Expert Meeting on the Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species (CEAS)

16-17 May 2016, Windsor Suites Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand
CITES management authority of Myanmar

Party
Accession: 13 June 1997
Entry into force: 11 September 1997

Management Authority
Director General
Forest Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry

Scientific Authority for Fauna and Flora
Director, Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division
Forest Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry

Scientific Authority for Fish and Aquatic Species
Deputy Director, Research and Development Division, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
Two primary government agencies:

- **Forest Department**
  Within the Forest Department, the Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division (NWCD) oversees the management of protected areas in the country as well as information pertaining to flora and fauna.
  - Environmental Conservation Law (2012);

- **Department of Fisheries**
  Department of Fisheries is just recently exploring a more active role in the conservation of aquatic resources. DOF have now created several protected areas and work closely with NGOs and INGOs to manage these areas.
    - New Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law is still revising (11th draft)
  - Freshwater Fisheries Law (1991)
    - Freshwater Fisheries Law is decentralized to State and Region according to the new Constitution

Within Myanmar two legislation have been enacted which specifically target the conservation/management of shark species:

- **Notification 2/2001**: this law prohibits the capture and sale of Whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*);
- **Notification 2/2004**: this law outlines the creation of two shark reserves within the Myeik Archipelago in which targeting of sharks is prohibited (but not including rays).
- **No specific regulation for shark and rays, no specific regulation for** sharks protected areas.
- For your information, one Locally Manage Marine Area (LMMA) in Thanintharyi Reion (Andaman Sea) will be established by Flora and Fauna International and DOF.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Biological Characteristic</th>
<th>Utilization</th>
<th>Trade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Alopias superciliosus</em></td>
<td>Bigeye Thresher Shark</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mobula tarapacano</em></td>
<td>Sicklefin Devil Ray</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mobula japonica</em></td>
<td>Spinetail Devil Ray</td>
<td>Ayeyarwady</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Local consumption in dried form</td>
<td>Salted skin export to Thailand and chilled type to Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mobula thurstoni</em></td>
<td>Smoothtail Devil Ray</td>
<td>Tanintharyi</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Local consumption in dried form</td>
<td>Salted skin export to Thailand and chilled type to Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mobula kuhlii</em></td>
<td>Shortfin Devil ray</td>
<td>Ayeyarwady</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Local consumption in dried form</td>
<td>Salted skin export to Thailand and chilled type to Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Mobula sp (?)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tanintharyi</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carcharhinus falciformis</em></td>
<td>Silky Shark</td>
<td>Rakhine Mpn</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Local consumption in dried form</td>
<td>Illegal export dried shark fin to China (Data are collect by Custom Dept.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Holacanthus clarionensis</em></td>
<td>Clarion Angelfish</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Potamotrygon motorosting (existing is possible in Myanmar but no data)</em></td>
<td>Ocellate River Stingray</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Possible impact to fisheries in Myanmar

- Incidental catch: including long-line, gill net, grouper trap, and bottom trawl fishing gear (mostly caught by long-line and gill net)
- Illegal fishing: entangle hooks, dynamite fishing;
- Local consumption in dried form;
- Livelihoods of fishers will not be affected much;
- Export dried shark fins to China, salted ray skins and chilled rays to Thailand;
- Climate change, pollution, habitat degradation situations are unknown;
Recommendation

- Require to make necessary survey and assessment for each species and also need survey for spawning ground, nursery ground, habitats etc;
- Need more awareness programme for fishing vessel entrepreneurs, fishers local and people;
- Require information dissemination about all relevant matters;
- Need fish identification and data collection trainings
- Essential to consider effective legislation and enforcement;
- Necessary to monitor and collect the data continuously;
- Need to know about socio-economic life of fishers;
- Require specific regulation for protected areas;
- Need market survey regarding trade about CEAS;
- Need NPOAs;
- Need to study about current status of the resources of freshwater and marine aquatic species;
- More collaboration and cooperation between Myanmar and concerned INGOs, NGOs etc; and
- Need facilities (e.g inspection boats, research and laboratory equipment etc;
Thank you
• Land area - 676,577 sq.km
• Population - 60 million
• Coast line - 2831 km
• Coastal area - Raknine, Ayeyarwady, & Tanintharyi
• Marine water areas - 486,000 sq.km