

FOREWORD

Aquaculture is necessary to produce more fish in the face of decreasing supply from marine fisheries and increasing demand from the burgeoning population. The challenge is how to make the best possible use of coastal and inland waters for aquaculture at low levels of costly inputs and without adverse environmental and socioeconomic changes.

Since its establishment more than 20 years ago, the Aquaculture Department of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC/AQD) has generated technologies that contributed significantly to the development of aquaculture in the region. Aquaculture technologies must of course keep abreast with the present and future needs and challenges of the industry. Thus the first Seminar on Aquaculture Development in Southeast Asia (ADSEA '87) assessed aquaculture research and development in the region.

In the past 10-15 years, the aquaculture industry was confronted with many problems, particularly, the environmental and socioeconomic effects of intensive culture. Thus, ADSEA '91 was convened in Iloilo City, on 19-23 August 1991 to review recent developments in aquaculture and to redirect SEAFDEC/AQD's efforts toward environment, friendly and socially equitable aquaculture. Prospects for seafarming and searanching were therefore discussed. The idea is that aquaculture must enhance, not degrade coastal resources, and improve, not take away, the livelihood of small-scale fisherfolk and fish farmers. The technologies developed by SEAFDEC/AQD must contribute to sustainable development of the region's aquatic resources.

ADSEA '91 established a set of priority species for aquaculture and identified problems for further research as well as strategies for seafarming and searanching. These guided the research and development program of SEAFDEC/AQD from 1992 to 1994.

ADSEA '91 would not have been a success without the active participation of the representatives of the participating countries and cooperating agencies, and the efforts of the Workshop Committee members. On behalf of SEAFDEC/AQD, I thank the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada and the Government of Japan for sponsoring ADSEA '91.

This volume of **ADSEA '91 Proceedings** contains review papers on aquaculture research and development as well as regional and country experiences. Let this be one contribution towards sustainable aquaculture development in Southeast Asia.

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