



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

REPORT

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

**PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA
19-20 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Prepared by
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, MALAYSIA

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER
TRAINING DEPARTMENT



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Venue

Meeting Room, Level 3, Block 4G2, Wisma Tani, Presint 4, Federal Territory of Putrajaya, Malaysia

1. CHAIRPERSON KEYNOTE

- 1.1. 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).
- 1.2. 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. The objective of this meeting is to discuss on the actions to be taken for the upcoming National Fisheries Refugia Committee Meeting will be held soon.
- 1.4. The committee was informed that Mrs. Vaani Muniandy will be the desk officer for refugia project replacing Mrs. Haryati Abdul Wahab.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1. The committee was informed that new National Scientific and Technical Focal Point for the Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in The South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand shall be appointed from FRI Kg. Aceh whereas the alternate from FRI Bintawa.
- 2.2. Costed Quarterly Work Plan of Q1-Q4/2019 have been submitted to Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) Bangkok.
- 2.3. The Site-Based Fisheries Refugia Management Boards has not been established in Tanjung Leman and Kuala Baram. Therefore, immediate action on this matter needs to be taken.
- 2.4. Committee was informed that the Cabinet's approval is yet to be obtained in order to organize The 2nd Meeting of the Project Steering Committee for The SEAFDEC / UNEP / GEF Project on Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand which will be held on 5-6 November 2019 in Miri, Sarawak. The cost for the event will be borne by PCU, however Department of Fisheries Malaysia will be supporting for official dinner and souvenirs.
- 2.5. The status of Refugia Project in Tanjung Leman, Johor was presented by Mr. Ryon Siow. Data were collected from 3 to 13 September 2019 through the Observer on Board (OBB) method by trawler (35 haul). Besides that, a socio-economic study will be conducted on 17-19 September 2019 in Tioman Island.
- 2.6. The status of Refugia Project in Kuala Baram, Sarawak was presented by Mrs. Nurridan Abd. Han. A total of six (6) survey trips were conducted during March to August 2019 and a study in September could not be conducted because has not yet received the allocation from SEADFDEC. In addition, the survey for tiger prawn juveniles will be continued and expected to complete by June 2020.
- 2.7. The financial report was presented by Mr. Mohd. Ridzuwan Rahim as follows:
 - I. A total of USD 55,042.89 was received from 2018 until Quarter 2/2019 from GEF; and
 - II. The current balance is USD 2633.00 at MFRDMD.
- 2.8. The Cash Advance Request for Quarter 3/2019 was submitted in August 2019 to PCU. However, MFRDMD has not receive the allocation from PCU.

2.9. The committee agreed to appoint a new Project Manager to replace Mr. Ahmad Adnan Nuruddin whose contract has been expired on September 2, 2019. The Terms of Reference (TOR) must be prepared and endorsed in the National Fisheries Refugia Committee Meeting.

2.10. The committee was informed the co-finance template for Q1 and Q2/2019 will be disseminated through e-mail and all relevant parties are required to submit information.

3. CLOSING

3.1. The chairperson thanked all the attendees and the meeting adjourned at 4.30pm

List of participants

NO.	NAME	AGENCY
1	Mr Hadil b. Rajali	Fisheries Research Institute
2	Mr Richard Rumpet	Fisheries Research Institute
3	Mrs Noor Hasmayana bt. Yahaya	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
4	Mrs Nurridan bt. Abd. Han	Fisheries Research Institute
5	Mr Ryon Siow	Fisheries Research Institute
6	Mr Dokanaer Kasto ak Muning	Department of Marine Fisheries Sarawak
7	Ms Bahrinah bt. Bahrim	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
8	Mr Ahmad Faidzi b. Kastolany	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
9	Mrs Nur Fadhlina Chan bt. Mahadie Chan	Department of Fisheries Malaysia
10	Mr Mohd. Ridzuwan b. Rahim	Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department
11	Mrs Vaani Muniandy	Department of Fisheries Malaysia