

## Increased dialogue.... (From p. 1)

thrusters of the Asian Institute of Aquaculture. They were particularly interested in participating in the Aquaculture Resources Management Program, especially with continuing involvement with the Panay Island Consortium for Rural Agriculture Development (PICRAD). The Consortium is composed of 6 colleges and universities in the four provinces of Panay Island.

An 8-member ICLARM delegation headed by three members of ICLARM's Board of Trustees, Dr. Max Day, Dr. H. Burr Steinbach and Dr. Soemarmoto, and included ICLARM Director and Technical Staff, were in SEAFDEC on 2-3 November 1978 to look at the facilities and discuss with SEAFDEC officials possible linkage areas for research, technology verification, and training in aquaculture. Incorporated in Manila in January 1977, ICLARM is a non-profit scientific center which aims to assist developing countries in developing and managing their aquatic resources to meet the people's nutritive, social, and economic needs. The Center conducts and stimulates research on all phases of production, management, preservation, distribution, and utilization of fish and other aquatic life. One of its five program areas is aquaculture. With the trustees was ICLARM's director for information services, Johanna Reinhart, who was especially interested in developing a mutually reinforcing information and documentation program with the Department.

Meanwhile, Deputy Minister Shih Lin of the People's Republic of China Ministry of Economic Relations with Foreign Countries led a 12-member Technical Mission to the Philippines which visited SEAFDEC and other agricultural development projects in Iloilo. He was welcomed at plane side by Iloilo Gov. Conrado Norada, NEDA Regional Executive Director Alex Umadhay and AIA Director Joseph Madamba and representatives of all government and private agencies operating in Panay Island. Many aquaculture experts believe that the technology verification program of SEAFDEC could benefit much from the Chinese experience because China has developed to a high  
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## MESSAGE

In this December issue of *Asian Aquaculture*, we have placed on focus the growing close relations among agencies, national systems, institutions and people concerned with research and development for aquaculture.

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) Aquaculture Department has always had its door open to all who wish to share in the endeavour of developing the aquaculture industry of nations; it has always sought cooperation from everyone; and it has certainly not been a miser in sharing its discoveries, inventions, and resources and capabilities with the fisheries world.

Although cooperation and unselfishness are not virtues to be displayed only on seasons like Christmas, as they are qualities required of every worker all the time, it is nevertheless on occasions like this that we can appropriately remind ourselves of the need to observe them.

To our colleagues in the fishing and aquaculture industry the world over, I extend, on behalf of the members of the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, a warm Christmas greeting and a fervent wish for a more fruitful New Year.

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## Freshwater fisheries expands program

The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department Freshwater Fisheries Station, located in Binangonan, Rizal along the shores of the 93,000-hectare Laguna Lake has drafted a program for expansion. These include the piloting of a fish feed mill and the establishment of a pilot freshwater sugpo (*P. monodon*) cage culture. The feed mill will have a capacity of about 250 kilograms a day which, according to Dr. Benjamin Cer. Gabriel, freshwater fisheries research program leader, and Dr. Julia Pantastico who developed the algae cake fish feed, will be enough to supply the requirement of the pilot

sugpo farm consisting of 100 cages of 100-cubic meter capacity. Tilapia breeding which aims to come up with a suitable and fast-growing cross has been started and will also be accelerated. Other freshwater programs touch on the development of larval rearing techniques for the freshwater shrimp species, now gradually disappearing in most freshwater bodies and the setting up of a model eco-community in the fishing village near the station in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Settlements and the National Environmental Protection Council.