



Based at INFOFISH, Kuala Lumpur, and set up with the assistance of FAO, the Advisory Service for Fishing Technology for the Asia/Pacific strives to facilitate dissemination of information on fishing technology and equipment for the industry and research/training institutions as well as to promote links between research institutions, administration and industry. Since 1992, INFOFISH has issued a quarterly newsletter collating global fisheries news and new items relating to fishing technology and fish harvesting.

Information on fishing technology and equipment also appears in *INFOFISH International*, a bi-monthly magazine of which the forthcoming issue will include an article on a "APEC region shows steady progress in fish production and trade" by Helga Josupeit. A supplementary section on "Industry Notes" provides information on latest developments in the global fisheries scene. New equipment and innovations are also featured. Comments and contributions are welcome, so are requests/recommendations for inclusion in the mailing list.

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If you are in the tuna business - here is an event not to be missed!

**TUNA 2010 BANGKOK
11TH INFOFISH WORLD TUNA TRADE CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION**

20 -22 May, 20100

Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre
at CentralWorld, Bangkok, Thailand

The world's largest tuna industry gathering where industry leaders and stakeholders from all over the world meet.

The series of world tuna trade conferences, organized by **INFOFISH**, has always been the best forum of the latest trends and developments, exchange views and make business deals with partners from all over the world.

TUNA 2010 will take a close look at the current issues and challenges facing the global tuna industry. The conference will be addressed by nearly 40 renowned speakers.

Please contact us for further details.

Editor's Note

All these years, the Fishing Technology Digest has come to you on a complimentary basis. Rising production costs have, however, compelled us to switch to a new format and adopt alternative printing arrangements. We hope you will understand our predicament and bear with us. Despite the constraints, there will be no sacrifice on quality and content. Needless to say, in the present scenario we would welcome any assistance from companies or organisations through full or partial sponsorship of the Digest to ensure its uninterrupted production.

1 Malaysian fishermen net large number of fish after quake

The fishermen in northern Malaysia have netted an unusually large number of fish from the sea last week possibly due to the recent earthquake in Sumatra.

It is a common phenomenon for marine fishes to seek shelter in safer waters after a natural disaster like an undersea earthquake, Bernama news agency said citing an official.

A fisherman in Bachok town in Kelantan state caught nearly 5,000 kg of "ikan duri" (marine catfish) within two hours out at sea. Mat Zin Omar, 44, said it was his biggest catch in his 15 years as a fisherman. "Normally, my catch is around 1,000 kg," he said.

ICSF October 14 2009

2 Boat builders in Nova Scotia, Canada, get \$155,002 in government aid

Nova Scotia boat builders got a financial boost from the province which will help the industry open up new global markets. Boat builders received \$155,002 from the Community Development Trust Fund. It will allow export-ready builders to participate in market research, conduct marketing and create promotional materials.

"Nova Scotia has a global reputation for boat building which is based on a strong history," Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister, Sterling Belliveau, said in a news release. "This funding assists in making a strong future for the industry."

More than 45 companies employ 650 people in the industry. An estimated 480 people are also employed indirectly.

ICSF October 16, 2009

3 Kenyan fishermen reap benefits from updated market service

Fishermen in Kenya are set to benefit from an updated marketing service that promises higher incomes. Scientists at the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Institute are working on two new data packages to complement the information service that enables fishermen to follow market trends.

One of the packages gives the fish farmer's information on the availability and pricing of fish while the other one is a consumer package offering recipes and how to assess quality of fish products.

"The Kenya Marine and Fisheries Institute is already working towards developing two additional packages," Dr Richard Abila, one of the founders of the Enhanced Fish Market Information Service (EFMIS) told the second Lake Victoria Basin Stakeholders Forum in Kisumu recently.

The success of EFMIS, a real time market information service for Kenya's fisheries sector has attracted passionate calls to cover the entire East African region. Uganda and Tanzania have appealed to their Kenyan colleagues to widen coverage and enable the region to access the information service.

Currently, the centralised information system operates in 85 fish landing sites in Kenya and has been credited for increased awareness on market trends and reducing marketing costs. The system has also stabilised fish prices while also boosting fishermen's incomes by opening up a ready market.

Launched early September, EFMIS currently operates two information packages - Soko that provides information on markets and pricing for fishermen, traders and cooperatives on the markets and prevailing prices; and Vifaa that offers information on fishing equipment and trends.

Scientists at the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Institute (Kemfri) are currently working on the packages meant for consumers and fish farmers. The information offered will enable consumers to easily assess quality of the products while farmers will be updated on the availability and pricing of fish feeds, fingerlings and harvested fish.

Delegates from the two East African states said the envisaged signing of the EAC customs union would make it possible to expand the regional fish market.

Currently, users of the innovation from any part of the country send a short message to 5565 to Kemfri's data centre and receive automated response on fish prices, quantities of fish at landing sites and markets, number of fish buyers and cold storage fish trucks as well as basic weather information that can influence market decisions.

The installation of the Lake Victoria Maritime Communication around the lake has also enhanced the uptake of the service, added Dr Tom Okurut, the Lake Victoria Basin Commission executive secretary. The Maritime project is funded by African Development Bank (AfDB) and private sector partners including Zain and Ericson and has communication infrastructure covering up to 20km inside the lake.

ICSF November 4, 2009

4 Tanzanian government bans ring net fishing in the Indian Ocean

The Tanzanian government has banned fishing using ring nets in the Indian Ocean. The ban comes after local fishermen clashed with their Tanzanian counterparts over the use of ring nets. The locals claimed the ring nets are illegal while the Tanzanians claimed they were recognised by Kenya Government.

According to a letter from the Director of Livestock and Fisheries Development, the ban, which took effect on November 4, gives room for studies to establish effects of the method to the marine life.

Kilifi DC, Katee Mwanza gave the order to fishermen from Tanzania who have been camping at Takaungu and Mnarani for fishing, using the disputed method. The DC said those who defy the order would be arrested.

Mwanza who led the district security team to meet the fishermen at the Kilifi Old Ferry on Wednesday urged them to maintain peace and order. The meeting was held after locals threatened to arm themselves and attack their colleagues whom they accused of being in the country

illegally.

The letter dated November 4, and signed by head of monitoring, control and surveillance in Coast Province noted there lacked effective monitoring to control use of ring nets.

She urged all fisheries officers, with the support of the Provincial Administration, to reinforce the ban. 'The Department of Fisheries is concerned about use of ring nets that had exceeded its permissible quota for the year 2009,' the letter said.

The director further said Fisheries Ministry was preparing a management plan for the ring net fishing to be ready for adoption by April next year. In the recent past, local fishermen have complained of foul play by the Tanzanians.

The Kenyans complain Tanzanian authorities often harass them, some times even arresting and locking them up in cells across the border.

ICSF November 12 2009

5 Groundbreaking treaty on illegal fishing approved

A new treaty that aims to close fishing ports to ships involved in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing has been approved by FAO's governing Conference. Once it enters into force, it will be the first ever legally binding international treaty focused specifically on this problem.

It will also be the only one to enlist so-called "non-flag states" in the fight against IUU fishing, alongside flag states that are primarily responsible for the conduct of vessels flying their flags on the high seas.

The "Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing" is set to enter into force once 25 countries have ratified it.

The first 11 FAO members - Angola, Brazil, Chile, the European Commission, Indonesia, Iceland, Norway, Samoa, Sierra Leone, the United States and Uruguay - signed the treaty immediately following its approval by the Conference.

By signing the treaty, governments commit themselves to prevent, deter and eventually eliminate IUU fishing including by taking steps to guard their ports against vessels engaged in IUU fishing, thereby preventing fish from such vessels from entering international markets.

Key measures that port states signing the treaty will commit to include:

- Foreign fishing vessels wishing to dock will be required to request permission from designated ports ahead of time, transmitting information on their activities and the fish they have on board. This will give authorities an opportunity to spot any red flags in advance.
- Port States will conduct regular inspections of ships according to a common set of standards. Reviews of ship papers, surveys of fishing gear, examining catches and checking a ship's records can often reveal if it has engaged in IUU fishing.
- They also must ensure that ports are adequately equipped and inspectors properly trained.
- When a vessel is denied access, Port States must communicate that information publicly and national authorities of the country whose flag the vessel is flying must take follow-up action.

newsletter@mercantermedia.com 25 November 2009

6 Chile fish and shellfish landings fall almost 10% in nine months of 2009

According to the latest Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector Report, the wild capture fisheries and aquaculture sectors contributed some 3.1 million tons and 485,000 tons, respectively, to the total harvest in the first nine months of the year.

An estimated 63.2% of wild fish landings consisted of pelagic resources, a slightly higher percentage than the 61.6% registered last year. Jack mackerel, common sardine, and anchovy landings constituted 24.3%, 22.7% and 22.3%, respectively.

Jointly, Regions V-X received the largest share of these landings in receiving 1.7 million tons or 73.8% of the total. Further behind, Regions XV and II received 519,600 tons – 22.7% of the total – meanwhile Regions III and IV registered 81,000 tons – representing 3.5% of the total.

Southern hake accounted for 17,300 tons of demersal fish landings in the year through September - 5.3% less compared to the same period in 2008. The industrial fleet contributed the most, with 9,500 tons, followed by the 7,800 tons harvested by the artisanal fleet.

Common hake landings from January through September totalled 36,000 tons, 4.7% decreased in volume over the same period of 2008, according to SUBPESCA. The industrial sector contributed 73.8% of total landings, with 26,600 tons; and the artisanal sector, 9,400 tons.

Landings of Patagonian toothfish (Chilean sea bass) registered 2,000 tons through the ninth month of 2009, a 14.2% hike over the 1,800 tons landed in September 2008.

An estimated 4,100 tons of yellow shrimp, 2,600 tons of squat lobster and 1,700 tons of golden kingclip were landed through the first nine months of the year, 49.8% boost over 2008.

Meanwhile, the aquaculture harvest totalled 438,900 tons through August, 16% slide from the 522,500 tons harvested in the same period of 2008, reports by the National Fisheries Service (SERNAPESCA) reveal.

The main products harvested were Atlantic salmon, mussels, and rainbow trout, which each accounted for 32.2%, 31.2%, and 19.7% of total production at the national level, respectively. Regions X and XI harvested the highest total output: 282,200 tons and 128,200 tons, respectively.

The Atlantic salmon harvest totalled 141,500 tons through August – 28.4% less than the volume accumulated in the same period of 2008 (197,700 tons). Most of the production came from Regions XI (84,300 tons) and X (49,000 tons).

The mussel harvest, almost entirely produced by Region X, fell by 14.4% from 160,000 tons through August 2008 to 137,000 tons during the same period this year.

Meanwhile, Pacific salmon harvests totalled 86,500 tons through the eighth month of the year, 5.3% less than the 91,300 tons reported through August 2008. The majority of production originated from Regions X and XI, with 51,900 tons and 30,700 tons, respectively.

ICSF November 30, 2009

7 EU ready to combat illegal fishing

The European Commission has adopted rules to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU), which come into force in January 2010. The move comes following the favourable opinion expressed in September by the Committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture.

The IUU Regulation will control all landings and transshipments of third-country fishing vessels in Community ports and all trade of marine fishery products to and from the Union.

"Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing is currently one of the most serious threats to the sustainable exploitation of marine resources. It jeopardises the marine environment, the sustainability of fish stocks and marine biodiversity. Illegal fishing practices are simply intolerable, and we need to eradicate them inside and outside the EU market. As from 2010, the new controls will help those fishermen that play by the rules and will ensure a better control and enforcement of management and conservation rules," said Fisheries Commissioner Joe Borg.

It is estimated that IUU fishing accounts for almost 20 per cent of all marine catches in the world, with a value of approximately €10 billion every year. This makes IUU fishing the second largest producer of fishery products in the world. "Despite having one of the largest fishing fleets in the world, the EU is also the single largest importer of fishery products. It is estimated that the EU imports approximately 500,000 tonnes of fisheries products every year, worth €14 billion of which 45,000 tonnes could originate from illegal fishing. The IUU Regulation and its implementing rules have the ambitious goal to combat illegal fishing by making sure that none of its products end up on the Community market.

To do so, the Regulation sets up a catch certification scheme ensuring the full traceability of all marine fishery products traded from and into the Community. The Regulation also seeks to ensure that no EU citizens are engaged in IUU activities, no matter where they take place.

The Regulation also addresses the issues of port state control and of mutual assistance. Moreover it introduces a Community alert system to detect the most suspect cases of illegal practices, the vessels involved and any non-cooperating third countries. Proper enforcement will be ensured thanks to a harmonised system of proportionate and deterring sanctions for serious infringements.

ICSF October 30, 2009

8 Illegal fishing in Africa's Lake Victoria threatens the livelihood of 3.5m people

The livelihoods of 3.5 million East Africans who depend directly on Lake Victoria are threatened by illegal fishing, overfishing, climate change and pollution. Lake Victoria is the largest inland fishery on the continent, valued at \$400 million annually.

These threats - in addition to funding challenges and high poverty levels among the populations that live on the lake's shores - are almost overwhelming a key institution of the EAC: The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation (LVFO).

The LVFO is mandated to ensure that the resource is used sustainably. The governments of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania adopted the LVFO Convention in 1994 to implement a 15-year project for the lake's sustainable use. The implementation started in 1999 and will run until 2015, with a strategic vision to use the lake to promote economic growth and fight poverty - if the communities refrain from over exploiting the resource.

It is estimated that Lake Victoria has two million tonnes of fish annually, with about one million extracted every year. The fishery is valued at \$400 million locally, but has averaged \$300 million in exports over the past four years - a significant contribution to the region's economic growth.

On top of this, Lake Victoria alone meets fish consumption needs of 22 million people in East Africa, but this could change soon unless the region quickly ends all illegal fishing activities on the lake.

The LVFO Council of Ministers -Uganda's Hope Mwesigye, Kenya's Paul Nyongesa Otuoma and John Pombe Magufuli of Tanzania - met in Nairobi early this month. They issued a joint communique highlighting, among other critical issues, persistent illegalities on the lake.

The Ministers observed, for instance, that efforts undertaken to eliminate illegal fishing - including prohibitive fines and maximum levy per fishing boat - by the end of this year have not significantly changed the status quo.

"The partner states cannot meet the target of reducing illegalities to zero by December 2009. The Nile perch biomass in the lake remains seriously threatened," the communique reads in part, adding that Nile perch stocks have declined from a biomass of 1.2 million tonnes in 2000 to 331,000 this year.

In February this year, the Council of Ministers meeting in Dar es Salaam sets a target to reduce illegalities on Lake Victoria by 50 per cent and to zero by the end of 2009 to allow Nile perch stocks to grow.

But the challenges that LVFO faces in implementing its mandate - high poverty levels around the lake, inadequate funding, ecological damage, depletion of fish stocks, poor market access and encroachment by fishermen on waters of partner states - pretty much mirror those of the larger EAC itself.

ICSF November 16, 2009

9 Illegal fishing rampant in Papua New Guinea

Illegal fishing vessels using sophisticated technology are "running wild" in Papua New Guinea waters because of the authorities' lack monitoring and surveillance capacity, says the National Fisheries Authority (NFA). John Kasu, NFA Executive Manager of Corporate Service, and Philip

Polon, Executive Manager of Licensing and Data Management, told the Parliamentary inquiry into the May riots targeting Asian-owned and operated businesses only PNG-registered fishing vessels are monitored.

Polon said 180 tuna vessels, 15 prawn trawlers and seven lobster vessels had been fitted with the latest automatic locating devices (ALDs), which the NFA monitors, using satellite to tell where their location is around the country. By next year, the vessels will be carrying the latest devices to monitor the catches they make out at sea and recorded in Port Moresby.

"However, we are unable to cover 100 percent illegal vessels fishing in the vast maritime areas," he said. "We are unable to track illegal boats as they easily come in and out using very sophisticated vessels." The main areas whereby illegal fishing occurred were Daru, western province, in the Arafura Sea and in the north between Sandaun and Manus provinces. "We also have cases of illegal fishing vessels on high seas," he said, adding most illegal fishing was conducted by Indonesia, China and Taiwan.

Under the Fisheries Forum Agreement, joint surveys with the help of the Australian and New Zealand Air Force conducts joint aerial survey and the NFA, in an agreement with the Defense Force, carry out 10 patrols each year.

The NFA said people-smuggling is highly possible in the open seas, as NFA only has 60 enforcement officers, who cannot cover the vast sea area. The authority said although they had no records or evidence of people-smuggling on fishing vessels, it agreed it might be possible given the constraints.

The inquiry said Papua New Guineans find it hard to work on the boats because they say they are treated like slaves and work hard for little pay. The NFA made it clear Asian workers faced similar conditions, but would like to have proper coordination with the Labor Department to improve working conditions of all fishermen.

Polon and Kasu recommended there be more people in the enforcement unit, improve linkages with key government agencies such as Customs, Labor, Defense Force and police, and better terms and conditions for skilled manpower.

ICSF November 11, 2009

10 Chilean govt unties the Fisheries Law

After almost 10 months in the pipeline at Congress, the Chilean Government is trying to unleash the fisheries law by narrowing the labour requirements included to the normative in the Chamber of Deputies a couple of months ago.

According to Fish Farming Expert, the Ministries of Economy and Finance are preparing a formula to modify the article that establishes the expiration of a concession due to three defaults of labour obligations committed by a company or one of its subcontractors.

In their favour, the salmon industry argues that this modification includes labour changes through a sectorial law and not by the Labour Code; establishing that the producer and its subcontractors are one single economical unit; and that the new labour justice operates faster with a consequently higher chance of collecting three executed sentences in a three-year timescale.

In his turn, the chairman of the Chilean Association of Banks and Financial Institutions (ABIF) Hernán Somerville said that the labour issues contaminate the fisheries law, *La Nación* published.

Finally, the President of the National Confederation of Salmon Industry Workers (Conatrasal), Javier Ugarte stated that "the only ones that have contaminated the industry and are accountable for the social crisis are the salmon businessmen, because they don't know how to control the business, acting meanly and defaulting in front of the labour obligations".

ICSF November 12, 2009

11 European Union releases new rules on illegal fishing

The European Commission (EC) adopted a regulation establishing the rules to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. This norm had been approved in 2008 by the European Union (EU) ministers. As from 2010, the new regulation will control all landings and transshipments of third-countries in Community ports and set up a catch certification scheme to ensure that all marine fishery products are obtained legally.

In addition, it introduces a Community alert system to detect the "most suspect" cases of illegal practices, the vessels involved and any non-cooperating third-party nations in this scope. It also includes a system of sanctions for fishers or operators who commit serious infringements.

According to European Fisheries Commissioner Joe Borg, as from 2010 these new norms "will help those fishermen that play by the rules and will ensure a better control and enforcement of management and conservation rules."

The new norm complements the regulation passed by the EU fisheries ministers some days ago to reinforce controls of fishers and shipowners.

The above-mentioned regulation anticipates, among other measures, the implementation of a 'membership points card' system for fishers and shipowners that would go into effect in 2011. The new methodology establishes that the fisher who fails to comply with laws in effect will accumulate points, which once accrued could lead to the revocation of the fishing licence.

The EC estimates that the European market trades 10 per cent of the fish caught globally in violation of fisheries laws. According to the EC, in terms of fish imports — valued at approximately 500,000 tonnes of fisheries products annually — illegal fishing generates EUR 1.1 billion, and is equivalent to 45,000 tonnes.

ICSF November 3, 2009

RESEARCH

12 Brain-boosting nutrient from squid skin

Researchers at the Fisheries Research Institute under the Council of Agriculture, Taiwan have extracted PL-DHA (phospholipid docosahexaenoic acid) from the skin of squid. Taiwan has an annual landing of squid ranging between 150,000 and 200,000mt. By-products from squid processing account for 35 percent of total catch, with squid skins making up about 15 percent of the by-products. As squid skins are tough and unpalatable, they are usually processed into powder that is used as an additive for animal and livestock feed. The discovery of PL-DHA in squid skins will promote the development of squid skin-based health products to enhance its market value.

According to a Fisheries Institute official, PL-DHA is better than TG-DHA, another form of docosahexaenoic acid that is commonly found in deep-sea fish oil, in inhibiting degradation of the intellect because it can cross the blood-brain barrier and be absorbed directly into the brain. It can also improve memory and enhance learning ability. The researchers have also discovered that the PL-DHA squid extract is effective in reviving neural cells and enhancing the content of three oxidation-resistant enzymes - GSH, CAT and SOD - as well as moderating free radical-induced oxidative damage to neural cells, thus slowing down the accumulation of plaque and tangles in brain cells.

Alzheimer's and other senile dementia diseases are associated with the accumulation of plaque and tangles in brain. More than 24 million

people suffer from senile dementia, with new cases growing at 4.6 million every year.

INFOFISH International 6/2009

13 Eco-friendly packaging for seafood

As part of its drive for sustainability, Young's Seafood, UK, has launched eco-friendly packaging for its Admiral's Pie line of fish pies. The new, Nampak-manufactured packs use 12 percent less packaging. The company says at least seven other products will switch to the new packaging.

The amount of board used has been reduced by about 242 mt a year. Since the new packs occupy less room in transit, pallet loads distributed for the range each year will drop by around 2,500. According to Young's Marketing Manager, Matt Whelan, the project had taken around 10 months and an investment of GBP* 125,000. The company, he said, had to do significant in-store testing to ensure the visibly smaller pack did not negatively affect consumer perceptions of the product.

In another initiative, Young's chilled salmon line packaging has been reduced by 20 percent with a new "eco-flow-wrap" system. The company said the system encloses the product in a single layer of material and reduces the amount of plastic used.

**US\$1 - GBP 0.61 approximately*

INFOFISH International 5/2009

EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

14 LED navigation lamps

NaviLED® LED navigation lamps provide highly visible, power saving navigation lighting in a modern and compact housing. Each lamp is a completely sealed unit, pre-wired with marine cable, UV and corrosion-resistant. NaviLED® lamps are also shock and vibration proof and each lamp weighs only 47 grams. The power consumption of port, starboard and stern lamps is less than 4W combined; this is a substantial saving on power when compared to incandescent lamps. The unique Hella marine 'snap-in' mounting system provides a strong and reliable attachment with no visible fastenings.

(Hella Marine, New Zealand)

15 Roll fin stabiliser system for boats

WESMAR (Western Marine Electronics) has introduced a new high-speed, digitally-controlled Model DSI 4800 stabiliser system which uses a high-performing, powerful and efficient digital signal processor and proprietary programming to combine multiple-system capabilities. The new system extends boating comfort and the GPS interface will also provide slow-speed and reverse fin lock, eliminating the requirement for additional electronics or mechanical connections,

simplifying installation. It also provides seamless fin alignment abilities, improved stabilisation by expanding gyro-sampling, display pressure rate and expanded control pad features.

(Wesmar Western Marine Electronics, USA)

16 D-Rope for fishing industry

The Van Beelen 12-strand D-rope made with Dyneema® fibres is ten times stronger than steel wire of the same diameter. D-ropes are successfully used as head-ropes, gilsones, sweeps and many other applications, replacing steel wire.

The result is a higher net opening, reduced towing resistance and easier handling.

Van Beelen D-ropes float in water, are easy to splice and very abrasion-resistant. The rope is available in SK60 and SK 75 and both types can be supplied with a strong protective braided jacket, which always remains firm and is extremely abrasion-resistant.

(Van Beelen Industrie en Handel, The Netherlands)

17 *FAO Global conference on Aquaculture 2010*

FAO in partnership with NACA and the Thai Department of Fisheries, are organizing the global Conference on Aquaculture 2010, to evaluate where the sector stands today and whether it is ready to face the challenges and opportunities of the future. The conference succeeds two previous events, one in 1976 held in Kyoto, which triggered the recognition of aquaculture as a significant food production sector, and another in Bangkok in 2000, which examined the role of aquaculture in development.

Among its objectives the 2010 conference seeks to address emerging issues in aquaculture development as well as build a sustainable and competitive global food production sector. The event will be held in Bangkok, Thailand on 9-10 June 2010. More information is available from the conference website; www.aqua-conference2010.org.

18 *Training workshop on postharvest technology for organic fish and seafood*

A training workshop was held on 9-10 June 2009 in Yangon,

Myanmar under the aegis of the ongoing Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) Organic Aquaculture Project, to familiarise the industry with the proper handling and processing procedures for organic fish and fishery products, including marketing. Some 52 participants from industry and the Department of Fisheries (DOF) of Myanmar attended the meeting.

The two-day workshop, opened by Mr Khin Ko Lay, Acting Director General, Department of Fisheries, Myanmar, discussed various subjects such as global seafood markets; organic principles and practices; fish handling, processing and preservation; quality control and traceability; organic certification; labeling, packaging and presentation; transportation storage; and trends and potential for organic and eco-labelled products.

Resource persons were Niracha Wongchinda, Lila Ruangpan and Wanwipa Suwannarak of the Thailand Department of Fisheries; Selina Gan of Country Farm Sdn Bhd, Malaysia; and Fatima Ferdouse and Tarlochan Singh of INFOFISH, Malaysia. The programme included a visit to a processing plant.

PUBLICATIONS

19 *Southeast Asia Cruising Guide - Volume II*

Indonesia and East Timor, Singapore, West Peninsular Malaysia, West Thailand, Papua New Guinea and Palau
by Stephen Davies & Elaine Morgan

Many readers of this review will know Stephen Davies, the Director of the Hong Kong Maritime Museum.

If not, they will certainly know the waters he and Ms Morgan so well describe. While this pilot is aimed at yachtsmen and indeed was surveyed from the Davies/Morgan yacht, it is just as relevant to the commercial or military mariner.

The part of the world described is one of the more interesting on our planet. Culturally, scenically, climatically and commercially, it has everything. This excellent book - now in its second edition, describes it all very enticingly.

To the usual high standard of the Imray Laurie pilots, this one is spiced up by the wit and anecdotes the authors are so good at.

Available from Imray Noie and Wilson, St Ives, UK.
Web: www.imray.com

20 *Marine Products for Healthcare - functional and Bioactive Nutraceutical Compounds from the Ocean*

by Vazhiyil Venugopal

This publication aims to bring awareness about the role of marine components in health promotion and attempts to consolidate recent data on the functional, nutraceutical and therapeutic potentials of the diverse marine resources which include fishery products, seaweeds, microalgae, corals marine organisms and others.

The introductory chapter discusses in general terms the characteristics of functional foods, while chapters 3 to 8 provide detailed discussions on the nutraceutical and other functional properties of fishery products. Seaweed is covered in the next two chapters which are useful as food supplements, additives and sources of bioactive compounds.

Chapter 11 focuses on microalgae and corals, rich in nutrients, pigments and therapeutic agents, while chapter 12 discusses a number of secondary metabolites of corals particularly sponges which have potential as lifesaving drugs, Chapters 13 and 14 elaborate on recent developments in the areas of food fortification, packaging and delivery of bioactive components. Since some marine products pose safety hazards, it is discussed in the last chapter.

Available from: CRC Press, 6000 Broken Sound Parkway NW, Suite 300, Boca Raton, FL 33487, USA. Website: <http://www.crcpress.com>

21 *Portable Fire Extinguishers*

Your First Line of Defense

Portable fire extinguishers are designed to handle small spot fires in the hope they can be prevented from becoming large, dangerous conflagrations.

It is imperative, therefore, that all vessel crews know how to operate and more importantly, the capabilities of all the extinguishers aboard. Short of actually emptying those fire extinguishers over a training fire, there is probably no better way of learning their operation than by studying this video. It is clear, concise and simple.

Usefully, it has Chinese, Russian, Spanish and English subtitles. Available from Maritime Training Service, Seattle, USA.
Web: www.aritimelearning.com

22 On World Fisheries Day, new website launched on fisheries and fishing communities in India

To coincide with this year's World Fisheries Day (also called World Fishworkers' Day), 21 November, the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) has launched a website, 'Fisheries and Fishing Communities in India', which can be accessed at <http://indianfisheries.icsf.net>.

For India, with a coastline of over 8,000 km, an exclusive economic zone of over 2 mn sq km, and extensive freshwater resources, fisheries is an important sector. It provides employment for over 14 mn people, and contributes significantly to food security and the economy.

The new ICSF site provides an overview of the marine and freshwater fisheries sector in India. It provides information on coastal fishing communities and their traditional governance systems, on fisheries development and management, and on coastal issues. It also provides information on five specific themes: women in fisheries, labour, trade, aquaculture and legal instruments, with exhaustive bibliographic references and links to online resources.

ICSF November 23, 2009

23 Ghana: To tighten regulations to prevent unorthodox fishing

Ghana has begun initiating moves to tighten regulations to prevent unorthodox fishing methods in its territorial waters. Led by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the body mandated to spearhead the activities of agriculture and its related problems in the country, is preparing to re-lay the Fisheries Act 625 before Parliament for amendment.

The amendment being envisaged by the Food and Agriculture Ministry is to give it more powers in curbing the illegal methods used in the fishing industry. Fishermen operating in West African states, especially those along the Gulf of Guinea, have for sometime now been using prohibited fishing methods, including light attraction, fishing with dynamite, DDT, carbide, under-sized mesh nets and unapproved fishing nets, among many others.

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture in 1997 introduced a Community-Based Fisheries Management Committee (CBFMC) concept, as a way of directly involving fishing communities at the local level in the management of fisheries resource. The concept came into being during a World Bank- Funded Fisheries Sub-Sector Capacity Building Project.

But the CBFMC, since its introduction has been challenged with inadequate organizational capacity, poor human resource capability, inadequate financial resource, lack of workable document to guide their inner workings and non-gazetting of their by-laws to give backing to their work within the community.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture, Mr. Yaw Effah-Baafi appearing in Parliament on Tuesday to answer questions pertaining to his Ministry, and told the House that the organization and operations of some 200 CBFMCs for the co-management of marine fisheries are ongoing in all the District Assemblies along the marine coast.

According to him, all the District Assemblies along the coast have passed their CBFMCs by-laws, but only twelve of the by-laws have so far been gazetted. As part of the methods to deal with the menace, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture have instituted a twenty-two District Fisheries Management Committee (DFMCs), which according to the Deputy Minister is still ongoing. The formation of the DFMCs became necessary when the Ministry realized that a body was needed at the

District Center to coordinate and take oversight responsibility for all the CBFMCs in the Districts, out of which two DFMCs have been formed and inaugurated in the Central Region of Ghana.

"Efforts are being made to give recognition to the DFMCs as sub-committee of the District Assemblies so as to give them a legal standing and a legislative authority too", noted the deputy Minister.

As a first step towards the directive, the Deputy Minister told The Chronicle that the government of Ghana is in the process of securing two fishing patrol vessels (speed boats), which he believes will be available early next year (2010) for the monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) division of the fisheries commission, to enable them perform their duties effectively in dealing with unorthodox fishing methods.

The MCS division of the Fisheries Commission is a body responsible for monitoring compliance and enforcement of fisheries regulations at the National level. He again told the paper that plans were far advanced to build the capacities of the CBFMCs to enable them to be well equipped in managing the country's fisheries resources.

ICSF 20 November 2009

24 Russia/Cuba : Create joint venture in fisheries

The government of Cuba and Russia signed an agreement on establishment of a joint venture in the field of fisheries, according to Russian media, RIA News.

"The agreement involves the creation of a joint venture by several companies,- said the general director of one of the largest Russian fish suppliers Federal State Unitary Enterprise National Fish Resources, Oleg Mironov.

According to him, the main activities of the joint, the main activities of the joint venture will include shrimp farming, aquaculture, capture and sale of lobsters. He added that such move is aimed at strengthening the positions of Russia and Cuba in the fishery field.

In addition to already mentioned activities the agreement provides the development of cooperation in the area conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, the prevention of illegal fishing and, the development of technologies of fish capture and processing technologies.

Russia's delegation, which arrived in Havana to sign an agreement was headed by the head of the Russian Ministry of Fishery Resources (Rosrybolovstvo) Andrei Krainy. The specialists of Rosrybolovstvo held talks with the Ministry of Food Industry and the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment, visited a number of industrial facilities, including one of the largest Cuban fish processing plant.

FoodBizDaily.com 16 November 2009

25 USA/Malaysia: Fishermen and vessel safety gains attention of governments

In a major overhaul of the fisheries safety laws, Congress may impose new construction standards for fishing vessels, mandate coastguard inspections and require training of skippers to improve safety at sea. The 1988 Fishing Vessel Safety Act included requirements for emergency locator beacons, survival suits for cold water fishing and coastguard-approved life rafts. The law substantially improved the

survival rates of fishermen, especially in Alaska's fishing grounds where the average annual death rate had dropped by more than 40%, according to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

The fishing industry is still considered to have the highest worker-fatality rate and, in recent years, fishermen died at a rate of more than 25 times the national average for occupational deaths. The key elements of the new law include coastguard safety inspections every two years, safety training for skippers, and new fishing boats of length 50 feet operating three miles offshore to have extensive construction and equipment standards.

Meanwhile, in Malaysia, the Minister for Agriculture and Agro-based Industry, said that it makes it compulsory for future deep-sea fishermen to undergo courses under the Fisheries General Safety Scheme. The scheme would expose the fishermen to comprehensive safety aspects including first aid and survival at sea.

INFOFISH International 6/2009

26 Pakistan: EU team to visit Pakistan in November

A European Union (EU) delegation will visit Pakistan in November to inspect the Karachi Fisheries Harbour and consider lifting the ban on seafood exports from Pakistan. The mission will be visiting the harbour from November 16 to 27 to assess whether Pakistan has taken the necessary measures to improve the hygienic condition and other measures suggested by the EU.

The EU delisted all Pakistani seafood exporters in April 2007 and the ban has remained in force since then. When an EU mission visited the harbour in 2007, they found some deficiencies at the harbour and the processing units. On the basis of these findings, the EU's Directorate of Food and Veterinary submitted a 25-page report to Pakistani authorities, mainly expressing concern over the lack of traceability and deficient cold chains.

Water and power is required for cleaning the harbour on a daily basis and subsequent funds are required to maintain it, which is not available with the Karachi Fish Harbour Authority. Overcrowding at the harbour was also a problem as space for only 350 boats was available but more than 1,000 boats were using it. There has been no renovation at the harbour since it was built in 1992 by a German company.

Despite the suspension of seafood exports to the EU, Pakistan's overall seafood exports increased to US\$236.58 million in 2008-09 against US\$188.32 million in 2006-07 when it exported to EU member countries. Sources said if the EU had allowed Pakistani seafood, the export could have crossed US\$ 300 million as shrimp did not get good prices in other markets compared to the EU. Out of the total exports of US\$194 million in 2005-06, exports to the EU were over 25% at US\$50.06 million. In the absence of the EU market, seafood exports recorded a significant increase to China, UAE, Thailand, Korea, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia.

In order to get the EU market back, the fisheries authorities have been taken several measures to improve the whole system. The provincial Sindh government has started a Rs 558 million project for improvement of conditions.

Priority has been given to boat modification and 218 boats are being modified, with 103 boats already modified so far. Boat modification costs around Rs 0.2 million to Rs 1.3 million to Rs 1.3 million and 75% of the cost is paid by the government. Two auction halls have also been improved.

INFOFISH Trade News, No 21/2009

27 Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka's tsunami recovery dogged by graft, delays

Billions of dollars were pledged after the 2004 Asian tsunami to help people like Pradeepa Niroshani who waited in vain for money to rebuild her destroyed home. Five years after the disaster, the government in Sri Lanka is under pressure from a leading anti-corruption group to account for nearly half of the 2.2 billion dollars pledged to the country by official foreign donors.

Niroshani, 26, a mother of two and wife of a fisherman, escaped from her house shortly before it was destroyed on December 26, 2004, wearing just night clothes and some jewellery, which she has since sold.

"We never got a house with the tsunami aid money. Only broken promises," Niroshani told AFP in the palm-fringed village of Rathgama, 110 kilometres (70 miles) south of the Sri Lankan capital Colombo.

Selling her jewellery, a last resort that has left her without any financial security, enabled her to buy a new brick residence for 350,000 rupees (3,100 dollars) from another tsunami survivor who had received an aid-built home.

Such tales are common in Sri Lanka, where allegations of unfulfilled cash pledges, missing money and corrupt officials have erupted ever since 31,000 people died and one million were initially left homeless by the tsunami. Transparency International, a global watchdog on corruption, says that more than a billion dollars in aid from foreign donors remains unaccounted for.

"We don't know what happened," Rukshana Nanayakkara, Sri Lanka's Deputy Director of the anti-graft organisation, said. "The money is missing after it came into various government agencies."

"The government, we believe, used the tsunami money for other purposes. But officials don't talk on the record for fear of reprisal."

An initial government audit in the first year of reconstruction found that less than 13 percent of the aid had been spent, and there has been no formal examination of accounts since, said Nanayakkara.

The Nation Building Ministry counted 8,865 people still in temporary shelters at the last census in 2007. It said that 119,092 houses had been built — 20,000 more than initially estimated.

But while there is an excess of supply in the island's Sinhalese-majority south, some Tamils in the conflict-hit north and east remain inside plastic shelters in open ground. A 37-year-old ethnic conflict between Tamil Tigers rebels and the government ended in May, and tsunami rebuilding has been slow due to years of heavy fighting.

A total of 2.2 billion dollars was given to Sri Lanka by official donors including Japan, the World Bank and UN agencies, according to the central bank, but this figure does not account for pledges from charities or private individuals.

Nanayakkara said the absence of a Right to Information law made it difficult for tsunami survivors, aid agencies and charities to keep tabs on the cash and monitor progress.

Complaints by tsunami survivors against local and international agencies have also fallen on deaf years.

"We have petitioned the president, ministers and local politicians against poor quality construction and lack of facilities, but nothing happened," said W. Ariyapala, a retired government servant from Seenigama in the island's south.

ICSF 25 December, 2009

Calendar

January

Aquamazonia 2010, International Ornamental Fish Exposition

24-27 January, Manaus, Brazil

Information: Orcal Planet, Av. Joaquin Nabuco, 352, CEP:69005-080 Manaus, AM Brazil
PH:5592-32-345047
Email: aquamazonia@orcalplanetour.com.br

London Seafood Expo 2010

2-4 February, Earls Courts Brompton Hall, London.
Information: Orange Fairs & Events, PO Box 111164, Dubai, UAE.
Tel:971-4-2988144, Fax:971-4-2987886

17th India International Seafood Show (IIS)

19-21 February, Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai, India.
Information: The Marine Products Export Development Authority, MPEDA House,

Panampilly Avenue, Panampilly Nagar, Kochi-682 036, Kerala, India
Tel:91-484-2311979
Fax: 91-484-2313361

12th Fish International

21-23 February, Bremen Exhibition Centre, Bremen, Germany.
Information: WFB Wirtschaftsforderung Bremen GmbH.
Tel:49-421-3505260
Fax:49-421-3505681
Email:info@fishinternational.de
Website:www.messe-bremen.de

March

Aquaculture America 2010

1-5 March, San Diego, California, USA.
Information: Conference Manager, PO Box 2302, Valley Center, CA 92082 USA
Tel: 1-760-7515005
Fax:1-760-7515003
Email:worldaqua@aol.com
Website:www.was.org

Victam Asia 2010

3-5 March, Bangkok, Thailand
Information:Victam International
PO Box 197, 3860 AD Nijkerk, The Netherlands.
Tel: +31-33-2464404
Website:+31-33-2464706
E-mail:nienkevanketel@victam.com
Website:www.victam.com

2nd Aquaria Expo 2010

10-12 March, Dubai UAE.
Information: Orange Fairs and Events, PO Box 111164, Dubai, UAE.
Tel :971-4-2988144
Fax:971-4-2987886
email: orangex@emirates.net.ze
Website:www.orangeairs.com

International Boston Seafood Show

14-16 March, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, USA.
Tel:1-207-8425500
Email: food@divcom.com
Website:bostonseafood.com

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