



"SEAFDEC fully supports the Shanghai Declaration to build capacities of the member countries in preparing mitigation and adaptation to climate resilience in fisheries and aquaculture towards sustainable fisheries for food security in the Southeast Asian Region."

Pledges and statements of support for the Shanghai Declaration

By Ms. Malinee Smithrithee, SEAFDEC Secretary-General

The Conference Organizers;

FAO; NACA; the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

First of all, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for inviting SEAFDEC to be part of the "Global Conference on Aquaculture +20." We appreciate your efforts in convening this event as it is very important to ensure the sustainability of aquaculture considering its contribution to food supply for people all over the world.

In Southeast Asia, relevant provisions of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries CCRF have also been reflected in our regional policy frameworks, especially the "ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2030" which was recently adopted by the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and Senior Officials.

There are technical constraints in aquaculture that we need to be overcome such as good quality seed production, the reduction of fish-based ingredients for aquaculture feeds, the challenges on fish health management and the linkage between aquaculture and environment, all of that need to be urgently addressed. It is also important that the development of technologies to address these issues should not only focus on complicated technologies, but also on technologies that could be easily adopted by small-scale fish farmers.

To ensure, quality and safety of the products for human consumption. SEAFDEC is also involved in developing a number of regional guidelines, such as the GAqP, ASEAN Shrimp GAP, the guidelines for safe use of chemicals in aquaculture and the promotion of traceability systems of aquaculture products. Adoption of these guidelines would eventually contribute to enhanced competitiveness of aquaculture products from the region in the international markets.

Recognizing, "Shanghai Declaration: Aquaculture for food and sustainable development," we found that various aspects are in line with the issues and actions in the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action. Therefore, on behalf of SEAFDEC, I have an honor to convey our pledge of support to this Declaration.

SEAFDEC looks forward to having closer cooperation among the agencies for the implementation of activities under Shanghai Declaration for the development of sustainable aquaculture in the years to come.

Thank you very much.