



PRESS RELEASE

THE 49TH COUNCIL OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (SEAFDEC) MEETING Songket Ballroom, The Rizqun International Hotel 6 Rejab 1438/ 3 April 2017

Monday, 3 April 2017 - Brunei Darussalam is currently hosting the forty-ninth meeting of the Council Director of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) which was hosted by the Department of Fisheries. An opening ceremony was held today and officiated by the Guest of Honor, Yang Mulia Dr. Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism. Besides opening of the meeting, the guest of honor also launched an eCatch Documentation Scheme or eACDS, the pilot project will be implemented by Department of Fisheries under the SEAFDEC programme.

The 49th meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) starts from the 3 to 7 April 2017.

The meeting was attended by the Director Generals or Directors in the Department of Fisheries or the Departments responsible for fisheries in each member state. The meeting was chaired by Yang Mulia, Abdul Halidi Mohd Salleh, the Director of Fisheries of Brunei Darussalam as the Chairman of the SEAFDEC Council from April 2017 to March 2018.

Brunei Darussalam has been a member of SEAFDEC organization since 1995. At the moment, the members of SEAFDEC comprised of all ASEAN member countries plus Japan. SEAFDEC has the mandate to develop and manage the fisheries potential of the region by rational utilization of the resources for providing food security and safety to the people and alleviating poverty through transfer of new technologies, research and information dissemination activities. SEAFDEC is also considered as the technical arm to the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group in Fisheries.

The 49th Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council will discuss the development of projects that have been implemented in 2016 and subsequently endorsed projects to be implemented in 2017. The meeting will also discuss the projects to be implemented under the cooperation of SEAFDEC and ASEAN bodies under the ASEAN Working Group on Fishery (ASEAN Sectoral Working Group in Fisheries, ASWGFI).

The launching of eASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme was to pursue with Brunei Darussalam's aspiration in compliance to the export requirement of fishery product from capture fisheries to the United States and European Union countries. Brunei Darussalam was selected as the site of the pilot project of this initiative before it is being used by other member states.

Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism
3 April 2017