

**OPENING REMARKS**

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SEAFDEC Secretary-General

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My colleagues from the Secretariat, TD, AQD, MFRDMD, and IFRDMD;  
Good morning.

First of all, I would like to welcome all of you to this Inter-Departmental Information Workshop, and to our SEAFDEC Training Department here in Samut Prakan.

I could recall that during the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAFDEC Information Staff Program or ISP conducted in 2019, although big progress has been made by the Secretariat and Departments toward enhancing SEAFDEC visibility in various aspects, but there are still issues that need to be discussed in-depth among the Secretariat and all Departments. These include issues on SEAFDEC repositories, particularly the harmonization of repository structure, monitoring of the repositories, cost of hosting repository servers; as well as on the monitoring of SEAFDEC websites, enhancing the use of social media, and monitoring citations of SEAFDEC publications. This Workshop was therefore proposed by the SEAFDEC Secretariat, and it is our ambition that this Workshop would pave the way towards discussion and achieving agreement among all Departments on these issues as basis as our future works.

For this Workshop, I am indeed grateful that AQD staff agreed to serve as resource persons again to share their knowledge and experiences on the issues that we are about to discuss. I also would like to urge information officers of other Departments as well as Secretariat to be actively involved in the discussion and exchange your views and ideas. And although MFRD could not send representative to participate in this Workshop due to conflicting schedule with another departmental meeting in Singapore, but please be assured that we will send the results of this Workshop for their reference and for coordination of the required works in the future.

Ladies and gentlemen, as there are so many issues to be discussed within limited time, may I now declare this Inter-Departmental Information Workshop open, and I look forward to achieving fruitful results from this Workshop.

Thank you and have a good day!