

2nd Regional Technical Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats
SEAFDEC Training Department
4 days, 20-23 April 2010

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Provisional Prospectus (WP_01)

I. Background and Rationale:

There are over a million of small fishing boats operating in the Southeast Asian (SEA) Region and that represents a high risk occupation. Even fishers have in nature and experience with very skillful and accomplished sailors who possess a great amount of weather and sea-going knowledge. ***Nevertheless, accidents of the fishing boats still happen and the natural disasters have been currently recognized as an increasing unexpected matter due to the climate change and global warming.***

At global level, the Fisheries Department of FAO has been working in the field of fishers' safety for over 50 years to address the safety aspects of the fishing industry adequately because the nature of fishing operations is different from the merchant shipping. In 2001, FAO published "Safety at sea as an integral part of fisheries management" with the focus given to urge that the ***safety at sea should be integrated into general management of the fisheries at the national level.*** It was mentioned that safety at sea is a very serious problem in the developing countries and it is likely that many developing countries have been seeking external advice in planning of fishery management in their EEZ.

In the year 2003, SEAFDEC Training Department with the support from Japanese Trust Fund Program organized the 1st Regional Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats. Experiences from the national initiatives to improve safety at sea for small fishing boats has been presented and discussed. The major conclusion included recommendation on safety at sea for small fishing boats in SEA. Since then, ***progress of the national work on the safety at sea for small fishing boats in Southeast Asia is needed to be reviewed at the regional level.***

Recently, SEAFDEC Training Department (TD) with the support from FAO has conducted a study on safety at sea for fishing boats. The survey method was used in the study focusing with trawlers and purse seiners operating in the Gulf of Thailand and Andaman Sea. The result shows that only the commercial size of fishing boats are at the safety standard whereas the small fishing boats do not meet safety standards¹. This preliminary study indicated that there is a ***need to address for further improvement of the safety at sea for small fishing boats; and to establish an appropriate national system for recording accident at sea of the fishing vessels.***

In this connection, the 2nd Regional Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats will be organized in following up with international and regional initiatives related to safety at sea for small fishing boats with the special focus on the further establishment of an appropriate mechanism to record the accident

¹ Referred to Marine Department and Department of Fisheries Thailand.

at sea of the fishing vessels and to improve live of small fishing boats operators in dealing with the climate change.

II. Objectives:

1. To review international, regional, and national initiatives related to safety for small fishing boats
2. To review the progress of national works on improvement of safety at sea
3. To discuss on how to establish the system or mechanism at the national level for recording accident at sea of small fishing boats
4. To establish a collaborative efforts among the relevant agencies/authorizes for improvement of safety at sea for fishing vessels; and
5. To prepare regional guidelines for safety at sea of small fishing boats

III. Expected Outputs:

1. Set of document/information on the current situation of safety at sea of small fishing vessels
2. Set of recommendations for further development and establishment of a mechanism/system for recording accident at sea of the small fishing boats
3. Establishment of a network for future information exchange and sharing to improve live at sea of the small fishing boats in the SEA region; and
4. A draft regional guidelines for safety at sea of small fishing boats

IV. Date and Venue: to be organized during 20 -23 April 2010, 4 days, at SEAFDEC/TD

V. Target Participants and Resource Persons: SEAFDEC Member Countries (one each), SEAFDEC Non-Member Country (South Asia and Others), FAO, IMO, FRA (Japan), SEAFDEC Secretariat, ASEAN, SEAFDEC-Sida Project, SEAFDEC's relevant Projects, Fishers Association, Maritime Department, Statistic Bureau, etc.

VI. Agenda

- 1. Introduction and opening**
- 2. Review on international, regional, and national initiatives related to safety for small fishing boats (covering numerous dimensions such as Marine Time Safety, Vessels Registration, etc.)**
 - 2.1 FAO
 - 2.2 IMO, FRA (Japan)
 - 2.3 A Case Study in Thailand – Safety at Sea for Trawlers and Purse Seiners
 - 2.4 Experiences and Lessons Learned by SEAFDEC-Sida Project on Safety at Sea for Fishing Boat in the Gulf of Thailand and Andaman Sea
 - 2.5 Others
- 3. Current Situation of Safety at Sea: Progress of the national works on improvement of safety at sea for small fishing boats (to be presented by SEAFDEC Member- and Non-Member Countries' Representative)**

4. **Special discussion on “How to record accident of small fishing boats” – panelist compose of FAO, IMO, FRA (Japan), SEAFDEC, Statistical Bureau, and Marine Time Dept, and Small-scale Fishers Association.**
5. **Brain storming session on “Ways to improve safety at sea for small fishing vessel”**
6. **Conclusion and Recommendations**
7. **One-day Study Trip to observe fishing boats, dock yards, etc.**
8. **Closing**

VII. Contact Persons

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VIII. Further Readings and References

1. Bundit C. and Sutee R., 2009. Technical Report on Safety at Sea for Trawlers and Purse Seiners Survey in Thailand. SEAFDEC Training Department.
2. Gudrun P. FAO Fisheries Circular No. 966 FIIT/C966. 2001. Safety at sea as an integrated part of fisheries management. 49pp.
3. SEAFDEC Training Department. 2004. Proceeding of the 1st Regional Workshop on Safety at Sea for Small Fishing Boats, 17-19 December 2003, SEAFDEC Training Department, Thailand. TD/RP/63. 81pp.
4. Others