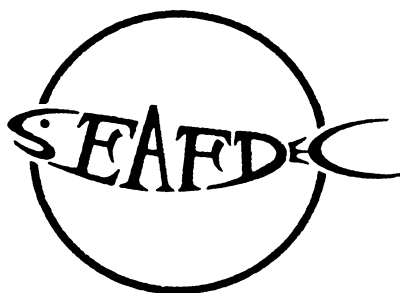


**REPORT OF
THE THIRTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
OF
THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

Siem Reap, Cambodia

3-7 April 2007



**THE SECRETARIAT
SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS DOCUMENT

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

BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION

SEAFDEC. 2007. Report of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Bangkok, Thailand. 141 pp.

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ISBN 978-974-8418-21-6

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**THE THIRTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**Siem Reap, Cambodia
3-7 April 2007**



*The Council Directors and head delegates
participating the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council*

**REPORT OF
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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At the invitation of the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Thirty-ninth Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia from 3 to 7 April 2007.

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

1.1 Inaugural Ceremony

3. The Inaugural Ceremony of the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council was held on 3 April 2007, and was presided over by H.E. Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia. Mr. Abdul Halidi Mohd Salleh, the Alternate Council Director and Deputy Director of the Fisheries Department of Brunei Darussalam, on behalf of the outgoing Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council and Fisheries Director Mrs. Hajah Hasnah Ibrahim, expressed the sincere gratitude to the other Council Directors and to the SEAFDEC Secretary-General for their support during her Chairmanship of the SEAFDEC Council in 2006. In her message read for her by Mr. Halidi, which appears as **Annex 2**, she took note with appreciation the achievements of SEAFDEC in supporting the Member Countries' efforts towards sustainable development of fisheries resources in the region.

4. The Governor of Siem Reap Province, H.E. Sou Phirin welcomed the Meeting participants. He stressed the importance of fish for the livelihood of the people in his country, and expressed the wish that the Meeting generate fruitful outcomes for the effective development of sustainable fisheries in the region. His welcome speech appears as **Annex 3**.

5. While highlighting the significant contribution of the fisheries sector to his country, the Council Director and Director-General of the Fisheries Administration of Cambodia, H.E. Nao Thuok emphasized the importance of collaboration and the implementation of fisheries-related instruments both at regional and international levels in order to sustain the utilization of the fishery resources. In addition, he also stressed the importance of cooperation between Cambodia and other dialogue partners, which is envisaged to help promote the development of the fisheries sector in various aspects. His statement appears as **Annex 4**.

6. In his statement, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia, H.E. Dr. Chan Sarun addressed the importance of fisheries management and conservation, and expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC for implementing activities that promote sustainable development of fisheries for food security in the region. He also sought the cooperation of the Member Countries, and the regional and international organizations in bridging the development gap between the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries, and in integrating the various regional and global instruments into the national fisheries policy. His statement appears as **Annex 5**.

1.2 Election of the Chairman

7. The Council Director for Cambodia, H.E. Nao Thuok, was unanimously elected as the in-coming Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council for the year 2007.

1.3 Adoption of the Agenda

8. The Council adopted the Agenda of the Meeting, which appears as **Annex 6**.

II. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

9. The Council acknowledged with appreciation the accomplishments of the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments during the year 2006 in various aspects of sustainable fisheries development as presented by the Secretary-General, and the cooperation of other international/regional organizations during the year. The Council also took note of the CD-Rom on SEAFDEC Annual Compilation of Information 2006 (trial version) provided to all the Member Countries for future reference and usage. The Council then approved the SEAFDEC Annual Report 2006 for publication and dissemination.

III. NOTE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE ON THE RESULT OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING

10. The Council took note of the outcome of the Twenty-ninth Meeting of Program Committee (**Annex 7**) held from 4 to 6 December 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand, as presented by the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of the Program Committee. The Council then approved the programs implemented in 2006 and the proposed programs for 2007, as well as the recommendations made at the Program Committee Meeting for future implementation.

11. While noting the importance of the various programs of activities in addressing the priority areas of the Member Countries and the significant impacts of SEAFDEC's activities to fisheries development of the region, the Council expressed the concern that with no regular contribution for the implementation of SEAFDEC programs in 2007, will have an impact on the future work of the Center. In addition to the discussion on identifying priority activities to be undertaken for the Member Countries, the Council suggested that further discussion/investigation on sources for funding support for the implementation of the activities need to be undertaken.

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

12. The Council took note of the results and endorsed the recommendations of the Ninth Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) (**Annex 8**), which was held from 7 to 8 December 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand, as presented by Atty. Malcolm I. Sarmiento, Jr., in his capacity as the ASEAN Co-Chairman for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG.

V. POLICY CONSIDERATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

5.1 International Fisheries Related Issues

13. The Council was informed on the important international fisheries related issues including fish trade and anti-fisheries campaigns as discussed in respective regional/international fora from 2006 to 2007. The issues included those related to the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF); small-scale fisheries related issues; endangered aquatic species; fish trade related issues; eco-labelling; fisheries subsidies; moratorium on the high seas bottom trawling, and tsunami reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Endangered Aquatic Species under CITES Concern

14. The Council reaffirmed its position that the listing of species under the Convention on International Trade Endangered Species in Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) appendices should be based on sound scientific evidences. The Council also requested the Secretariat to continue its study on aquatic species that are important for the region in order to ensure that the species will not be affected by the CITES listing exercise.

15. The Council Director for Japan notified the Council that Japan had submitted a draft resolution on the whale species subject to International Whaling Commission (IWC) regulations, which are currently listed in Appendix I should be reviewed as these had been listed based on the old listing criteria and their stock status has since then been improved. He further requested the other Member Countries to support this draft resolution. In addition, he also requested that representatives from the fisheries-related agencies of the SEAFDEC Member Countries to also participate in the Fourteenth Conference of Parties (COP14-CITES) in order to reflect the regional position and safeguard the interest of fisheries sector.

16. The Meeting took note of the Ad-hoc Expert Advisory Panel for Assessment of Listing Proposals to CITES for Commercially-Exploited Aquatic Species, which was convened by FAO from 26 to 30 March 2007, where SEAFDEC had provided information on its regional initiatives and efforts on relevant species proposed for listing at the COP14-CITES, and that a regional expert to the Meeting has been nominated. In this connection, the Secretariat was asked to further communicate with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the regional expert, and to provide a summarized outcome of the Meeting to all the Member Countries for their information.

Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF)

17. The Council urged all Member Countries to continue the implementation of CCRF in their respective countries with the assistance of SEAFDEC and FAO. In this connection, the representative from FAO expressed that FAO would support the implementation of CCRF, particularly through the FishCode Program, and informed the Meeting that a regional workshop will be organized in order to make the global norms work into the regional context. He also supported the proposed role of SEAFDEC to take regional initiative in monitoring and reporting the implementation of the CCRF. To this end, in his capacity as APFIC Secretary, he expressed his wish to collaborate with SEAFDEC in order to harmonize the monitoring of the implementation of the CCRF.

18. The Council Director for Singapore expressed the concern that counter measures for Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing particularly the Port State measures need to be carefully assessed as some measures may not be practical and has created undue burden impeding free trade.

Small-scale Fisheries-related Issues

19. The Council supported the proposal for the Secretariat to continue its initiative in raising the profile of small-scale fisheries of the region. In this connection, the Secretariat in consultation with the Member Countries and Regional Fisheries Bodies working on small-scale fisheries, should explore possible means of supporting small-scale fisheries at the global level. These include the development of proposals for the establishment of the Sub-committee on Small-scale Fisheries under the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) and the dedicated global program on small-scale fisheries. However, the Council Director for Japan expressed the concern that FAO might not have the budget for the establishment of the Sub-committee on Small-scale Fisheries, thus he suggested that other financial sources should be explored prior to the discussion at the next COFI meeting.

20. The Meeting took note of the Regional Workshop and Symposium on Asserting Rights, Responsibility: perspective from small-scale fishing community on coastal and fisheries management in Asia, which will be organized by the International Collective Supports to Fish Workers (ICSF) from 3 to 8 May 2007 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

Fish Trade Related Issues

21. The Council Director for Thailand informed the Meeting that from 27 to 30 March 2007, the Department of Fisheries, Thailand in collaboration with FAO and NACA jointly organized an expert workshop on Aquaculture Certification. The workshop was held with the objective of addressing the development of various certification schemes both national and private, involved in the shrimp industry with specific concern related to the burden in shrimp producing countries, particularly the high certification cost. A concern was also made on the additional cost associated with the certified products. The Council Director for Thailand also noted the outcome of the workshop and the consensus among all participants to have the harmonized and equivalence of the certification guidelines, core criteria/standard development of certification procedures, and cluster farm management. The detailed development of the preliminary guidelines will be discussed in Brazil in late 2007, and the draft of the Certification Guidelines will be further submitted to the FAO COFI Sub-committee on Aquaculture in Chile in October 2008.

22. The Council Director for Malaysia informed the Meeting that the Department of Fisheries Malaysia, FAO and INFOFISH would jointly organize a Regional Workshop on Fish Trade and Development in Penang, Malaysia from 3 to 4 September 2007. The invitation was extended to all Asian countries.

23. The representative from FAO also informed the Council of the meeting to be organized by APFIC in September 2007 on cost-benefit analysis for fisheries and aquaculture certification.

Eco-labelling

24. While taking note of the current effort of SEAFDEC through the support of Sida in developing regional strategy for eco-labelling, the Council Director for Thailand requested SEAFDEC to also cover the economic aspects (e.g., drivers of eco-labelling in consumer market, expected implementation cost, price of eco-labelled products, etc.) in its future work on eco-labelling.

25. The Meeting also took note of Japan's own initiative on eco-labelling which was being developed to suit the situation in Japan.

Fisheries Subsidies

26. The Council Director for Malaysia shared the information regarding the status of the discussion on fisheries subsidies under the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations, the outcome from the Informal Meeting of Negotiating Group on Rules on Fisheries Subsidies from 27 to 28 March 2007 in Geneva, and on the revised paper of Brazil and the Chairman's non-paper dated 30 January 2007. He informed the Council on the position of Malaysia to support the exclusion of inland capture fisheries and aquaculture from the new rules. In addition, he also stated that Malaysia also supported the Special and Differential Treatment (S&D) for developing countries and the inclusion of several subsidies that should be permitted. This include among others, subsidy to promote the use of resource-friendly fishing gears, the use of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)/Vessel Tracking Unit (VTU), on-board processing facilities for fisheries products, improve safety and quality of fish to meet international standards, and subsidies for exploitation of resources in the RFMOs' areas of competence.

27. The Council Director for Malaysia also informed the Council that the United States has prepared a paper to be discussed at the next Meeting in June 2007. He urged the Member Countries to follow-up the negotiation, and make possible intervention to safeguard the interest of developing countries and to reflect the important roles of small-scale fisheries, before the Chair would conclude the text by the end of 2007.

28. The Council Director for Thailand informed the Council that the WTO negotiation group on rules has recently discussed that the three sustainability indicators including status of stock exploitation, fleet capacity and effectiveness of fisheries management system, will be integrated into the fisheries subsidy discipline. Since information on these indicators is very important, the Member Countries should review the indicators and build up their capacity and readiness on this matter.

29. The Council Director for Japan informed the Council on the position of Japan that subsidy, which contributes to sustainable fisheries and resources conservation should not be prohibited. He also noted that the big fishing nations might be included in the developing

country group and therefore, caution should be taken when considering S&D to developing countries.

New Modality for Regional Cooperation in Addressing International Fisheries Issues

30. The Council took note of the proposed new modality for regional cooperation in addressing international fisheries related issues (**Annex 9**). In order to enhance the coordination mechanism, the Council requested the Secretariat to establish a Drafting Mechanism, which will compile the existing common/coordinated position on international fisheries issues agreed by the Member Countries. The fisheries-related agencies should then submit their request, taking into account the agreed common/coordinated positions, to the responsible agency that has direct responsibility on the issue.

5.2 Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia

31. The Council supported in principle the proposal for the establishment of the Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia (**Annex 10**), in response to the need for improving fisheries management, particularly addressing issues related to fishing capacity and IUU fishing, and enhancing information collection for fisheries management. This initiative is envisaged to signal the seriousness and commitment of the region in improving its fisheries management.

32. The Council suggested that efforts should be made to move towards long-term establishment of a regional fisheries management mechanism. This would provide a target for activities undertaken by Member Countries such as the Regional Scientific Advisory Committee.

33. The Council suggested that a regional expert consultation on fisheries management should be organized in order to explore the possibility of establishing the Committee, the areas of cooperation, the roles and functions of the Committee. In addition, the potential donors for the committee should also be identified.

5.3 ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)

Report on Progress and Status of ASSP

34. The Council was informed on the progress in the formalization of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) (**Annex 11**), that the ASSP was endorsed by the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF_i) (June 2006, Manila, Philippines), the Special Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the 27th Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) (August 2006, Bohol, Philippines), and the 28th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Meeting (AMAF) (November 2006, Singapore); and that the Letter of Understanding on the ASSP is expected to be signed by the ASEAN Secretary-General and the SEAFDEC Secretary-General during the 29th AMAF Meeting to be held in Thailand in 2007.

Proposed Concept for Follow-up of ASSP

35. The Council considered SEAFDEC's Proposal for Cooperation with the ASEAN under the ASSP, which appears as **Annex 12**. The proposal consists of two components, i) establishment of regional fisheries development and management mechanism, and ii)

establishment of an ad-hoc ASEAN-SEAFDEC Roadmap Working Group for the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector.

36. The Council agreed to the two components of the proposal and requested the Secretariat to submit the proposal to ASEAN, through the ASWGF.

37. The Council Director for Thailand, supported by the Council Director for Vietnam, requested SEAFDEC to support the organization of a Workshop in order to identify the scope as well as the mechanism and activities for implementation under the ASEAN Roadmap for Integration of Fisheries Sector. In this regard, the Council requested SEAFDEC to consider the possibility of organizing such workshop(s) in order to discuss the scope, objectives and necessary arrangements on the above mentioned proposal.

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

38. The representative from FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific congratulated SEAFDEC on its achievements and contributions to fisheries development in the Southeast Asian region. He addressed the various issues of common interest to SEAFDEC and FAO, i.e. small-scale fisheries issues, international fisheries-related issues, improvement of fisheries information and statistics, reduction of fishing capacity, IUU fishing, evaluation of cost and benefit of fisheries and aquaculture certification in the Asia-Pacific region. He looked forward to the initiative on Regional Scientific Advisory Committee of the ASEAN region; and expressed the willingness of FAO to continue collaborating with SEAFDEC on issues of common interest in the future. His statement appears as **Annex 13**.

VII. SEAFDEC FUTURE OPERATION

39. The Secretariat presented the progress and status of the policy on SEAFDEC Future Operation (**Annex 14**) discussed and concluded at the last meeting, which outlined the pre-requisites for sustainable SEAFDEC future operation, enhancing technical cooperation and arrangement for non-traditional sources of funds, and the areas for immediate and long-term improvement.

7.1 Responsibility on Departments of the Host Countries and Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC)

40. The Council was informed on the status of the Minimum Regular Contribution and that currently all the SEAFDEC Member Countries have indicated their intention to provide Minimum Regular Contribution to SEAFDEC for the year 2007.

41. The Council Director for Japan explained that as a result of the change of priorities of Japan's foreign assistance and the drastic decrease of its Official Development Assistance (ODA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs could no longer provide financial support to SEAFDEC. However, the Government of Japan believing in the importance and the future of SEAFDEC is therefore providing funding support in the form of Trust Fund and MRC through its Fishery Agency. The Council noted that the Member Countries agreed to provide the MRC to sustain the operation of SEAFDEC.

42. The Council also noted the fundamental principle in the establishment of MFRD, as stipulated in the Agreement Establishing the MFRD, that 1/3 of MFRD's operating cost (40,000 USD) would be provided by the Government of Singapore while 2/3 (80,000 USD) would be provided by the Government of Japan. However, under the current financial circumstances in which Japan would no longer provide the contribution for the operation of MFRD, this arrangement should be changed in order to allow Singapore to continue participating in SEAFDEC activities under the post-harvest scope. The Council Director for Singapore therefore, proposed to offer the "Post-harvest Center of Singapore" as one of the Collaborating Centers of SEAFDEC; and the Post-harvest Center would take over the activities of MFRD under the SEAFDEC regional programs including those supported by the Japanese Trust Fund. The Council Director for Singapore also informed the Meeting that the Government of Singapore agreed in principle on the provision of the MRC to SEAFDEC.

7.2 Enhancing Cooperation and Arrangement

Proposal on the Establishment of Collaborating Centers for SEAFDEC

43. The Council Director for Singapore proposed the establishment of Collaborating Centers for SEAFDEC (**Annex 15**), as an additional mechanism to formalize linkages between SEAFDEC and institutions within and outside the SEAFDEC membership. The establishment is envisaged to complement the work of SEAFDEC and strengthen the scope and capabilities of SEAFDEC in the implementation of its mandate in tropical fisheries development. The Collaborating Centers would operate independently both financially and operationally from SEAFDEC, although the Centers will implement projects and activities for SEAFDEC and the SEAFDEC Member Countries through the SEAFDEC regional program mechanism with funding from SEAFDEC and other sources.

44. The Council approved the proposal and endorsed the Post-harvest Center of Singapore to be a Collaborating Center of SEAFDEC. The Council also noted that other institutes could also be considered as Collaborating Centers in the future.

45. The Council requested the Secretariat to develop the guidelines in consultation with Singapore, for the collaborative arrangement between SEAFDEC and the Collaborating Centers within the Member Countries. It is envisaged that such guidelines would facilitate the establishment of other fisheries-related institutions as Collaborating Centers of SEAFDEC. The Guidelines would be circulated to all the National Coordinators, and will be discussed during the forthcoming Program Committee Meeting.

Guidelines on Collaboration and Arrangement

46. The Council in principle endorsed the Guidelines for Collaborative Arrangements (**Annex 16**), among SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments with 1) non-member governments and other international and regional organizations, donor organizations and agencies, and 2) SEAFDEC Member Countries, which is envisaged to enhance technical cooperation and facilitate sourcing of non-traditional funds. However, the Council suggested that under the Guidelines, the SEAFDEC Departments should take a role in seeking funding support and the Secretariat, in addition to seeking funding support, should provide support to the Departments for the establishment of any collaboration. The Council also supported the suggestion that the implementation of the Guidelines should be flexible and the process of finalization of the collaborative arrangements should be hastened.

7.3 Areas for Immediate Improvement of SEAFDEC Operation

Streamlining of SEAFDEC Annual Meetings

47. The Council took note of the adjustments on the arrangements for SEAFDEC annual meetings namely, the Council, the Program Committee, ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG, and the Department Chiefs' in order to be cost effective and efficient, and the arrangement for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Meeting (from the 9th Meeting) to held be back-to-back with the Program Committee Meeting.

Improving SEAFDEC Information Tools and Activities for Enhancing Visibility and Communication

48. Referring to the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication, which was endorsed in principle during the 38th Council Meeting, the Council appreciated and endorsed the revised Information Strategies (**Annex 17**), which provided the objectives and performance indicators for future implementation as framework for the formulation and implementation of SEAFDEC information activities under the Center-wide Information Network Program.

49. In addition, in order to raise the profile and visibility of the Center to the public, the Council also endorsed the initiatives and activities proposed to be undertaken on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Establishment of SEAFDEC in 2007.

50. The Council suggested that the Secretariat keep track on promoting and enhancing SEAFDEC visibility through its information activities under the current program. In addition, SEAFDEC should strengthen its role in enhancing SEAFDEC's international visibility through its achievements in addressing international fisheries related-issues at the international fora in relation to the common/coordinated positions that has been agreed upon among the Member Countries. In order to reflect the regional positions at the international fora, the Council requested the Secretariat to keep track on the number of international fisheries-related issues of which the common positions have been agreed upon, and the number of interventions of the Member Countries reflecting the regional position at the international fora, as one of its Key Performance Indicators.

51. In addition to the traditional indicators to be used in monitoring and assessing the visibility of SEAFDEC, the Council also suggested that SEAFDEC should enhance its visibility in order to attract more donors through the new initiatives/activities that will be implemented in the future, i.e. Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia, in which SEAFDEC could play the key role of providing information and in conducting of surveys, etc.

Adjustment of Program on Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN)

52. The Council took note of the adjustment of the program on Working Group on Regional Fisheries Policy (WGRFP) to Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) with the current members from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The Council also took note of the current role of the RFPN in providing views and inputs on various issues, e.g. international fisheries related issues, etc.; and that in the future, the role of RFPN would be extended to cover other regional priority and policy issues, and provide assistance in the implementation of SEAFDEC regional programs.

53. In addition, under the Sida supported project on “Human Resource Development (HRD) in Fisheries Management” and “Tsunami Rehabilitation in Affected Countries in the ASEAN Region”, Sida has also indicated its intention to support some selected RFPN members to be stationed at the Secretariat. In this connection, the Secretariat would communicate with the Member Countries for such arrangement.

54. The Council suggested that the RFPN should take the leading role in monitoring the international fisheries-related issues and communicate with lead countries identified to tackle such issues in order to enhance discussion and formulation of the common position of the region.

Operation of SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels

55. The Council was informed on the operation of the M.V. SEAFDEC in 2006 and that of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 from 2004 to 2006. The Council also endorsed the 2007 plan of operation for the M.V. SEAFDEC to be explored by TD in collaboration with Host Country, Thailand; and the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 to be used for fisheries resources survey in Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines under cost-sharing basis and also one shipboard training program under TD activities. The detailed information appears as **Annex 18**. TD requested the Member Countries that have plans to use the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 in 2008, to submit their requests by the end of September 2007 in order that the plan could be submitted for discussion at the forthcoming SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting.

56. The Council also suggested that SEAFDEC should take into consideration the current available funding in planning the activities for the use of the vessels.

7.4 Areas for Long-term Improvement of SEAFDEC Operation

SEAFDEC Programming Exercises

57. The Council considered the proposal of SEAFDEC on the changes in SEAFDEC programming exercises (**Annex 29**), in response to the change of the annual contribution of SEAFDEC to Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC), and increasing funding sources from other donor agencies for its program implementation.

58. The Council agreed that since the Special 5-year Program Framework is no longer relevant it should be dropped considering that no regular contribution is available for the framework. However, the individual projects formulated under the Special 5-year Program would be retained with support from the Japanese Trust Fund or other potential funding sources where appropriate.

59. The Council in principle supported the formulation of the Program Thrusts. While taking note that the Program Thrusts were proposed based on the priorities of the SEAFDEC Member Countries, the formulation of Program Thrusts is envisaged to widen the opportunity for SEAFDEC to match the regional priority with the specific agenda of donor agencies, and to seek financial support from donors.

60. The Council suggested that the title of each Program Thrust should clearly reflect the objective and regional direction on the issue and should be self-explanatory. The Council requested the Secretariat to circulate the revised Program Thrusts, the proposed revision of Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Program Committee, and proposed

arrangement for future meetings of the Program Committee by ad referendum. After agreement by the Council Directors, the new modality will be applied during the next Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee.

VIII. MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTER

8.1 Collaboration Arrangement between SEAFDEC and Other Organizations

61. The Council was informed on the establishment of collaborative arrangements between SEAFDEC and the Faculty of Fisheries Science, Hokkaido University, the Polytechnic State College of Antique (PSCA), Philippines, and the Australian Maritime College (AMC) in 2006. The Council also supported the proposed establishment of collaboration between SEAFDEC and Maejo University, Chiangmai, Thailand and between AQD and the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in the Agriculture (SEARCA). (**Annex 20**)

62. The Council suggested that collaborative activities should also be extended to Member Countries, and that the collaborating organizations should be encouraged to take part in the SEAFDEC regional meetings and/or the program committee meetings where appropriate, in order that the SEAFDEC Member Countries could maximize the benefits from the collaboration between SEAFDEC and other organizations.

8.2 Proposed Plan of Operation of the Training Department and its New Structure

63. The Council approved in principle the new organization of the Training Department (**Annex 21**), which is developed in-line with the new TD Strategic Plan endorsed at the 38th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council. However, the Council Director for Thailand suggested that the new structure should be flexible, and TD should also conduct internal evaluation on the appropriateness of the new structure, in order to make appropriate adjustment.

8.3 New Deputy Chief of Aquaculture Department (AQD)

64. In accordance with Article 6, paragraph 2 (iii) of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the Council approved the appointment of Dr. Hiroshi Ogata as the new Deputy Chief of AQD, effective on 1 April 2007, succeeding Dr. Koichi Okuzawa. The Council also put into record its appreciation to Dr. Okuzawa for his dedication and contribution made to AQD and SEAFDEC during his term as the Deputy Chief of AQD.

IX. FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.1 Adoption of Auditor's Financial Report for 2005

65. In accordance with Article 6, paragraph 2 (ii) of the Agreement Establishing the Center, the Council endorsed the audited consolidated financial statement of the Center for the year ended 31 December 2005 including that of the Secretariat and the four Departments for the year 2005 (**Annex 22**) as audited by the Center's official auditors.

9.2 Unaudited Financial Report for the 2006 and Status of Financial Situation of the Year 2007

66. The Council took note of the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Report for the year 2006 (**Annex 23**), which includes the contribution (In-cash and In-kind) received from the Member Countries and other sources, the total expenditure, and the unaudited statement of fund balances at the end of 2006.

67. The Meeting also took note of the status of the financial situation for the year 2007 (**Annex 24**), which includes the unaudited fund balance at the end of 2006, the estimated 2007 budget balance of Japanese contribution and MRC from all Member Countries with corresponding expenditures.

68. The Council also took note of the change of the audit firms of SEAFDEC, in line with the recommendation made at the 38th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council. The current audit firms used by SEAFDEC are: P&A Audit Company Limited for SEAFDEC Secretariat and TD, Fo Kon Tan Gran Thornton for MFRD, KPMG Laya Mananghaya & Co. for AQD, and Ernst & Young for MFRDMD; and the cost of audit fee for SEAFDEC financial statement from 2004 to 2006.

9.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirement for 2008

69. The Council approved the proposed budgetary requirements of the Center for 2008 (**Annex 25**) and requested the Secretariat and the Departments to finalize the actual budget for submission to the Member Countries for funding. However, the Council requested the Secretariat to provide an itemized budgetary breakdown used as the basis for the proposed budgetary requirement for future reference when considering such proposal.

9.4 Other Financial Matters

70. In response to the Secretariat's proposal to amend the *Financial Regulation No. 4.1* pertaining to annual contributions from Member Countries to be made in accordance with the Minimum Regular Contribution, the Council suggested that as the appropriateness of the calculation of the MRC and the usage of MRC still need to be carefully studied, the proposal should be deferred until the issues are clarified.

X. CONCLUDING MATTERS

10.1 Date and Venue of the Fortieth Meeting of the Council

71. In considering the date and venue of the Fortieth Meeting of the Council, the Council Director for Indonesia informed the Council that his Government would accept the responsibility of hosting the next Council Meeting in Bali, Indonesia in the year 2008.

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

10.2 Vote of Thanks to the Host Government

73. The Council Director for the Philippines on behalf of the Council Directors expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Cambodia for hosting the Thirty-ninth Meeting of the Council. The Council also thanked the Chairman for the effective conduct of the Meeting as well as the staff of the Fisheries Administration, Cambodia for their hospitality and efficient arrangements of the Meeting.

74. He also extended his gratitude to the representatives from FAO, Sida, and all the Council Directors for their contribution to the success of the Meeting. He emphasized the importance of the outcomes of this Meeting to regional fisheries development, particularly the progress made in the discussions on the various issues and concerns that affect fisheries in the region and the effort in strengthening SEAFDEC and expansion of SEAFDEC's role in all aspects of fisheries.

10.3 Adoption of the Report

75. The Council adopted the Report of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of the Council and the Press Statement (**Annex 27**) on the results of the Meeting on 6 April 2007.

XI. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

76. The Chairman expressed his appreciation to the Council Directors and their delegations as well as Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Chiefs of Departments and SEAFDEC staff for their support and cooperation during the Meeting. He therefore declared the Thirty-ninth Meeting of the Council closed.

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STATEMENT

*By Mr. Abdul Halidi Mohd Salleh
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Honorable Excellency Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia,
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Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and a pleasant good evening to you.

It gives me a great pleasure to welcome all of you to the Opening Ceremony of the 39th Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center – SEAFDEC, here, in the beautiful city of Siem Reap, home of the very famous Angkor Wat.

I also wish to welcome our Guest of Honor His Excellency Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia. On behalf of SEAFDEC, I wish to express our gratitude to the Minister for gracing the occasion tonight as our Guest of Honor.

I would like to extend the apologies of the Director of Fisheries of Brunei Darussalam, Mrs. Hasnah Ibrahim who is unable to attend this Meeting as she is at present attending the Executive Management Course in Brunei Darussalam. So I am delivering on her behalf, her speech as the outgoing chair at this opening ceremony

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

When it was the turn of Brunei Darussalam to host the Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in Bandar Seri Begawan last year, and I, as the Director of Fisheries was elected the Chairperson, I expressed our country's expectations from SEAFDEC. In the one year that passed, I am happy to note of the many opportunities that SEAFDEC has offered to our country and the rest of the countries in the region as well, especially in supporting our efforts towards the sustainable development of our fishery resources.

At the 38th Meeting of the Council last year, we were challenged with issues and concerns especially as regards the operation of the Center. I am particularly referring to the Minimum Regular Contribution from the Member Countries. I am glad that we have settled this issue, and I was informed that many countries have already indicated to contribute their share for the operation of SEAFDEC. As was mentioned by the Guest of Honour, the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources of Brunei Darussalam during the official opening of the 38th Meeting of the Council last year in Brunei Darussalam, where we would like to see the continuing existence of SEAFDEC to support and implement various programs including sustainable fisheries development for food security in the ASEAN region. As such Brunei Darussalam is looking forward to the continuing support from the Government of Japan and other member countries and associated organizations to SEAFDEC. He believed that no regional organization can operate effectively if not for the support and cooperation among all member countries in pursuing common goals, in ensuring the development of the fishery

sector is undertaken to best serve the priorities and needs of all the member countries and the region as a whole.

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Last year, we were also confronted with issues related to international fish trade and anti-fisheries campaigns. We were faced with problems that include the proposal on a general ban on fisheries subsidies and prohibition of high seas bottom trawling, which we opposed as this could hinder the development of the region's fisheries sector. On the issue related to the listing of aquatic species under CITES, especially the listing of two species of sharks, we agreed that this should be based on an MOU which was to be developed by FAO and CITES because FAO has the technical competence on this concern. However, we need to tackle these issues since our region is dependent on fish for our daily diet as well as for foreign exchange. Over the year, I am happy to note that successful discussions and technical consultations have been convened by SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat to thresh out such important issues.

This was again mentioned by the Guest of Honour last year as SEAFDEC is compelled for 3 reasons in a case for a deeper and more concerted effort. If I may recall, first is for SEAFDEC to engage in discussions and join forces with international organizations to look into ways and means to suppress illegal practices effectively. Second was related to the rapid change in world economy resulting in evolution of new trends such as new forms of trade barrier or controls, notably SPS measures, HACCP, shrimp embargo and eco-labelling. SEAFDEC has been putting in more effort and emphasis on these global issues and has implemented several projects towards addressing them. Third was for SEAFDEC to be more energetic in its outreach program to build awareness about the opportunity for synergy and increase public visibility of SEAFDEC to the world and the same time through commercial, regulatory, and academic partnerships, which I am happy to note that SEAFDEC has done its utmost effort to engage itself in making a difference in the region.

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year that passed was not really bleak after all. Last year was also a good year for SEAFDEC. For one, we have established closer relationship with the ASEAN and developed, what we call, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership. This partnership is very significant because with the closer relationship between SEAFDEC and the ASEAN, we can now work harmoniously for the benefit of fisheries in the region and particularly towards promoting the ASEAN Vision for Fisheries and the ASEAN Roadmap for the Integration of the Fisheries Sector.

Secondly, the SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments successfully implemented the programs and projects that we approved for implementation last year under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) mechanism. On behalf of SEAFDEC, I wish to extend my appreciation to the Government of Japan through its Trust Fund, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the ASEAN Foundation through its ASEAN-Japan Solidarity Fund for their kind collaboration and financial support to the programs and projects.

Thirdly, we also have increased the visibility of SEAFDEC through the many information materials produced by the SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments. Let me also note here that it was also very timely to launch the SEAFDEC Year of the Turtle in 2006 in Brunei Darussalam. We are very thankful to my Government, the Government of Brunei

Darussalam and of course, SEAFDEC for the arrangements made during the launching. The celebration of the Year of the Turtle 2006 demonstrated the efforts that SEAFDEC has been undertaking on the conservation and management of sea turtles in the region.

At this point in time, let me also congratulate the SEAFDEC Secretariat for taking steps in developing programs intended for sourcing from non-traditional funding agencies. Although, we still need to discuss such programs further, their efforts will surely lighten the burden of our Member Countries in funding many of the SEAFDEC activities, which may have already turned them donor-fatigue.

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the next few days, we will discuss and deliberate on many important matters related to the programs and operation of SEAFDEC and the sustainability of fisheries in the region. I am happy to note that with the presence of all the Council Directors at this meeting, the discussion will surely be smooth-sailing.

As we move on to another year, allow me to thank the Department of Fisheries of Cambodia for hosting the 39th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. Although Cambodia joined SEAFDEC only in 2001, I am sure the country has already started to receive benefits from SEAFDEC's programs implemented in the region. Just like Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia will also have its expectations from SEAFDEC. Let me assure Cambodia that SEAFDEC is ready to help in the country's fisheries development in any way possible. What we need now is to continue working together and strengthen the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership for it is through such linkage can we bring our concerns to the ASEAN and SEAFDEC, and finally as one voice to the world fisheries bodies.

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

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

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and very good evening!

Thank you.

WELCOME ADDRESS

*By H.E. Sou Phirin
Governor of Siem Reap Province, Cambodia*

Your Excellency Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,
Your Excellency Nao Thuok, Director General, Fisheries Administration,
Your Excellencies Ambassadors to Cambodia,
Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council,
Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj, SEAFDEC Secretary General,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the provincial authorities, the people of Siem Reap province and myself, I have a great pleasure and honor to warmly and heartfelt welcome Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates and guests who have spent their valuable time to attend the 39th SEAFDEC Council Meeting in this province.

Your Excellencies, Honorable Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On this auspicious occasion, I would like also to extend my deepest gratitude and acknowledgement to the Fisheries Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia, who has made a lot of efforts in cooperation with SEAFDEC Secretariat in organizing and hosting the meeting, and made this event happen, in particular, has selected Siem Reap province as the venue of the above-mentioned meeting. Once again, I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries who has invited me to address the welcome remark in this opening ceremony.

The organization and hosting of this meeting is an honor and also another achievement of the Royal Government of Cambodia led by Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen in the international cooperation arena following the spirit of integration of Cambodia into the international community.

As you might be well aware that fish and deemed as the staple diet of Cambodian and in addition to rice creating as the basic national food security in order to support the livelihood of all Cambodian people, particularly, to generate a lot of livelihood alternatives/opportunities to the rural people who live along Tonle Sap and Mekong rivers.

Siem Reap is one of the 6 provinces adjacent to the Tonle Sap Great Lake which is also called the Heart of the Mekong system. The Great Lake is a bounty of biodiversity, provides around 240.000 tones of fish per year, and generates job opportunity and revenue to thousand of people who mainly depending on fishing and fishing related activities. Moreover, fish and other aquatic resource play very significant role in providing more livelihood alternative to other Siem Reap people who are not a full time fishermen as well as using as a very good and tasty food for the tourists visiting Siem Reap, the ancient Angkor capital city during the Khmer Empire.

I am very confident that this significant meeting will be a very good opportunity to gather all fishery leaders and technical experts who came from all ASEAN countries, Japan and

other countries as well as concerned stakeholders and donor communities in the region to establish the platform for exchanging information, ideas and experiences between professionals, decision makers in order to formulate new key basic strategic management and development of fisheries to SEAFDEC which represent the fisheries institutions of all ASEAN countries for its further effective implementation and operation.

To foresee and envisage the main importance of fisheries resource for people, I am very optimistic that this meeting which will take place for 4 days will generate the useful recommendations as well as advice for more effective strategic implementation of fisheries management, utilization and development for sustainability to all concerned fisheries institutions and agencies in the Southeast Asian countries.

Finally, I would extend my deep regards to Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates and guests, ladies and gentlemen to have a very fruitful and achievable accomplishment of its goals and objectives. Lastly, I would like to wish you all a very nice pleasant stay and enjoy the sight seeing of Angkor Wat, the Great Lake and other interesting places of Siem Reap province.

Thank you!

WELCOME REMARK

*By H.E. Nao Thuok
SEAFDEC Council Director for Cambodia, and
Director General of the Fisheries Administration*

H.E. Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,
H.E. Sou Phirin, Governor of Siem Reap,
Your Excellencies Ambassadors to Cambodia,
Your Excellencies distinguished SEAFDEC Council Directors,
SEAFDEC Secretary-General,
Distinguished guests from ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon.

First of all, please allow me, on behalf of the organizing committee, the Fisheries Administration and myself, to express my appreciation and utmost gratitude to His Excellency Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for his kind acceptance of our invitation to be with us here today to officially open the 39th meeting of the SEAFDEC Council.

According to SEAFDEC regulations, this SEAFDEC Council Meeting is the first Meeting to be held in our country since we were admitted as full member of SEAFDEC in 2002, and therefore, we shall try our best to organize this meeting in a good manner, to make it successful and fruitful to the best of our experience and capacity. In this connection, I would like to inform you that His Excellency the Minister has been a strong support and that his enthusiasm has assisted us to become a full member of SEAFDEC, in order to integrate the Cambodian fisheries sector in the ASEAN region.

On this occasion, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the staff of the Fisheries Administration, to extend my warmest welcome to all of our distinguished SEAFDEC Council members, country representatives and other delegates from related institutions, and to thank them for sparing their valuable time for coming to attend the 39th SEAFDEC Council Meeting in our historical capital city of Angkor.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Honorable Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you are aware, fish and fisheries products are considered as healthy food, and with the continued growth of the world's population, the pressure on fisheries resources is increasing. In order to ensure fisheries resources for sustainable use, the policy makers and other stakeholders involved in fisheries management need to be aware of how to properly manage and conserve our fisheries resources for the present and future generations. Therefore, the implementation of the international and regional instruments related to fisheries, especially the "Resolution and *Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region*" that was adopted at the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People" from 19-24 November 2001 in Bangkok, Thailand, is very important for us to move the fisheries sector in our region forward and to integrate our fisheries sector on the global scale.

I am very happy and satisfied with the framework and mandate of SEAFDEC to promote sustainable fisheries development in our region. So, in our meeting during the coming days, we will assess and address the issues that will enable us to set the direction and policy for implementation of those instruments for integration with national fisheries policy frameworks. We will also deliberate on and consider a number of important elements related to the ASEAN fisheries integration, including ways and means for accelerating the liberalization of trade, aquaculture technology, and the implementation of the roadmap for the integration of ASEAN in order to sustain our fisheries resources in response to globalization and human need. Another important issue that we need to discuss is related to the establishment of fisheries networks in our region.

It is my understanding that so far we were having common interests. Therefore, the mechanism of cooperation with the Dialogue Partners will form a strong foundation for this region to further expand and develop fish and fisheries product for trade, aquaculture technology and human resources. The formulation of common positions and policies so as to promote relations with extra-regional markets and to secure a more open and friendly global economic environment on fisheries is also crucial for ASEAN.

Furthermore, for the purpose of creating a more favorable environment for the free flow of those issues, greater mobility of professionals, talents and skill is essential; we need to be able to consult with the senior fisheries experts in our region. The technical consultations with the ASEAN fisheries experts will obviously provide us with good opportunity to clearly understand their needs and to address the issues in an appropriate manner, and to persuade them to actively participate in the implementation of the international and regional fisheries instruments.

Your Excellency Minister, distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We look forward to Your Excellency Minister's Opening Address, which will certainly direct our deliberations over the next three days and guide us to work for the stability and shared prosperity in the region.

Once again, on behalf of the SEAFDEC Council, the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC and our guests, I would like to express our sincere thanks and deep gratitude to Your Excellency Minister, for having graciously consented to be with us this afternoon, on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Thirty-ninth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. Even though, your previous and busy times schedule for yesterday and this morning was hectic and bumpy.

On this note, may I now invite Your Excellency Dr. Chan Sarun, Minister of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries to deliver his opening address and to officially open the meeting.

Thank you very much for your kind attention!

OPENING ADDRESS

*By H.E. Dr. Chan Sarun
Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia*

Your Excellency Governor of Siem Reap,
Your Excellencies Ambassadors to Cambodia,
Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council,
Honorable SEAFDEC Council members,
SEAFDEC Secretary-General,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today is a truly memorable day for the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to have the great honor and pleasure to officially open the 39th SEAFDEC Council Meeting.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries and myself, I have the great pleasure to extend my warmest welcome to all members of the SEAFDEC council, the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, and all distinguished delegates who have come to attend the 39th SEAFDEC Council Meeting here in Siem Reap, the historical capital city of Angkor. SEAFDEC is an organization, which has always assisted the Royal Government of Cambodia in restoring and strengthening the capacity in fisheries management, particularly marine fisheries, in order to develop this sector to be capable, productive and optimistic. It is indeed a pleasure and a privilege for me to officially open this event today. I understand that this is the first Council Meeting to be held in our country.

As H.E. Nao Thuok has already said, fish constitute a healthy food and there is a need for policy makers and other authorities involved in fisheries management to properly manage and conserve the resources for the present and future generations. Moreover, fisheries products are the main source of food, income and employment for the people who are involved in the fisheries sector. As you are no doubt aware, 25 % of fish stocks in the world are presently over-exploited and about 52 % of fish stocks in the world are fully exploited. This leaves only 23 % of the world's fish stocks for future development of capture fisheries. The number of over-exploited fish stocks in the world tends to increase because the world's population is growing, which increases the demand for fisheries products. This is the main indicator that increased pressure has been applied to the remaining fisheries resources in the world and that there is an urgent need to ensure the sustainable utilization of these resources.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I greatly appreciate the framework and mandate of SEAFDEC to promote sustainable fisheries for food security and development for our region. During nearly a decade we have been adopting many regional instruments related to fisheries, such as the Resolution on SEAFDEC strategic Plans that was adopted at the 30th SEAFDEC council meeting (1998), Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region, Statement for the Seminar on ASEAN-Japan Cooperation for Sustainable Fisheries through SEAFDEC, Tokyo Declaration for the Dynamic and Enduring ASEAN-Japan

Partnership in the Millennium, ASEAN Vision 2020, Hanoi Plan of Action, FAO Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible fisheries, ASEAN-roadmap etc.

In order to implement this long-term vision, many technical consultations, seminars, conferences and meeting have been organized, and many projects and programs for supporting the implementation of the plans have been formulated. Moreover, this council meeting provides a platform for directing regional policy and guidance for all SEAFDEC departments to cooperate and collaborate with the member countries and also, to lay a firm basis for the enhancement of the internal integration of fisheries resources management among ASEAN countries. Now we have MoUs for strengthening the cooperation between SEAFDEC and other agencies for sustainable fisheries development in our region and for ensuring food security and improved livelihoods. In addition to reviewing the implementation of existing plans of action in our region, I hope that your discussions will also focus on finding appropriate ways and means to overcome problems and contribute to the success that will eventually lead to the realization of an ASEAN region. With our joint efforts, I have every confidence that this meeting will be crowned with a success that will further contribute to the realization of the ASEAN Vision 2020 and the ASEAN fisheries integration. As a result of our achievements we should feel proud to tell the world that a considerable progress has been made in our efforts to realize our goals.

I would like to emphasize that the involvement of national and community interests will depend on the extent of ASEAN fisheries integration. This will benefit all of us through the formation of an ASEAN Community. In the period of globalization and interdependence, one of our priorities is to address the development gap among SEAFDEC member countries and between ASEAN and other regions. To guide the member countries on implementing the regional instruments and the linkage to national, regional and global levels, this meeting should also explore the possible goal of the member countries for setting up a policy direction with a common voice. At the same time, I believe that it is also equally important to encourage for implementing all stakeholders within ASEAN and SEAFDEC member countries.

The governments of SEAFDEC and ASEAN member countries should work closely together to ensure an environment that will enable the fisheries sector to grow and further promote joint ventures, particularly in promotion of products from SEAFDEC and/or ASEAN-SEAFDEC countries.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Given the current and future trends of fisheries development, it is fair to say that the new century would be a century of science-based management. In order to reach a higher academic level in fisheries management and to have a common stand on urgent global fisheries matters, we should focus our common efforts on the development and utilization of information technology in fisheries and fisheries management. This would contribute to reducing the development gap, thus accelerating the integration process. We have to assist each other and work together in the area of human resources development, including infrastructure development through technical cooperation such as training in information technology, improving management and communications networks as well as expanding cooperation in the field of fisheries management and development.

Regarding sustainable fisheries development in our region, we need to enhance cooperation and integration in the fisheries sector. In addition, the role of SEAFDEC Council should be further expanded so that they can play a coordinating and advisory role for meetings of

other fisheries related sectoral agencies. Moreover, I would like to take this opportunity to point out that there is currently an expansion in the number of ASEAN meetings, which has led to an excessive use of manpower and financial resources. In this regard, an alternative should be introduced in order to reduce the cost and increase the effectiveness of our fora. These meetings, technical consultations and conferences can now be conducted through electronic devices or videoconferences, which I think would be more cost effective. I believe that the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC might have some proposals to submit to donor organizations for consideration.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Along with the efforts to strengthen the intra ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation, we should further enhance the partnership with our dialogue partners. This can be done through the process of negotiations on comprehensive partnerships, which should cover not only aquaculture, post-harvest technology, resource enhancement, fish processing, but also the expansion of fish trade and implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. More importantly, SEAFDEC should adopt a determined common position and harmonized policy on various issues, which should ensure greater benefits for SEAFDEC and its member countries, promote and expand trade with other regions and secure a friendly and open global environment for fisheries and fisheries management. This effort should also increase our cohesion and solidarity with a view to enhancing the role of SEAFDEC on an international level.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since Cambodia became a full SEAFDEC member in 2002, the Royal Government of Cambodia has recognized and attached great importance to full SEAFDEC integration. The Royal Government of Cambodia is convinced that the SEAFDEC Agreement on the establishment of SEAFDEC and other related instruments, including the ASEAN Vision 2020 is vital for the nation's prosperity.

In an effort to integrate the regional and global instruments into our national fisheries policy, the Royal Government of Cambodia is encountering both opportunities and challenges. The key areas that urgently need support and cooperation from our friendly member countries and international organizations, including the regional and international fisheries institutions are poverty alleviation and bridging the development gap.

I believe that the effective implementation of the Proposal for ASEAN and SEAFDEC Integration and our regional instruments will contribute significantly to bridging the development gap between ASEAN and SEAFDEC member countries.

Taking this opportunity, may I congratulate the Fisheries Administration of the Kingdom of Cambodia and SEAFDEC Secretariat for organization this meeting and to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to the organizing committee for inviting me to preside over this opening ceremony.

While I understand that you will have some difficult discussions to go through, as Chairman of the Cambodia Board, I sincerely hope that you all will have some spare moments to appreciate some of our wonderful tourist places, Angkor Wat and Tonle Sap Great Lake as international cultural heritage, unique places of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Finally, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, leaders and officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, I would like to wish Your Excellency Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, national and international guests

the five gems of Buddhism (long-life, dignity, vigor, prosperity and happiness); and on this occasion, I would like to wish the meeting to be successful and fruitful. Moreover, I would like to wish all of you a pleasant stay in Siem Reap historical city of Angkor. It is my pleasure to declare the 39th SEAFDEC Council Meeting officially open.

Thank you for your attention.

AGENDA

- Agenda 1** Procedural Matters
1.1 Opening of the Meeting
1.2 Election of Chairman
1.3 Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Meeting
- Agenda 2** Report of the Secretary-General
- Agenda 3** Note of Chairman of the SEAFDEC Program Committee on the Result of the Twenty-ninth Meeting
- Agenda 4** Note of Chairman of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) on the Result of the Ninth Meeting
- Agenda 5** Policy Consideration on Important Issues
5.1 International Fisheries Related Issues
5.2 Regional Scientific Advisory Committee for Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia
5.3 Proposal for Implementation of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)
5.3.1 Report on Progress and Status of ASSP
5.3.2 Proposed Concept for Follow-up of ASSP
- Agenda 6** Cooperation with International/ Regional Organizations and Non-member Governments
- Agenda 7** Other matters
- Agenda 8** **(Closed Session)** SEAFDEC Future Operation
8.1 Following up on the Responsibility on Departments of the Host Countries and Minimum Regular Contribution
8.2 Guidelines on the Collaboration and Arrangement
8.3 Areas for Immediate Improvement of SEAFDEC Operation
8.3.1 Streamlining of SEAFDEC Annual Meetings
8.3.2 Improving SEAFDEC information tools and activities for enhancing visibility and communication
8.3.3 Adjustment of Program on Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN)
8.3.4 Operation of SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels
8.4 Areas for Long-term Improvement of SEAFDEC Operation
8.4.1 SEAFDEC Programming Exercises
8.4.2 Other Issues
- Agenda 9** **(Closed Session)** Management of the Center
9.1 Collaborative Arrangement between SEAFDEC and other organizations
9.2 Proposed Plan of Operation of the Training Department and its new structure.
9.3 New Deputy Chief of Aquaculture Department (AQD)

- Agenda 10 (Closed Session) Financial Matters**
- 10.1 Adoption of Auditor's Financial Report for 2005
 - 10.2 Un-audited Financial Report for the 2006 and Status of the financial situation for the year 2007
 - 10.3 Proposed Budgetary Requirement for 2008
 - 10.4 Other financial matters
- Agenda 11 Concluding Matters**
- 11.1 Adoption of the Report and Press Statement
 - 11.2 Date and Venue of the Fortieth Meeting of the Council
 - 11.3 Vote of Thanks to the Host Government
- Agenda 12 Closing of the Meeting**

NOTE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE ON THE RESULT OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Program Committee of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 4 to 6 December 2006 and hosted by the Secretariat.

2. The Meeting was attended by the National Coordinators from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam as members of the Program Committee together with their respective delegates. SEAFDEC Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Department Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs attended the Meeting together with their officers. The Meeting was also attended by the representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations/Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO/RAP), and the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA).

II. PROGRAM MATTERS

2.1 Progress and Achievements of Program Implementation for the year 2006

3. SEAFDEC programs for the year 2006 were formulated based upon the framework of SEAFDEC Strategic Plan and the Resolution and Plan of Action concluded at the 2001 ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference. SEAFDEC Programs for the year 2006 can be categorized into: (a) Departmental Programs, and (b) Programs under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Mechanism. The programs are listed as **Appendix 1**.

2.1.1 2006 Departmental Programs

4. In 2006, the Secretariat, Training Department and Aquaculture Departments carried out totally 9 Departmental Programs including:

- 1) Center-Wide Information Network
- 2) Working Group on Regional Fisheries Policy
- 3) Information and Communications Technology
- 4) Integrated Mollusk Production
- 5) Mud Crab
- 6) Shrimp Domestication
- 7) Marine Fish
- 8) Small-holder Freshwater Aquaculture
- 9) Seaweed Strain Improvement

The progress and major achievements are as follow:

5. The program on **Center-wide Information Network** provided various form of fisheries information to support decision-making, management and development of fisheries sectors. Program activities in 2006 were formulated and implemented inline with the *Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication* adopted at the 38th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council.

6. In response to the current financial situation, SEAFDEC Working Group on Regional Fisheries Policy was converted to SEAFDEC **Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN)**. The network's members could be stationed at the Secretariat and/or be based in the Member Countries by working and providing technical inputs on fisheries policies related issues through email communication.

7. Under **Information and Communication Technology Program**, TD took part in a number of exhibitions to present/promote SEAFDEC roles in sustainable fisheries management and development. TD also produced various publications, promotional videos, training supporting materials for training courses conducted at TD, as well as souvenirs related to their projects.

8. In 2006 AQD implemented 5 Departmental Programs: 1) **Integrated Mollusk Production**, 2) **Mud Crab**, 3) **Shrimp Domestication**, 4) **Marine Fish**, 5) **Small-holder Freshwater Aquaculture**, and 6) **Seaweed Strain Improvement**. These activities were inline with the areas of importance and priority needs of the region.

2.1.2 2006 Programs under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Mechanism

9. The programs of activity under ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism can be grouped into four categories of the following: fisheries management, aquaculture, fishery post-harvest and processing including quality and safety aspects, and trade and environment. The followings are the progress of these programs for the year 2006.

2006 FCG Programs Related to Fisheries Management

10. There are 11 programs/projects under this grouping:
- 1) Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
 - 2) Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries Management through the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management
 - 3) Improvement of Fisheries Statistic and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region
 - 4) Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices
 - 5) Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement
 - 6) Sustainable Utilization of Potential Fisheries Resources and Reduction of Post-harvest Losses
 - 7) The Use of Indicators for Sustainable Development and Management of Capture Fisheries in the ASEAN Region
 - 8) Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries
 - 9) Information Collection for Sustainable Pelagic Fisheries in the South Chin Sea
 - 10) Capacity Improvement of Fisheries Community for Fisheries Management and Alleviation of Poverty
 - 11) Human Resource Development for Sustainable Development of Fisheries in Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asian Growth Area Region

11. Under this grouping, the programs aimed to build up capacity of national institutions as well as human for promotion of the sustainable fishery resources in the region. These programs concentrated upon the needs for sustainable management and development of fisheries in the region. The program/project activities included: organization of technical/policy consultations/meetings; development of technical

guidelines, organization of trainings and demonstration; dissemination of their publications proceedings and reports; participation to regional/international related events; and resources investigations and assessment of the resource status.

12. Regarding the new program on **Human Resource Development for Sustainable Development of Fisheries in Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines (BIMP) East Asian Growth Area (EAGA) Region** that was implemented and finished by the year 2006. Activities of the program could achieve outputs through human capacity building in three major areas of marine capture, aquaculture, and post-harvest technology. Major achievement from the program was a set of recommendations for future HRD on sustainable fisheries in the BIMP-EAGA Region.

2006 FCG Programs Related to Aquaculture

13. There are 3 programs/projects under this grouping as follows:

- 1) Development of Technologies for Sustainable Aquaculture
- 2) Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture
- 3) Establishment of Disease Surveillance System of Aquatic Animals

14. Focus of the activities under Development of Technologies for Sustainable Aquaculture and Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture was given upon the following: establishment of consistent supply of quality seeds; promote ecologically aquaculture farm management; establishment of database for nutrient requirement of priority species; and develop human capacity for sustainable aquaculture. About 40% and 70 % of activities were accomplished under the program **Development of Technologies for Sustainable Aquaculture** and **Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture Program**, respectively.

15. The program on **Establishment of Disease Surveillance System of Aquatic Animals** focuses on development of a surveillance system for disease of aquatic animals in Southeast Asia. In 2006, major achievements include research and development on refinement of diagnostic methods and development of new prevention methods for aquatic animals diseases, surveillance for important viral diseases of fish and shrimps (including also mobile clinics), and their e-learning activities/programs.

2006 FCG Programs Related to Fishery Post-harvest and Processing Including Quality and Safety Aspects

16. There are 4 programs/projects under this grouping as follow:

- 1) Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries
- 2) Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries
- 3) Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries
- 4) Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia

17. The project on **Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries** was a new proposal based on feedback from Member Countries and stakeholders. It serves to address the difficulty faced by the majority of small- and medium-sized fish processing establishment in ASEAN Member Countries to implement quality assurance system to meet safety and quality requirements. Due to the lack of budget, the MFRD was not able to conduct any activities except for a Planning Meeting which was held on 30-31 Mar 2006 under the ASEAN

Roadmap Measure No. 40 initiative using national budgets of individual ASEAN member countries.

18. The project **Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries** aimed to assist in upgrading processing and packaging technology for freshwater fish. However, due to lack of budget, MFRD was not able to conduct any activities.

19. Objectives of the project **Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries** are to strengthen the network of lead laboratories in ASEAN Member Countries to implement good laboratory practices. Due to the lack of budget, the MFRD was only able to conduct only Activities 3, 4, 5 and 6 under the project. It was envisaged that by the end of the project in 2010, activities on compilation of manual of validated methods used by ASEAN Lead Laboratory will be carried out.

20. Under **Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia Program**, MFRD in collaboration with AQD carried out surveys on Heavy metals in marine fish and fish products, pesticide, PCB residues, Histamine levels, Chloramphenicol and Nitrofurans in fish and fish products. After the surveys were completed, training courses were organized with the aim to provide understanding of the outcomes from the survey, and to transfer technologies on chemical contaminant testing.

2006 FCG Programs Related to Trade and Environment

21. There are 3 programs/projects under this grouping as follows:

- 1) Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues
- 2) Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast Asia
- 3) Research and Development of Stock Enhancement for Species under International Concerns

22. Under the program **Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address and International Trade Related Issues and Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast**, major achievements are organization of the regional consultation to discuss on international fisheries related issues (such as moratorium on high sea bottom trawls, CITES, etc), conduct of the regional study on international fisheries related issues, and the support of participation of Member Countries at international fora.

23. With regards to program **Research and Development of Stock Enhancement for Species under International Concerns**, activities implemented in 2006 included organization of regional workshop to review the status and research for sea ranching of stock enhancement of threatened species in Southeast Asia, and its training and information dissemination. Major output from this program was the development of the criteria and methods for restocking site selection of Abalone and Giant Clam.

24. Identification of the stock and population of the sea turtles in the Southeast Asia has been carried out under this program. Major outputs from the program included information on stock of the sea turtles in Southeast Asia, and a technical paper on possible techniques for cloning of the sea turtles.

2.2 Proposed Programs of Activities for the Year 2007

25. In 2007, most of the programs will be implemented as continuation of the existing program activities from the previous years considering the response to areas of importance and priority/specific needs of the Member Countries. List of the proposed programs/activities, comprising of Departmental Programs and Programs under ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism, for the year 2007 appears as **Appendix 1**.

2.2.1 2007 Departmental Programs

26. The Secretariat, Training and Aquaculture Department proposed totally 10 activities under the Departmental Programs. In 2007, the departmental programs of Secretariat and Training Department aim to maintain/produce and disseminate (of the new) various information and information and publications/reports that initiated by SEAFDEC, and provide arrangement of exhibition and development of promotional brochures, posters, video, etc to enhance/promote SEAFDEC programs/activities. For AQD, most of the activities initiated in 2006 will be continued.

27. Proposed 10 Departmental programs for the year 2007 are list as follow:

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

Recommendations by the Committee on the Departmental Programs are the following:

28. Under **Center-wide Information Network**, the Secretariat was requested to explore ways to fast track the production and publication of the Annual Fisheries Statistical Bulletin.

29. Due to the limited number of the representatives in the **Regional Fisheries Policy Network** (RFPN), Member Countries were urged to nominate their respective focal points to enable the network to function effectively. The Secretariat was requested to improve the communication system to support the working through email communication among RFPN virtual members.

30. In response to the program **Information and Communication Technology**, TD should incorporate training course on monitoring, control and surveillance (both for coastal and offshore fishing) into their training program.

31. One new program **Aquatic Ecology** will be added to Departmental Programs of AQD. AQD was suggested to have more activities in relation to environment such as eco-labels, fish meals, bio-security, etc. to reduce the pressure on capture fisheries

2.2.2 2007 Programs under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Mechanism

32. Similarly to the 2006, programs of activities under ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism can be grouped into four categories: (i) fisheries management, (ii) aquaculture, (iii) fishery post-harvest and processing, and (iv) trade and environment.

2007 FCG Programs Related to Fisheries Management

33. There are totally 13 programs for 2007 under this grouping: 9 continued programs from 2006 and 4 new programs as follows:

- 1) Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (RCCRF)
- 2) Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries Management through the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management
- 3) Improvement of Fisheries Statistic and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region
- 4) Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices
- 5) Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement
- 6) Sustainable Utilization of Potential Fisheries Resources and Reduction of Post-harvest Losses
- 7) The Use of Indicators for Sustainable Development and Management of Capture Fisheries in the ASEAN Region
- 8) Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries
- 9) Capacity Improvement of Fisheries Community for Fisheries Management and Alleviation of Poverty
- 10) Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for MV SEAFDEC 2 (**New**)
- 11) Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea (**New**)
- 12) Deep Sea Fisheries Resources Exploitation in the Southeast Asia (**New**)
- 13) Project on the Support to Tsunami Rehabilitation of Affected Countries in ASEAN Region (**New**)

34. In 2007, most of the program activities under this grouping will be continued works from over the past years to ensure long-term sustainable management and development of fisheries/aquatic resources in the region. Activities of the program include: organization of consultations/meetings to develop policy guidelines for sustainable management and development of fisheries; organization of survey/research based upon the need/request of Member Countries; dissemination of the outputs/outcomes from the activities, etc. One of the important focus for 2007 and onwards will be on the works towards establishment of regional fisheries management organization/arrangement, as recommended/suggested by ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries made at various meeting/consultations. Recommendations of the Committee for the program under this grouping were as follow:

35. With regards to the program supported by Sida on the Component II of the **RCCRF** program, the Committee suggested that capacity building should not focus only on individual fishers, but also on the fisheries communities and institutional capacity, in order to sustain the initiatives of the project.

36. As far as the program on **Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region** is concerned, the Committee requested SEAFDEC to further elaborate the concept proposal for the

establishment of a Regional Scientific Advisory Committee. In particular, the Terms of Reference, linkages with existing regional collaborative mechanism, and financial implication and arrangements need to be clarified.

37. With regards on the program activities under **Responsible Fishing Technologies and Practices**, the design for excluder devices for sea turtle and juveniles still need to be further modified in order to make them more practical in handling and storage, and make them more acceptable for adoption by the fishermen. This would also include a cost-benefit study of the TEDs and JTEDs to facilitate the future promotion of the device in the Member Countries.

38. Under the program on **Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitats/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement**, the Committee suggested that a clear demarcation between the project on “Resource Enhancement” conducted by TD and the program on “Stock Enhancement for Threatened Species of International Concern” of AQD should be made. In this connection, TD was asked to avoid a duplication of the scope of activities with those of AQD.

39. Note was taken on activities implementing under **Sustainable Utilization of Potential Fisheries Resources and Reduction of Post-harvest Losses** in data collection and analysis on potential fisheries resources in the EEZ of Member Countries. Activities of this program included resources survey in the untrawlable and offshore areas, development of regional database, development of on-board fish handling and preservation technology, and training on fish larvae identification. The Committee stressed the importance of the training on fish larvae identification, as the knowledge on identification of small pelagic species and shared-stock is still lacking and would be useful in further promoting the fishery refugia in the region.

40. Major activities under **Capacity Improvement of Fisheries Community for Fisheries Management and Alleviation of Poverty** Program will be to follow-up the works implemented in 2006 including compilation and publication of the events and final reports; and extension of the major outputs from the project implementation to another countries.

41. Regarding the new program **Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational plan of the M.V. SEAFDEC 2**, two cruises of the resource survey will be carried out in the 2007. It covered the three areas: (i) Andaman Sea (including Gulf of Mottama, Myanmar), (ii) Southern Sulu Sea, and (ii) Northern Part of Malaca Straits. The Committee generally agreed that the operational cost of SEAFDEC in 2007 and onwards would be obtained mainly from the Member Countries through a Minimum Regular Contribution. In this connection, Japanese Trust Fund Manager was requested to consider in the support to the vessel operational cost under the existing plan.

42. Under the new program **Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Species in South China Sea and Andaman Sea**, a four years plan was proposed and endorsed. The program implementation will start up with formulation of the activities plan through consultation with the member countries and participating countries, and be then followed by conducting a series of demonstration and on-site training on the tagging of economically important pelagic species in the participated countries and extension of the results to another country. With regard to the Information Collection for Sustainable Pelagic Fisheries in South China Sea, which was ended in 2006, the Committee suggested that linkage between information collection and other research works for management of

fisheries should be investigated and developed when formulating a new or similar initiative in the future. This is to make sure that the results of such undertaking be fully utilized and used as a basis for improved fisheries management

43. Under the program **Deep Sea Fisheries Resources Exploitation in the Southeast Asia**, the activities is formulated with the aim to investigate potential deep sea fisheries resources in the region by using MV SEFADEC2 to be implemented under cost-sharing scheme. Main activities include: deep sea fisheries resources survey; improvement and development of deep sea capture fisheries; and its training/HRD programs and information dissemination.

44. Regarding the last program (new) **Support to Tsunami Rehabilitation of Affected Countries in ASEAN Region**, it was proposed for 4 years implementation period to assist Tsunami affected countries with the main objectives to identify important areas for special management (refugia), synthesize and analyze fisheries situation after Tsunami, establish priorities for restoration and maintenance of geographical features, etc.

2007 FCG Programs Related to Aquaculture

45. There are 2 programs under this grouping as follow:

- 1) Development of Technologies and Human Resource Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture; and
- 2) Establishment of Disease Surveillance System of Aquatic Animals

46. In 2007, the program on Human Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture will be merged into the Development of Technologies for Sustainable Aquaculture program, and will be implemented as a new project entitled “**Development of Technologies and Human Resource Capacity Building for Sustainable Aquaculture**”. Activities under these programs include development and dissemination of technologies on seeds production for various commercial important marine/freshwater aquatic fish and plants. Under the program **Establishment of Disease Surveillance System of Aquatic Animals**, focus will be given to the research and development of new prevention methods for aquatic animal diseases.

2007 FCG Programs Related to Fishery Post-harvest and Processing Including Quality and Safety Aspects

47. There are 4 continued programs under this grouping as follow:

- 1) Quality Assurance Systems for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishments in ASEAN Member Countries
- 2) Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries
- 3) Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries
- 4) Chemical and Drug Residues in Fish and Fish Products in Southeast Asia

48. Starting from 2007 until 2011, the activities of the program **Quality Assurance System for Small and Medium-sized Fish Processing Establishment in ASEAN Countries** will be implemented under new Japanese Trust Fund Program.

49. The programs **Utilization of Freshwater Fish in ASEAN Member Countries** and **Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries** are extensions of the projects carried out in the first Special 5-year Program that aiming to promote the maximum utilization of catch including the reduction of discards and post-harvested losses to increase fish supply and improve economic returns. The implementation of the proposed

project will be deferred until funding is available. However, the Secretariat and MFRD were requested to source funds to complete the implementation of the program **Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries**.

50. With regards to the program **Chemical Residues and Contamination in Fish and Fish Products**, the Committee was informed that this program (formerly supported by the Japanese Trust Fund IV) will be supported by the Japanese Trust Fund II in 2007 and onwards will focus on the issue of regional migratory species and analysis for fisheries products.

2007 FCG Programs Related to Trade and Environment

51. There are 3 main programs under this grouping, similarly with the programs in 2006, as follow:

- 1) Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues
- 2) Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast Asia
- 3) Research and Development of Stock Enhancement for Species under International Concerns

52. The activities for 2007 under the program **Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues** will be on follow up the previous ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Meetings. The Committee encouraged SEAFDEC to continue monitoring the emerging international issues (e.g. eco-labelling, fishery subsidies, shrimp embargo, sea cucumbers, small-scale fisheries, and ecosystem approach aquaculture and inland fisheries related issues) including up-to-date position paper of other countries on the issues.

53. There are two major expected outputs from the activities to be implemented under the program **Environmental Related Tasks in Southeast Asia**: (i) Synthesis on the regional study on Sea Cucumber, and (ii) Report of the activities on monitoring of interest/importance to the region instructed by the SEAFDEC Council.

54. Under program **Research and Development of Stock Enhancement for Species under International Concerns** Program, activities for research and development on the strategies of sea ranching and stock enhancement will be carried out for Seahorse, Humphead Wrasse, Abalone, Giant Clam, Sea Cucumber, Angelwing Clam. Output from the research and development will be disseminated through training program and various media. The Ecological Impact Assessments will be conducted for the restocking programs on endangered species particularly for that produced from non-indigenous broodstock. The outcome from the study on interaction between sea turtles and fishing operations will also be provided to all Member Countries prior to the next COFI Meeting.

III. PROPOSED CHANGES OF MODALITY AND ARRANGEMENT OF FUTURE SEAFDEC PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

55. Due to the policy change in the annual regular contribution to SEAFDEC, this implies on the future SEAFDEC programming exercises and the most of the regional programs under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Mechanism would become depending upon the support by various donors. In response to this, following proposals were discussed:

- Cancellation of the Special 5-year Program Framework (not individual project);
- Development of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Program Thrusts; and
- Roles and Responsibilities at the PCM.

56. Considering the implication of the change that goes beyond the future SEAFDEC programming exercises, the Committee agreed that the Secretariat should prepare a revision paper for consideration and decision by the Council, on the following issues:

- Roles and terms of reference of the Program Committee ; and
- Roles and terms of reference of the Member Countries, the Secretariat and the Departments in future programming exercises

57. The Committee also urged SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments to consider:

- Need for PCM or other alternative forum for the Member Countries to discuss and scrutinize priority issues of the region prior to approaching donors for program support and implementation; and
- Use of “Donor Consultation” as a useful mechanism for consultation among the Member Countries and respective donor agencies/countries, should be separately conducted.

IV. PIPELINE PROJECTS AND EMERGING NEEDS FOR PREPARATION OF FUTURE PROJECT PROPOSALS

58. There are totally 8 pipeline projects that proposed and endorsed by the Committee. The projects can be grouped into 2 categories; fisheries management and aquaculture.

Pipeline Projects related to Fisheries Management

- 1) Community Fisheries – Strengthening Organization of Communities for Sustainable Livelihoods in Coastal Areas
- 2) Human Resource Development on Poverty Alleviation and Food Security by Fisheries Intervention in the ASEAN Region
- 3) Promotion of “One Village One Fisheries Products” (FOVOP) System to Improve the Livelihoods for Fisheries Communities in ASEAN Region
- 4) Rehabilitation of Fisheries Resources and Habitat/Fishing Grounds through Resource Enhancement
- 5) Use of Indicators for Management of Fishing Capacity of ASEAN Countries
- 6) Transboundary Collaborative Arrangement Supporting Aquatic Resources and Habitat Management for Sustainable Fisheries

Pipeline Projects related to Aquaculture

- 1) Genetic Improvement of Commercially Important Aquaculture Species for Food Security; and
- 2) Institutional Capacity Development for Sustainable Aquaculture

59. With regards to the pipeline projects mentioned above, the Committee provided the following comments and suggestions:

- Program thrusts should be developed as guidelines for the Committee to consider the pipeline projects;
- Project on poverty alleviation should focus not only on coastal community but also the inland areas;
- The project on FOVOP and poverty alleviation are supplemental with each other, thus linkages on these two activities should be made;

- As many countries have been promoting OTOP as one of their national policies, the project title should be modified in order not to duplicate the national initiatives, and should consider FOVOP as one of the project components;
- AQD project on Institutional Capacity Development, should not only involve selected countries, but should also open to all SEAFDEC Member Countries, and the level of implementation should also be at the policy and planning levels;
- Practicality of the outcomes from the project on Indicators should be verified in real situations;
- In the implementation of activities, close coordination with Host Countries (e.g. Council Directors and National Coordinators), should be made; and
- The programs to be supported by the Japanese Trust Fund should include program justification in line with the existing scope of the Trust Funds. Japan would further communicate with the Secretariat and Departments to consider incorporating the suggestion in the proposed project under the JTF in 2008 and beyond.

V. OTHER MATTERS

Review and Proposed Plan of Japanese Trust Fund (JTF) Programs

60. The Committee took note of the overview of the framework, budget scale, and work plan of the SEAFDEC Japanese Trust Fund projects. The Committee was also informed that the JTF Programs for the year 2007 and onwards would accommodate the requests of the ASEAN Member Countries that are in line with the objectives and scope of the projects under the Japanese Trust Fund. In this connection, the Committee requested the JTF Program Manager to continue providing clear JTF scope and objectives as basis for the Member Countries to provide their inputs and requests for future program planning.

VI. SUGGESTION BY THE COUNCIL

61. The Council is requested to consider and endorse the results of the program implementation for the year 2006 and proposed programs for 2007 also including the recommendations made at the 29th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee.

62. The Council is invited to provide directives for the Secretariat and all Departments on important areas for improvement of the program formulation and its effective implementation in order to increase the benefits to the Member Countries in the future.

LIST OF SEAFDEC PROGRAMS OF ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR 2006-2007

I. DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMS

Programs	Lead SEAFDEC Depts.	2006	2007
1. Center-wide Information Network	SEC	✓	✓
2. Working Group on Regional Fisheries Policy (WGRFP)	SEC	✓	-
3. Information and Communications Technology	TD	✓	✓
4. Mollusc	AQD	✓	-
5. Mud Crab and Shrimp	AQD	✓	-
6. Marine Fish	AQD	✓	✓
7. Small-Holder Freshwater Aquaculture	AQD	✓	✓
8. Seaweed	AQD	✓	-
9. Aquatic Ecology	AQD	-	✓
10. Integrated Mollusc Production	AQD	-	✓
11. Mud Crab	AQD	-	✓
12. Seaweed Strain Improvement	AQD	-	✓
13. Shrimp Domestication	AQD	-	✓
14. Other Research and Development Activities	AQD	-	✓

**PROGRAMS OF ACTIVITY UNDER ASEAN-SEAFDEC FISHERIES
CONSULTATIVE GROUP (FCG) MECHANISM**

1.1 Existing Program^a

Programs	Lead ASEAN Country	Lead SEAFDEC Depts.	2006	2007
1. Regionalization of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries ¹	Indonesia	SEC		
○ <u>Component I</u> : Formulation and Dissemination of the Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries			✓	-
○ <u>Component II</u> : Human Resource Development on the Support to the Implementation of the CCRF in the ASEAN Region			✓	✓
2. Assistance of Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issues ²	Thailand	SEC	✓	✓
3. Special 5-year Program on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the ASEAN Region (2006-2010)				
○ <u>Component I</u> : Fisheries Management				
3.1 Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries Management through the Promotion of Rights-based Fisheries and Co-management	Indonesia	SEC	✓	✓
3.2 Improvement of Fishery Statistics and Information for Planning and Management of Fisheries in the ASEAN Region	Thailand	SEC	✓	✓ ^b
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	✓	✓ ^b
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	✓	✓ ^b
3.7 Development of Integrated Inland Fisheries Management in ASEAN Countries	Cambodia	MFRDMD	✓	✓ ^b
○ <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				

¹ 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.

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

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	-	- ^c
3.12 Good Laboratory Quality Management in ASEAN Member Countries	Singapore	MFRD	✓	- ^c
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) ³	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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Component I:</u> Stock Enhancement for Threatened Species of International Concern ○ <u>Component II:</u> Research for Stock Enhancement of Sea Turtles (in collaboration with TD)⁴ 	Philippines	AQD	✓	✓
	Malaysia	MFRDMD	✓	✓
9. Capacity Improvement of Fisheries Community for Fisheries Management and Alleviation of Poverty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Component I:</u> Follow-up of the on-going projects ○ <u>Component II:</u> Extension of the project concept to other member countries ○ <u>Component III:</u> International Training Course on Coastal Fisheries Management for Fishery Managers 	Thailand	TD	✓	✓
10. 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) ⁵	-	SEC	✓	-

1.2 Proposed New Programs for the Year 2007

Programs	Lead ASEAN Country	Lead SEAFDEC Depts.
11. SEAFDEC-Sida Project on Support to Tsunami Rehabilitation of Affected Countries in the ASEAN Region	TBD	SEC
12. Fisheries Resource Survey and Operational Plan for M.V. SEAFDEC 2	TBD	TD

³ 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

⁴ The Component II is proposed as a follow-up to the program on "Conservation and Management of Sea Turtles in Southeast Asian Countries", which ended in 2004.

⁵ The program started since 2005 but was not submitted to be placed under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG mechanism. The program is expected to complete by early 2007.

13. Tagging Program for Economically Important Pelagic Species in the South China Sea and Andaman Sea (in collaboration with TD)	TBD	MFRDMD
14. Deep Sea Fisheries Resources Exploration in the Southeast Asia (in collaboration with MFRDMD)	TBD	TD

Note: TBD – To be decided

1.3 Pipeline Programs^d

Programs	Lead SEAFDEC Depts.
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

^a The programs have been endorsed at the 8th Meeting of ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG, 38th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council, and the 14th Meeting of ASWGF.

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

^c The programs are deferred until funding is available.

^d The programs are in the process of discussion and coordination with the donors.

Annex 8

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

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 28th AMAF Meeting and related meetings. However, with the endorsement of the 28th 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 ASWGFi 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 ASWGFi Meetings”, where important policy and program matters could be discussed.

PROPOSED NEW MODALITY FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION IN ADDRESSING INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES RELATED ISSUES

I. INTRODUCTION

Recognizing the importance of fisheries related issues particularly on trade discussed at international fora and their potential impacts to fisheries in Southeast Asia, SEAFDEC in collaboration with the ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries has developed a regional program on “Fish Trade and Environment” since 1999 with funding support from the Japanese Trust Funds. After ended in 2004, a follow-up program was initiated in 2005 entitled “Assistance Capacity Building in the Region to Address International Trade Related Issue”. Anyhow the principal objective of the program is still maintained, which aims primarily at safeguarding the member countries’ interests and welfare against unfair treatment, which may jeopardize sustainable development of fisheries at either national or regional level. The program has been enhancing and strengthening cooperation and joint approaches in addressing international as well as regional issues and problems affecting fisheries in general and fish trade and the environment in particular in the region through the formulation of regional fisheries policy recommendations.

Since the program initiation, SEAFDEC has provided platforms for the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries to discuss and share experiences on distinguished international fisheries related issues as well as identify common concerns/views and formulate policy recommendations for Southeast Asia. SEAFDEC Secretariat has performed as a technical secretary for the Member Countries providing facts and monitoring the substantive issues that could influence on sustainable fisheries development in the region. The issues tackled include conservation of aquatic endangered species (i.e. sharks, marine turtles and sea cucumbers), chemical/antibiotic residues in aquaculture products, fisheries subsidies, eco-labeling, moratorium on the high seas bottom trawling and etc.

The outcomes of regional deliberations and recommendations have so far provided significant inputs to international/regional meetings related to fisheries such as FAO meetings (Committee on Fisheries, Sub-committees on Fish Trade and Aquaculture, and technical/expert consultations), CITES-CoP13, ASEAN meetings (Working Group on Fisheries and Expert Group on CITES), and so on. In these different international/regional fora, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries have demonstrated their seriousness in promoting sustainable fisheries including responsible fish trade. In addition the roles and active participation of fisheries-related government agencies have become more obvious in negotiation works both at national, regional and international levels.

Apparently, the international fisheries related issues have been expanded, become complicated and involved a wide range of international agencies. Good examples can be seen from fisheries agencies discussed under WTO, aquatic endangered species under CITES, and moratorium of high seas bottom trawls under UNGA. Global discourse and trends have shown the close inter-relationship among sustainable resource utilization, improved management and governance, responsible market and trade, and balanced ecosystem treatment. In a number of cases, fisheries related issues are discussed among non fisheries agencies. Without appropriate competence, such undertaking may undermine existing efforts in achieving sustainable development of fisheries, considering uniqueness of multi-functionality of fisheries and impacts to the sector particularly small-scale component. This has led to a grave concern to ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries

in the manner that fisheries related issues have been handled at the global level. Regional cooperation among the Member Countries assisted by both SEAFDEC and ASEAN Secretariat in addressing such issues is of importance and needs to be strengthened.

Considering the above concern, the 14th Meeting of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi), held from 6 to 8 June 2006 in Manila, the Philippines, expressed appreciation to SEAFDEC in monitoring fisheries issues of international concerns. The ASWGFi meeting further requested SEAFDEC to assist in formulating draft joint ASEAN positions on fisheries issues in the international fora for presentation and discussion at future ASWGFi meetings. In similar manner, the Member Countries, at the ASEAN-SEAFDEC High Level Conference on the Impacts of the International Fisheries Related Issues, held from 24 to 25 June 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand, provided guidance and recommendations for developing strategy and mechanism to minimize the negative impact of international fisheries related issues. It is envisaged that the strategy and mechanism, which could be developed under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) framework, will help improve the participation and involvement of ASEAN and SEAFDEC Member Countries in international fora to safeguard and promote their common interests.

At the 29th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee held from 4 to 6 December 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand, stressed the important role of SEAFDEC in providing assistance and up-to-date information on emerging issues to the Member Countries, including the position paper of other countries on the identified issues. In addition, the Committee encouraged SEAFDEC and the Member Countries, particularly from fisheries-related agencies, to take a more active participation in relevant international fora, and develop and demonstrate common voice on important issues.

Accordingly, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries at the 9th Meeting of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group taken place in Bangkok, Thailand from 7 to 8 December 2006 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 could be coordinated by SEAFDEC Secretariat. Therefore, the Secretariat shall take this opportunity to propose ‘New Modality for Regional Cooperation in Addressing International Fisheries Related Issues’. It is expected that this new modality could strengthen regional capacity and cooperation to monitor and deal with substantive international issues that are being increased at various global deliberations.

II. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPT

2.1 Roles and Functions of Parties Concerned

Considering the above background and guidance, the proposed new modality for regional cooperation in addressing international fisheries issues is built upon the principle that

“...addressing international fisheries issues is collective efforts by consensus with the Member Countries taking a leading role in identifying issues and taking necessary actions, including voicing common views at relevant international/regional fora. Such process will be led by agreed lead Member Country(s) supported with technical inputs from SEAFDEC Departments and coordinated by SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) framework.”

In line with the above principles and concept, proposed Terms of Reference of parties concerned, namely all Member Countries, Lead Member Countries, SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments, and ASEAN Secretariat are provided in Appendix 1.

2.2 Identification and Review of Issues of Regional Priority Concerns

It is proposed that, on an annual basis, meetings of SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi will take initiatives to identify issues of regional priority concerns. During the inter-sessional period, information compilation and studies/research on the identified issues will be conducted considering the progress and development of respective issues. The information compilation and studies/research together with proposed recommendations and common/coordinated positions on the identified issues will be regularly updated and reported to subsequent regional gathering. The outcome of the process will then be reported to the meetings of SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi to complete the annual cycle.

2.3 Proposed Executive Report on International Fisheries Related Issues

To facilitate cooperation among parties concerned as well as provide a reference for monitoring of issues and participation into relevant international/regional fora, Executive Report on International Fisheries Related Issues is proposed. The Report will be compiled and updated by SEAFDEC Secretariat, considering development and progress made on identified issues. It is proposed that each Executive Report will cover a period of one year from April to March of the subsequent year.

2.4 Forms of Positions among ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries

As a basis to support ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries in taking necessary actions as well as voicing their concerns at appropriate international/regional fora, two levels of positions are proposed:

- ASEAN-SEAFDEC Common Positions – are positions endorsed by both SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi (including relevant high-level authorities of ASEAN, as appropriate) that provide principles/policy and technical framework in addressing the identified issues.
- ASEAN-SEAFDEC Coordinated Positions – are positions that provide guidance for collective actions by the countries particularly during the participation of relevant international fora, with or without endorsement from SEAFDEC Council and ASWGFi. However, the positions need to be reported to SEAFDEC Council and appropriate ASEAN mechanism as well as high-level authorities of respective countries for coordination with relevant national agencies. The coordinated positions are considered as guidelines for formulating positions of respective Member Countries.

III. PROPOSED MECHANISM FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION IN ADDRESSING INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES ISSUES

The following is the proposed annual cycle mechanism for regional cooperation in addressing international fisheries issues.

Scheduling	Regional Fora	Actions
April	SEAFDEC Council Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review issues of regional priority concerns over the past annual cycle in the form of “Executive Report on International Fisheries Related Issues” prepared by SEAFDEC Secretariat; - Review progress of past actions taken in line with the agreed common and coordinated positions; - Identify issues of priority concerns for the next annual cycle; and - Direct SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments for appropriate supporting actions.
April/May	ASWGF Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review proposed common positions and coordinated positions, and where appropriate submit for consideration by higher authorities; - Identify issues of priority concerns for the next annual cycle; and - Request SEAFDEC for appropriate supporting actions.
May-December	ASEAN high-level authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider/endorse proposed common positions; - Provide policy guidelines in addressing respective international fisheries issues.
	SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct review of information and research on identified issues; and - Develop recommendations for consideration by the Member Countries.
December	ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG Meeting	Review the progress of identified issues and formulate proposed common and coordinated positions.
February	RTC on International Fisheries Issues	Review the progress of identified issues and discuss/update proposed common and coordinated positions.

Notes:

- Ad-hoc RTC(s) on International Fisheries Issues may be conducted considering urgency of issues, subject to the availability of funds.
- Participation of the Member Countries, SEAFDEC and ASEAN Secretariat to relevant international/regional fora is encouraged.

Proposed Terms of Reference (TOR) of Parties Concerned for Regional Cooperation in Addressing International Fisheries Related Issues

TOR of All Member Countries

- To identify issues of priority concerns;
- To provide supporting information either through the Lead Member Countries or SEAFDEC Secretariat on identified issues and provide support to or alternative proposals for the proposed positions; and
- To take necessary actions in following-up/coordinating agreed common/coordinated positions with relevant national agencies or voicing such positions at relevant international/regional fora, including promoting dialogues with countries from other regions and/or relevant international/regional organizations sharing the same concerns to strengthen the common voice.

TOR of Lead Member Countries

- To provide background information on identified issues including initial analysis on potential impacts to fisheries of the Member Countries, and proposed positions;
- To take a leading role in regional discussion in providing information and clarification on the identified issues; and
- To take a leading role in voicing the agreed coordinated positions at international fora.

TOR of SEAFDEC Secretariat

- To assist the Member Countries in identifying issues of priority concerns, compile inputs from the Member Countries, and formulate draft common and/or coordinated positions on identified issues;
- To identify important international/regional fora discussing issues of regional priority concerns;
- To develop and update an “Executive Report on International Fisheries Related Issues” as a regional reference for coordinated actions and monitoring;
- To report/update issues of regional priority concerns at appropriate regional gatherings for policy (meetings of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG), SEAFDEC Council and ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries) and technical aspects for information exchange/update and formulation of common and/or coordinated positions;
- To mobilize existing networks and communication channels (e.g. SEAFDEC Regional Fisheries Policy Network) in obtaining supplementary inputs and supports in developing and updating the Executive Report;
- To take initiatives in voicing the agreed positions at relevant international fora including promoting dialogues with countries from other region and/or relevant international/regional organizations sharing the same concerns to strengthen the common voice; and
- To provide necessary supports to the Member Countries in voicing their positions at relevant international fora by e.g. making available necessary reference and supporting materials, developing information package and activities based on available resources to raise awareness of issues at appropriate fora; organizing informal consultation among Member Countries, etc.

TOR of SEAFDEC Departments

- To conduct review of status of regional priority issues based on areas of competence as a basis for discussion by the Member Countries;
- To conduct research/studies and/or regional consultations under their respective competence, work programs and available resources on issues identified by the Member Countries as a basis for formulating common/coordinated positions;
- To mobilize existing expert networks and communication channels in obtaining supplementary technical inputs and supports as a basis for formulation of common/coordinated positions;
- To develop information package and activities based on available resources to raise awareness of issues at appropriate fora; and
- To raise views and opinions on relevant issues reflecting regional consensus at relevant fora.

TOR of ASEAN Secretariat

- To collaborate with SEAFDEC Secretariat in providing her views as well as inputs from ASEAN high-level policy on the identified priority issues; and
- To follow-up the agreed common and/or coordinated positions at appropriate ASEAN high-level authorities and provide progress and feed-back to SEAFDEC Secretariat for further coordination.

REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

I. BACKGROUND

ASEAN-SEAFDEC “Regional Technical Consultation on Management of Fishing Capacity and Human Resource Development in Support of Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia” held in Phuket, Thailand from 19 to 22 September 2006 discussed in its working group the usefulness of the regional mechanism to regulate fishing capacity at sub-regional level (Gulf of Thailand, Malacca Strait, Andaman Sea, South China Sea and Sulu or Celebes Sea). Concern and need for improving fisheries management particularly addressing issues related to fishing capacity and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing were also discussed by the Asia-Pacific Fisheries Commission (APFIC) at the 29th Session held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 21 to 23 August 2006.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC “Expert Meeting on Fisheries Statistics, Information and Indicators” held in Bangkok, Thailand from 27 to 29 November 2006 recommended to investigate the establishment of the Regional Scientific Advisory Committee on Information for Fisheries Management should be established to enhance information collection for fisheries management and suggested to make such a proposal to the next SEAFDEC Program Committee Meeting and ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Meeting for wider consideration.

Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee held in Bangkok, Thailand from 4 to 6 December 2006 concluded that “the Committee considered the concept of the establishment of Regional Scientific Advisory Committee and noted the reservation made on the proposal by Malaysia. However, the Committee requested that the proposal should be further elaborated for further review by the Member Countries, particularly clarifying Terms of Reference, linkages with existing regional collaborative mechanism, and financial implication and arrangement”. The representative of FAO/RAP mentioned that FAO also looked forward to SEAFDEC movement as regional scientific advisory committee for fisheries management.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC “Regional Technical Consultation on International Fisheries Related Issues (2007)” held in Chiang Mai, Thailand 5-7 February 2007 also concluded “the Consultation requested SEAFDEC Secretariat to develop a proposal on appropriate regional fisheries management framework for consideration at the next SEAFDEC Council meeting. The Consultation also agreed that SEAFDEC collaborates with APFIC in developing such a proposal”.

After the completion of Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995) and UN Fish Stock Agreement (1994), the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) have focused their main roles and functions on fisheries management for the identified fisheries stocks in the regional (semi-enclosed areas) and high sea fisheries. International fisheries society has been encouraging development of new RFMOs where there are gaps for areas/stocks, which are not covered by existing arrangements (FAO^{1,2} and General

¹ Paragraph 45 of “Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and Their Performances including the Outcomes of the 2007 Tuna RFMOs Meeting”. FAO paper for 27th Session of COFI 5-9 March 2007

Assembly³). Southeast Asia has been recognized as one of the few vacuum regions that do not currently falls under competent management areas of any RFMO. There is therefore a need to investigate appropriate collaborative mechanism/arrangement for regional fisheries management in Southeast Asian region

II. REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT/ ORGANIZATION FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA

Unlike other regional management areas, Southeast Asia has very limited high sea areas. Among these areas, Spratly Islands are one of which currently considered as politically sensitive area in the South China Sea. Few countries such as Indonesia and the Philippines in the region have actively involved in tuna fisheries in the high sea, under which existing tuna RFMOs (IOTC and WCPFC) in their respective competent areas are currently operating. But none of them currently includes Southeast Asia as their competent areas.

However, of major importance is the fact that fisheries management within the region is critically constrained by the ineffective control of fishing capacity and activities within national waters and particularly fishing vessels encroaching into the EEZs of other countries. This has put enormous pressure on already degrading fisheries resources. The mobility of capacity between jurisdictions leads to regular fishery conflicts between the large and small-scale fisheries and between fishing nations. Stronger and more effective governance in fisheries in the region is the goal of several regional organizations and countries in the region. However the process towards achieving this has been slow, due in part to an over-emphasis on local fishery management interventions without addressing the issue of the larger industrialized fishing vessels activities within EEZs and beyond.

The relatively poor information on the state of resources and the degree of fishing capacity operating in its waters also further constrains action. Although there is probably enough information now available to prompt action, this apparent uncertainty does however limit effective decision making on the management of fishing capacity and IUU fishing. The domestic situation in many of the countries and inadequate human capacity and resources to deal with these issues requires a systematic regional approach.

Along this line, there are needs to develop appropriate regional mechanism reflecting the regional serious efforts recently made toward the promotion of sustainable fisheries^{4,5}. It is also recognized that regional fisheries management issues have never been a major agenda for the regional gatherings including SEAFDEC, APFIC and others until recently. Many steps are required to move towards such regional arrangements and to build up trust and mutual respect among countries in the region. Considering the growing concern on the sustainable fisheries issues in global environment, there might be increasing international pressures in achieving sustainable fisheries in the region using various means including market driven and trade measures such as traceability. It is therefore an appropriate time for the region to think about the mechanism, which may facilitate the required fisheries management actions through the collective regional efforts. This can be considered as a

² Paragraph 78 of “International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing” FAO, 2001

³ Paragraph 69 of “Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly” A/RES/59/25.2005

⁴ 1st Senior Official Meeting (SOM) was held in Jakarta, Indonesia with a support of Australia Government in 29-30 November 2006 and developed a draft Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to promote Responsible Fishing Practices in regional seas including South China Sea and Sulu Sea.

⁵ Regional proposal on COFI Sub-Committee on Small Scale Fisheries was made at 27th COFI to promote sustainable fisheries by the sub –sector based on ASEAN-SEAFDEC “Regional Technical Consultation on International Fisheries Related Issues (2007)”

long-term goal, which requires a long-term process towards emergence of a regional fisheries arrangement that is capable of providing effective management of fisheries in the region.

III. PROPOSED REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION

Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region adopted at the Millennium Conference in 2001 provide principle regional policy framework and priority actions including those of fisheries management. In addition, regional guidelines for responsible fisheries management in Southeast Asia and four supplementary guidelines (co-management using group user rights for small-scale fisheries, fishery statistics, use of indicators for management of marine capture fisheries, and fishery refugia) also provides guides to improvement of fisheries management in line with the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

Considering the regional fisheries context described above, regional fisheries management in Southeast Asia implies the need for facilitation country's management actions through collective efforts or promotion of coordinated fisheries management among ASEAN Member countries. Through series of discussion at various regional meetings and consultations mentioned in the above background, the following three issues can be identified as areas for regional collaborative efforts for fisheries management:

- Clear fishery data and information needs for management and usage for formulation of management policy and program
- Close linkages between research activities and data collection on one hand and fisheries management policy, programs and actions on the other
- Clearly defined and harmonized fisheries management methodologies and approaches as well as maintaining dialogues among stakeholders particularly at the regional level on implementation of such methodologies and approaches

To facilitate the above issues towards regional collaborative efforts for fisheries management, a proposal is made for establishment of "Regional Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management in Southeast Asia Region" together with the following technical supported activities:

1. Regional Improvement on Identification and Usage of Data and Information for Fisheries Management

The current fisheries information is collected in fragmented manner or not systematic manner. In most cases, objectives for data and information collection including fisheries statistics are vague. Preparation of status and trend of fisheries and aquaculture either at regional or national level could initiate a process to identify available data and information related to fisheries. Such status and trend do not only provide best available data and information, which can be put for use but also indicate how scanty data and information available, which can illustrate fisheries of a country or in the region. In addition, data and information gaps particularly for management purposes can be identified in order to prioritize efforts and allocation of resources to fill such gaps.

The proposed areas of work under this topic are:

- To identify gap between the outcomes of existing ASEAN-SEAFDEC Projects including Fisheries Statistics and Indicators and national/regional requirements of the information for taking fisheries management actions;

- To develop “Status of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Southeast Asian Region (SEASOFIA)” as a tool to facilitate analysis and illustration of regional/nation fisheries/aquaculture to be used as a basis for better planning and management of fisheries; and
- To develop a fisheries information and knowledge base for the use of required fisheries management plan and actions. This can be organized/structured by sub-regional ecosystems/waters (i.e. Gulf of Thailand, Malacca Strait, Andaman Sea, South China Sea and Sulu or Celebes Sea)

2. Development of the Regional Strategic Research for Fisheries Management

Fisheries research issues and topics have normally been identified by individual researchers along line with their technical capacity and interests. Considering limited financial resources in the field of research in regional as well as national levels, research priority setting can be strategically conducted to identify important research programs so as to contribute to the fisheries management. The current SEAFDEC projects to collect information on the pelagic fisheries resources, M.V. SEAFDEC 2’s resource survey programs in national waters under cost sharing scheme, and use of indicators for fisheries management are some of the examples.

The proposed areas of work under this topic are:

- To make a clear link between the existing ASEAN-SEAFDEC regional research programs including those mentioned above in accordance with the regional/national fisheries management needs; and
- To develop the links and coordination between regional programs and national programs in order to fill the gaps for better understanding of the fisheries resources at the regional/sub-regional level and promotion on complementary relationships between the regional and national initiatives.

3. Regional Forum (Regional Scientific Advisory Committee) on the Fisheries Management

There is currently no appropriate forum to specifically discuss about fisheries management issues in the region based on the understanding that fisheries management issues are prerogatives of the respective national fisheries related authority of the countries. However, a regional framework on fisheries management can be complementary to the national fisheries management actions and coordinating actions with neighboring countries. Along this line, the following mechanism can be proposed:

- a) Regional Scientific Advisory Committee (RSAC) can be periodically organized by ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries.
- b) SEAFDEC in collaboration with FAO/APFIC can act as technical secretariat of the Committee
- c) Agenda of the RSAC will be identified by the participating countries in collaboration with technical secretariat. Various fisheries management related issues including mitigating over-capacity, promotion of responsible fishing, IUU fisheries, promotion of fisheries management methodologies including co-management, MPA and Fisheries Refugia, Coordinated fisheries management in the region/sub-regions are the example of the issues to share the experiences.
- d) RSAC will monitor implementation of required follow-up actions by the participating countries.
- e) RSAC will be developed and implemented under the framework of ASEAN SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP).

- f) Technical inter-sessional activities to follow-up the RTA Committee will be conducted by SEAFDEC in collaboration with FAO/APFIC.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED “REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION”

Considering the current SEAFDEC financial situation, it is proposed that the RSA Committee program will not be implemented by SEAFDEC regular budget but extra-budgetary funding. If the policy support for the program by the Council is obtained, SEAFDEC in collaboration with FAO/APFIC and ASEAN Secretariat will systematically source potential funding supports from donors and prepare the appropriate proposal for extra-budgetary program. This new program, once become available will be implemented in coordination with relevant programs under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG mechanism. Among others, the programs include the on-going project on Human Resource Development on the Support to the Implementation of the CCRF in the ASEAN Region with funding support from Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) that has generated basis and consideration for this proposal.

REPORT OF PROGRESS STATUS OF ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP)

I. 38th SEAFDEC Council Meeting, April 2006, Brunei Darussalam

The 38th SEAFDEC Council Meeting endorsed the ASSP proposal including the Terms of Reference, Scope and Mechanism, as recognised that the ASSP will further enhance the close cooperation between SEAFDEC and ASEAN. The Council agreed that the proposal be submitted to ASEAN Secretariat for ASEAN's approval.

II. 14th ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries Meeting (ASWGFi), June 2006, Manila, Philippines

SEAFDEC was invited to participate in the 14th ASWGFi Meeting in which the ASSP proposal was presented and discussed. The 14th ASWGFi Meeting endorsed the ASSP proposal and strongly recommended it to the 27th Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) for approval.

III. Special Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the 27th Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF), August 2006, Bohol, Philippines

SEAFDEC was invited to participate in the Special SOM-AMAF where the recommendation of the 14th ASWGFi Meeting was considered. The Special SOM-AMAF expressed supported for the ASSP proposal. The Special SOM-AMAF also agreed that SEAFDEC Secretariat and ASEAN Secretariat prepare a Letter of Understanding (LOU) to formalize the ASSP for the approval of the 28th AMAF Meeting. The LOU would be signed between the SEAFDEC Secretary-General and the ASEAN Secretary-General.

IV. 28th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Meeting (AMAF), November 2006, Singapore

At the invitation of ASEAN, SEAFDEC participated in the 28th AMAF Meeting and also the Preparatory SOM-AMAF Meeting prior to the 28th AMAF Meeting. The Secretary-General, Dr Siri Ekamaharaj made presentations to the ASEAN Senior Officials and the ASEAN Ministers on the progress made on the ASEAN-SEAFDEC programs under the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) mechanism for the year 2005-2006, and the ASSP. After Dr Siri's presentation to the 28th AMAF, 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. The 28th AMAF reiterated its support for ASEAN-SEAFDEC cooperation and the ASSP as reflected in the extracted paragraphs from the Report of the 28th Meeting of AMAF, which appears as *Appendix 1*.

V. Present Status of the ASSP

SEAFDEC understand that the 28th AMAF Meeting has instructed the ASEAN Secretariat to finalize the LOU for the ASSP and inform SEAFDEC accordingly. It is envisage that the LOU for the ASSP could be signed during the 29th AMAF Meeting to be held in Thailand in 2007.

**EXCERPT OF THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
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 organizations like Asian Development Bank (ADB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), World Animal Health Organization (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 recognized 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.

PROPOSED CONCEPT FOR FOLLOW-UP OF ASEAN-SEAFDEC STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ASSP)

I. INTRODUCTION

SEAFDEC has many years technical cooperation with ASEAN since the establishment of the Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) mechanism in 1999, cumulating in the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference in November 2001 and the ASEAN-Japan Cooperation for Sustainable Fisheries through SEAFDEC Seminar in December 2003.

The ASSP will provide new opportunities for cooperation between SEAFDEC and ASEAN as ASEAN pursue a new framework of economic and social integration in the near future - 2010. It is an opportune time for SEAFDEC to explore how cooperation with ASEAN can further the long term common goals and objectives of SEAFDEC and ASEAN. Both organizations are committed to the development and management of sustainable fisheries in Southeast Asia. These goals are also reflected in the Resolutions and Plan of Action, the ASEAN Vision and the ASEAN Roadmap. It is timely that as we move into a new phase of cooperation under the ASSP, and explore the possibilities of cooperation beyond just technical assistance to member countries in capacity building. We should explore cooperation in a new and important phase for collective regional development and management of sustainable fisheries.

II. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT MECHANISM FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

In the process of ASEAN integration, the on-going regional programs under FCG mechanism, which aim at promoting sustainable development of fisheries should be continued and even expanded. Due consideration should also be given to small-scale fisheries both in inland and coastal waters. Regional initiatives supporting the development and management approach for small-scale fisheries could complement national effects in achieving not only sustainable development of fisheries but also poverty alleviation and food security for this sub-sector. These regional initiatives are expectedly not only beneficial to countries in the region but also to international community when developing global initiatives/programs addressing this sub-sector.

It is also important that ASEAN will be looking into the area of an ASEAN regional management mechanism for sustainable fisheries. SEAFDEC could initiate discussion with ASEAN in this area looking at the experience of other regional fisheries management mechanism/organization in other parts of the world, especially such cooperation among the more developed countries. SEAFDEC cooperation with ASEAN under the ASSP can be in two phases, long term and short term programs. For the short term program, establishment of a Regional Scientific Advisory Committee and other supporting activities could be considered to clarify issues and mechanism for the regional fisheries management. This could be led to the long term program, where the development of an ASEAN regional fisheries management mechanism could be suggested by SEAFDEC for cooperation with ASEAN under the ASSP. If ASEAN has interest to develop such a management mechanism, then this could form the “umbrella” for achieving the “ASEAN Vision”. However, it is recognized that the development of such a mechanism must be ASEAN driven and will require high level ASEAN Governments commitments at Ministerial level.

SEAFDEC can only assist ASEAN in this long term goal as it will take some time to achieve.

While SEAFDEC and ASEAN could explore the above possibilities of a regional fisheries management mechanism, SEAFDEC could start a parallel but interlinked process by assisting ASEAN in its more immediate integration process by providing assistance in the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap. Some progress has been made by ASEAN in this area and indirectly SEAFDEC has provided some technical inputs to ASEAN for the Roadmap. It will be ideal if all the SEAFDEC inputs for the Roadmap could be formalized and coordinated into a SEAFDEC-ASEAN Roadmap program working with the four Lead ASEAN Member Countries (LAMCs). The program in the attached proposal for SEAFDEC's assistance for the ASEAN Roadmap is for the 39th SEAFDEC Council discussion and guidance. This initial SEAFDEC cooperation on the Roadmap could be proposed to ASEAN for implementation if Council is agreeable. At the same time we could initiate discussion with ASEAN on the long term program on regional fisheries development and management mechanism as there are linkages between them.

The Member Countries, SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments and ASEAN Secretariat will be closely collaborated in developing detailed programs and securing resources, considering their respective competence, areas of expertise and networks, for implementation of programs under ASSP.

Conclusion

The 39th SEAFDEC Council is requested to provide guidance to the SEAFDEC Secretariat on the above proposal, including the proposal in the attached *Appendix 1*.

SEAFDEC's Proposal for Cooperation with ASEAN under the ASSP on the Implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Fisheries Integration

The 9th Meeting of ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) requested SEAFDEC to work closely with the four lead ASEAN Member Countries (i.e. Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand which have been assigned responsibilities on specific key issues under the Roadmap), and the ASEAN Secretariat, in developing any project proposals related to the ASEAN Roadmap under the ASSP.

The World Fish Center (WFC) Study Report, commissioned by ASEAN on the ASEAN Roadmap, reported that regional organizations like SEAFDEC can play an important role in assisting ASEAN in the implementation of the Roadmap. It is likely that the four Lead ASEAN Member Countries (LAMCs) will need some SEAFDEC assistance on the implement the Roadmap responsibilities assigned to them as discussed at the 9th FCG Meeting. In fact, SEAFDEC is in a way providing some indirect assistance to the LAMCs for the Roadmap under some of the FCG activities.

In reviewing the ASEAN Roadmap and the assigned responsibilities of the Roadmap to the four LAMCs, SEAFDEC could cooperate with ASEAN by focusing on the implementation of specific issues/programs. SEAFDEC can play an important coordinating and executing role working closely with the four LAMCs in assisting them in implementing the specific key issues of the Roadmap. These key issues cover the areas that are relevant to the development of a common harmonized ASEAN food safety and quality standards, and certification system which is critical for the economic integration of the fisheries sector. These issues are also of interest to SEAFDEC and SEAFDEC Member Countries. The specific key issues in the Roadmap are:-

Fisheries Quality and Safety Management Systems

Item 40 Develop and apply fisheries quality management system that ensure food safety and support competitive position of ASEAN fisheries products on world markets through the implementation, validation, verification of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) -based systems and improved laboratories practices, and adapting quality and safety management systems so that they may be applied to small enterprises in ASEAN
Lead country: Singapore

Compliance with international good practices and standards

Item 41 Implement the Codex Code of Practice of Good Animal Feeding and Recommended International Code of Practice for Control of the Use of Veterinary Drugs and the Codex Guidelines for the Establishment of a Regulatory Programme for Control of Veterinary Drug Residues in Foods in ASEAN in order to reduce potential hazards in terms of chemical contamination, mycotoxins and veterinary drugs
Lead country: Malaysia

Item 42 Prioritize international standards related to fisheries that would be significant for ASEAN trade value and those with potential for ASEAN trade in the future and set specific targets and schedules for harmonization in ASEAN
Lead country: Malaysia

Item 43 Formulate guidelines for the use of chemicals in aquaculture and measures to eliminate the use of harmful chemical

Lead country: Malaysia

Promote and strengthen the compliance of fisheries industry to the regional and international requirements

Item 44 Promotion of HACCP, Good Aquaculture Practice (GAP), Good Hygiene Practices (GHP) for fishery industry, especially SMEs

Lead country:

Strengthening Testing Facilities in ASEAN and Recognition of Testing Results and Product Certification by regulators

Item 45 Establishment of ASEAN Reference Testing Laboratories for fisheries products (Microbiology, mycotoxin, pesticide residues; Veterinary Drug Residues; Heavy Metals etc)

Lead country: Myanmar

Harmonisation of sector specific technical regulatory regime in ASEAN

Item 47 Identify and prioritise SPS and TBT Measures related to fisheries products for harmonisation in ASEAN

Lead country: Thailand

Item 48 Harmonise identified SPS and TBTs measures including harmonisation of import and export, labeling requirements and marking of compliance.

Lead country: Thailand

Development and Implementation of MRAs in selected fisheries products

Item 49 Development and Implementation of MRAs in selected fisheries products

Lead country: Thailand

Under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP), that was endorsed by the 29th AMAF, SEAFDEC (with the consent of ASEAN) can serve as the Executing Agency for the above aspects of the Roadmap in collaboration with the four LAMCs and ASEAN Secretariat, as the ASEAN Roadmap for the Economic Integration of the Fisheries Sector is within the ASSP approved Terms of Reference and Scope of cooperation/collaboration between ASEAN and SEAFDEC.

SEAFDEC has the technical expertise and experience to work with ASEAN Member Countries to develop the common framework for the above specific key issues in the Roadmap. Some work on these issues are already being done under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC FCG cooperation framework and can be expanded, if necessary, to accommodate the Roadmap's specific key issues. These issues are also areas of interest to SEAFDEC and SEAFDEC Member Countries, including Japan. In addition, existing ASEAN-SEAFDEC programs under FCG mechanism also provides assistance to the ASEAN countries on aspects of the Roadmap that are related to "Research and Development" (items 50 to 52).

Proposal

SEAFDEC to hold consultations with the four LAMCs to established an ad hoc ASEAN-SEAFDEC Roadmap Working Group (ASRWG) and organise a meeting/workshop with them to discuss and work out the common framework in the implementation of all the specific key issues that have been assigned to them. ASRWG would report to the FCG through the SEAFDEC Secretariat and ASEAN Secretariat/ASWGFi. Thailand has earlier indicated that she will be willing to organise such a meeting/workshop for this purpose. SEAFDEC could consider taking the initiative and consult Thailand (DOF) to jointly organise such a meeting/workshop. The meeting/workshop would be able to collate whatever data and information that the four LAMCs have compiled and one of the key outputs would be establish the ASRWG, and the guideline towards the development of an ASEAN common framework for the specific key issues to contribute towards harmonisation of the food safety and quality standards, and certifications in ASEAN under the Roadmap. All this will help to promote a common market for the fisheries sector in ASEAN as envisaged by the Roadmap.

The establishment of the ASRWG is a quick and cost effective mechanism for an ASEAN-SEAFDEC project/program to “kick start” the cooperation with ASEAN under the ASSP while exploring the possibility of having a more comprehensive strategic cooperation program. The four LAMCs are already undertaking the Roadmap work assigned to them, as such the ASRWG will dove-tail into existing ASEAN activities and serve as a coordinating mechanism with SEAFDEC as the Executing Agency “pulling” all the on-going work together. SEAFDEC could also serve as the secretariat for the ASRWG. SEAFDEC could discuss with the four LAMCs and the ASEAN Secretariat to see whether the ASRWG could have meetings hosted by ASRWG Member Countries (and SEAFDEC if possible) by rotation (cost-sharing) if needed, as this minimize cost. Furthermore, the LAMCs might already have such meetings in mind when they undertook the assigned responsibilities under the Roadmap.

Conclusion

The 39th SEAFDEC Council guidance is sought on the above proposal for the ASEAN Roadmap, including the establishment of the ad hoc ASRWG, for submission to ASEAN for further discussion.

STATEMENT

*By Mr. Simon Funge-Smith, Aquaculture Officer
The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations*

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

On behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, I would like to thank SEAFDEC for the invitation to attend the 29th SEAFDEC Council Meeting. First of all, I would like to congratulate SEAFDEC for its continued, excellent contribution to the promotion and development of fisheries and aquaculture in the ASEAN region. Mr. Chairman,

FAO with SEAFDEC have cooperated for many years in carrying out joint activities and we look forward to continuing fruitful collaboration.

The 27th Session of FAO's Committee on Fisheries was held in Rome from 5 to 9 March 2007. It was attended by 131 governments and the European Commission, 41 intergovernmental organizations and 29 nongovernmental organizations. I would like to provide a short summary of the recommendations and actions which are of particular relevance to SEAFDEC member countries.

COFI addressed specifically the issue of fishery subsidies, urging FAO to continue its proactive engagement with WTO in this matter and to continue its studies on the impact of subsidies on fishing capacity, IUU fishing, fisheries management and sustainable development in a manner that complemented, but should not duplicate, WTO's work.

COFI considered different options to give greater prominence to small-scale fisheries in its deliberations and FAO's Programme of Work. It took note of the strong support by many members to establish a dedicated COFI Sub-Committee and/or a specific programme of work on small-scale fisheries supported by extra-budgetary funding. COFI welcomed the proposal by Norway that FAO examine the convening of a broad-based international conference focussing specifically on small-scale fisheries of a format similar to the 1999 Fish Rights and 2006 Sharing the Fish Conferences. I would like to congratulate SEAFDEC in its efforts to encouraging greater awareness and coverage of small-scale fisheries issues.

Recognizing the importance of traceability for fish trade, it expressed the view that traceability schemes for small-scale fisheries should be compatible with WTO rules, FAO will continue to provide technical advice and assistance to improve market access for small-scale fisheries from developing countries. Following the successful adoption of the FAO presented the draft International Guidelines for the Eco-labelling of Fish and Fishery Product from Inland Capture Fisheries. These will be further refined at a technical consultation. COFI recommended FAO to proceed with a programme to develop guidelines on aquaculture certification. These initiatives will benefit from SEAFDEC involvement and advise to its member countries on this matters.

COFI welcomed the Memorandum of Understanding between FAO and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and recognized the value of the FAO ad hoc Expert Advisory Panel's work. FAO and SEAFDEC continue to collaborate in CITES related issues especially sea turtles and the work on TED and JTED.

COFI agreed to the implementation of the Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Aquaculture, including the establishment of a Coordinating Working Party on Aquaculture Statistics. FAO and SEAFDEC works on improving the harmonization of fisheries statistics is ongoing and we are currently discussing some pilot work to further improve data collection and processing.

In tackling the issues of IUU fishing, COFI encouraged Members to join or cooperate with the voluntary International MCS Network. FAO will proceed with assisting in the development of a new legally binding instrument on Port State Measures, through an Expert Consultation (2007) and a Technical consultation in 2008. FAO will convene an Expert Consultation on global record of fishing vessels, this should be of special interest since it represents an effort to provide a more effective system for registration of small scale vessels and hence offers opportunities to improve the management of fishing fleets.

FAO will also consider the possibility of convening an Expert Consultation on flag State responsibility. FAO will also continue to provide technical assistance to member States for the development of NPOAs particularly in capacity reduction and IUU. As part of the national strengthening process, FAO will also contribute to strengthening of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs). FAO will consider the possibility of convening joint meetings of non-tuna RFMOs. And this may be of interest to RFB's which are considering developing some management related activities.

The Twenty-ninth Session of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC), was convened in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 21-23 August 2006, and was participated in by fourteen Member countries, with observers from 9 regional organizations.

The Commission noted the depleted state of much of the region's fisheries resources, especially in coastal areas and agreed that major reforms are needed to rectify the unsustainable development practices that are resulting in the fisheries and aquaculture in the region not realizing their full potential. As part of this package of major reforms for the fishery sector, the Commission agreed to reduce trawling and push net fishing as a first step for reversing the production of low value trash fish and 'fishing down the food chain.

The Commission also agreed on the need to "mainstream" the principles of 'co-management' into their national management systems, This involves including stakeholders in the planning and implementation of fisheries management, through more equal sharing of authority and responsibility for the management of fisheries (through rights based approaches), and the development of partnerships between government and local communities.

The Commission agreed that the fisheries policies in the region were adequate and agreed the focus should be on implementing the existing policies. In mandating APFIC's new workplan, the Commission Members agreed to intensify cooperation for two emerging issues – managing fishing capacity and fish trade and standards. As part of this initiative APFIC will be working closely with SEAFDEC on the area of capacity reduction and the

evaluation of costs and benefits of fisheries and aquaculture certification in the Asia-Pacific region.

Looking forward to challenges in the region we are pleased to see the SEAFDEC initiative to develop an ASEAN level Regional Scientific Advisory Committee and the possibility of close collaboration with FAO and APFIC in this matter as recommended in the report of the RTC on International Fisheries Related Issues (Chiang Mai 2007) APFIC's strategic focus is clearly set on the facilitation of regional arrangements, based on the confirmed belief that Regional and sub-regional arrangements with strong national commitment offer the best chance of tackling the existing and emerging fisheries issues in this and other Asian regions. FAO and APFIC have much to offer in the area of information exchange and management as well as bringing international and regional experience in the development of agreements. The recent COFI meeting in Rome as highlighted the increasing urgency to implement more rigorous management approaches and the information exchange and coordination function offered through the Regional Scientific Advisory Committee will be an excellent starting point for greater regional cooperation in fisheries management

FAO and APFIC are also currently developing a GEF project proposal which will perhaps offer similar opportunities for regional collaboration in the Bay of Bengal. This initiative will certainly benefit from the early experiences likely to emerge from the development and operation of the proposed Regional Scientific Advisory committee.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to attend this 29th SEAFDEC Council Meeting and would like to assure the Council of FAO's continuing interest to work closely on matters of mutual interest, in a collaboration that draws on the respective strengths of our organizations.. I would also like to thank the governor of Siem Reap and the government of the Kingdom of Cambodia for their excellent arrangements and for giving us the opportunity to meet in this ancient cultural centre that is home to Angkor.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

PROGRESS AND STATUS OF SEAFDEC FUTURE OPERATION

I. INTRODUCTION

In response to the unclear SEAFDEC financial situation for 2006 and onward, SEAFDEC has conducted a series of consultation with the Member Countries to clarify scenarios and options for SEAFDEC future operation and then submitted the '*Proposal on SEAFDEC Future Operation: Pre-requisites and Policy Directions*' to the Council at the 38th Meeting. Base on the policy directions and decision, including directives for interim measures, SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments have pursued and put utmost effort to achieve such a given policy by the Council, which lies on the strong interests, commitments and collaborative spirit of all Member Countries as well as considering benefits of SEAFDEC activities to the needs of the Member Countries.

Accordingly, this paper is prepared to report the progress and status of:

- a) Pre-requisites for sustainable SEAFDEC future operation;
- b) Enhancing technical cooperation and arrangement for non-traditional sources of fund; and
- c) Areas for immediate improvement of SEAFDEC operation.

It is expected that after going through this report and presentations made by SEAFDEC Secretariat and/or Departments, the Council would 1) consider status and progress of implementation and provide guidance for future actions; and 2) consider specific proposals on areas of immediate and long-term improvement of SEAFDEC operation.

II. STATUS AND PROGRESS OF PRE-REQUISITES FOR SUSTAINABLE SEAFDEC FUTURE OPERATION

In order for SEAFDEC operation to be sustainable in the future, the following two major pre-requisites have been agreed and being implemented:

- 2.1) Full financial support of the Host countries to the Departments on their operating cost

All the Host Countries namely Thailand, the Philippines and Malaysia except Singapore have confirmed full financial responsibility for the operating cost with their respective Departments.

- 2.2) Policy on the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) from all Member Countries

All SEAFDEC Member Countries, except Singapore have proceeded their internal process for the provision of the agreed MRC as well as indicated their intention to provide MRC for the year 2007.

III. STATUS AND PROGRESS OF ENHANCING TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ARRANGEMENT FOR NON-TRADITIONAL SOURCES OF FUND

The Secretariat and the Departments exert effort to promote technical cooperation and seek funding support from non-traditional sources of fund. These include Japan Fisheries Agency through her Trust Fund to SEAFDEC, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the ASEAN Foundation through her ASEAN-Japan Solidarity Fund, Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and Wetland Alliance Programs. Status and progress of pipeline collaborative programs/projects have been reported to the 29th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee (PCM) held from 4 to 6 December 2006.

In line with the Council directives at the 38th Meeting para 32, *the Council requested the Secretariat to formulate policy framework and protocols on enhancing technical cooperation and arrangement for non-traditional sources of fund*, the Secretariat proposes the 'Guidelines on Collaboration and Arrangement' for finalization and consideration by the Council to facilitate future action and collaboration with outsource funding.

IV. STATUS AND PROGRESS OF AREAS FOR IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT OF SEAFDEC OPERATION

4.1) Operation of SEAFDEC Secretariat

Improvement of the Secretariat operation including economizing the operating cost is in the following areas:

4.1.1) Streamlining SEAFDEC annual meetings – SEAFDEC Secretariat has adjusted duration and arrangement of the annual meetings namely Council, Program Committee, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Department Chiefs' meetings in cost effective and efficient manner. In line with the Council direction, arrangement for the FCG meetings has been adjusted to be held back to back with the Program Committee Meeting starting from the 9th Meeting onward. Matters for discussion in the meetings of SEAFDEC Program Committee and FCG, particularly on common interests, policy and collaborative programs between ASEAN-SEAFDEC, have been streamlined to avoid duplication.

Considering the change in SEAFDEC Programming Exercises, slight modification to Term of Reference (TOR) of Program Committee is proposed as part of SEAFDEC Programming Exercise, which will be reported in item 5.3.

4.1.2) Improving SEAFDEC information tools and activities for enhancing visibility and communication – the 'Information Strategy for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication' has been revised to incorporate clear objective, performance indicator and assessment for consideration by the Council. Activities in line with the information strategies have been proposed as part of the Center-wide Information Network program. Specific activities to promote visibility of the Center including 40th anniversary of SEAFDEC establishment are proposed for consideration by the Council.

4.1.3) Adjustment of program on Working Group on Regional Fisheries Policy (WGRFP) – WGRFP has been converted to Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) after the 38th Meeting of the Council. Current members of the Network are from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Activities of the Network include international fisheries related

issues as well as views and inputs on the issues to be discussed at the 27th Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries. Further advice by the Council in enhancing the role of the RFPN may be given.

4.2) Operation of SEAFDEC Training and Research Vessels

In order to improve and economize the maintenance and operation of SEAFDEC training and research vessels, TD has developed operational plans for the two vessels to maximize utilization in cost effective manner.

4.2.1) M.V. SEAFDEC – Starting in the year 2006, the vessel has been involved in the installation and maintenance of tsunami warning buoy in the Andaman Sea. Other future operation of M.V. SEAFDEC is being explored by TD in collaboration with Host Country, Thailand.

4.2.2) M.V. SEAFDEC 2 – The vessel's operational plan for 2007 under cost sharing policy has been submitted to the 29th Meeting of the Program Committee.

4.3) Implementation of Regional Programs by the Secretariat and the Departments

Implementation of Regional Programs by the Secretariat and the Departments are in accordance with the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region and the Regional Guidelines on Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Considering the current limited funding availability of regional programs, it is proposed that on activities requested by the Member Countries with no budget availability at SEAFDEC, technical assistance by respective SEAFDEC Departments can be rendered to the requesting country on their cost.

V. STATUS AND PROGRESS OF LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENT

5.1) Revisioning SEAFDEC future role and mandate – Considering that financial situation and SEAFDEC future direction of work is not completely settled, revisioning of SEAFDEC future role and mandate is therefore proposed to be done once the above situation becomes settled.

5.2) Enhancing international visibility of SEAFDEC – Under the “Information Strategy for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication”, activities to promote SEAFDEC international visibility will be regularly developed under Center-wide Information Network program.

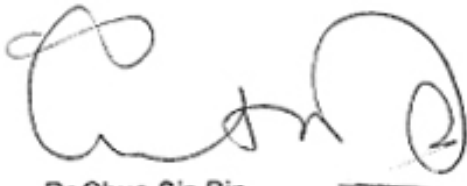
5.3) Improving SEAFDEC programming exercises – Considering the change of regular contribution and implication resulted from sourcing of fund for non-traditional donors, SEAFDEC programming exercises needs to be adjusted including proposed adjustment of Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Program Committee, cancellation of Special 5-year Program framework, and proposed establishment of “Program Thrust” concept.

5.4) Promoting closer partnership with ASEAN in areas of mutual interests – ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP) has been finalized and is under the process of signing of its Letter of Understanding (LoU) between the two organizations. Proposed activities to implement of ASSP are submitted for consideration by the Council.

3 I am pleased to submit a paper on "Proposal for the establishment of Collaborating Centres for SEAFDEC" attached in Annex 1 for Council's consideration.

4 I look forward to a fruitful discussion at the coming Meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Chua Sin Bin
SEAFDEC Council Director for Singapore and
Chief Executive Officer
Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore

cc SEAFDEC Council Directors for

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Cambodia, Mr. Nao Thuok (FaxNo: 855-23-217320)

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Laos, Dr. Khamphay Thammavong (Fax No: 856-21-415674)

Malaysia, Dato' Junaidi bin Che Ayub (Fax No: 60-3-88891195)

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Philippines, Mr. Malcolm I. Sarmiento, Jr. (Fax No: 63-2-929-8074; 929-4296; 929 6668)

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Vietnam, H.E. Mr. Luong Le Phoung (Fax No: 84-4-7716702)

Annex 1

Proposal on the Establishment of Collaborating Centres for SEAFDEC

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Over the last 40 years, SEAFDEC has grown as an organization and has become recognized internationally for our contributions towards tropical fisheries development in Southeast Asia. Through capacity building and technology transfer from Japan, SEAFDEC member countries have also established technical expertise in the various fields of fisheries development.
- 1.2 SEAFDEC is at a crossroad with changes in the funding mechanism. We should approach the impending changes as an opportunity to reinvigorate ourselves as a strong regional fisheries organization. We should tap on our resident expertise in various fields of fisheries as well as those in developed countries outside SEAFDEC membership to further expand and strengthen our scope and capabilities.

2 Collaborating Centres

- 2.1 In this regard, Singapore is proposing that SEAFDEC identifies and establishes a mechanism to formalize linkages to institutions within and outside SEAFDEC membership, specializing in specific fields of fisheries to be designated as Collaborating Centres of SEAFDEC in those areas of expertise so identified. This additional avenue for collaboration will go a long way to harness the expertise and experience of leading fisheries establishments to the betterment of SEAFDEC members. This will complement the work of SEAFDEC Departments.

3 Terms of References of Collaborating Centres

The Collaborating Centres should:

- 3.1 Be totally independent in its operations, both financially and operationally from SEAFDEC
- 3.2 Be renown for the field of fisheries that they are being offered.
- 3.3 Have resident staff expertise in the specified field and supporting facilities to conduct projects for SEAFDEC in the specified field.
- 3.4 Offer to conduct or implement projects and activities in its field of expertise for SEAFDEC and SEAFDEC member countries through SEAFDEC's regional programmes based on funding from SEAFDEC or other funding sources.

- 3.5 All SEAFDEC members and institutions outside of SEAFDEC membership may offer their institutions to be designated as Collaborating Centres to SEAFDEC. Some examples of institutions specialising in various fisheries fields that could be considered as collaborating centres are given in the Appendix attached

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 With the expansion of expertise through the involvement of various collaborating centres, the scope of expertise and the quality and depth could be widened and deepened to further strengthen and transform SEAFDEC to a truly world-class regional / international organisation specialising in tropical fisheries science and technology.

Appendix

Country	Name of Institute	Areas of expertise
Australia	Australian Maritime College, Tasmania	Seafood safety, on-board handling, fishing gear technology, training of fishermen, etc.
Canada	Canadian Institute of Fisheries Technology, DalTech, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia	Fish and food Processing, Food Chemistry, Food analysis, Marine oils, seafood safety
Japan	Japan Food Research Laboratories, Tokyo or Osaka Branch	Testing capabilities in seafood safety parameters.
	Japan Frozen Foods Inspection Corporation, 2-12-7, Shibadamon, Minato-ku, Tokyo (105)	Inspection and testing of frozen seafood.
	National Food Research Institute, 2-1-2 Kannondai, Tsukuba 305-8642, Tsukuba City	Food packaging, Food processing and preservation, Food chemistry, Marine biochemistry
	National Research Institute of Fisheries Science, 2-12-4, Fukuura, Kanazawa-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 236	Market analysis, Fisheries economy, Marine biochemistry, Food Processing and Preservation, Food Packaging.
	Tokyo University of Fisheries, 4-5-7 Konan, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108.	Food Science and Technology
Korea	Korea Food Research Institute San46-1, Baekhyun-dong, Bundang-gu, Sungnam-si, Gyeonggi-do 463-746	Marine resource processing, product development, distribution, quality and safety control of fishery processed foods, quality improvement and technical research in traditional fishery foods
Malaysia	Government Department / Division responsible for turtle conservation	Turtle conservation
Singapore	Post-Harvest Centre, AVA	Fisheries post-harvest technology
Thailand	Inland Fisheries Division, Department of Fisheries (DOF)	Inland fisheries development and management
	Fisheries Technology Development Division	Fish processing, Traditional fish products processing
	Fish Inspection and Quality Control Division, DOF	Seafood Testing capabilities

GUIDELINES FOR SEAFDEC COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

I. INTRODUCTION

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) through the Training Department (TD) in Thailand, Marine Fisheries Research Department (MFRD) in Singapore, Aquaculture Department (AQD) in the Philippines and Marine Fishery Resource Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) in Malaysia, for almost 40 years, has attained major accomplishments in fisheries development in the region. Since its establishment, SEAFDEC has contributed to the human resources development in fisheries and fishing industries as well as in food processing and aquaculture.

For the achievements it has attained, SEAFDEC acknowledged the technical and financial support coming mainly from the Government of Japan and from various donor governments, international and regional agencies and organizations, and other donors as well as its collaborators. Without their support and assistance, SEAFDEC may not have achieved its mandates in fisheries development.

At present, SEAFDEC is embarking on a very important task of developing technologies on sustainable and responsible fisheries following the Resolution and Plan of Action of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Millennium Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security: Fish for the People, held in November 2001.

As the direction of fisheries development in general and SEAFDEC in particular, has recently been refocused and in view of the reduction of SEAFDEC contributions from the member countries especially from the Government of Japan, the SEAFDEC Secretariat therefore proposes these guidelines for collaborative arrangements. It is envisioned that these guidelines will help SEAFDEC in facilitating negotiations with collaborating entities.

II. SEAFDEC COLLABORATION POLICIES

As indicated in the Agreement Establishing the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, SEAFDEC can cooperate with governments and organizations external to the Center as well as with other organizations. The Agreement also stipulated that SEAFDEC may receive assistance from governments and organizations, provided that no condition contrary to the purpose of the Center is attached to such assistance.

According to the Agreement, the approval of the Council should be sought before the Secretary-General enters into any terms of agreement or arrangements. In case of urgent need for the implementation of a collaborative project, the proposed formal arrangement should be circulated to the Council for consideration and approval.

At the Department level, the Administrative Regulations of SEAFDEC specifies that the Department Chiefs may enter into agreements or arrangements with governments and organizations external to the Center as well as with other international organizations for and on behalf of their respective Departments as authorized by the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC. The Administrative Regulations further specifies that the Department Chiefs may seek financial and technical support from donor governments and agencies for

programs and activities of their respective Departments, in consultation with the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC.

Moreover, as the governing body of SEAFDEC, the SEAFDEC Council has always encouraged SEAFDEC to strengthen its linkage with agencies, universities and other organizations working on fisheries development in the region. For this purpose, the responsibilities of the SEAFDEC Secretariat have been revised to include “strengthening the relationships between the Center and non-member governments and regional/international organizations interested in fisheries development in the region”.

Although there are general provisions in the Agreement as well as the Administrative Regulations allowing collaboration with external institutions and donor agencies, the criteria for choosing prospective collaboration are not very clear. However, there are directives of the Council that relate to prospective collaboration, such as the following:

The Council at its 37th Meeting indicated that: *“In establishing future collaborative arrangements, the Secretariat should ensure that a supporting work plan will be attached to ensure benefits to the programs of activities and the Member Countries, and also requested the Secretariat to report the results of the cooperation after their completion”*.

At the 38th Meeting of the Council, the Secretariat was requested to formulate the guidelines for enhancing technical cooperation and arrangements for non-traditional sources of funds taking into consideration the following:

- Priority and agenda of donors consistent or to coincide with the mandate, objectives and priorities of SEAFDEC;
- Close consultation between the Departments, the Member Countries and the Secretariat; and
- Inclusion of agency and personnel costs into the budget planning.

Therefore, these proposed working guidelines shall serve as reminders on the mode and process of collaboration and also facilitate in the negotiations.

III. OBJECTIVES

Collaborative arrangements should be strengthened and sustained in order to attain compatibility and complementary of activities in fisheries development. It is a means to minimize duplication of efforts, and optimizing the technical, manpower and financial resources of parties concerned. In order to promote productive collaboration in sustainable fisheries development, the Secretariat proposes some working guidelines for use within SEAFDEC.

This shall also serve as means to facilitate the process whereby the Secretariat and the Departments can enter into collaborative efforts with donors, other organizations and agencies, and other interested parties, whose objectives complement with those of SEAFDEC. The guidelines are also intended to facilitate cooperation in order for SEAFDEC to gear towards sustainable development for poverty alleviation, enhancing socio-economic well-being of the fishermen, and providing food security in the region.

IV. ESTABLISHING COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Based on SEAFDEC policies, the Secretariat and Departments shall enter into agreements or arrangements with donors, other organizations or agencies on the basis of effective

complementation of resources. The proposed arrangement could initiate from either of the two parties. The proposal may be formulated by SEAFDEC (Secretariat/Departments) for submission to donors, other organizations or agencies, or vice versa.

Specifically, when the proposal is initiated by SEAFDEC, it should take into consideration the mandate and objective of the proposed donor organizations and agencies while keeping the donor organizations and agencies informed on the mandate and functions of SEAFDEC. In other words, the proposal should also satisfy the requirements of the donors and those of SEAFDEC. In case the proposal is submitted by collaborating agencies to SEAFDEC, it should be evaluated with respect to the needs, capability and resource availability of SEAFDEC (Secretariat/ Departments) and the requesting collaborating agency. In any case, the proposed arrangements should have the following guiding principles:

- 1) the mandate and functions of both parties should be taken into consideration in the preparation of the project proposal;
- 2) the objectives of the proposal should complement and not duplicate those of SEAFDEC's;
- 3) the cooperation shall be participatory in nature, with joint sharing of responsibilities and costs, with SEAFDEC bearing the counterpart non-cash costs in terms of buildings, structures, technology and expertise;
- 4) the expected output of the proposed cooperation should contribute to the effort of SEAFDEC in achieving its goals;
- 5) the program of activities of the cooperation should be within the priority areas of SEAFDEC's plans and programs;
- 6) the implementation of the activities under the cooperation should recognize the political, socio-cultural, and institutional considerations of the parties concerned and also of the countries hosting such parties.

V. PROCEDURES FOR COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

This guidelines aim to encourage the Secretariat and Departments to seek funds and collaborations with donors agencies and other organizations, therefore the emphasis will placed on two types of collaborations :

- 1) Collaborative Arrangements or Agreements among the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments with n donor organizations and agencies that have undergone pre-negotiations through formal communications;
- 2) Collaborative Arrangements among the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments with non-member governments, other international and regional organizations that are exploratory in nature with prospective donor agencies;

For collaborative arrangements among the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments with donor organizations and agencies that have undergone pre-negotiation or communications, the following procedures, in their order, are recommended:

- 1) Submission of the proposed Collaborative Arrangement or Agreement with clearly indicating the scope and objective of the cooperation, responsibilities and accountabilities of the parties concerned as well as the work plan, to the SEAFDEC Council for their consideration at its annual meetings or circulation;
- 2) Upon approval, the Secretariat shall facilitate the signing of Collaborative Arrangement or Agreement by the parties concerned with the Secretary-General signing for and on behalf of SEAFDEC and the Department(s) concerned;

- 3) The Secretariat and Department(s) concerned coordinate and develop the details of the activities of the project and submit this to the Program Committee for review and possible endorsement to the SEAFDEC Council;
- 4) Submission of the program activities of the project for consideration of the Council;
- 5) Upon approval by the Council, the Secretariat takes note and makes sure that the Department(s) concerned coordinates the implementation of the project;
- 6) The Department(s) concerned monitors the progress of implementation of the project and reports problems encountered, whether technical or financial, to the Secretariat which shall then refer the matter to the SEAFDEC Program Committee and the SEAFDEC Council; and
- 7) The results of the project will be officially reported to the SEAFDEC Program Committee and the SEAFDEC Council by the Department(s) concerned.

For Proposed Collaborative Arrangements among the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments with non-member governments, other international and regional organizations that are exploratory in nature with prospective donor agencies, the following procedures, in their order, are recommended:

- 1) Submission of the proposed collaborative arrangement, clearly indicating the scope and objective of the cooperation, responsibilities and accountabilities of the parties concerned to the SEAFDEC Council for their consideration at its annual meetings or by circulation;
- 2) Upon approval by the Council, the SEAFDEC Secretariat or Departments concerned organize SEAFDEC consultation meeting(s) with collaborative partner to discuss the details of the project proposed under the collaboration, and to delineate responsibilities including financial arrangements;
- 3) Upon reaching certain agreements during the consultation meeting(s), the SEAFDEC Secretariat or Departments concerned and collaborative partner prepares the project proposal(s) in consultation with the prospective donor agencies, and submit the project proposal(s) with the presence of collaborative partner and donor agencies (if possible) to the Program Committee for review and possible endorsement to the SEAFDEC Council;
- 4) Submission of the proposed collaborative project for consideration of the Council ;
- 5) Upon approval by the Council, the Secretariat shall facilitate the signing of Collaborative Arrangement or Agreement by the parties concerned with the Secretary-General signing for and on behalf of SEAFDEC and the Department(s);
- 6) After signing by the Secretary-General, the Secretariat takes note of such project and makes sure that the Department(s) concerned coordinates the implementation of the project;
- 7) The Department(s) concerned monitors the progress of implementation of the project and reports problems encountered, whether technical or financial, to the SEAFDEC Secretariat and the donor agencies concerned, which the Secretariat shall then refer the matter to the SEAFDEC Program Committee and the SEAFDEC Council; and
- 8) The results of the project will be officially reported to the SEAFDEC Program Committee and the SEAFDEC Council by the Department(s) concerned, as well as to the donor agencies.

VI. CONCLUSION

Collaborative Arrangements will serve as means for SEAFDEC to facilitate negotiations and entry into collaboration with other organizations. It is also a means to minimize duplication of efforts and optimizing technical and financial resources. The collaborative

arrangements will not only harmonize the fisheries development activities in the region, but also enhance the capabilities of SEAFDEC personnel and fisheries officers in the region through a staff exchange program. Collaborative Arrangements are necessary for SEAFDEC as means to maximize restrictions resulting from the drastic reduction of the regular contributions from its member countries. These proposed guidelines will therefore serve as working mechanism for collaboration and facilitate the negotiations.

IMPROVING SEAFDEC INFORMATION TOOLS AND ACTIVITIES FOR ENHANCING VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION:

“Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication”

I. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Since its establishment in 1967, SEAFDEC has been supporting Member Countries in the development of fisheries in the region. In 1998, SEAFDEC adopted the “Strategic Plan”, which allows the Centre to embark on new challenges to support Member Countries in response to the new fisheries requirements at international, regional and national levels. Further in 2001, the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries in the New Millennium: “Fish for the People” adopted the “Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region.” The Resolution and Plan of Action provides the regional policy framework and priority actions in achieving sustainable fisheries in the region. To assist the Member Countries in the implementation of the Resolution and Plan of Action, the Special 5-year Program and other regional programs were initiated under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) mechanism in collaboration with other international/regional organizations.

Thus, the promotion of effective information and communication has become increasingly important in order to supplement the above directions and efforts. This will come in the form of information exchange and sharing, information dissemination to support/publicize ASEAN-SEAFDEC initiatives as well as common policy and approach on issues of international concern (CCRF, Fish Trade, Conservation, etc.), and raising the SEAFDEC profile at various levels.

Moreover, since the need to formulate Communication and Information Policies aimed at enhancing the visibility of the SEAFDEC was specified in the 1998 Strategic Plan, the 37th Meeting of the Council in April 2005 reiterated that the promotion of SEAFDEC visibility to the public should be incorporated in its programs of activity. Considering the current financial situation, the Council also stressed that raising awareness on SEAFDEC’s roles and its contributions to the development of fisheries in the Member Countries as well as raising the SEAFDEC profile could enhance increased technical cooperation and support from donor countries and funding agencies.

SEAFDEC therefore organized the Sixth Meeting of SEAFDEC Information Staff Exchange Program (ISEP) in December 2005 to discuss ways and means of promoting SEAFDEC visibility and its achievements. The 38th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council in April 2006 endorsed the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication, which was developed during the 6th ISEP Meeting to serve as guide for the formulation and implementation of SEAFDEC information activities focused on increasing SEAFDEC visibility. As recommended at the 38th Council Meeting, the subsequent Seventh ISEP Meeting in December 2006 developed the objectives and performance indicators for the Information Strategies, for the consideration of the Council at this meeting.

II. OBJECTIVES

The Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication has the overall objective of providing a common framework for planning information activities by the SEAFDEC Secretariat and the Departments, and promoting cooperation with the Member Countries and other related organizations towards enhancing visibility of SEAFDEC.

Within the overall objective, the specific objectives include:

1. To enhance visibility and public awareness of SEAFDEC at the national, regional and international levels;
2. To strengthen communication within and among SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments that will enhance SEAFDEC visibility for the benefit of target audience;
3. To continue to provide fisheries information to the public;
4. To promote cooperation with the Member Countries, other fisheries-related organizations in communication, data and information sharing and exchange; and
5. To raise the SEAFDEC profile that will create/increase awareness of donors on SEAFDEC roles and achievements thus drawing them to fund some specific programs and activities of SEAFDEC.

III. INFORMATION STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING SEAFDEC VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION

Based on the Strategic Plan adopted in 1998, the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication was developed, which envisions that: *“SEAFDEC shall be a sustained and unified Centre of Excellence for Tropical Fisheries Information, accessible to all committed to sustainable fisheries development and food security, working for the benefit of its Member Countries, in close collaboration with the ASEAN and fishery related organizations regionally and globally.”* Towards this end, the implementation of the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication is expected to attain immediate and medium-term goals for the benefit of all stakeholders.

3.1 Strategic Goals

With the implementation therefore of the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication, the following goals are expected to be achieved until 2010:

- Increased demand for SEAFDEC information materials by making these materials easily accessible and available to target audience;
- Increased and wide use of SEAFDEC information materials (with clear benefits) by the Member Countries;
- Enhanced partnership among SEAFDEC and other organizations in information development and dissemination;
- Unified outputs and improved organizational image through effective internal and external communications;
- Improved capacity of SEAFDEC information staff meeting professional standards;
- SEAFDEC information activities becoming financially self-reliant; and
- Intensified information dissemination on SEAFDEC role and achievements within and outside the region (stirring increased awareness on SEAFDEC activities) drawing more donors to provide funds for specific SEAFDEC programs.

3.2 Strategies

The proposed strategies and required actions (immediate and medium-term) under the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication are set out below.

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

Required actions:

- Set up feedback mechanism from target groups
- Streamline the purpose and usage of the existing information tools
- Match the extent of information materials produced with current capacity
- Develop guidelines and standards for quality information materials

Strategy 2: Capacity development of information staff at all levels

Required actions:

- Assess and improve capability of technical and information staff in information development
- Subscribe to relevant information resources and services, and make these available to the staff
- Encourage involvement of information staff in relevant technical work (and vice versa)
- Conduct information staff exchange program among the Secretariat and Departments as well as among other organizations

Strategy 3: Enhance the accessibility of SEAFDEC information to target groups

Required actions:

- Identify target groups, use appropriate information dissemination approaches and categorize information materials in a clear-cut manner (for distribution to specific groups)
- Make use of available SEAFDEC information technology
 - Integrated website linking individual Departmental websites maintained by respective Departments
 - e-library
 - Digitized publications
 - Database for exhibition tools/materials (i.e. pictures)
- Facilitate transformation of policy and technical information into layman or popular language
- Promote translation of selected information materials into appropriate languages for wider usage

Strategy 4: Strengthen cooperation and networking with other organizations

Required actions:

- Promote the involvement of other organizations in SEAFDEC activities and keep them updated on their progress
- Support the participation of appropriate SEAFDEC staff in relevant regional/international activities
- Promote partnership to facilitate collaborative work (e.g. MOU), while fully considering information activities
- Promote the development of mechanisms for information exchange between SEAFDEC and the member countries as well as with other organizations (e.g. online workgroup)

Strategy 5: Enhance internal communication and information sharing

Required actions:

- Develop mechanism to document inter-departmental information by linking existing sources and promote close communication among information staff of Secretariat and the Departments (e.g. setting up of a web-based forum)
- Explore the possibility of setting up a unified SEAFDEC e-mail system
- Develop an integrated staff directory (name, position, e-mail, field of work, office telephone)
- Mobilizing Information Officers from the Secretariat and Departments as mechanism to coordinate distribution of SEAFDEC publications

Strategy 6: Raising SEAFDEC image at international, regional and national levels

Required actions:

- Participate in relevant international, regional or national exhibitions
- Promote the outcomes from SEAFDEC efforts through public media (i.e. press statements)
- Produce and widely disseminate SEAFDEC promotional materials (e.g. souvenirs)
- Evaluate the public's awareness about SEAFDEC (e.g. surveys)

Strategy 7: Sustainability of financial support for information and communication activities

Required actions:

- Explore ways to reduce the production and dissemination costs of publications
- Explore the possibility of cost sharing between publications' recipients and SEAFDEC (e.g. cost-recovery, postage)
- Explore the possibility of seeking funds from various sources to support SEAFDEC information and communication activities

Strategy 8: Regular monitoring and evaluation of information activities

Required actions:

- Promote the conduct of annual ISEP meetings as platform for monitoring and assessing the implementation of the strategies as well as for the annual planning of SEAFDEC information programs

3.3 Promotion and Implementation

In the implementation of the Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication, the Center-wide Information Network Program (taking into consideration the information and communication programs of respective Departments), serves as inter-departmental platform for planning the SEAFDEC information activities with ISEP as the collaborative mechanism. At the activity level, monitoring of the progress will be conducted on a quarterly basis. At the program level, monitoring of progress and achievements will be conducted on a yearly basis at the annual ISEP meetings. At the strategy level, monitoring and assessment of outcome of the implementation will be conducted every 3 years when areas for improvement will be identified and amendments to the Strategies will be proposed. Thus, the proposed required actions, and roles and responsibilities of parties concerned, which may be undertaken as a whole or in part as deemed necessary, are as follows:

Required Actions and Role of the Secretariat

- Ensure that SEAFDEC information activities are in line with the "Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication"

- Coordinate with SEAFDEC Departments, Member Countries and other regional/international organization in the implementation of SEAFDEC information activities
- Monitor the implementation of SEAFDEC information activities, report to high-level authority of SEAFDEC, and facilitate planning for future activities
- Conduct ISEP Meeting in an annual basis prior to PCM in order that the progress of SEAFDEC information activities as well as the implementation of the “Information Strategies” will be assessed and reported (in a rotation basis)
- Mobilize existing information tool to promote visibility and activities of the Center
- Enhance the promotion of SEAFDEC activities through public media to ensure wider dissemination to the public
- Avail of existing expertise of departments to support information work of other departments, especially in supporting SEAFDEC visibility

Required Actions and Role of the Departments

- Implement information activities in line with the goals and strategies identified in the “Information Strategies for Enhancing SEAFDEC Visibility and Communication”
- Provide required inputs to the Secretariat to support the implementation of SEAFDEC information activities, and enhance SEAFDEC visibility and communication
- Mobilize existing information tool to promote visibility and activities of the Center
- Enhance the promotion of SEAFDEC activities through public media to ensure wider dissemination to the public
- Avail of existing expertise of departments to support information work of other departments, especially in supporting SEAFDEC visibility
- Conduct information promotion activities in host countries

Role of the Member Countries

- Provide required inputs to SEAFDEC as requested to support the implementation of information activities, and enhance SEAFDEC visibility and communication
- Enhance wider dissemination of SEAFDEC information and SEAFDEC visibility, particularly within the Member Countries
- Monitor and provide feed back on SEAFDEC information activities to ensure the effectiveness, relevance and usefulness of the information

Collaboration with Regional/International Organizations

- Promote the exchange information on various aspects, e.g. academic, technical in terms of research and development, fisheries information and statistics, policy planning and management, etc.
- Promote wider dissemination of SEAFDEC information

IV. INDICATORS FOR ENHANCING VISIBILITY AND PROFILE OF SEAFDEC

Considering the wide range of information and communication activities as well as disparities of capacity and resources at the Secretariat and the Departments, the proposed indicators for enhancing visibility and profile of SEAFDEC are simple and practical to measure. Generic Key Performance Indicators for monitoring and assessment of information and communications include:

- Number of distributed information/access to information by target groups to be measured based on established records (e.g. entries in logbooks)

- Views and responses from and awareness on SEAFDEC of target groups through questionnaire surveys
- Overall assessment by the Member Countries through questionnaire surveys and consultations at SEAFDEC annual meetings

Under the Information Strategies, a checklist of specific indicators is suggested in the *Appendix 1*. The list may be used as a whole or in part as deemed necessary, in monitoring and reporting the SEAFDEC information and communication activities implemented by the Secretariat and the Departments. Established official logbooks that record relevant activities will be useful in keeping track of data specified under each indicator.

Suggested checklist that can be used in monitoring and reporting the SEAFDEC information and communication activities implemented by the Secretariat and the Departments

	Indicators
1. Access to SEAFDEC information	
- Promotional publication (each)	- Number distributed by user groups/events - Number of downloads from web-site
- Technical publications	- Number of citations by other publications within and outside the region - Number of requests/record of sale - Number of science citation index
- SEAFDEC Integrated Homepage and Departmental web-sites	- Number of visits/hits/downloads/bloggers rating - Number of links to SEAFDEC through other web-sites
- Participation in Exhibitions	- Number of visitors by exhibitions at national, regional, international levels - Number of requests/invitations received
- Information in public media, magazines and websites	- Number of appearances
2. Request for information/publication (and number of response)	- Number of requests (and response) for each information material - Number of copies for reprinting
3. Visits to the Secretariat and the Departments	- Number of visitors by visitor groups (i.e. students, industries and entrepreneurs, researchers, officials and diplomats, specific consultation bodies, and others)
4. Quality	
- information	- Feedback from target groups and level of satisfaction
- information activities	- Timeliness of production and distribution
5. Efficiency of information tools	- Income generated and recovery of titles sold - Cost reduction
6. Cooperation with other organizations	- Number of collaborative/partnership arrangements classified by national, regional and global levels or types of organizations - Number of participation in meetings organized by other organizations - Number of participation from other organizations to SEAFDEC events - Information/publication exchange, e.g. through the library network
7. Funding support to SEAFDEC	- Number of donor agencies at national, regional and international levels - Amount of funding support to SEAFDEC activities

Note: Established official logbooks that record relevant activities will be useful in keeping track of data specified under each indicator.

OPERATION OF SEAFDEC TRAINING AND RESEARCH VESSELS

SEAFDEC/Training Department

In February 1993 the Japanese Government provided the M.V. SEAFDEC, a 1,178 GT steel purse seiner, which has been used for SEAFDEC regional research and training program for over 14 years. With the changing fisheries research priority to put more focus on fisheries resources surveys in national waters, in 2004, the M.V. SEAFDEC 2 was granted by the Japanese Government. This paper reports on utilization of both vessels in the previous time and 2007 for consideration and endorsement in the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council.

MV SEAFDEC2:

Since the MV SEAFDEC2 was given to SEAFDEC/TD from the Government of Japan in late March 2004, the annual plan for utilization of MV SEAFDEC2 was agreed through the consultation meetings of the Eligible Countries Committee and Operation Committee under the cost shared policy. In 2006, due to the change of funding sources on the operation cost of the vessel, TD consulted and proposed the 2007 Annual Plan of MV SEAFDEC2 through the 29th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee. At present, the vessel has been used to conduct number of fishery resources survey within the national of many ASEAN Member Countries as appeared in the Table 1. In addition, the proposed annual plan of 2007 for consideration and endorsement in the 39th Meeting of SEAFDEC Council is as appear in Table 2.

MV SEAFDEC:

In 2006, MV SEAFDEC conducted two research activities in collaboration with the Department of Fishery/Thailand and Thai Government as follows:

- 1) Fishery Research Program in the Eastern Indian Ocean during Jan-Feb. 2006, funding supported from DOF/Thailand
- 2) Deployment of Dart II System: for Tsunami warning system during 21 Nov.-13 Dec. 2006, funding supported from Thai-Government.

For 2007, Department of Fisheries, Thailand plan to use the MV SEAFDEC for Collaborative Research Program in the BIMST-EC Areas (Bangladesh-India-Myanmar-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation) during October-December 2007.

Table 1: Utilization of MV SEAFDEC2 since 2004 to 2006

Research/Training Plan of MV SEAFDEC2				
2004 Activities				
Research/Training Program	Objectives	Survey Area/ Target Countries	Schedule (Days)	Responsible Department/ Country
1) Demonstration and Testing	1) Fishing gears testing and demonstration 2) Hydro-acoustic instrument testing and demonstration 3) Engine testing and demonstration 4) Oceanographic Instruments testing	Thailand/ Andaman sea	19 Apr. - 15 May 04 (27 Days)	SEAFDEC/TD
2) Verification of Research Methodology	1) Visit SEAFDEC member countries (2 countries) 2) Demonstrate fishing gears & oceanographic instrument	Myanmar/ Myeik Indonesia/ Medan	16 - 21 May 04 22 May - 4 June 04 (20 days)	SEAFDEC/TD
3) Verification of Research Methodology	1) Visit SEAFDEC member countries (5 countries) 2) Demonstrate fishing gears & oceanographic instrument	Malaysia/ Kuching Brunei/ Muara Philippines/Subic Vietnam/Nhatrang Cambodia/Sihanouk ville	24 June - 4 Aug.04 (42 days)	SEAFDEC/TD
4) Verification of Research Methodology	1) Visit SEAFDEC member countries/ (Thailand) 2) Demonstrate fishing gears & oceanographic instrument	Thailand	17-29 Aug.04	SEAFDEC/TD
National Fisheries Resources Survey	3) Conduct demersal resources survey from bottom trawl 4) Oceanographic data collection from ICTD 5) Larval fishes collection from bongo net	Central Gulf of Thailand	(13 days)	DOF/Thailand
5) National Fisheries Resources Survey	1) to conduct the pelagic fisheries resources in the Zone 4 (off shore) using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from Pelagic longline, Automatic-squid fishing,	Brunei Darussalam	11 Sep.-15Oct.04	SEAFDEC/TD

	2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Brunei Waters	(35 days)	DOF/Brunei
6) National Fisheries Resources Survey	1) to conduct the pelagic fisheries resources in the Central Gulf of Thailand using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from bottom trawl 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Thailand	3-16 Nov.04	SEAFDEC/TD
		Central Gulf of Thailand	(14 days)	DOF/Thailand
2005 Activities				
Research/Training Program	Objectives	Survey Area/ Target Countries	Schedule (Days)	Responsible Department/ Country
7) National Fisheries Resources Survey	1) to conduct the pelagic fisheries resources in the Central Gulf of Thailand using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from bottom trawl 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Thailand	1-13 Feb.05	SEAFDEC/TD
		Central Gulf of Thailand	(13 days)	DOF/Thailand
8) National Fisheries Resources Survey 8/1) Brunei Darussalam waters	1) to conduct the fisheries resources in the Zone 1-4 using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from Pelagic longline, Automatic-squid fishing, and bottom trawl 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	1) Brunei Waters	14-11 Mar.05	SEAFDEC/TD
			(26 days)	DOF/Brunei
8/2) The Philippines waters	1) to conduct the large pelagic fisheries resources using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from Pelagic longline, Automatic-squid fishing, 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	2) Western Luzon	12Mar.-7Apr.05	SEAFDEC/TD
			(26 days)	BFAR/Philippines

9) National Fisheries Resources Survey (Vietnam)	1) to conduct the Demersal fisheries resources on the Continental Slope using bottom vertical longline and trap 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Vietnam East Coast of Vietnam	19Apr.-18May05 (30 days)	SEAFDEC/TD RIMF/Vietnam
10) National Fisheries Resources Survey (Malaysia)	1) to conduct the Demersal fisheries resources on the Un-trawlable ground and Continental Slope using bottom vertical longline and trap 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Malaysia off Sarawak	25May-13Jun.05 (20 days)	SEAFDEC/TD DOF/Malaysia
11) Shipboard Training for BIMP-EAGA Country on Fishery Resources Survey : Indonesia Trainees: 12 Indonesian and 1Brunei Officers	1) Training on data collection using bottom trawl and automatic squid jigging operation 2) Training on Oceanographic data collection using ICTD 3) Practice and analysis on stock assessment from Hydro-acoustic technique 4) Training on Plankton & Larval Fish collection from Bongo net	Indonesia waters West Kalimantan	13Jun-2Jul.05 (20 days)	SEAFDEC/TD ASEAN Foundation DOF/Indonesia
12) Shipboard Training for BIMP-EAGA Country on Fishery Resources Survey : Malaysia Trainees: 12 Malaysian and 1Brunei Officers	1) Training on data collection from bottom vertical longline, pelagic longline and automatic squid jigging 2) Training on Oceanographic data collection using ICTD 3) Practice and analysis on stock assessment from Hydro-acoustic technique 4) Training on Plankton & Larval Fish collection from Bongo net	Sabah waters West Coast of Boneo	3-23Jul.05 (22 days)	SEAFDEC/TD ASEAN Foundation DOF/Malaysia

13) Shipboard Training for BIMP-EAGA Country on Fishery Resources Survey : The Philippines Trainees: 12 Philipino and 1Brunei Officers	1) Practice on Demersal fish samplings in the un-trawlable grounds (Continental shelf and rocky grounds) using Bottom Vertical Longline (BVL) and Trap fishing 2) Practice on Demersal fish samplings using Bottom trawl for distribution, composition and abundance of demersal fishes study 3) Training on Oceanographic data collection using ICTD 4) Practice on Water and sediment samplings for heavy metal analysis 5) Training on Plankton & Larval Fish collection from Bongo net	Indonesia waters West Kalimantan	23Jul.-15Aug.05 (24 days)	SEAFDEC/TD ASEAN Foundation BFAR/Philippines
14) Training on the Hydro-Acoustic System	1) to train on operation of Hydro-Acoustic System (FQ80) to SEAFDEC/TD staff 2) to set the system for actual operation	Thailand Off Chumporn/ Samui	30 Aug.05 (1days)	SEAFDEC/TD
15) National Fisheries Resources Survey (Thailand)	1) to conduct the pelagic fisheries resources in the Central Gulf of Thailand using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from bottom trawl 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Thailand Central Gulf of Thailand	9-22 Sep.05 (13 days)	SEAFDEC/TD DOF/Thailand
16) National Fisheries Resources Survey (Cambodia)	1) to conduct the Demersal fisheries resources in the cambodian waters using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from bottom trawl 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Cambodia Cambodian Waters	18-26 Nov.05 (9 days)	SEAFDEC/TD DOF/Cambodia
2006 Activities				
Research/Training Program	Objectives	Survey Area/ Target Countries	Schedule (Days)	Responsible Department/ Country
17) National Fisheries Resources Survey	1) to conduct large pelagic fisheries resources in Andaman Sea using Pelagic Longline (Included experiment on Circle Hook)	Thailand	12Jan-21Feb.06	SEAFDEC/TD

(Thailand)	2) to conduct demersal fisheries resources on the continental slope in the Andaman Sea using Bottom vertical longline and trap 3) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 4) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Andaman Sea	(40 days)	DOF/Thailand
18) National Fisheries Resources Survey (Malaysia)	1) to conduct the Demersal and small pelagic resources in the Malacca strait using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from bottom trawl 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Malaysia	21Feb.-21Mar.06	SEAFDEC/TD
		West coast of Peninsular Malaysia	(29 days)	DOF/Malaysia
19) National Fisheries Resources Survey (Brunei Darussalam)	1) to conduct large pelagic fisheries resources using Pelagic Longline (Included experiment on Circle Hook) 2) to conduct demersal fisheries resources on the continental shelf using bottom trawl 3) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 4) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net		29May-26Jun.06	SEAFDEC/TD
		Brunei waters	(29 days)	DOF/Brunei
20) National Fisheries Resources Survey (Indonesia)	1) to conduct the Demersal resources in the West Kalimantan (in SCS) using Hydro-Acoustic Methods (FQ80) and fish samplings from bottom trawl 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Indonesia	26Jun.-18Jul.06	SEAFDEC/TD
		West Kalimantan	(22 days)	DOF/Indonesia
21) National Fisheries Resources Survey (The Philippines)	1) to conduct large pelagic fisheries resources using Pelagic Longline (Included experiment on Circle Hook) 2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	Philippines waters	27Sep.-19Oct.06	SEAFDEC/TD
		Sulu Sea	(23 days)	BFAR/ Philippines
22) National Fisheries Resources Survey	1) to conduct Demersal resources on the Continental slope using Bottom vertical longline, eel trap, fish trap	Vietnamese waters	19Oct.-18Nov.06	SEAFDEC/TD

(Vietnam)	2) to conduct the oceanographic survey (using ICTD, Salino-thermo-fluoro meter, and others. 3) to collect fish and squid larvae from Bongo net	East Coast of Vietnam	(30 days)	RIMF/Vietnam
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Table 2: Utilization of MV SEAFDEC2 for 2007

Proposed Utilization of MV SEAFDEC2 for 2007 (Endorsed by the 29thPCM)															
No.	Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Country	Remarks
1	Demersal Resources Status in Ayeyarwady Coastal Area and Gulf of Mottama													Myanmar	Bottom Trawl
2	Fisheries resources survey in Andaman sea (Longline & Trap)	#												Thailand	PLL, BVL, Trap
3	Fishery resource survey, northern part of Malaca Straits													Indonesia	Bottom Trawl
4	Colla. Fisheries resources survey in Celebes sea													Philippine	Bottom trawl, BVL, PLL, fish pot,
	PRR 6100 DATA COLLECTION	Collaborative Work with Member Countries Based on Country Interest											MFRDMD	Oceanography issues	

PROPOSED CHANGE OF MODALITY FOR SEAFDEC PROGRAMMING EXERCISES

I. BACKGROUND

SEAFDEC programming exercises had been conducted based on the annual contribution from the Member Countries since the inception of the Center. At the 9th Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan in 1976, the Council agreed to establish the Program Committee to scrutinize programs of activity of the Center. The Terms of Reference of the Program Committee after amended by the Council at its 16th Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 1983 appear as *Appendix 1*.

At the 38th Meeting, the Council concluded policy for SEAFDEC future operation. A major part of such a policy, the Council adopted the Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) as a basis for annual contribution by the Member Countries to SEAFDEC. The MRC is calculated on the basis of US\$0.4 m/year, which is only sufficient for operating cost of the Secretariat as well as operation and maintenance of M.V. SEAFDEC 2. And no regular fund is available for regional programs for 2007 and onwards. The implication of this policy therefore requires changes to the manner that SEAFDEC conducts its programming exercises. That is to say, all SEAFDEC future programs will be funded from extra-budgetary sources.

Considering that different donor agencies apply different working systems, SEAFDEC should therefore be aware of the change in its programming exercises to suit with each system. But above all, programs should reflect the needs of the Member Countries in the directions that best contribute to the sustainable development of fisheries in the region. The following characteristics of differences among donor agencies need to be considered:

- Areas of interest e.g. objectives, target countries/geographical areas, issues/subjects, approaches, etc.;
- Different planning and implementation process e.g. project submission, requirements and inputs, approval process and timing, monitoring and reporting, etc.; and
- Flexibility/extent of negotiation to accommodate Member Countries needs and interests in packaging a project proposal.

II. PROPOSALS

In order to accommodate changes of situation into future SEAFDEC programming exercises, the 29th Meeting of SEAFDEC Program Committee held in Bangkok, Thailand in December 2006 raised the need for adjusting modality in future SEAFDEC programming exercises. The following proposals are made for consideration by the Council.

- Cancellation of the Special 5-year Program Framework
- Development of SEAFDEC Program Thrusts
- Adjustment of Terms of Reference of the Program Committee
- Future PCM arrangement

2.1 Cancellation of the Special 5-year Program Framework

As there is no regular budget supporting the implementation of the Special 5-year Program, it is therefore difficult to maintain the program framework. Since 2006, certain projects under the program have received funding support from the Japanese Trust Funds while others are suspended subject to future availability of funds. Considering that donors have specific interests and requirements, it is therefore not practical to submit proposals of existing project for funding without changes, noting that extent of changes can be at various scales depending on each interested donor.

Along this line, it is proposed that the Special 5-year Program Framework should be demolished. However, the projects under the program could be taken as stand along projects. Where funding is not available, responsible Departments and the Secretariat need to source funds by submitting proposals with appropriate adjustment.

2.2 Development of Program Thrusts

While noting that all SEAFDEC programs for 2007 and onwards will be funded by extra-budgetary sources, it is foreseen that linking each program to the needs of the Member Countries and the overall direction of fisheries development and management in the region can be difficult. To provide framework for planning, implementation and coordination among future programs, it is proposed that SEAFDEC Program Thrusts will be developed.

In developing SEAFDEC Program Thrusts, it should be emphasized that existing regional fisheries policy and actions should be fully taken into consideration, including the Resolution and Plan of Action for Sustainable Development of Fisheries for the ASEAN adopted in 2001, the ASEAN Vision for Fisheries Development, “*To be a leader in Sustainable Tropical Fisheries for the People*”, and ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership and FCG mechanism.

It is envisaged that the Program Thrusts will serve as the program framework to facilitate linkage among the projects that would allow better coordination among the projects with common and shared issues/objectives, and also help in avoiding duplication of initiatives/assistance. This would also allow better formulation of policy recommendations for improvement of the programs implementation. However, it should be noted that the Program Thrusts is not subject to any funding sources. And to ensure that the Program Thrusts are relevant to fisheries situation and the need of the Member Countries, they should be reviewed on a regular basis such as every 5 years. In summary, the Program Thrusts will provide a framework and tool for the Member Countries and SEAFDEC to work with various donor agencies while maintaining the main directions of work of the organization.

The following are proposed Program Thrusts for consideration by the Council. Short description of each Program Thrust and linkages with existing project/program areas are provided in *Appendix 2*.

- Promotion of responsible fisheries and aquaculture technologies and practices
- Enhancing capacity and competitiveness for international and intra-regional fish trade
- Improving management concepts and approaches for fisheries
- Policy and advisory services for Planning and Management of Fisheries
- Addressing International fisheries issues

2.3 Adjustment of Terms of Reference of the Program Committee

Considering the change in SEAFDEC programming exercises as described above, the Terms of Reference of the Program Committee (Appendix 1) are therefore need to be adjusted accordingly. It should be noted that the main function of the Program Committee in scrutinizing SEAFDEC programs of activity to ensure that they reflect the need of the Member Countries and avoid duplication of efforts should be maintained.

Considering the concept of Program Thrusts provided above and the need for the Program Committee to work with processes/systems of various donor agencies, the following areas need to be considered for adjusting the TOR of the Program Committee.

- a) To develop and monitor implementation of SEAFDEC Program Thrusts as the framework for planning, implementation and coordination among projects/programs;
- b) To identify potential donors and develop strategies for sourcing of funds for program implementation;
- c) To assist the Secretariat and Departments in program formulation both at the annual meetings and during the inter-sessional period in accordance with different donor working process and timing.

2.4 Future PCM arrangement

Considering the adoption on item 2.1 to 2.3, the arrangement and conduct of future meetings of the Program Committee also need to be adjusted. As SEAFDEC in the future will work with multiple donor agencies, which will result in a wide range of programs/projects in scope and issues, future program scrutiny by individual projects/programs may not be effective. In addition, linkages among projects/programs without discussing a broad framework will also be very difficult for the Program Committee to comprehend and provide appropriate advice. This will then lead to more fragmented program without clear directions. Further, each donor agency has different project/program formulation protocols, which require negotiation on bilateral basis.

Along this line, it is proposed that future arrangement of PCM when scrutinizing SEAFDEC programs of activity should be arranged according to Program Thrusts and not by individual projects/programs. It should be noted that such scrutiny will be supported by two types of documents. One is summary of progress of work and proposed activities by Program Thrusts. Another is program documents for reference to the Program Committee. Recommendations by the Program Committee will therefore provide a basis for the Secretariat and Departments for negotiating with respective donors to ensure that their supported projects/programs will be best reflected to the need of the Member Countries with greater impacts.

Considering that all priority needs of the Member Countries may not be fulfilled by existing donor support, discussion on the formulation of SEAFDEC pipeline projects should be discussed. This is to allow Member Countries to identify their emerging needs and gaps of assistance. Identification of potential donors and development of strategies for sourcing of funds for future programs would also be useful for this purpose.

Terms of Reference of the SEAFDEC Program Committee

- (a) To review and evaluate the activities of the Departments to make sure that there is complementation and not duplication among the Departments themselves, and between SEAFDEC and other organizations, whether national, regional or international, working in the same region, and that these activities carried out by the Departments should conform to those approved by the Council;
- (b) To assist the Departments in Program formulation by advising on the needs and problems of Member Countries in the various fisheries fields, so that these needs can be considered in their programs of activity;
- (c) To help SEAFDEC in drawing up long-term plans for the development of the Departments and the implementation of the objectives of SEAFDEC so that funding assistance can be properly planned; and
- (d) To examine the proposed programs of activity and financial allocations of the various Departments of SEAFDEC with the objective of ensuring that the needs of all Member Countries are justly reflected in them.

* As amended and adopted by the Council at its sixteenth meeting (Kuala Lumpur, 6-10 December 1983).

Source: Para. 129 and Annex 23 of the Report of the 16th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council, p. 313.

Appendix 2 of Annex 19

Description of SEAFDEC Program Thrusts

<i>Program Thrust 1</i>	<i>Promotion of responsible fisheries and aquaculture technologies and practices</i>
<i>Project/Program Areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pre and post-harvest technologies ➤ Research and development for best practices, technology verification and commercialization ➤ Capacity building on the best practices
<i>Description</i>	Due to the growing domestic need and international demand for fish and fishery products in the long term, the aquatic resources have been exploited excessively with limitation of the recruitment. In this context, the projects under this Program Thrust would provide and encourage the ways to ensure sustainable and responsible utilization of fisheries resources. The Program Thrust supports various capacity building activities for efficient and sustainable use/management and development in capture fishery, aquaculture and post-harvest technologies. The activities also covers research and development in the areas of fishery post-harvested practices, aquaculture, fishing gear technologies aiming towards effective and sustainable use of fisheries resources in the Southeast Asia.
<i>Program Thrust 2</i>	<i>Enhancing capacity and competitiveness for international and intra-regional fish trade</i>
<i>Project/Program Areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quality and safety standards and assurance⁶ ➤ Small and medium scale enterprises in fisheries
<i>Description</i>	Southeast Asian countries are currently working towards systematizing the flow of capital and goods amongst the Member Countries in the fishery sectors, as this would contribute to the reduction of poverty and inequality, particularly to sustainable management and development of fisheries in the region. This Program Thrust aims to assist Member Countries in enhancing capacity and competitiveness for international and intra-regional fish trade through consultation, demonstration and dissemination of techniques/testing methods/standard and/or other relevant approaches and systems, etc. The Program Thrust also provides a link to the implementation of the ASEAN Roadmap for Fisheries Integration.
<i>Program Thrust 3</i>	<i>Improving management concepts and approaches for fisheries</i>
<i>Project/Program Areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Co-management ➤ Rights-based fisheries ➤ Community Strengthening ➤ Fisheries Governance ➤ MCS ➤ Overcapacity and IUU fishing
<i>Description</i>	Concerns over long-term sustainability of fisheries resources by using appropriate management mechanisms is vital to ensure stable fish supply and achieving food security and related benefits in the region for both now and in the future. Each country has applied their own policy, legal and institutional or regulation frameworks to manage their fisheries, these systems are generally based and increasing production levels. So that, there is a need to improve national fisheries management frameworks in order to accommodate

⁶ According to the International Standards Organization (ISO), Quality and Safety Assurance consists of all planned and systematic actions necessary to provide adequate confidence that a product or service will satisfy given requirements for quality and safety.

	the various requirements or sustainable fisheries development in the region. This Program Thrust highlights the need for innovative management for sustainable fisheries to improve/develop/promote appropriate approaches for fisheries management both at national and regional levels.
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<i>Program Thrust 4</i>	<i>Policy and advisory services for planning and management of fisheries</i>
<i>Project/Program Areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fishery information and statistics ➤ Regional scientific advisory services ➤ Regional fisheries management arrangement
<i>Description</i>	This Program Thrust supports the Member Countries and other relevant regional/national development agencies by providing regional policy and advisory services, particularly on long term planning for management and development of fisheries through facilitation of the process and/or information dissemination of developed best appropriate practice. To facilitate better planning and management of fisheries, the program activities under this Program Thrust will also cover the area for improvement of data and information related to fisheries through capacity building of both human resources and relevant institutions and the promotion of regional fishery information systems to facilitate data and information sharing amongst Member Countries and other regional/international fisheries agencies.

<i>Program Thrust 5</i>	<i>Addressing international fisheries issues</i>
<i>Project/Program Areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review of international issues and their impacts ➤ Formulation of policy and common/coordinated positions ➤ Implementation of international instrument/conventions ➤ Raising profiles and initiatives of fisheries in the region
<i>Description</i>	Apparently, the international fisheries related issues have been expanded, become complicated and involved a wide range of international agencies. Global discourse and trends have shown the close inter-relationship among sustainable resource utilization, improved management and governance, responsible market and trade, and balanced eco-system treatment. These trends are associated with both positive and negative impact on food security, human well-being, poverty alleviation, equity within countries and between developing and developed countries, and others. The effects on fisheries from these globalization and modifications on socio-economic context are not always directly manageable from within the sector or even at national level. So that, this Program Thrust is developed with the aim of generalizing the regional-agreed approaches by providing a platform for Member Countries and other relevant organizations to discuss on important international related issues, identify appropriate follow-up actions, and formulate common positions in addressing the issues at relevant international/regional fora.

COLLABORATION ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN SEAFDEC AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

SEAFDEC has been establishing collaboration with non-member governments, regional and international organizations following the directions given by the SEAFDEC Council. This was carried out to enhance the effectiveness of program implementation in the area of mutual interest, and specifically supporting the sustainable development of the fishery sector in the Southeast Asian region.

2. COLLABORATION IN 2006

In 2006, SEAFDEC established and expanded the collaboration with various organizations and institutions that include the following:

Faculty of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University (FFS-HU)

SEAFDEC and the FFS-HU have agreed to endeavor on a possible cooperation in research, training and other activities in areas of mutual interest. Representatives from the two institutions, the Dean of the Faculty of Fisheries Sciences and the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC signed the Agreement on 18th February 2006 at the SEAFDEC Secretariat in Bangkok. The main cooperation covers: 1) joint research and education/training; 2) visit or exchange of researchers and students for study, research, education and training in areas of common concern that are mutually agreed upon; and 3) participation of researchers/students in conferences and meetings on matters of mutual interest.

Exchange student for study as part of the Agreement, an Intern from Hokkaido University, Mr. Muroya Takafumi, attended the short-term training course in Fishing Technology for university students at the Training Department in Samut Prakarn from 15 October to 3 November 2006.

Polytechnic State College of Antique (PSCA), Philippines

The Aquaculture Department represented by the Chief, Dr. Joebert D. Toledo, and the PSCA President, Dr. Victor Navarra, agreed on a mutual collaboration that will enable both institutions to develop cooperative and collaborative activities in research, training and information dissemination. PSCA is looking at strengthening its research and training capabilities in aquaculture, fisheries and socio-economics. Meanwhile, AQD is looking forward to making the PSCA a demonstration center for its freshwater hatchery technologies that will support Congressman Exequiel Javier's aquaculture capacity building for the province of Antique. The MOU was signed on 12th September 2006 in Iloilo, Philippines and shall be valid for a period of five years.

Australian Maritime College (AMC)

The cooperation between SEAFDEC and Australian Maritime College (AMC) was initiated and started in 2000, with the MOU between the two institutions signed on 17 November

2000. Upon completion of the validity of the MOU after five (5) years, SEAFDEC and AMC have agreed mutually to continue the cooperation. The President and Principal of the AMC, Prof. Malek Pourzajani, and the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC, Dr. Siri Ekmaharaj signed the renewed MOU for the cooperation, which will be for another five years, on 27th November 2006.

The renewed MOU retains the original objectives of the cooperation that has been accepted in the first signed MOU, i.e. to gain benefits through the cooperative programme promoting education, training and applied research in aquaculture, fisheries and post-harvest technology.

3. PROPOSED COLLABORATION

Maejo University (MJU), Chiangmai, Thailand

In early 2007, SEAFDEC and the Maejo University have discussed and initially agreed to collaborate in the field of fisheries. The proposed cooperation shall cover a range of joint program, which will promote education, training and applied research in fisheries. At this initial stage and following the process for approval by the Council, a draft MOU has been prepared for submission to the 39th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council for consideration and endorsement.

Annex 21

**PROPOSED REVISION OF TD'S PLAN OF OPERATION
AND ITS NEW STRUCTURE**

I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The SEAFDEC Training Department (TD) starts its activities in 1970. TD emphasized the development of modern fishery techniques to aid regional fishers in a more sustainable approach, thereby promoting responsible fishing. TD developed and improved modern technology to enhance selective and to benefit fishing practices. TD also focused its activities on Coastal Fisheries Management by conducting studies both in Thailand and other SEAFDEC Member Countries. To ensure that research outcomes and technology is transferred successfully to the Member Countries, TD offered training courses to enhance studies and heighten awareness of fishing responsibilities in the region. Additionally, TD distributed fisheries information to the public through several forms of media including VDO, brochures, and exhibitions. The activities based on the previous TD structure could be separated into Training, Research, Information and Extension, Ship, Finance and Administrative Divisions.

In 2003, the financial situation of SEAFDEC started to show some signs of uncertainty particularly with concerns over the future regular contributions from the Japanese Government. As a result, the financial situation of SEAFDEC has become more difficult in 2005, and onwards. To address the changing situation, the TD has conducted a reformulation exercise for its Strategic Plan by taking into account of the 1998 SEAFDEC Strategic Plan which focuses on the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region. With the new TD's Strategic Plan it is envisaged that the Department would be able to adjust itself to continue to provide with the best services to member countries in the years ahead.

II. THE NEW TD STRATEGIC PLAN

The TD Strategic Plan was endorsed at the 38th meeting of SEAFDEC Council in April 2006 for implementation. The TD Strategic Plan comprises Vision, Missions, Strategies and Plan of actions, This Strategic Plan will be used as the medium and long-term direction to sustain future operation of TD.

New Vision

“To be a leader in tropical marine captures fisheries working towards sustainable development that is self-sustained with global collaborative network.”

New Mission

1. To promote responsible tropical marine capture fisheries
2. To expand networking and cooperation at regional and international levels
3. To work towards a financially self-sustained organization
4. To upgrade the organization's capability, potentials and efficiency
5. To enhance the organization's profile and recognition among beneficiaries, partner agencies and donors at various levels

Strategies

Strategies 1: Promote coastal fisheries management through research, capacity building and information development to ensure responsible resource utilization and sustainable livelihoods of coastal communities

Strategies 2: Promote off-shore fisheries through development of best fishing practices and energy optimization to ensure stable supply of food fish, and to reduce fishing pressure in coastal areas.

Strategies 3: Participate proactively in relevant international and regional forums to exchange technical expertise, disseminate fisheries information and raise the organization's profile.

Strategies 4: Promote partnership and technical cooperation including exchange of expertise, staff and information with international/regional organizations and donor agencies in areas of technical competence as well as maintain close communication and dialogues.

Strategies 5: Maintain dialogues and communication with existing donor agencies as well as develop mechanisms and organization's capacity to secure new and diverse funding sources.

Strategies 6: Promote and implement cost-sharing/cost recovery policy, such as economizing operational costs and maximizing the use of modern and high maintenance facilities through joint operations and charter services.

Strategies 7: Improve organization's administration and operation through adoption of "strategic management" approach, as well as enhance internal and external communication by maximizing the use of ICT for an effective and efficient organization.

Strategies 8: Review and restructure the organization and its manpower, including enhancement in human resource development at all levels in both technical capacity and attitudes towards a center of excellence to ensure relevance to current needs of target beneficiaries.

Strategies 9: Raise the organization's image and profile at international and regional levels through improving publicity, technical cooperation and partnership

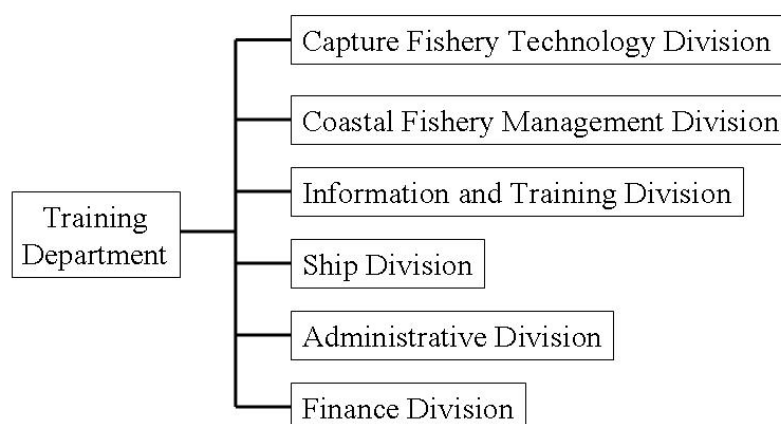
Strategies 10: Improve organization's capacity to produce relevant, timely and useful information materials to meet the requirements of target audiences.

This TD Strategic Plan is used as the medium and long-term direction to sustain future operation of TD in providing basis and guidance for future formulation and implementation of future TD's program/projects and activities.

III. TD NEW STRUCTURE

Base on the new strategic, TD has reorganized the organization structure thus the activities and plan of operation can be separated into Capture Fishery Technology, Coastal Fisheries Management, Information and Training, Ship, Finance and Administrative Divisions. In

parallel with this the job description-positions of the man power are also adjusted and rearranged.



IV. TD NEW PLAN OF OPERATION

In term of capture fishery technology, regional analysis on the fisheries resources and new fishing grounds in the off shore and deep sea shall be conducted in closed collaboration with the SEAFDEC member countries. Improvement and development of appropriated fishing techniques for under-exploited resources along line with the concept “Responsible fishing technologies and practices” shall be promoted.

TD also emphasis on development of Coastal Fisheries Management under concept of co-management and right-based fisheries through Local-Based Coastal Resource Management. Demonstration projects were conducted in Thailand, Malaysia and Cambodia. Where activities are composed of Base line survey, Enhance human resources capability and participation, Develop extension methodologies and strengthening the system, Encourage and extend the CBFM concept, Encourage local business as well as Rehabilitation of fisheries resources and habitats through resources enhancement.

In order to access to non-traditional source of funding, TD enhance to cooperate projects with other donor agencies and partner network such as SIDA-Sweden, FAO/REF, Australian Marine-time Collage, CRMP-Sri-Lanka, World Bank, CHARM-EU, TUMSAT, Kagoshima University, Hokkaido University and Kasetsart University in various aspects such as technical research, human capacity building through many training courses including information exchange. There are some projects including all local, international, and special training courses are designed and planed out in order to make use of existing TD facilities and TD’s projects information.

Some project and activities such as Research vessels utilization are operated under the cost sharing with other organizations and countries. In addition the operation cost of the department is economized as much as possible.

As the TD’s structure and activities are adjusted, the name of the department might propose to be changed in relevant to the real responsibility, however it is still under the process of consulting. Although some improvement had been made, TD still keep continue to identified such as developing a comprehensive and seeking the effective, success and relevant to responsibilities of the organization’s purpose.

Annex 22

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
ABRIDGED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004**

	In US\$	
	2005	2004
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	5,272,374	8,446,657
Other sources	255,303	196,599
Other income	465,922	336,203
Total Income	5,993,599	8,979,459
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Research	382,798	274,964
Training	422,467	451,368
Information	225,989	146,264
Special 5-year	527,981	658,716
Administrative	4,951,382	8,646,757
Total Expenditure	6,510,617	10,178,069
 SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	 (517,018)	 (1,198,610)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	4,777,854 (1)	6,084,565
FUND BALANCE, End of Year	4,260,836	4,885,955 (1)
 REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	4,649,452	5,062,442
Receivables	52,944	213,410
Advances and Deposits	95,438	129,023
Supplies Inventory	37,022	42,540
Fuel oil for vessels	70,737	129,803
Prepayments	15,973	12,583
Total Current assets	4,921,566	5,589,801
Termination indemnity fund	1,088,290	1,094,327
Other assets-Net	163,607	240,711
Total Assets	6,173,463	6,924,839
Less: Liabilities		
Accrued payable	427,397	596,945
Contribution received in advance	343,765	218,005
Fund held in trust	53,175	129,607
Provision for termination indemnity	1,088,290	1,094,327
Total Liabilities	1,912,627	2,038,884
NET	4,260,836	4,885,955

(1) The difference of US\$ 108,101 (US\$ 4,885,955 - US\$ 4,777,854) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
THE SECRETARIAT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	In US\$	
	2005	2004
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	266,027	306,057
Other income	24,029	4,190
Total Income	290,056	310,247
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Training	100,400	134,742
Information	38,411	28,535
Special 5-year	122,027	98,212
Administrative	116,924	206,196
Total Expenditure	377,762	467,685
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	(87,706)	(157,438)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	600,043 (1)	1,339,678
FUND ADJUSTMENT	(347,200)	(552,803)
FUND BALANCE, End of Year	165,137	629,437 (1)
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	189,239	573,714
Receivables	8,804	88,157
Advances and Deposits	6,603	24,719
Prepayments	2,634	3,691
Total Current assets	207,280	690,281
Total Assets	207,280	690,281
Less: Liabilities		
Accrued payable	42,143	60,844
Total Liabilities	42,143	60,844
NET	165,137	629,437

(1) The difference of US\$ 29,394 (US\$ 629,437 - US\$ 600,043) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
TRAINING DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	In US\$	
	2005	2004
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	1,446,557	4,690,246
Other income	142,986	103,401
Total Income	1,589,543	4,793,647
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Research	97,717	117,838
Training	758,674	4,059,337
Information	136,029	157,255
Special 5-year	99,420	157,541
Administrative	970,482	997,895
Total Expenditure	2,062,322	5,489,866
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	(472,779)	(696,219)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	2,445,093 (1)	2,861,090
FUND ADJUSTMENT	300,000	400,000
FUND BALANCE, End of Year	2,272,314	2,564,871 (1)
 REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	2,605,306	2,661,300
Receivables	20,994	77,533
Advances and Deposits	28,172	61,260
Fuel oil for vessels	70,737	129,802
Prepayments	13,339	-
Total Current assets	2,738,548	2,929,895
Termination indemnity fund	1,088,290	1,094,327
Total Assets	3,826,838	4,024,222
Less: Liabilities		
Accrued payable	122,469	147,019
Contribution received in advance	343,765	218,005
Provision for termination indemnity	1,088,290	1,094,327
Total Liabilities	1,554,524	1,459,351
NET	2,272,314	2,564,871

(1) The difference of US\$ 119,778 (US\$ 2,564,871 - US\$ 2,445,093) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	In US\$	
	2005	2004
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	1,107,244	1,000,440
Other income	36,812	49,196
Total Income	1,144,056	1,049,636
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Training	7,150	46,983
Information	13,011	-
Special 5-year	100,000	160,000
Administrative	1,139,475	1,055,476
Total Expenditure	1,259,636	1,262,459
 SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	 (115,580)	 (212,823)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	597,521 (1)	819,999
FUND BALANCE, End of Year	481,941	607,176 (1)
 REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	506,208	611,052
Other receivables	17,485	39,794
Total Current assets	523,693	650,846
Total Assets	523,693	650,846
Less: Liabilities		
Accrued payable	41,752	43,670
Total Liabilities	41,752	43,670
NET	481,941	607,176

(1)The difference of US\$ 9,655 (US\$ 607,176 - US\$ 597,521) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
AQUACULTURE DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	In US\$	
	2005	2004
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	1,897,910	1,840,378
Other sources	255,303	196,599
Other income	257,124	170,116
Total Income	2,410,337	2,207,093
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Research	380,333	269,368
Training	69,433	34,959
Information	166,719	106,299
Special 5-year	106,534	82,962
Administrative	1,272,074	1,585,608
Total Expenditure	1,995,093	2,079,196
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	415,244	127,897
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	802,925 (1)	475,495
FUND ADJUSTMENT	47,200	152,803
FUND BALANCE, End of Year	1,265,369	756,195 (1)
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	1,259,007	905,339
Advances and Deposits	53,556	31,354
Supplies inventory	37,022	42,540
Other Current Assets	5,661	5,291
Total Current assets	1,355,246	984,524
Other assets-Net	163,607	240,711
Total Assets	1,518,853	1,225,235
Less: Liabilities		
Accrued payable	200,309	339,433
Fund held in trust	53,175	129,607
Total Liabilities	253,484	469,040
NET	1,265,369	756,195

(1) The difference of US\$ 46,730 (US\$ 802,925 - US\$ 756,195) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
MARINE FISHERY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	In US\$	
	2005	2004
INCOME		
Contributions from :-		
Member governments	554,636	609,535
Other income	4,972	9,300
Total Income	559,608	618,835
EXPENDITURE		
Operating and Capital Expenditure		
Training	-	31,927
Special 5-year	100,000	160,000
Administrative	715,805	686,936
Total Expenditure	815,805	878,863
SURPLUS (DEFICIT), For the year	(256,197)	(260,028)
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year	332,272 (1)	588,304
FUND BALANCE, End of Year	76,075	328,276 (1)
REPRESENTED BY :		
Cash at Bank	89,692	311,037
Other receivables	-	2,635
Advances and Deposits	7,107	11,691
Prepayments	-	8,892
Total Current assets	96,799	334,255
Total Assets	96,799	334,255
Less: Liabilities		
Accrued payable	20,724	5,979
Total Liabilities	20,724	5,979
NET	76,075	328,276

(1) The difference of US\$ 3,996 (US\$ 332,272 - US\$ 328,276) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

Annex 23

UN-AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2006

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

	In US\$	
	2006 (Un-audited)	2005 (Audited)
ACCUMULATED FUND		
As at December 31	<u>4,937,350</u>	<u>4,260,836</u>
REPRESENTED BY :		
Current assets		
Cash in hand and at banks	4,402,316	4,649,452
Other receivables	420,649	52,944
Advances and deposits	40,688	95,438
Supplies inventory	47,540	37,022
Fuel oil for vessels	82,953	70,737
Prepayments	18,391	15,973
Other current assets	111,860	
Total Current assets	<u>5,124,397</u>	<u>4,921,566</u>
Termination indemnity fund	1,287,045	1,088,290
Other assets - Net	6,453	163,607
Total Assets	<u>6,417,895</u>	<u>6,173,463</u>
<u>Less :</u> Liabilities		
Accounts payable	193,500	427,397
Contributions received in advance		343,765
Funds held in trust		53,175
Provision for staff termination indemnity	1,287,045	1,088,290
Total Liabilities	<u>1,480,545</u>	<u>1,912,627</u>
NET	<u>4,937,350</u>	<u>4,260,836</u>

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FUND BALANCES
 DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005

	In US\$				
	Balance as at January 1, 2006	Adjustment of fund	Surplus (Deficit)	Balance December 31, 2006 (Un-audited)	Balance as at December 31, 2005 (Audited)
Operating fund	3,464,642	613,445	357,709	4,435,796	3,090,685
Fellowship fund	458,579	(300,335)	1,569	159,813	409,605
Special Fellowship fund	62,988	(62,988)		0	58,711
Property and equipment fund	248,228	(248,228)		0	231,216
Project fund	2,158	(1,894)	(264)	0	1,894
Others fund	509,368		(167,627)	341,741	468,725
Net	4,745,963	0	191,387	4,937,350	4,260,836

(1) The difference of US\$ 485,127 (US\$ 4,745,963 - 4,260,836) resulted from the change of rate in US\$ translation.

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	In US\$					Total		
	Operating	Fellowship	Special	Property and	Project	Others	2006	2005
INCOME								
Contributions from :-								
Government of Thailand	1,716,864	21,504					1,738,368	1,444,083
Government of Singapore	1,117,174						1,117,174	1,107,244
Government of Philippines	2,032,025						2,032,025	1,884,588
Government of Japan	617,143						617,143	257,823
Government of Malaysia	710,869						710,869	554,636
Government of Brunei	4,000						4,000	4,000
Government of Cambodia	4,000						4,000	4,000
Government of Indonesia	4,000						4,000	4,000
Government of Lao PDR	4,000						4,000	4,000
Government of Union of	4,000						4,000	4,000
Government of Vietnam	4,000						4,000	4,000
Other Sources						159,679	159,679	255,303
	<u>6,218,075</u>	<u>21,504</u>				<u>159,679</u>	<u>6,399,258</u>	<u>5,527,677</u>
Other income								
Sales of fish catches							0	38,606
Bank interest	197,078	4,280					201,358	104,541
Sales of books							0	
Sundries	504,818					33,923	538,741	319,030
Exchange gain/(loss)	(52,242)	(23,079)			(264)		(75,585)	3,745
TOTAL INCOME	<u>6,867,729</u>	<u>2,705</u>			<u>(264)</u>	<u>193,602</u>	<u>7,063,772</u>	<u>5,993,599</u>

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 AND 2005**

	In US\$					Total		
	Operating Fund	Fellowship Fund	Special Fellowship Fund	Property and Equipment Fund	Project Fund	Others	2006 (Un-audited)	2005 (Audited)
EXPENDITURE								
Operating Expenditure								
Research	362,036					234,086	596,122	382,798
Training	280,507	1,136				34,615	316,258	422,467
Information	188,537					38,292	226,829	225,989
Collaborative						16,780	16,780	
Special Five-Year	141,185						141,185	527,981
Administrative & Capital expenditure	5,537,755					37,456	5,575,211	4,951,382
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6,510,020	1,136				361,229	6,872,385	6,510,617
SURPLUS(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	357,709	1,569			(264)	(167,627)	191,387	(517,018)

Annex 24

STATUS OF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION FOR THE YEAR 2007

**Unaudited Fund Balance as at 31 December 2006
(In US Dollars)**

Operating Fund

- Host countries	3,886,274	}	4,435,796
- Japan	549,522		

Fellowship Fund

Japan = USD 556,811

- Host countries	152,524	}	159,813
- Japan	7,289		

Special Fellowship Fund ~ Japan -

Property and Equipment ~ Japan -

Project Fund ~ Japan -

Others Fund 341,741

Net Fund Balance **4,937,350**

**ESTIMATED 2007 BUDGET BALANCE OF JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION AND
MRC FROM ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES WITH EXPENDITURE (IN US DOLLARS)**

Exchange rate for USD 1.00	Secretariat and Department	Balance in the beginning of year 1/1/2007 Japanese Fund	Transfer to other Department	Fund Adjust	Income from MRC 2007	Available Budget in 2007	Expenditure Program			Balance in the end of year Estimated 31/12/2007
							Department Activities	Special 5-year program	Maintenance and Operation of M.V. SEAFDEC 2	
Baht 35.90	SEC	503,991	46,320	-	400,000	950,311	250,000 ^{1/}	-	150,000	550,311
Baht 35.90	TD	6,500	-	-	-	6,500	-	6,500	-	-
S\$ 1.5355	MFRD	7,289	(7,289)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peso 49.212	AQD	29,309	(29,309)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RM 3.5224	MFRDMD	9,722	(9,722)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		556,811	-	-	400,000	956,811	250,000	6,500	150,000	550,311

Remark 1/ Secretariat expenditure amount USD 250,000 including:

- Information and Training programs = USD 65,000
- Meeting cost and operation cost = USD 185,000

Annex 25

PROPOSED BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CENTER FOR 2008

The total estimated contributions to the Center in 2007 were US\$ 8,495,279 as shown in **Table 1**. Of this figure, contributions from Member Countries were US\$5,603,555 which is 65.97% while the contributions from Japanese Trust Fund and other sources were US\$ 2,891,724 which is 34.03%.

In 2008, the total expected contributions were US\$ 7,752,328 as shown in **Table 2**. Of this figure, contributions from Member Countries were US\$5,682,755 which is 73.30 % while the contributions from Japanese Trust Fund and other sources were US\$ 2,069,573 which is 26.70%.

The total estimated expenditures of the Center in 2007 as shown in **Table 3**, represented the expenditures for Program of Activities amounted to US\$ 3,190,385 which is 37.60%, the administrative and capital expenditure of the Center amounted to US\$3,932,539 which is 46.30% and expenditure in kind amounted to US\$1,372,355 which is 16.10%.

The total proposed expenditures of the Center in 2008 as shown in **Table 4**, represented the expenditure for Program of Activities amounting US\$ 2,368,234 which is 30.50%, the administrative and capital expenditure of the Center amounting US\$4,011,739 which is 51.80% and expenditure in kind amounted to US\$ 1,372,355 which is 17.70%.

It is expected that these estimated figures will be subject to revision in the light of the actual contributions made in 2008 by member countries. External funding support from non-member countries and other organizations will be sought by the Secretariat and the Departments concerned with collaborative projects as approved by the Council.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Table 1. Estimated Contributions received by SEAFDEC from Member Countries and other sources (in US Dollars) in fiscal year 2007

Sources	Secretariat	Training Department	Marine Fisheries Research Department	Aquaculture Department	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Total in US\$	%
Brunei Darussalam	7,000					7,000	0.08
Cambodia	6,000					6,000	0.07
Indonesia	26,000					26,000	0.31
Japan	280,000					280,000	3.30
Lao PDR	4,000					4,000	0.05
Malaysia	10,000				752,076 ^{f/}	762,076	8.97
Myanmar	10,000					10,000	0.12
Philippines	15,000			e/ 2,032,000		2,047,000	24.10
Singapore	8,000		620,279 ^{d/}			628,279	7.40
Thailand	20,000	1,799,200 ^{c/}				1,819,200	21.41
Vietnam	14,000					14,000	0.16
Others ^{g/}	2,298,785 ^{b/}		149,739	443,200		2,891,724	34.03
Total	2,698,785 ^{a/}	1,799,200	770,018	2,475,200	752,076	8,495,279	100%

a/ Including Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) from all SEAFDEC Member countries = US\$ 400,000 (see Annex 1)

b/ Including extra-budgetary sources from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,366,085 (See Annex 1)

c/ Contribution in cash from Thailand (see Annex 2)

d/ Contribution in kind from Singapore (See Annex 3)

e/ Contribution in cash from Philippines (see Annex 4)

f/ Contribution in kind from Malaysia (See Annex 5)

g/ Including contributions from non-member governments, international organizations/agencies and miscellaneous receipts.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Table 2. Expected Contributions received by SEAFDEC from Member Countries and other sources (in US Dollars) in fiscal year 2008

Sources	Secretariat	Training Department	Marine Fisheries Research Department	Aquaculture Department	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department	Total in US\$	%
Brunei Darussalam	7,000					7,000	0.09
Cambodia	6,000					6,000	0.08
Indonesia	26,000					26,000	0.34
Japan	280,000					280,000	3.61
Lao PDR	4,000					4,000	0.05
Malaysia	10,000				752,076 ^{f/}	762,076	9.83
Myanmar	10,000					10,000	0.13
Philippines	15,000			2,032,000 ^{e/}		2,047,000	26.40
Singapore	8,000		620,279 ^{d/}			628,279	8.10
Thailand	20,000	1,878,400 ^{c/}				1,898,400	24.49
Vietnam	14,000					14,000	0.18
Others ^{g/}	1,492,534 ^{b/}		149,739	427,300		2,069,573	26.70
Total	1,892,534 ^{a/}	1,878,400	770,018	2,459,300	752,076	7,752,328	100%

a/ Including Minimum Regular Contribution (MRC) from all SEAFDEC Member countries = US\$ 400,000 (see Annex 1)

b/ Including extra-budgetary sources from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,252,534 (See Annex 1)

c/ Contribution in cash from Thailand (see Annex 2)

d/ Contribution in kind from Singapore (See Annex 3)

e/ Contribution in cash from Philippines (see Annex 4)

f/ Contribution in kind from Malaysia (See Annex 5)

g/ Including contributions from non-member governments, international organizations/agencies and miscellaneous receipts.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Table 3. Estimated Expenditure of the Center for 2007 (In US\$)

Category	SEC ^{1/}	TD ^{2/}	MFRD ^{3/}	AQD ^{4/}	MFRDMD ^{5/}	Total	%
I Program of Activities							
1.1 Research Programs				311,900		311,900	3.7
1.2 Training Programs	5,000	50,000		296,000		351,000	4.1
1.3 Information Programs	60,000			18,700		78,700	0.9
1.4 Collaborative Programs	150,000 ^{6/}					150,000	1.8
1.5 Other Programs	2,298,785 ^{7/}					2,298,785	27.1
Sub-total	2,513,785	50,000	-	626,600	-	3,190,385	37.6
II Administrative and Non-Program Expenditure							
2.1 Operating Expenditure	173,000	1,734,200 ^{8/}	149,739	1,645,400		3,702,339	43.6
2.2 Capital Expenditure	12,000	15,000		203,200		230,200	2.7
2.3 In-kind Expenditure			620,279		752,076	1,372,355	16.1
Sub-total	185,000	1,749,200	770,018	1,848,600	752,076	5,304,894	62.4
TOTAL	2,698,785	1,799,200	770,018	2,475,200	752,076	8,495,279	100%

Remarks :

^{1/} Secretariat

^{2/} Training Department

^{3/} Marine Fisheries Research Department

^{4/} Aquaculture Department

^{5/} Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department

^{6/} Included cost of operation , maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC 2

^{7/} Included program expenses from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$ 1,366,085

^{8/} Included cost of maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Table 4. Proposed expenditures of the Center in 2008 (in USD)

Category	SEC ^{1/}	TD ^{2/}	MFRD ^{3/}	AQD ^{4/}	MFRDMD ^{5/}	Total	%
I Program of Activities							
1.1 Research Programs				307,300		307,300	4.0
1.2 Training Programs	5,000	50,000		292,500		347,500	4.5
1.3 Information Programs	60,000			10,900		70,900	0.9
1.4 Collaborative Programs	150,000 ^{6/}					150,000	1.9
1.5 Other Programs	1,492,534 ^{7/}					1,492,534	19.2
Sub-total	1,707,534	50,000	-	610,700	-	2,368,234	30.5
II Administrative and Non-Program Expenditure							
2.1 Operating Expenditure	173,000	1,803,400 ^{8/}	149,739	1,645,400		3,771,539	48.7
2.2 Capital Expenditure	12,000	25,000		203,200		240,200	3.1
2.3 In-kind Expenditure			620,279		752,076	1,372,355	17.7
Sub-total	185,000	1,828,400	770,018	1,848,600	752,076	5,384,094	69.5
TOTAL	1,892,534	1,878,400	770,018	2,459,300	752,076	7,752,328	100%

Remarks :

1/ Secretariat

2/ Training Department

3/ Marine Fisheries Research Department

4/ Aquaculture Department

5/ Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department

6/ Included cost of operation , maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC 2

7/ Included program expenses from Japanese Trust Fund = US\$1,252,534

8/ Included cost of maintenance and insurance for M.V. SEAFDEC