



**Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of
Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

REPORT

**THE FIRST NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING**

**PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA
21 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Prepared by
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, MALAYSIA

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
TRAINING DEPARTMENT**



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Venue

Mutiara Meeting Room, Level 6, Block 4G2, Wisma Tani, Presint 4, Federal Territory of Putrajaya, Malaysia

1. CHAIRPERSON KEYNOTE

- 1.1 Refugia was introduced as one of the fisheries management tool in order to tackle the regional and global resource depletion issues.
- 1.2 The Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand is an initiative of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC). This project is to manage and preserve the important marine species and habitats in the Southeast Asian region and was participated by six (6) regional countries namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
- 1.3 In Malaysia, two (2) areas have been proposed as refugia sites:
 - 1.3.1 Tanjung Leman, Johor (*Panulirus polyphagus* - mud spiny lobster) and Kuala Baram, Sarawak (*Penaeus monodon* - tiger prawn).
 - 1.3.2 This project will be carried out for four (4) years from 2017 until 2020 and funded by SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF. Whereas, Malaysia will be co-financing through the Operation and Development Allocations of the Department of Fisheries Malaysia under the Eleventh Malaysian Plan.
 - 1.3.3 A total allocation of USD3.0 million was approved by UNEP / GEF in January 2016 to be distributed to countries participating in the project.
 - 1.3.4 Malaysia is expected to receive an allocation of USD250, 000.00 (RM1.0 million) over a four-year period.
- 1.4 Following the MOU between Malaysia and SEAFDEC which was signed on June 20, 2017:
 - 1.4.1 Malaysia shall provide Quarterly Work Plan in order to request Cash Advance from SEAFDEC / UNEP / GEF.
 - 1.4.2 Quartely Work Plans shall require endorsement from the National Fisheries Refugia Project Committee.
- 1.5 This meeting was held to inform the implementation status of the Fisheries Refugia Project at the national level and to approve the quarterly work plan which will be submitted to SEAFDEC / UNEP / GEF.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Presentation of Fishing Refugia Project Implementation Status

2.1.1 The committee took note the status of the implementation of the project.

2.2 Presentation of Costed Quarterly Work Plan

2.2.1 The committee acknowledged and approved the plan in order to apply cash advance request amount of USD27, 230.00.

2.2.2 This document will be amended according to the given format and submitted to SEAFDEC / UNEP / GEF as soon as possible.

3. OTHER MATTERS

3.1 Update of the Refugia Information Center (RIC)

3.1.1 Johor State Fisheries Office is in the process of applying an exemption on the rent payment with the premise owner.

3.1.2 This center will be officiated by the Director General of Fisheries Malaysia on November 20, 2017.

3.1.3 Posters and lobster replicate are being prepared for the opening ceremony.

4. CLOSING

4.1 The Chairman requested a comprehensive plan shall be made for the implementation of this project by taking into account of various aspects including scientific, social and financial.

4.2 Besides that, the Chairman expressed his gratitude for the commitment made by the committee in the refugia project.

4.3 The meeting adjourned at 4.30 pm.

List of participants

NO.	NAME	AGENCY
1	Dr. Bah Piyon Tan	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
2	Mr. Ram Singh a/l Hari Singh	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
3	Mr. Yeoh Yuan Xiang	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
4	Mr. Bohari bin Haji Leng	Department of Marine Fisheries Sarawak
5	Mr. Belayong Nyuak	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
6	Mr. Zamani bin Omar	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
7	Mr. Rosidi bin Ali	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
8	Mrs. Aslyhawati binti Yaacob	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
9	Mr. Mohamad Firdaus bin Musa	Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency
10	Mr. Fakhruddin bin Shariff	Johor State Economic Planning Division
11	Mrs. Shamsiah binti Awi	Sarawak Planning Unit
12	Ms. Josephine Dorin Misieng	Department Of Agriculture Sarawak
13	Mr. Bakri bin Miswan	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
14	Mr. Mohamed Ridzuan bin Mohamed Alias	Department of Marine Park Malaysia
15	Mrs. Adilah Hani binti Yusuf	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
16	Mrs. Nor Khalilah binti Zainuddin	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
17	Mrs. Haryati binti Abd. Wahab	Department of Fisheries Malaysia