



**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

15 November 2017, Bangkok, Thailand

INTRODUCTION

1. The Special Meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) was convened in Bangkok, Thailand on 15 November 2017 to consider the “Resolution on the Future of SEAFDEC” that was developed based on the recommendation of the SEAFDEC Program Committee during its 39th Meeting in 2016, and endorsed in principle by the SEAFDEC Council at its 49th Meeting in 2017. Being organized in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary Celebration of SEAFDEC, the Meeting also served as the most auspicious occasion for SEAFDEC to give due recognition to its most outstanding staff for their contributions to the efforts in ensuring the sustainable development of fisheries in the Southeast Asian region.

2. The Meeting was attended by the Council Directors for Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam together with their respective delegations, as well as the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and the senior officials of SEAFDEC. The list of participants appears as **Annex 1**.

I. OPENING OF THE MEETING

3. The SEAFDEC Council Director for Brunei Darussalam, *Mr. Abdul Halidi Mohd Salleh*, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council for the year 2017-2018, welcomed the participants to the Special Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council and stressed that the future direction of SEAFDEC beyond its Fiftieth Anniversary hinges on the Resolution that would be considered and adopted at this Meeting. After expressing the confidence that the adopted Resolution would therefore play an important role in the sustainability of the fisheries sector of the region, he declared the Meeting open. His Opening Remarks appears as **Annex 2**.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

III. ADOPTION OF THE “RESOLUTION ON THE FUTURE OF SEAFDEC”

5. In presenting the background of the “Resolution on the Future of SEAFDEC,” the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC explained that the Resolution was developed based on the recommendations made by the SEAFDEC Program Committee during its 39th Meeting in 2016. The first draft of the “Resolution” was therefore developed and submitted to the SEAFDEC Council for consideration during its 49th Meeting in April 2017. Based on the recommendations of the SEAFDEC Council, amendments were made by the SEAFDEC Secretariat on the “Resolution” and the revised draft was subsequently circulated for endorsement by the Council *ad referendum*.

6. After re-examining the elements contained in the “Resolution on the Future of SEAFDEC: Vision, Mission, and Strategies Towards 2030” provided at this Meeting, the SEAFDEC Council adopted the said “Resolution” as shown in **Annex 4**.

7. With regards to the effective implementation of the Resolution on the Future SEAFDEC: Visions, Mission, and Strategies Towards 2030, the SEAFDEC Council for Malaysia suggested that SEAFDEC

could explore the possibility of tapping other sources of funds to support its programs and activities that would address the needs and priorities of the SEAFDEC Member Countries. In this connection, SEAFDEC should develop more focused strategies and action plans until 2050 based on the adopted Resolution and re-align its programs and activities for the sustainable development of fisheries for food security in the region. Furthermore, he also suggested that collaboration between SEAFDEC and other relevant fisheries institutions in the region including the new fisheries college in Malaysia, should be strengthened.

8. For the re-alignment of programs and activities of SEAFDEC Departments, the Council recommended that these matters should be discussed during the forthcoming Meeting of the SEAFDEC Program Committee.

IV. OTHER MATTERS

9. The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC informed the SEAFDEC Council of the Program of Activities for the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of SEAFDEC (**Annex 5**), which would be graced by the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, *H.E. Air Chief Marshal Dr. Prajin Juntong*.

10. In connection with the arrangement of receiving tokens and Certificates of Appreciation to Governments Hosting the SEAFDEC Departments, the Council Director for Indonesia informed the Meeting that the award for Indonesia as Host of the Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department would be received by *H.E. Ahmad Rusdi*, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia to Thailand.

V. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

11. The Report of the Special Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council was circulated to delegates attended in the Meeting for adoption by *ad referendum*.

VI. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO OUTSTANDING STAFF OF SEAFDEC

12. In recognition of the efforts and services of few chosen staff of SEAFDEC, the Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council *Mr. Abdul Halidi Mohd Salleh* and the Secretary-General of SEAFDEC *Dr. Kom Silapajarn* presented the most outstanding staff awards to selected staff who have been nominated by the SEAFDEC Secretariat and Departments (**Annex 6**). They included the following:

- **Dr. Veravat Hongskul, SEAFDEC Secretariat:** Secretary-General of SEAFDEC from 1 February 1981 to 28 February 1989
- **Mr. Shogo Sugiura, SEAFDEC/TD:** Deputy Chief of TD from 18 August 1999 to 17 August 2002
- **Dr. Flor Lacanilao, SEAFDEC/AQD:** Chief of SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department (AQD) on two occasions; the first was from 1 January 1981 to 31 December 1982 and the second from 8 April 1986 to 7 April 1992
(In the absence of *Dr. Lacanilao*, the award was received on his behalf by the Chief of AQD, *Mr. Dan D. Baliao*)
- **Dr. Ahmad Ali, SEAFDEC/MFRDMD:** started working at SEAFDEC/Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department in 1992, and spearheaded several core activities of MFRDMD since its establishment, including those on artificial reefs, conservation and management of marine turtles as well as on taxonomic identification, data collection and management of elasmobranch species
- **Mr. Budi Iskandar Prisantoso, SEAFDEC/IFRDMD:** first Chief of SEAFDEC Inland Fishery Resources Development and Management Department, serving IFRDMD for two years from 2014 to 2015
(In the absence of *Mr. Prisantoso*, the award was received on his behalf by his colleague *Dr. Dina Muthmainnah*)

13. The SEAFDEC Council was informed that the former Chief of MFRD, *Mr. Tan Sen Min*, was also nominated by SEAFDEC/MFRD to receive the most outstanding SEAFDEC staff award in recognition of

his contribution in enhancing MFRD as the center of excellence for fisheries post-harvest technology (**Annex 6**). However, the said nomination was revoked because of the untimely demise of *Mr. Tan Sen Min* on 31 July 2017.

14. With regard to the revoked nomination of the late *Mr. Tan Sen Min* as one of the most outstanding staff of SEAFDEC, the Council Director for Indonesia suggested that a Posthumous Award could be given instead. In this connection, the Council agreed that the Posthumous Award should be given by SEAFDEC to his family at a later date and in an appropriate venue that would be arranged later.

VII. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

15. The Chairperson of the SEAFDEC Council expressed the appreciation to all Council Members for their faith in the significance of the Resolution that has been adopted. He also commended the participants for their views and reiterated the gratitude to the Government of Thailand through the Department of Fisheries for hosting the Special Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council. After expressing the gratitude to the SEAFDEC Secretariat for the arrangements of the Meeting and for the realization of the most outstanding SEAFDEC staff awards during the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of SEAFDEC, he declared the Meeting closed. His Closing Remarks appears as **Annex 7**.