



CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASEAN CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME

Training Department

Executive Summary

The ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ACDS) is one of the regional initiatives between SEAFDEC and the ASEAN Member States (AMSs) for improving the traceability system for marine capture fisheries, and aiming to prevent the entry of fish and fishery products from IUU fishing activities into the supply chain. Since 2014 till 2017, five (5) Technical Consultation and expert meetings have been organized for deliberation on the concept of ACDS. Finally, the ACDS was endorsed at the 25th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (25ASWGF_i) in May 2017 in Singapore. Later the document was also adopted by the SOM-AMAF in the same year. To support the implementation of the ACDS, the electronic system is required taking into consideration the guidance from the SEAFDEC Councils that the process should not create unnecessary burden, cost or lengthy process for all supply chain, importers/exporters.

SEAFDEC initiated electronic ACDS (eACDS) implementation in Brunei Darussalam as pilot testing of the ACDS since 2016. The introduction of overall system of eACDS was launched during the Inaugural Ceremony of the Forty-ninth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in June 2017.

Since the pilot testing of the eACDS was launched, the series of consultation and on-site training on the use of eACDS by all relevant Stakeholders were conducted in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Brunei Darussalam. Recently, the eACDS system is still in the process of the testing, including activities updating system and application design to solve some problems. The plan to conduct evaluation of the eACDS implementation is scheduled in 2019. Moreover, regards to request from Myanmar, Viet Nam, and Malaysia at the SEAFDEC Meeting, the eACDS implementation is now expanding in collaboration with the respective countries.

Required Consideration by the Council

- The Council is requested to take note the progress on development of the electronic system of the eACDS for pilot testing in Brunei Darussalam and also the site expansion for Myanmar, Viet Nam and Malaysia, and
- The Council is invited to provide advice to promote the application of ACDS to combat IUU fishing and enhance intra-regional and international trade in fish and fishery product.

Promotion of ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme in Southeast Asia

I. INTRODUCTION OF THE ACDS

In accordance with the requirement of SEAFDEC Member Countries in complying with the requirements of the EC Regulation 1005/2008 since January 2010, the 13th Meeting of the Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP) in December 2010 in Thailand suggested SEAFDEC/Secretariat to take a proactive role in facilitating the sharing of experiences and information among the Member Countries in order to enhance the country's capacity and efforts to deal with all future market driven measures that would impact to the fisheries sectors particularly economic and social aspects in the Southeast Asian region. In response to this SEAFDEC proposed the development of the common regional catch documentation scheme with aims to ensure that the traceability of capture fisheries is improved to meet the requirements and to reduce such impacts from market measures. Later, the ASEAN Member States (AMS) expressed their support on improving the traceability for capture fisheries to ensure the sustainability of fisheries for food security toward 2020 as guided in the 2011 Resolution and Plan of Action. In connection to this, the development of common regional catch documentation scheme herein after called "ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ACDS) to enhance the intra-regional and international trade was supported at the SSOM-AMAF in 2013.

The development of the ACDS concept was initiated by SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with MFRDMD and experts/ fisheries managers from SEAFDEC Member Countries with the support from Japanese Trust Funds since 2014. One expert group meeting and one Technical consultation meeting were convened in October and December, 2014 for the 1st Draft of ACDS, respectively. Another expert meeting convened in 2015 for finalizing the draft ACDS, was also organized in accordance with the recommendations made by the 47th SEAFDEC Council Meeting. The results from three meetings in 2014 and 2015 could come up with the final draft ACDS Concept and draft info-graphic on usage of ACDS for 18 scenarios of catch/trade flows into and or among the AMS in the region. To ensure that ACDS are applicable and benefit to the relevant stakeholders namely operators of fishing vessels, suppliers, seafood processors for export and traders who export and transship, SEAFDEC convened the Stakeholder Consultations in March 2016 with aims to introduce the concept and compile their views for further development of the appropriate system of ACDS for both electronic and manual system to cover all requirements of the SEAFDEC Member Countries. SEAFDEC is recommended to develop the electronic system of ACDS that should be included not only commercial fisheries but also considering to support small-scale fishers. In addition, at the 49th meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in April 2016, the Council suggested that the eACDS should be developed in harmonization with other existing catch documentation schemes to ensure that this would be acceptable to the EU and US Presidential Task Force, and thus, enhance trading of fish and fishery products from the Southeast Asian region, while the Council endorsed Brunei Darussalam as a pilot testing country for the eACDS. In connection to this, the ACDS concept was also endorsed by the 25th ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF) in May 2017 in Singapore. Later the Concept was also adopted by the 39th AMAF Meeting in the same year .

SEAFDEC initiated eACDS implementation in Brunei Darussalam as pilot testing of the ACDS since 2016. The introduction of overall system of eACDS was launched by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism of Brunei Darussalam, Dr. Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, during the Inaugural Ceremony of the Forty-ninth Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in June 2017.

PROGRESS ON DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC SYSTEM of ASEAN CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME (eACDS) IN AMS

Brunei Darussalam

Since the pilot testing of the eACDS was launched in Brunei Darussalam in June 2017. The series of consultation and on-site training on the use of eACDS by all relevant Stakeholders were conducted in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Brunei Darussalam. According the testing of eACDS Database and application by Brunei Darussalam relevant stakeholder, the Database and application was developed and updated to fix the system and design problem. Presently, the system can issue forh Catch Certification (CC). In this regard, the re-training on the use of eACDS was organized from 28-29 January 2019 in Brunei Darussalam for relevant agencies and stakeholder. The evaluation and monitoring through impact assessment on eACDS system implementation is also planned to conduct in 2nd quarter of 2019.

Viet Nam

The representative from Viet Nam proposed in the Fortieth Meeting of the Program Committee (40PCM) of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) which held in Bangkok, Thailand in November 2017 that SEAFDEC could also support Viet Nam in the development of a system to apply the eACDS for marine fishery products. To follow up this proposed, the introduction on eACDS system was conducted for all relevant stakeholder and Directorate of Fisheries (D-Fish) in Viet Nam in December 2017. Moreover, the visit and discussion on initial planning and cooperation with D-Fish for eACDS implementation through preparation of Key Data Element for eACDS database development and selection of pilot area was conducted from 12-13 September 2018. The visit and observation of pilot site in Binh Thuan and Khanh Hau Province including discussion with relevant stakeholder was conducted from 19-22 December 2018.

Myanmar

According to the 50th SEAFDEC Council Meeting in March 2018, the Council Director for Myanmar looked forward to cooperating with SEAFDEC in strengthening regional cooperation to combat IUU fishing by supporting the implementation of the eACDS at the national level. To follow up this cooperation, the introduction on eACDS system was conducted for all relevant stakeholder and the Department of Fisheries, Myanmar in June 2018 and the visit and discussion on initial planning and cooperation with DOF, Myanmar for eACDS implementation through preparation of Key Data Element for eACDS database development and selection of pilot area was conducted from 25-28 September 2018. Moreover, collection and discussion more information for Key Data Elements (KDEs) and preparation of data for development eACDS system in Myanmar thgour confirmation of focal points for eACDS activities at the central office and pilot sites was conducted from 4-7 February 2019.

Malaysia

Refer to the 41st Meeting of the Program Committee of SEAFDEC in November 2018, the Program Committee Member for Malaysia requested to implement eACDS in Malaysia as one of the project site in 2019. According to follow up this request, SEAFDEC contacted and received for focal point of eACDS in DOF, Headquater and plan to introduction eACDS and visit pilot site in Selangor and Kelantan as proposed by Malaysia in 2nd quarter of this year.