



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

MFRDMD

Executive Summary

As Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing was identified as one of the biggest threat to the sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific region, ASEAN member states (AMSs) are requested to take actions through sub-regional cooperation in preventing, deterring, and eliminating IUU fishing in the region. Apart from MCS, trade-related measures are important to combat IUU fishing. It is urgent for AMSs to strengthen measures to exclude IUU fish and fishery products from the supply chain. In this regard, SEAFDEC/MFRDMD in collaboration with SEAFDEC/Secretariat started the program in 2013 with funding support from JTF VI to formulate and to disseminate the “ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain”. Throughout several meetings involving all SEAFDEC Member Countries, experts from national and regional organizations, the Guidelines was developed and endorsed up to minister level through the ASEAN protocol. The Guidelines will serve as tools for Southeast Asian countries to combat IUU fisheries through controlling and monitoring trade of fish and fisheries products and help Southeast Asian countries to comply with IUU related trade measures.

The Guidelines take into consideration the relevant international and regional trade-related measures that prevent the marketing of fish and fish products derived through unsustainable means and from unsustainable sources.

Following the establishment of the Guidelines, SEAFDEC/MFRDMD has started its dissemination in collaboration with SEAFDEC/Secretariat, as Member Countries still require assistance to implement the Guidelines at their national levels. SEAFDEC/MFRDMD convened the 2nd Regional Technical Consultation Meeting (21~23 November 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) to promote dissemination and implementation of the Guidelines at national level of ASEAN member states. The status of implementation of the ASEAN Guidelines based on the self-evaluation by representatives of AMSs was discussed during the RTC. The evaluation is the first step to identify which country fully implemented the guidelines and which country need assistance to implement the ASEAN Guidelines. In 2018 MFRDMD will conduct consultative visit to some AMSs to continue promoting the implementation of the ASEAN Guidelines.

Required Consideration by the Council

- To take note of the progress of the implementation of the Guidelines; and
- To provide comments and advice to the activities and the way forward.