



## PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS

### I. INTRODUCTION

Ecosystem approach to neritic tunas Fisheries Management (EAFM-neritic tunas) is one of the target mentioned in the Regional Plan of Action for Sustainable Utilization of neritic tunas in the Southeast Asian Region was endorsed by the 47<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council in April 2015, and subsequently by the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (23ASWGFi) and supported by the Special Senior Officials at Senior Officials Meeting of 36<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM 36<sup>th</sup> AMAF) in late 2015. Noted that, the Regional Plan of Action on Sustainable Utilization of Neritic Tunas in the ASEAN Region is deliberate to serve as a tool to support the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in implementing the effective management measures for neritic tuna and enhance the regional and sub-regional cooperation to ensure the sustainable utilization of neritic tuna resources. Considering the basis requirements for development of the EAFM-neritic tunas, understanding on balancing the fish stock and the fishing capacity including its fishing effort as well as ecosystem and socio economics aspects are ones of the key challenges that needed to be clarified in this workshop with aims to develop the effective managements of those two species toward the EAFM concept.

Referring to the results of the stock assessment on *Thunnus tonggol*, (Long tail tuna, LOT) and *Euthynnus affinis* (Kawakawa, KAW) in two sub-regional areas of the Southeast Asian region -- using the specific software such as CPUE standardization, A Stock-Production Model Incorporating Covariates (ASPIC)-ver.5, Kobe I (Kobe plot) – shows that Longtail tuna in the Indian Ocean side is in the red zone the Kobe plot (overfished and still overfishing), *i.e.*,  $TB/TB_{msy}=0.89$  and  $F/F_{msy}=1.11$  implying that TB is 11% lower than the MSY level and F is 11% higher than the MSY level. Catch in 2011 was the peak, but afterwards it decreased in 2014. Hence the stock status has been slightly recovered in 2014. However, probability of uncertainties in the un-safe zone (red, orange and yellow in the Kobe plot or stock status trajectories) in 2014 stock status, it is very high at 78%. Thus, both catch and F (Fishing pressure) should be decreased to their MSY levels, *i.e.*, 37,000 tons. In addition, even though the LOT and KAW in Pacific ocean side is in the green zone of Kobe plot, but management measures are still required in order to ensure that they will not move to the unsafe zone in future.

In addition, risk assessments suggested that future catch levels of kawakawa (Indian Ocean side) and longtail tuna (Pacific Ocean side) need to be reduced from the current level at least by 7% and 20% respectively to maintain MSY levels at current total biomass and F. Therefore, SEAFDEC Secretariat in collaboration with MFRDMD need to develop and propose optimum management measures in this WS based on the results of scientific evidence made by the scientific working group.

Furthermore, in this workshop, the EAFM approaches for neritic tunas to support more plausible fisheries management will be discussed by considering biological aspects including stock + risk assessment results, ecosystem, socio economics etc. to be developed by 3 major parties (managers, stakeholder and scientists).

### II. OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this workshop is to develop the appropriate model of Ecosystem Approach for neritic tunas Fisheries Management (EAFM-neritic tunas) which could guide ASEAN Member States with proper management of neritic tunas in Southeast Asian Region.

The specific objectives are as follows:

- a) To conduct the risk assessments of the LOT and KAW for 2 sub-regional areas, Pacific Ocean side and Indian Ocean side in the Southeast Asian region;
- b) To discuss and develop the management measures for LOT and KAW;
- c) To discuss and develop the appropriate model for EAFM-Neritic tunas as an alternate management measure of b); and
- d) To discuss other matters related to the preparation of future activities such as:
  - i. Kick-off the genetic study of the LOT and KAW in 2017-18
  - ii. Data preparation for seer fish stock assessments (Indo-Pacific king mackerel and narrow-barred Spanish mackerel) (2017-2018).

### **III. EXPECTED OUTPUTS**

The expected outputs from the workshop are as follows:

- a) Risk assessments of the LOT and KAW in 2 sub-regional areas of the Southeast Asian region;
- b) A draft management measures of LOT and KAW in 2 sub-regional areas;
- c) EAFM Model for neritic tunas;
- d) Detailed work plan on Genetic Study of LOT and KAW including timetable of tissues samplings;
- e) Work plan for data preparation and stock assessments (Indo-Pacific king mackerel and narrow-barred Spanish mackerel)

### **IV. DATE AND VENUE**

The workshop will be organized at Furama Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 19-21 December 2016.

### **V. EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS**

1. Two (2) key participants: at least one person from the Members of Scientific Working Group and/or a fishery manager or policy maker on neritic tunas from each member country;
2. Key participants from MFRDMD (6prs), TD (3prs) and SEC team (5prs);
3. A resource person from Japan
4. Observers

### **VI. TENTATIVE AGENDA**

18 Dec. 2016

- Arrival of all participants

19 Dec. 2016

- Stock and risk assessments and draft management measures of LOT and KAW

20 Dec. 2016

- Development of EAFM model for neritic tunas

21 Dec. 2016

- Preparatory work and kick off the Genetic work for LOT and KAW
- Data preparation for seer fish stock assessments (Indo-Pacific king mackerel and narrow-barred Spanish mackerel)
- Wrap-up results of the workshop

22 Dec. 2016

- Departure of participants to home country