

## OPENING ADDRESS

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Director General of Fisheries Malaysia  
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## INTERNATIONAL TRAINING ON POPULATION DYNAMICS AND STOCK ASSESSMENT FOR OIC COUNTRY

3 December 2018  
SEAFDEC/MFRDMD, KUALA TERENGGANU

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Tuan Haji Zawawi bin Ali,  
Director of Terengganu State Fisheries Office

Yang Mulia Raja Bidin bin Raja Hassan  
Chief of the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management  
Department (MFRDMD), Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center  
(SEAFDEC)

Dr Kenji Taki,  
Deputy Chief of SEAFDEC/MFRDMD

Head of Departments and Agencies under MOA

Mr. Ruzaidi bin Mamat  
Director for Fisheries Academy of Malaysia

Division Directors from DOF Malaysia Putrajaya

Senior Researchers from the Fisheries Research Institute of Malaysia  
(FRI) and Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management  
Department (MFRDMD)

Distinguished trainers

Distinguished guest and participants especially from the Ministry of Fisheries in Bangladesh

Media members

Ladies and Gentlemen...

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

and Good Morning to everyone...

1.  ... We are thankful to Allah for His grace that we can gather in this wonderful morning...
2. First and foremost, let me take this opportunity to bid all of you Selamat Datang or Welcome to the Opening Ceremony of the International Training on Population Dynamics and Stock Assessment for OIC Country here in the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD), Chendering, Kuala Terengganu and I feel honored to be here this morning and able to join this auspicious occasion.
3. The Department of Fisheries Malaysia together with the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia take great pride in hosting this much awaited International Training on Population Dynamics and Stock Assessment designed to enhance understanding and more importantly to strengthen the capability and capacity of technical agencies responsible for fisheries management.

**BANGLADESH MARINE FISHERIES CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT  
UNDER CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM FOR OIC COUNTRIES –  
CBP4OICC**

4. Within the framework of South-South Cooperation, the Prime Minister of Malaysia had initiated and declared in Kuala Lumpur in February 2005 a capacity building program for OIC countries with a single intention to provide the opportunities for OIC member states to cooperate in improving their capacity in managing their economies.

5. In this framework, the Government of Malaysia (GOM), the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) had signed a tripartite MOU on the Implementation of the Bangladesh Marine Fisheries Capacity Building Project, on 5 June 2010 in Jeddah during the Joint Opening Ceremony of the Workshop and the First Senior Officials Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Phase II Capacity Building Programme for OIC Countries (CBP4OICC). The objective (from Project Document) of the project is to build the capacity of the Department of Fisheries to properly monitor, control and undertake surveillance on Bangladesh's marine resources.

6. The project which is now at the end of implementation phase, was started in 2011 and had been extended until June 2019. The Department of Fisheries of Malaysia had been appointed as the Implementing Agencies for the project with the responsibility to provide technical inputs at various levels including training programs on Coastal Fisheries Management in 2012, and International Acoustic Training Program that was held on 6-10 September 2017 and the latest on 21-25 October 2018.

7. Malaysia's capabilities in providing technical assistance in the development and management of fisheries/ marine aquatic natural resources at international level has been acknowledged by OIC Countries during the Senior Officials Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Phase II Capacity Building Programme for OIC Countries (CBP4OICC) and the Session of Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC).

Distinguished Guests...

### ***INTERNATIONAL TRAINING ON POPULATION DYNAMICS AND STOCK ASSESSMENT***

8. The main objective of this training is to enhance the knowledge and skills in the use of basic fisheries data in the assessment of fish stocks as well as to review the theory and principal methods in quantitative biology and fisheries science with particular emphasis on improving skills through practical training exercises. The training will also review the recent developments in multi-species ecosystem approach and their potential use in fisheries science and management, and it hopes to enable fisheries personnel to establish and develop a database of their marine aquatic resources within the national jurisdiction.

9. Stock assessment makes use of diverse types of information to give managers advice about the status of a fishery and the possible outcomes of management actions. This includes aspects not only related to the resource abundance such as whether the stock is depleted or close to its maximum exploitation level, but also in regards to other important aspects of fish population dynamics such as the current levels of mortality and expected levels of future recruitment, or even economically relevant features such as likely changes in catch per unit effort. In short, stock assessment involves the use of various statistical and mathematical calculations to make quantitative predictions about the reactions of fish populations to alternative management choices.

Ladies and Gentlemen...

### ***NATIONAL CURRENT EFFORTS IN AQUATIC (FISHERIES) RESOURCES MANAGEMENT***

10. DOF is in the midst of shifting from current fisheries management system to a new management regime in light of the recent conclusion of national fish stocks assessment. It provides scientific update of our current status of fish stocks which is instrumental for developing the much anticipated fisheries management plans (FMP) based on species-area

specific. Such a bold move is supported by the establishment of a two-tier committee namely National Fish Stock Committee and Technical Fish Stock Committee with the overarching objective to ensure that utilization of fisheries resources commensurate with the status of stocks.

11. Continuous consultations had been conducted to raise awareness and among the managers and scientists after which stakeholders will be engaged under the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) with a view to develop Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs).

12. While FMPs are taking shape, efforts are also underway to collaborate at regional level to establish and operate regional system of fisheries refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand under UNEP/GEF support.

13. Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOF) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro Based Industry (MOA) is the only Federal Department in Malaysia that covers BOTH the aquatic natural resources and farmed resources. The aquatic natural resources is the only natural resources that directly contribute to the National Food Security and Food Sovereignty. So mainstreaming the related operational resources and institutional capacity for the management of these aquatic resources (natural and farming) are very crucial especially in addressing the agriculture (food production) and environmental (biodiversity and water quality/ pollution issues) objectives.

Honourable Guests...

***FISHERIES (AQUATIC NATURAL RESOURCES): FOR FOOD SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY AS WELL BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION***

14. Mainstreaming ocean and fisheries governance requires holistic approaches as it cuts across ranges of areas from food security to sustainable fisheries to marine pollution and climate change. Needless to mention, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) number 14 presents

both opportunities and challenges to fisheries in many fronts including human resource capacity.

15. As such, DOF needs to develop more experts in management of aquatic natural resources in providing scientific basis to improve and create solid resources management measures and plans to achieve sustainability towards food security and sovereignty as well as biodiversity protection and rehabilitation. It is our hope that this training will help to increase the capacity of the fisheries managers and researchers in fisheries resources management especially using scientific information and methods.

16. I wish everyone the very best and I hope all the participants will use this opportunity to learn more about the fisheries resources management from the experts. I would like to take this opportunity to express my utmost appreciation to the Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) and all partners for such an admirable preparatory works done in making this international training possible.

17. Finally, I wish you all a very productive training program. With that, In the name of Allah, the most Great and Merciful, I now declare the **INTERNATIONAL TRAINING ON POPULATION DYNAMICS AND STOCK ASSESSMENT FOR OIC COUNTRY** officially opened.

Thank you.

WabillahiTaufik    Walhidayah    Wassalamualaikum    Warahmatullahi  
Wabarakatuh....

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