



## 11th meeting of the Asia Regional Advisory Group on Aquatic Animal Health



Participants in the 11th Advisory Group meeting.

During the three day meeting the group reviewed the disease situation in Asia, considered the recent changes made to OIE global standards, revised the list of diseases for listing in the regional Quarterly Aquatic Animal Disease (QAAD) reporting system, assessed the progress made against the various elements contained in the Asia Regional Technical Guidelines on Responsible Movement of Live Aquatic Animals, updated the list of regional disease resource centers, and developed recommendations and action points for the consideration by the NACA Secretariat and Member Governments.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the inclusion of the new emerging shrimp disease acute hepatopancreatic necrosis syndrome (AHPNS) in the QAAD list of diseases. This will require member governments to report any outbreak of the disease for the quarterly disease surveillance report commencing on the first quarter of 2013. Finalisation of the OIE-NACA WAHIS Regional Core was also discussed, and full implementation of this regional online reporting of aquatic animal diseases is targeted by January 2013 at the earliest.

The full report of the meeting is available for download from the NACA website at:

[http://www.enaca.org/modules/library/publication.php?publication\\_id=1095](http://www.enaca.org/modules/library/publication.php?publication_id=1095)

The 11th Meeting of the Asia Regional Advisory Group on Aquatic Animal Health (AGM 11) was held at Maruay Garden Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand on 21-23 November 2012. The meeting marked a decade of existence of AG in the region (officially established on November 2001), and was attended by the following members and co-opted members:

- Dr. Jie Huang (OIE AAHSC, China).
- Dr. Simona Forcella (OIE, France).
- Dr. Hnin Thidar Myint (OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, Tokyo, Japan).
- Dr. Weimin Miao (FAO-Regional Representation in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand).
- Dr. Ingo Ernst (DAFF Australia).
- Dr. Edgar Amar (SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department).
- Dr. Kjersti Gravningen (private Sector, PHARMAQ Vietnam).

- Dr. Wensheng Lan (Shenzhen Exit and Entry Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, AQSIQ, China).
- Prof. Timothy Flegel (Centex Shrimp, Mahidol University).
- Dr. Supranee Chinabut (AAH Expert, Thailand).
- Dr. Somkiat Kanchanakhan (IAAHRI, Thailand).
- Dr. Eduardo Leano, Dr. CV Mohan, Mr. Simon Wilkinson and Dr. Ambekar Eknath (NACA).
- Dr. Siow Foong Chang (MSD Animal Health, Singapore).
- Dr. Temduong Somsiri (Director, IAAHRI, Thailand).

Dr. Ingo Ernst was re-appointed as the Chairperson of AG for 2012 and 2013, with Dr. Somkiat Kanchanakhan as Vice-Chairperson. Commemorating the completion of 10 years of AG, Dr. CV Mohan presented highlights of AG accomplishments in terms of improving the aquatic animal health management in the region.

## Aquaculture community mourns

### Prof. M.C. Nandeeshha

*I regret to inform that our dear friend Prof. M.C. Nandeeshha passed away on 26 December. On behalf of NACA I would like to express our condolences to his wife and family. It is a very great loss for the aquaculture community, his friends and students.*

*Nandeeshha's sincerity and commitment to development ideals and social justice was legendary. Many aquaculture scientists and officials at the highest levels of government began their careers with a scholarship secured on their behalf by Nandeeshha. He was instrumental in initiating aquaculture development in Cambodia, played a key role in putting gender issues on the table through the Asian Fisheries Society, and was an active supporter and volunteer for the charity Aquaculture without Frontiers. He was a regular columnist for Aquaculture Asia Magazine and great friend and supporter of NACA over many years.*

*Seldom have I met anyone with such conviction, sincerity and dedication in any field of endeavour. Never afraid to speak his mind, if he thought the system was doing an injustice he would tackle it. If only we had more people like him, the world would be a better place.*

*I request his friends and supporters to consider making a donation to reduce the burden of his medical expenses on his family, as per the message below.*

*The Editor.*

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Dear Friends

As you are aware Prof. M.C. Nandeeshha had a massive heart attack on 23rd November 2012 and is currently undergoing treatment at Apollo Hospital, Greams Road, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. Though his condition was improving during the initial period of treatment, he developed multiple organ complications after 2nd Dec, 2012 and his condition became critical. Currently, he is on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) machine and on dialysis.

Till today, excluding doctors' fees, the hospital expenditure has reached more than Rs 24 lakhs (~ US\$ 45,000) and his daily hospital bills are approximately more than 1 (one) lakh rupees/day. Once, his condition gets stabilized,



the doctors have advised to go for transplant which will cost more than Rs 30 lakhs (~ US\$ 58,000). Hence, in anticipation of the existing and anticipated huge hospital bills, I request your kind help, in this regard.

The details mentioned above are of the joint account of Dr. M.C. Nandeeshha and myself (which will be operated by B.Rajeswari Dayal; i.e Mrs. Nandeeshha). If any queries please contact Prof. B.A. Shamasundar (bashamasundar@gmail.com) or Rajeswari Dayal (mcnraju@gmail.com).

With regards

B. Rajeswari Dayal

Bank name:	Union bank of India
Bank address:	Madhavaram Branch, no. 1. G.N.T. Road, Chennai, PIN - 600060, Tamil Nadu, India
Account No.	332902010721340
IFSC Code:	UBIN0533297
SWIFT code:	UBININBBASOW – followed by the account number
Account holder name:	Dr. M. C. Nandeeshha. and B. Rajeswari Dayal

## Got a story for Aquaculture Asia Magazine?

We are looking for interesting stories about aquaculture development in the Asian region, particularly in terms of the human aspects of development – the people involved and the changes it has made to their lives and communities.

We would particularly like to hear from colleagues in South-east Asian countries, whose work is often under-represented in aquaculture publications.

If you have a story to tell please email it to magazine 'at' enaca.org, along with some large, high-quality photographs of

your subjects. Please prepare articles in line with our Guidelines to Authors, which you can download from:

<http://www.enaca.org/modules/wfdownloads/viewcat.php?cid=66>



## AusAID funded project on Institutional Support for Development of Mariculture in South East Sulawesi commences

The South East Sulawesi region is recognised as one of high aquaculture potential. At present it is renowned for its seaweed, grouper and lobster farming, which are all conducted on a small scale in the numerous bays of islands in the Banda Sea. Increasingly activities conducted in the region, particularly mining and forestry, are posing major challenges to maintaining the pristine marine environments required for aquaculture. Consequently, there is a need to adapt and improve farming practices to help meet these challenges.

A two-year project has been funded under the auspices of the AusAID Public Sector Linkages Program, to help address these challenges. The program involves a partnership between the Fisheries Department, Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan, the University of Haluoleo in Indonesia and the Victorian Department of Primary Industries and Deakin University, Australia.

The new project aims to achieve sustainable development of the mariculture sector in South East Sulawesi, through enhancing the livelihoods of small-holder aquaculture farmers. To achieve this aim the project team will:

Enhance technical capability of local institutions to facilitate adoption of a new industry development framework.

Develop and demonstrate pilot-scale case studies featuring an integrated resource management and value chain approach to agribusiness development, and a cluster-based approach to adoption of better management practices.

Develop a provincial scale, strategic planning model designed to facilitate post-project dissemination of key findings and associated, longer-term industry development outcomes.

This new project builds on the positive outcomes of an earlier project 'Assessing mariculture market constraints and potential in South East Sulawesi: stakeholder engagement and situation analysis' previously funded by the Australian centre for International Agricultural Research.

In early September, the Australian project team of Dr Brett Ingram (DPI, Victoria) (Project Leader), Prof. Sena De Silva (Deakin University, Warrnambool) and Geoff Gooley (formerly DPI, Victoria) travelled to South East Sulawesi to start the work. The Australian team met with the principal Indonesian project collaborators:

Prof. Dr. Ir. La. Ode Muh Aslan, Wa Iba Sahrir (Icha), and staff and students of the faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, Haluoleo University, Kendari.

Ir. H. Askabul M.Si and staff of Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan, Kendari.

An important part of this first meeting was to visit the farms and the farmers whose livelihoods the project will improve and to bring all those together who will need to collaborate and share information in order to make this project a success.



*Lobster cages and seaweed growing area near Renda Island Village, Muna Island.*

The Project's Inception Workshop brought together farmers, seafood traders, researchers and government officers from Muna Island, Buton Island and Kendari. The workshop identified some of the more important problems the farmers were facing and discussed the strategies needed to mitigate these issues and to bring about improvements in the production and profitability of the farms. The participants were of the view that the development of better management practices featuring integrated multi trophic aquaculture for the major farmed commodities, and the adoption of a cluster approach and associated value chains, will be most appropriate for South East Sulawesi. The Indonesian Central Government has already initiated development of small scale farmer clusters to facilitate access to seed supplies and market channels. The group decided that it would be best to keep the focus on these existing clusters and work in conjunction with them to develop better management practices.

Through this project it is expected that small-scale farmers will implement cluster-based better management practices, and develop sustainable seafood value chains. Public sector agencies will incorporate cluster-based better management practices and the integrated multi-trophic aquaculture concept in local and provincial development strategies for fisheries and mariculture development. With support from both government and educational institutions, such as Haluoleo University and the Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan, this project will facilitate training, research and management actions which make cluster-based better management practices, integrated multi-trophic aquaculture and fisheries and mariculture value chains a feature for South East Sulawesi.

For more information about the project, please contact:

Dr Brett Ingram  
Fisheries Victoria, Department of Primary Industries  
Private Bag 20, Alexandra. VIC. 3714. Australia  
Email: brett.ingram 'at' dpi.vic.gov.au

## Regional training course on broodstock management in aquaculture, Vietnam

### 27 May – 1 June 2013

Although Asian aquaculture has grown rapidly the rate of growth is declining. One factor contributing to this decline is a decrease in the quality of seed stocks of many of the major species cultured. Unlike agriculture, genetic improvement programmes for aquaculture are in their infancy and genetic management of broodstock is an issue that is routinely neglected. Improved varieties are the exception rather than the norm and very few hatcheries have personnel trained in broodstock management. All too often, broodstock are based on small imported founder populations that have been maintained in captivity for many generations without any management at all.

In the region one of the major weaknesses of the sector lies in the fact that science of broodstock management is not well understood and rarely applied in practice. Neither is it a component of the curriculum in courses on aquaculture in tertiary institutions. In most countries in the region there is a dearth of capacity in broodstock management principles and practices, hatchery personnel almost always concentrating on paying more attention to the immediate needs of producing seed stocks required, but less so on its quality and or on aspects of preserving the genetic diversity of the parental stocks and the manner in which the best results could be obtained, in respect of quality of seed stock in each production cycle.

Capacity building in broodstock management is urgently required. NACA and the Fisheries Training Programme of the United Nations University jointly have therefore launched a project in collaboration with Nha Trang University, Vietnam, Deakin University, Australia, the Department of Primary Industries, Victoria, Australia, and Holar University, Iceland to develop and test a short training course on principles and practices of broodstock management in aquaculture.

The first run of the training course will be conducted from 27 May to 1 June 2013 at Nha Trang University for selected participants from 6 to 8 Asian countries. The course organisers will provide financial support (travel and

subsistence allowance) to a minimum of the 10 most promising nominees from NACA member countries. In addition, up to 10 places will be made available on a paid basis (US \$1,200) for other interested parties.

#### Eligibility for sponsorship

The sponsored positions in the course are open to technical personnel who meet the following requirements:

- Currently employed in hatchery management.
- Minimum of five years' experience in hatchery management.
- Working in facilities of NACA member governments.

For more information, including application details, please download the course prospectus from:

<http://www.enaca.org/uploads/temporary/naca-broodstock-training-course.pdf>



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NACA is a network composed of 18 member governments in the Asia-Pacific Region.



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## Video recordings from workshop on sustainable intensification of aquaculture released!

Some good news: The days of having to physically attend a NACA workshop to access the presentations are over!

We have been started making video recordings of technical presentations delivered at our workshops, which you can watch online any time you like, wherever you are. This is intended to free everyone from the tyranny of distance and make the material available to the entire network.

The videos generally consist of a screen recording made during a Powerpoint presentation, with accompanying audio, so you can watch the presentation exactly as it was delivered on screen.

Audio-only files are also available for those who prefer to listen or who have limited internet bandwidth. The recordings are available through the 'Podcasts' section of the NACA website, and you can subscribe to our feed with your favourite podcasting client.

The first batch of eleven videos comes from the recent workshop on Sustainable Intensification of Aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific, which was co-organised by FAO, APFIC and NACA. Check it out at:

[http://www.enaca.org/modules/podcast/programme.php?programme\\_id=10](http://www.enaca.org/modules/podcast/programme.php?programme_id=10)