		
• Printing & Distribution		■			■		■				■	
4. SEAFDEC E-News	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
5. Special Publication "Fish for The People" (3 issues)												
• Submission of Inputs from Depts.	■	■			■	■			■	■		
• Preparation/finalization of Draft			■				■				■	
• Printing & Distribution				■				■				■
6. SEAFDEC Calendar 2025												
• Identification of Theme and preparation of outline							■					
• Compilation of Inputs								■	■			
• Preparation/finalization of Draft										■		
• Printing & Distribution											PCM	

Focal point for coordination on information materials in 2024

SEAFDEC Annual Report 2023

Secretariat	Ms. Nualanong Tongdee
TD	Mr. Kongpathai Sarapaivanich
MFRD	Mr. Ong Yihang
AQD	Mr. Rex Delsar B. Dianala / Ms. Richelle T. Bautista
MFRDMD	Ms. Mazalina Ali
IFRDMD	Dr. Dina Muthmainnah

Information Compilation CD-ROM 2023

Secretariat	Mr. Satana Duangsawasdi
TD	Yanida Suthipol
MFRD	Mr. Ong Yihang
AQD	Mr. Rex Delsar B. Dianala
MFRDMD	Ms. Nurul Syazwani Mustaffa
IFRDMD	Mr. Arya Nugraha

SEAFDEC Newsletter (and SEAFDEC eNews)

Secretariat	Ms. Sunutta Pudtal
TD	Mr. Kongpathai Sarapaivanich
MFRD	Mr. Ong Yihang
AQD	Dr. Edgar Amar/Mr. Rex Delsar Dianala
MFRDMD	Mr. Mohammed Faisal Md. Saleh (for Newsletter) Ms. Fauzana Che Su (for eNews)
IFRDMD	Dr. Dina Muthmainnah

Fish for the People

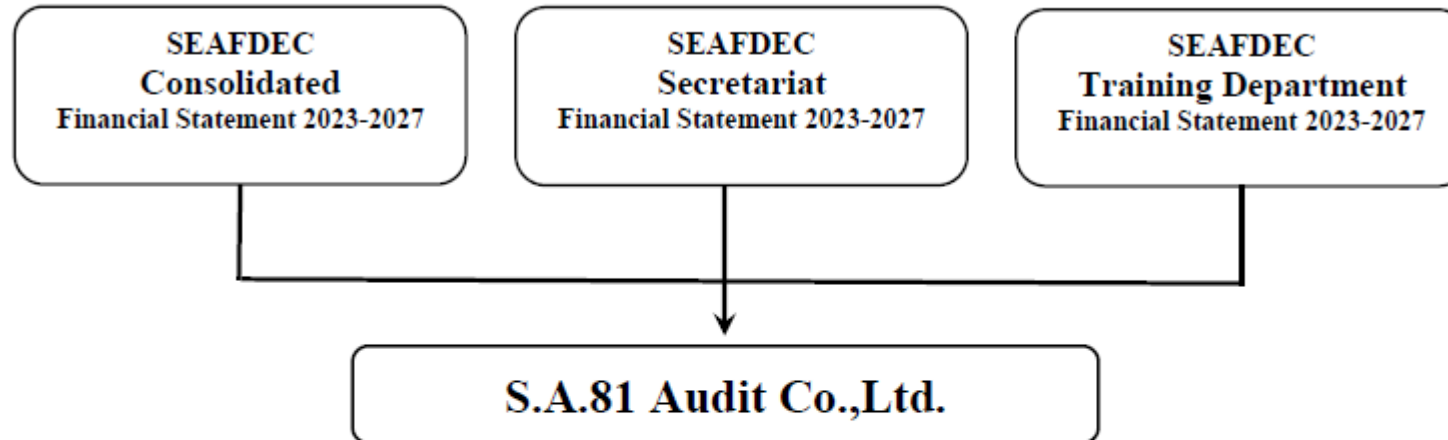
Secretariat	Mrs. Shiela Villamor Chumchuen
TD	Mr. Kongpathai Sarapaivanich
MFRD	Mr. Ong Yihang
AQD	Dr. Leobert dela Peña / Ms. Richelle T. Bautista
MFRDMD	Ms. Mazalina Ali
IFRDMD	Dr. Dina Muthmainnah

SEAFDEC Calendar 2025

Secretariat	Ms. Nualanong Tongdee
TD	Mr. Kongpathai Sarapaivanich
MFRD	Mr. Ong Yihang
AQD	Mr. Rex Delsar B. Dianala
MFRDMD	Ms. Fauzana Che Su
IFRDMD	Mr. Yanu Prasetyo Pamungkas

**Contact persons and audit firms for SEAFDEC
in 2023-2027**

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SEAFDEC
Aquaculture Department
Financial Statements 2023-2027



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SEAFDEC
Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
Financial Statements 2023-2027



Adib Azhar & Co.

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Denai Alam, 40160 Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia**

Telephone : 03-7734 2242

CONTACT PERSON AND EXTERNAL AUDIT FIRM

SEAFDEC
Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
Financial Statements 2023-2027



Indonesia Government Internal Audit
(General Inspectorate I Division)

Auditor name : XXX

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Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
JI Medan Merdeka Timur No. 16,
Jakarta 10110, Indonesia

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**THE 56TH MEETING OF SEAFDEC COUNCIL
THE PHILIPPINES, (TENTATIVE APRIL 2024)**

- Agenda 1: Procedural Matters**
- 1.1 Opening of the Meeting by Chairperson of SEAFDEC Council for the Year 2023–2024
 - 1.2 Election of Chairperson for the Year 2024–2025
 - 1.3 Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Meeting
- Agenda 2: Report of the Secretary-General**
- Agenda 3: Note of the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Program Committee (PCM) on the Results of the Forty-sixth Meeting of PCM**
- Agenda 4: Note of the Chairperson of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) on the Results of the Twenty-sixth Meeting of FCG/ASSP**
- Agenda 5: Policy Consideration on Important Issues**
- 5.1 Efforts to Combating IUU Fishing
 - 5.2 Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region
 - 5.3 CITES-related Issues
 - 5.4 Others
- Agenda 6: Cooperation with International/Regional Organizations and Non-member Governments**
- Agenda 7: Other Matters**
- 7.1 Others
- Agenda 8: Future Direction Requested by the Council (to be attended by Member Countries' Head Delegates and SEAFDEC Secretary-General)**
- Agenda 9: Management of the Center (Closed Session)**
- 9.1 Operation of SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels
 - 9.2 Collaborative Arrangements between SEAFDEC and Other Organizations
 - 9.3 Proposed Modification on the Rules for Paperless SEAFDEC Meetings
 - 9.4 Others
- Agenda 10: Financial Matters**
- 10.1 Adoption of Audited Financial Report for the Year 2022
 - 10.2 Un-audited Financial Report for the Year 2023, and Status of the Financial Situation for the Year 2024
 - 10.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirements of the Center for the Year 2025
 - 10.4 Proposed the new Audit Firms for fiscal year 2023-2027

10.5 Other financial matters

Agenda 11: Concluding Matters

11.1 Adoption of the Report and Press Statement

11.2 Date and Venue of the Fifty-seventh Meeting of the Council

Agenda 12: Closing of the Meeting