

**REPORT OF THE
SPECIAL SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING OF THE 27th MEETING OF
THE ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
(SPECIAL SOM-27TH AMAF)**

29-31 August, Bohol, Philippines

INTRODUCTION

The Special Senior Officials Meeting of the Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (Special SOM-27th AMAF) was held on 29-31 August 2006 in Bohol, Philippines.

2. The Meeting was attended by Dato Mohd Hamid Mohd Jaafar, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam; Mr. San Vanty, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia; Dr. Hasanuddin Ibrahim, Secretary General, Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia; Mr. Xaypladeth Choulamany, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR; Y. Bhg. Tan Sri Dato' Abi Musa Asa'ari bin Mohamed Nor, Secretary General, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry, Malaysia; U Tin Htut Oo, Director-General, Department of Agricultural Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar; Dr. Segfredo R. Serrano, Undersecretary, Department of Agriculture, the Philippines; Dr. Chua Sin Bin, Executive Officer and Director and Director-General, Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority, Singapore; Dr. Suthiporn Chirapanda, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand; Mrs. Hoang Thi Dzung, Deputy Director of International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam; and Dr. Somsak Pipoppinyo, Assistant Director of the Bureau for Economic Integration and Finance (BEIF) of the ASEAN Secretariat and their respective delegations. Delegations from India, General Manager of East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (EAERR) and representatives of Internationale Office des Epizooties (OIE), IRRI, and ASEAN-USBC were also in attendance on discussions of specific issues. The list of delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

OPENING SESSION

3. The Governor of the Province of Bohol, Philippines, Honourable Erico B. Aumentado, extended his sincere and warmest welcome to all delegates to the Panglao Island and Tagbilaran City of Bohol Province, Philippines. He shared the history of the first relationship made by the Philippines people with the foreign power that took place in Bohol on 16 March 1565, which has highlighted Bohol in the world map of global diplomacy. He mentioned that Bohol has agriculture and tourism as major economic drivers, and is boastful of its irrigation system and botanical gardens. Lastly, he wished all delegates a fruitful meeting and a very pleasant stay in Bohol. The full text of his Welcome Address appears as **ANNEX 2**.

4. Honourable Domingo F. Panganiban, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture of Philippines highlighted the idea of the ASEAN as a collective forum through which its Members, who have many things in common, could exchange opinions and present a united front. He further stated that ASEAN will prevail and gain new respect by keeping the regional economy running at full speed and that every nation within ASEAN has a just share of the region's increasing abundance. As ASEAN's inter-dependence with the world beyond the region deepens, there is urgency to remove the threats while carrying out ASEAN's basic objectives in facing the emerging challenge of globalisation – in markets, in politics, and in the march towards economic development. ASEAN fully supports the ASEAN Framework Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors by doubling the efforts on the roadmaps for agro-based, fisheries, wood-based and rubber-based products.

5. It was also highlighted in the remarks that the issues pertaining to animal health do not recognise international boundaries as the past three years witness the terrible destruction brought by the avian influenza. Taking into consideration ASEAN's anxiety in seeing the Agreement of the ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund in principle transformed into an agreement in action, the Meeting was urged to undertake its review in a thorough – but swift – manner. The ASEAN Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Knowledge Network – a Philippine Initiative, was highlighted as one of the particularly positive results of the ASEAN's recent efforts to improve regional cooperation. ASEAN is encouraged to enhance ASEAN cooperation with dialogue partners beyond the organisation. As the selected theme of the 12th ASEAN Summit to be hosted by Philippines in December 2006 is "One Caring and Sharing Community", it was urged that this theme is kept in mind as the Meeting proceeds with the agenda. Honourable Domingo F. Panganiban concluded his remarks by declaring the Meeting open. The full text of his remarks appears as **ANNEX 3**.

CLOSED SESSION

6. Dr. Segfredo R. Serrano, Undersecretary of the Department of Agriculture of Philippines and Dr. Chua Sin Bin, Chief Executive Officer and Director-General of the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore continued to serve as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Meeting, respectively.

Agenda Item 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

7. The Meeting considered and adopted the agenda, which appears as **ANNEX 4**.

Agenda Item 2: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

8. The Meeting was held in plenary.

Agenda Item 3: REGIONAL FRAMEWORK AND POLICY GUIDANCE

3.1 Chairman Statement at the 11th ASEAN Summit

9. The Meeting recalled that in several occasions of SOM and AMAF meetings, FAO had highlighted the issues for strengthening food security in the region and the potential of increased resource mobilisation in agriculture and rural development towards the goals of UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and World Food Summit (WFS), particularly for halving hunger and poverty by the year 2015, which remained as a challenge for ASEAN.

10. Recognising the commitment of ASEAN Member Countries to reduce poverty and hunger in the region, the 27th AMAF Meeting (29 September 2005, Tagaytay City, Philippines) agreed to recommend the ASEAN Leaders the adoption of a statement reiterating their commitments to the World Food Summit and Millennium Declarations and enhancement of investment and regional cooperation in agriculture in the combat against hunger and poverty in ASEAN.

11. In concurrence with the AMAF's recommendation, the 11th ASEAN Summit (12 December 2005, Kuala Lumpur), issued a Chairman Statement reiterating ASEAN commitments to the World Food Summit and Millennium Declaration, and expressed strong support for further resource mobilisation for agriculture and rural development in the ASEAN Member Countries, as agriculture plays a pivotal role in improving food security and poverty reduction. The announced Chairman Statement appears as **ANNEX 5**.

3.2 Vientiane Action Programme (VAP)

12. The Meeting recalled that the VAP was endorsed at the 10th ASEAN Summit in Vientiane in 2004, as the successor of the Hanoi Plan of Action (HPA) to realise the end goal of the ASEAN Vision 2020. The VAP focuses on deepening regional integration and narrowing the development gap within ASEAN. The relevant framework and cooperation programmes/ activities on the food, agriculture and forestry had been included in the ASEAN Economic Integration and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community components of the VAP. It was noted that in the former, cooperation activities would be focused on enhancing competitiveness of food, agriculture and forest products; while under the latter component, focus would be on development agenda in the areas of food, agriculture and forestry. The Meeting also took note of the updates and progress in the VAP implementation, pertaining to food, agriculture and forest sectors, which appears as **ANNEX 6**.

3.3 ASEAN Framework Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors

13. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Secretariat Information Paper on the ASEAN Framework Agreement for the Integration of Priority Sectors which appears as **ANNEX 7**.

14. The Meeting noted that following the adoption of the Framework Agreement for Integration of Priority Sectors and 11 ASEAN Sectoral Integration Protocols for integration of 11 priority sectors by the 10th ASEAN Summit, various ASEAN bodies have been implementing measures and initiatives to accelerate economic integration in the priority sectors, so as to achieve a single market and production base by 2010. In its implementation, many issues and challenges are still needed to be addressed to ensure that the various measures and the initiatives, as undertaken by each sectoral body, contribute toward overall integration agenda of ASEAN.

15. The Meeting was informed that the Second Consultative Meeting for the Priority Integration Sectors (COPS II) was held in Jakarta on 12-15 June 2006 to promote a closer coordination and collaboration mechanism among the various stakeholders from ASEAN Sectoral Implementing Bodies to the private sector. The COPS II came up with the Phase 2 Roadmaps, incorporating inputs and suggestion from various stakeholders. These draft Roadmaps were deliberated at the Special SEOM and SEOM 4/37, held on 3-7 July 2006 in Jakarta and on 17-19 July 2006 in Singapore, respectively. SEOM agreed that all roadmaps should be finalised by 8 October 2006 in preparation for the signing of the ASEAN Framework (Amendment) Agreement for Integration of Priority Sectors and the ASEAN Sectoral Integration Protocol for Logistic Services during the 12th ASEAN Summit in December 2006.

16. The Meeting reviewed and discussed the latest version of the Phase 2 Roadmaps of the Agro-based Products, Fisheries, Wood-based and Rubber-based Products that have incorporated inputs and comments from various ASEAN Bodies under SOM-AMAF.

17. The Meeting agreed to endorse the revised roadmaps of the Agro-based Products, Fisheries, Wood-based Products and Rubber-based which appears as **ANNEXES 8, 9, 10 and 11**.

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

Agenda Item 4: PROGRESS OF COUNTRY INITIATIVES FOR PROGRAMMES OR PROJECTS ON FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY BY MEMBER COUNTRIES

4.1 Brunei Darussalam's Initiative on Agricultural Hazards Early Warning System (AHEWS)

18. The Meeting recalled that a project proposal on setting up of AHEWS mechanism was submitted to the Plus Three Countries at the SOM-27th AMAF in Tagaytay, Philippines in September 2005, for their consideration and implementation under the Priority Area 3 of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation: Agricultural Information Networking and Exchange. However, to date, there has not been any immediate indication or response from the Plus Three Countries. Brunei Darussalam also recognised the existence of early warning systems in the programs and activities of some ASEAN sectoral bodies such as (1) the ASEAN

Regional Animal Health Information System (ARAHIS) under the Sectoral Working Group on Livestock; (2) the Information System in ASEAN Task Force on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI); (3) Thailand's Initiative on ASEAN Food Safety Networking, etc.

19. In light of the above consideration, Brunei Darussalam suggested two options for consideration of the Meeting, which are either (1) to drop this initiative from future discussions in SOM-AMAF Meetings; or (2) to allow more time for Brunei Darussalam to seek possible funding by agencies outside ASEAN. The Meeting was of the view that the initiative is of importance to ASEAN and therefore decided to allow more time for Brunei Darussalam to seek external assistance.

Action line: Brunei Darussalam

4.2 Indonesia's Initiative on ASEAN Networking for Agriculture Vulnerability to Extreme Climate

20. The Meeting took note of the information from Indonesia as Lead Country of this initiative that a proposal was sent to the ASEAN Secretariat which contains the plan to organise a workshop that will discuss the initiative, inviting the relevant ASEAN stakeholders in extreme climate and its effects to agriculture. The ASEAN Secretariat informed that the proposal needs to be reformulated in order to comply with the rules and procedures of project proposals submission for further consideration.

21. Indonesia highlighted its desire to continue taking the lead in pursuing the implementation of activities under this initiative by consulting with other Member Countries that already have on-going initiatives of similar interest and expertise in extreme climate in order to avoid duplication of on-going and future efforts and complement each other's activities. Indonesia will submit the revised full project proposal with the suggested standard to the ASEAN Secretariat in due course.

Action line: Indonesia

4.3 Malaysia's Initiative on the Establishment of a Network for Pesticide Regulatory Database

22. The Meeting was updated on the development of the web-based network among Pesticide Regulatory Authorities within ASEAN. The Meeting noted that a simple and rudimentary webpage has been developed since 2001 and Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand had provided some information on rules and regulations pertaining to pesticides registration requirements in their countries, to be uploaded in the website (<http://agrolink.moa.my/doa/aseanpest>). Brunei Darussalam and Viet Nam would submit relevant information in the near future. In view of the importance and usefulness of the website to provide information on pesticides regulations in ASEAN, the ASEAN Member Countries were requested to assist in website development and designate national focal points responsible for collection of data/information and uploading into the website.

23. The Meeting was also informed on the need to enhance the website to make it more interactive with the features of uploading options and discussion forum. A substantial technical assistance would be required in upgrading the website, and a specific proposal would be developed for submission to the ASEAN Secretariat to explore possible technical cooperation and assistance in this aspect.

Action Line: Malaysia

4.4 Malaysia's Initiative on ASEAN Plant Health Cooperation Network

24. The Meeting took note of the progress report by Malaysia on the ASEAN Plant Health Cooperation Network (APHCN) for the year 2005 – 2006. The report highlighted the updates of the established website, continued regional initiatives, collaboration with regional and international organisations and aid agencies, particularly in plant health capacity building activities.

25. It was informed that available information in this website (<http://www.doa.gov.my/pqnet/aphcn/aphcn.>) are: the establishment of APHCN, Plant Quarantine Act and Regulations and import conditions of Malaysia, and legislation and import conditions of Singapore. As the information from Thailand on regulations and import conditions are being updated, they will soon be uploaded into the website. The Meeting requested other Member Countries to provide their plant health information to the Focal Point of Malaysia.

Action Line: Member Countries

26. The Meeting took note of the activities that were conducted by Malaysia under the areas of Taxonomic Capacity Building, ASEAN Regional Diagnostic Network, and Phytosanitary Capacity Building in the Mekong Region during 2005-2006.

4.5 Philippines' Initiative on ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network

27. The Meeting took note of the Philippines' Information Paper on the ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network, which appears as **ANNEX 12**.

28. The Meeting was informed that the Philippine Government provided the initial funds of US\$ 0.75 M, which was utilised to establish the Regional Centre at SEARCA and to operationalise the Network composing the Sub-Phase I Countries. As counterpart, Member Countries provided their respective knowledge hubs with basic IT facilities and technical manpower support. With the view of promoting sustainable agriculture in ASEAN, the Philippine Government renewed its efforts in operationalising the ASEAN IPM Knowledge Network in ASEAN Member Countries, specifically the operation of sub-phase II and III. In preparation for sub-phases II and III implementation, a three-days ASEAN IPM Regional Management and Technical Workshop was conducted on 20 May – 1 June 2006 in Cebu, Philippines. The Workshop discussed the information and knowledge management activities of Sub-Phase I Country Hubs (Indonesia,

Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam) and developed annual plans and programmes of the Regional Centre and the Sub-Phase II Country Hubs (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar).

29. The Meeting noted that the ASEAN IPM Webpage has been reactivated in May 2006 under a new domain name <http://www.asean-ipm.da.gov.ph>, which is now being maintained by the Information Technology Centre for Agriculture and Fisheries (ITCAF), Department of Agriculture of the Philippines.

4.6 Singapore's Initiative on ASEAN Genetically Modified Food (GMF) Testing Network.

30. The Meeting took note of the Report of the 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force on GMF Testing Network, held on 9-10 May 2006 in Bangkok, which appears as **ANNEX 13**.

31. The Meeting took note of the progress of the workplan for the ASEAN Genetically Modified Food Testing Network, which included, among others, compilations of GMOs Regulations in ASEAN, GMO Testing Laboratories, GMO Testing Methods, Reference Material Collection, and GMO Molecular Registry. The ASEAN Member Countries were requested to review the compiled material and to provide additional information/ feedback for finalisation. The ASEAN Secretariat was requested to upload the information once finalised.

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

32. The Meeting took note of the Philippines' proposal to include one of its laboratories in the Department of Agriculture as part of the Network to validate procedure, test new methods and develop new methods for GM food testing. In line with this effort of standardising testing, it was also proposed the standardisation of risk assessment procedures among ASEAN Member Countries.

33. The Meeting was informed that the Philippines will host the 10th Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Research, Development and Extension on Agricultural Biotechnology Workshop on 6-11 November 2006. The Philippines invited the ASEAN Member Countries to join the Workshop either as participants or observers. The Workshop will explore opportunities for technical cooperation in technology development and GM regulation towards harmonisation.

34. The Meeting recalled the decision of the last 27th AMAF Meeting on the ASEAN-USBC Consultation, where R&D will address food safety of GMOs was identified as one of the key areas for collaboration. In this connection, the Meeting agreed to approach the USBC on the possibility of having collaboration on reference material collection. The issue would be further discussed under Agenda Item 10.7.

4.7 Singapore's Initiative on the Establishment of an ASEAN-AVRDC Regional Network for Vegetable Research and Development

35. The Meeting took note of the progress report presented by Singapore for the initiative on ASEAN-AVRDC Regional Network (AARNET) for Vegetable Research and Development, which appears as **ANNEX 14**.

36. It was informed that AARNET for Vegetable Research and Development initially had 3 primary projects, namely (i) variety selection, (ii) indigenous vegetables and (iii) pre-harvest and postharvest handling for safe and quality vegetables. The first project had limited funding (sourced by AVRDC) for workshops / meetings and the second project depended on ADB funded projects. The last project was submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat for funding. However, taking into consideration the ASEAN Secretariat's trust fund mechanism and donor's preference to fund smaller projects, the AARNET Steering Committee Meeting agreed to break it up into five projects, as follows: (i) Pre-harvest Handling, (ii) Storage Life, (iii) Transportation, (iv) Processing and Packaging, and (v) Marketing.

37. In consideration of strengthening the AARNET activities as outlined by the Strategic Plan of Action on Crops and the need for funding of all the projects, AARNET proposed to seek funding partners through the ASEAN Secretariat for the following four projects:

- a. On Variety Selection led by AVRDC: *"Selection of Promising Vegetable Varieties through Coordinated Introduction and Collaborative Testing in ASEAN"*
- b. On Indigenous Vegetables led by Brunei Darussalam: *"Enhancing Utilisation and Conservation of Indigenous Vegetables by Rural Farmers in ASEAN Countries"*
- c. On Pre-harvest Handling led by Thailand: *"Development of Pre-harvest Treatments and Practices to Produce Quality and Safe Vegetables"*
- d. On Storage Life led by Malaysia: *"Extension of Storage Life and Maintenance of Quality of Selected Vegetables in ASEAN"*

38. The 13th ASWGC Meeting in June 2006 considered the project proposal led by Brunei Darussalam on b) *"Enhancing Utilisation and Conservation of Indigenous Vegetables by Rural Farmers in ASEAN Countries"* and submitted for further approval by the SOM-AMAF. It was informed that the revisions are needed to define *"Indigenous Vegetables"* and to clarify the role of individual ASEAN Member Countries in carrying out the activities of the programme at a national level before sharing the information regionally. The Meeting considered and agreed to endorse the project proposal with the condition that the comments by the 13th ASWGC are fully accommodated.

39. Regarding the other three concept papers, the Meeting also agreed and approved the concept papers, taking into consideration the recommendations by the 13th ASWGC Meeting.

Action Line: Singapore

4.8 Thailand's Initiative on the ASEAN Food Safety Network

40. The Meeting took note of the progress report presented by Thailand for the initiative on ASEAN Food Safety Network, which appears as **ANNEX 15**.

41. The Meeting noted that the ASEAN Food Safety Network had been on-line since September 2004, as a platform for coordinating and exchanging information on food safety. The Network activities have carried out through coordination and communication with a number of relevant ASEAN bodies, among others: ACCSQ's Product Working Group on Prepared Foodstuff (ACCSQ/PF PWG), ASEAN Task Force on Codex (ATFC), and ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety (AEG-FS). The website of the Network has also provided useful information and news that could have impacts on trade of food products of Member Countries. Recommendations were provided to strengthen its usefulness such as the introduction of information on ASEAN-SPS notifications, food detentions and food-borne diseases, and development of ways for posting information in a timely manner. Additional information and comments from Member Countries were requested to enhance greater information exchange and improve coordination among various ASEAN bodies concerned on the issues related to food safety.

Action Line: Member Countries

AGENDA ITEM 5: JOINT ASEAN APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ISSUES AND PROBLEMS RELATING TO FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

5.1 EC Directive on the Hygiene of Foodstuffs – (96/3/EC)

42. The Meeting was informed that as directed by the last Special SOM-26th AMAF, a letter had been sent to EC by the Chairman of ASEAN Brussels Committee in December 2005, requesting the EC to provide scientific justification based on risk assessment and consider rescinding the requirement of bulk transport conditions in sea-going vessels of liquid oils and fats under Article 2/2 of the EC Directive 96/3/EC. The EC provided its response in February 2006, explaining that the EC would not be in a position to rescind the aforementioned Article. The letter of EC dated 23 February 2005 appears as **ANNEX 16**.

43. The Meeting supported Malaysia's recommendation for ASEAN Member Countries to actively participate in the development of the list of acceptable previous cargoes in the Codex Committee on Fats and Oil (CCFO), and develop ASEAN common position and close cooperation with appropriate Codex body to address the above issue.

Action Line: Malaysia

AGENDA ITEM 6: PROGRESS OF SECTORAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

6.1 Cooperation in Trade in Agriculture and Forest Products

6.1.1 Progress on the CEPT Scheme for AFTA on the Inclusion of Unprocessed Agricultural Products (UAPs)

44. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Secretariat Information paper on the CEPT Scheme for AFTA on the inclusion of Unprocessed Agricultural Products (UAPs) which appears as **ANNEX 17**.

45. The Meeting was informed that the number of tariff lines in the 2006 CEPT package of all the product were 110,029, comprising 105,127 in the Inclusion List (IL), 2,524 in the Temporary Exclusion List (TEL), 2,045 in the General Exception List (GEL), and 333 in the Sensitive List (SL) and Highly Sensitive List (HSL).

46. The Meeting noted that as of July 2006, the total number of tariff lines in 2006 CEPT Package of the Unprocessed Agricultural Products (UAPs) alone includes products under Chapter 1-24 (food and agriculture products) and Chapter 44-49 (wood and wood-based products) were 19,067, comprising 17,806 in the Inclusion List (IL), 549 in the Temporary Exclusion List (TEL), 353 in General Exception List, and 359 in the Sensitive List (SL) and Highly Sensitive List (HSL).

6.1.2 Cooperation and Joint Approaches in Agriculture and Forest Products Promotion Scheme

6.1.2.1 Consideration of the Report of the 13th Meeting of the Joint Committee on ASEAN Cooperation in Agriculture and Forest Products Promotion Scheme, 2-4 August 2006, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

47. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 13th Meeting of the Joint Committee on ASEAN Cooperation in Agriculture and Forest Products Promotion Scheme, held on 2-4 August 2006 in Chiang Mai, Thailand which appears as **ANNEX 18**.

48. The Meeting referred to the earlier decision of the PREPSOM 27th AMAF that tasked the Joint Committee to review the proposed amendment of the MOU, particularly on the inclusion of additional articles on the Suspension, Confidentiality and Dispute Settlement. The Joint Committee, however, was of the view that the existing MOU has already been effective for a 5-year period from 28 October 2004 to 27 October 2009. A more comprehensive review should be conducted at a later stage, closer to the expiry of the current MOU.

49. The Meeting also noted that in view of the overall implementation of the various National Focal Points Working Groups (NFPWGs) and Industry Clubs under the Joint Committee over the past 12 years, the achievement and relevance of their respective activities would be reviewed, including roles and

contribution of all stakeholders. Thailand informed the Meeting that the list of commodities in which Thailand was the lead country would be revised, taking into consideration the current prevailing situation on individual commodities. The ASEAN Secretariat was requested to coordinate and consult with the Lead Countries and focal points of NFPWGs and Industry Clubs, so as to report their findings of assessment/ evaluation to the forthcoming SOM-AMAF.

**Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat/
All NFPWGs/ Industry Clubs**

6.2 Cooperation in Food

6.2.1 Food Security

6.2.1.1 Consideration of the Report of the 27th Meeting of the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board (AFSRB), 27-28 June 2006, Manila.

50. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 27th Meeting of the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board (AFSRB) which was held on 27 – 28 June 2006 in Manila which appears as **ANNEX 19**.

51. The Meeting took note of the various activities in the area of cooperation on food security, including the two related projects, namely: the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve (EAERR) and the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS). The progress of these two Projects would be further reported under Agenda Item 7.1.1.

52. The Meeting was informed that the Working Meeting on Draft Agreement of EAERR, held on 16-17 May 2006 in Jakarta, recommended a revised version of the draft EAERR, which is now named as 'ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR)' for consideration at the forthcoming 7th PSC-EAERR, scheduled for September 2006 in Malaysia. The Meeting supported the AFSRB's view that the future relationship between the ASEAN Food Security Reserve (AFSR) Agreement and the APTERR should be further deliberated, as an implementation/ technical issue to be addressed under the possible amended AFSR Agreement or as a newly developed APTERR Agreement.

53. The Meeting also took note of a proposal for the 2nd Phase of the AFSIS Project, which was agreed in-principle by the Fourth Focal Point Meeting (21-22 February 2006, Siem Reap, Cambodia), and the Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN + 3 Countries, (23-24 February 2006, Siem Reap, Cambodia), and finalised in the "Technical Meeting for the Preparation of the Proposal for the 2nd Phase of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project", held on 25 May 2006 in Phuket, Thailand. The finalised proposal for the 2nd Phase of the AFSIS Project was expected to be submitted for further consideration and endorsement by the forthcoming AMAF and AMAF+3, accordingly.

54. The Meeting was informed that the 28th Meeting of the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Board would be held tentatively in June 2007 in Singapore.

6.2.2 Food Handling

6.2.2.1 Consideration of the 4th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Halal Food, 4-5 July 2006, Kuala Lumpur

55. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 4th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Halal Food which was held on 4 – 5 July 2006 in Kuala Lumpur which appears as **ANNEX 20**.

56. The Meeting took note of the progress of cooperation activities under the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) for the ASEAN Cooperation in Food Handling (2005-2010), such as the Registration and Compilation of the Halal Food Additives Used in ASEAN; Capacity Building on Halal Food Activities; ASEAN Halal Food Website and Exchange of Halal Food Information among ASEAN Countries.

57. The Meeting further noted that the development of “ASEAN Scheme for the Development of the Accreditation of Halal Food Establishment” was agreed to be withdrawn, recognising that the ASEAN General Guidelines on the Preparation and Handling of Halal Food were adopted and that certain accreditation schemes/arrangement on a bilateral basis between some member countries were already on-going. With the withdrawal of this proposal, the issue in relation to the use of ASEAN Halal logo would no longer be relevant.

58. The Meeting was informed that the 5th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Halal Food would be held tentatively in Singapore in 2007.

6.2.3 Food Safety

6.2.3.1 Consideration of the Report of the 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force on Codex, 15-17 May 2006, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

59. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Task Force on Codex which was held on 15 – 17 May 2006 in Viet Nam which appears as **ANNEX 21**.

60. The Meeting noted that the 6th ATFC Meeting discussed 40 Codex issues comprising technical and administrative matters. Consensus was reached on 17 proposals, while 19 proposals were supported in principle, pending further consultations with concerned agencies at national level, before final decisions could be made. The Meeting also took note of the progress in the various activities.

61. The Meeting noted that the Seventh and Eighth Meetings of the ASEAN Task Force on Codex would be held in Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia in 2007 and 2008, respectively.

6.3 Cooperation in Agriculture

6.3.1 Cooperation in Crops

6.3.1.1 Consideration of the Report of the 13th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops (ASWGC), 28-30 June 2006, Vientiane

62. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 13th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops (ASWGC), 28-30 June 2006, Vientiane which appears as **ANNEX 22**.

63. The Meeting agreed to submit the 117 ASEAN MRLs for 19 pesticides: Amitraz, Propamocarb Hydrochloride, Tebuconazole, 2,4-D, Carbendazim, Ethephon, Folpet, Propiconazole, Imidacloprid, Carbofuran, Cypermethrin, Deltamethrin, Diazinon, Dithiocarbamates, Fenvalerate, Malathion, Methomyl, Profenofos, and Triazophos to the 28th AMAF Meeting for endorsement. The list of ASEAN MRLs to be endorsed by AMAF appears as **ANNEX 23**.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

64. The Meeting was informed that the ASEAN Good Agricultural Practices (ASEAN GAP) were finalised under the AADCP Project on Quality Assurance Systems for ASEAN Fruits and Vegetables Project (QASAFV). The ASEAN GAP would be used as a benchmark in developing national GAP. The ASEAN GAP covers the production, harvesting and postharvest handling of fresh fruit and vegetables on farm and post-harvest handling in locations where produce are packed for sale. It consists of four modules, namely: i) food safety, ii) environmental management, iii) worker health, safety and welfare, and iv) produce quality. Four Interpretive Guidelines will be prepared to assist producers, packers, supply chain businesses, trainers, government representatives and others to understand the practices required for implementing each module of the ASEAN GAP. The Meeting agreed to submit the ASEAN GAP to the 28th AMAF Meeting for endorsement. The ASEAN GAP appears as **ANNEX 24**.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

65. The Meeting also considered and agreed to submit the draft ASEAN Harmonised Standards for Mango, Pineapple and Durian for endorsement of the 28th AMAF Meeting. The draft Standards appear as **ANNEX 25**.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

66. The Meeting noted that the AADCP project on Strengthening ASEAN Plant Health Capacity has been launched in October 2005. Malaysia was appointed as the Regional Focal Point of the Project during the inception workshop in February

2006. The activities of the project that had been implemented include: Workshop on Pest List Development (Mango) and Workshop on Taxonomy (Thrips) (24-28 April 2006, Mytho City, Viet Nam) and (3-7 July 2006 in Serdang, Malaysia).

67. The Meeting was informed that Indonesia will host a 3-day workshop for discussion and deliberation of the harmonisation of phytosanitary measures/ import procedures of banana, mango and durian, tentatively scheduled to be held in Bogor on 1-3 November 2006. The Workshop would focus on the development of Pest Risk Analysis based on the current initiatives taken by individual Member Countries and AADCP Project on Strengthening Plant Health Capacity in regard to pest list development of mango.

68. The Meeting was informed that the 14th Meeting of the ASWGC would be held back-to-back with the 9th EWG-PS in Langkawi, Malaysia in 2007.

6.3.2 Cooperation in Livestock

6.3.2.1 Consideration of the Report of the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (ASWGL), 5-7 April 2006, Hanoi

69. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (ASWGL), 5-7 April 2006, Ha Noi which appears as **ANNEX 26**.

70. The Meeting considered and agreed to submit the proposed draft standard for Inactivated Canine Parvovirus Vaccine and the latest draft Agreement for Establishing of the ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund (AHTF) to the 28th AMAF Meeting for endorsement. The documents appear as **ANNEXES 27 and 28**, respectively.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

71. In view of the targeted date for the signing of the AHTF during the forthcoming 28th AMAF in Singapore, all Member Countries were requested to have necessary clearance from the respective governments so as to authorise the signatures of the Ministers for the finalisation of the AHTF. The Chairman of the SOM-AMAF would communicate with Lao PDR and Viet Nam for the conclusion of the timelines and amount of contribution as stipulated in the Annex A of the AHTF, which is still pending confirmation.

***Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman,
Lao PDR, Viet Nam***

72. The Meeting also welcomed the appointment of Thailand, Malaysia and Philippines as the ASEAN Lead Countries for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF), respectively. These Lead Countries would also serve as ASEAN's regional focal points to work closely with FAO/OIE under the 'Global Framework for the Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs)'. This would ensure coordination,

avoid duplication and improve complementary efforts of ASEAN and FAO/OIE in strengthening animal diseases control programme in the region

6.3.2.2 Consideration of the Activities and Progress Report of the ASEAN Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

73 The Meeting took note of the report by Chairman of the ASEAN HPAI Taskforce from Malaysia on activities implemented since previous AMAF meeting. The activities include (i) the third meeting of the Taskforce which was held on 4-6 January 2006 in Kuala Lumpur, (ii) the fourth meeting of the taskforce which was held on 3-4 April 2006 in Hanoi, and (iii) handing over workshop of ARAHIS (ASEAN Regional Animal Health Information System) on 19-21 June 2006 in Singapore. The implementation of ARAHIS signified component 6 of the Taskforce plan is in operation. The implementation of the ASEAN HPAI Taskforce work plan is further facilitated with conception of a special project under the OIE/FAO Japan Trust Fund Program of HPAI Control at Source in Southeast Asia. The Steering Committee of the OIE/FAO Japan Trust Fund program was held on 24-25 July 2006, in Bangkok. The Meeting also took note of the progress and activities in addressing the HPAI in ASEAN region, as presented by the Chairman of the ASEAN HPAI Taskforce, as well as by Dr. Teruhide Fujita, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific. The presentation by Dr. Fujita on OIE activities to control HPAI in ASEAN Countries and the GF-TADs appears as **ANNEX 29**.

74. The Meeting was also informed of an ASEAN-ADB collaborative project on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat Capacity for Regional Coordination in the Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN, with the primary objective of strengthening the capacity of the ASEAN Secretariat in facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the Work Plan for Control and Eradication of HPAI in ASEAN Region. It would also promote collaborative arrangements among various initiatives in the region to enhance understanding and sharing of experiences in the control of HPAI. The key output of the Project would be a comprehensive report on the various initiatives against HPAI undertaken by major stakeholders within the region as well as individual ASEAN Member Countries, with clear recommendations to improve coordination and ensure complementary and synergy among significant initiatives to control and eradicate HPAI in ASEAN. Under the Project, an Expert on Animal Health Control has been recruited to assist in the technical coordination and communication among ASEAN Member Countries as well as with other stakeholders.

6.3.3 Cooperation in Fisheries

6.3.3.1 Consideration of the Report of the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries, 6-8 June 2006, Manila

75 The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF_i) held on 6-8 June 2006 in Manila which appears as **ANNEX 30**.

76. The Meeting took note of the progress of the various cooperative programmes and activities in fisheries which are of significance, among others: Development of Aquaculture, ASEAN Network of Fisheries Post Harvest Technology (FPHT), Harmonisation of Fishery Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures, ASEAN-SEAFDEC Collaboration on Sustainable Fisheries Management in the Southeast Asia Region, and fisheries related projects under the ASEAN Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP).

77. The Meeting considered the project proposal for establishment of the ASEAN Aquatic Animal Health Centre (AAHC) which appears as **ANNEX 31**. Thailand was requested to develop further details of the proposal for establishing the AAHC as an ASEAN network among national aquatic animal health agencies/ laboratories to facilitate the building up of diagnostic and certification capabilities in ASEAN Member Countries critical for exporting live aquatic animals.

Action Line: Thailand

78. With a view to further enhance closer collaboration between the ASEAN and SEAFDEC by strengthening implementation of regional fisheries programmes and mechanism, the Meeting supported the proposal on “ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)” with the understanding that the involvement of SEAFDEC be focused on technical assistance and advice, and therefore agreed that the terms of reference, scope and cooperation mechanism of the ASSP be submitted to AMAF for consideration and endorsement, a copy of which appears as **ANNEX 32**.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

79. The Meeting also welcomed SEAFDEC’s proposal to have a signing ceremony for the establishment of the ASSP during the 6th AMAF Plus 3 Meeting (AMAF + Japan) in November 2006 in Singapore. However, the Meeting requested the ASEAN Secretariat to liaise with the SEAFDEC Secretariat to work out the appropriate format and wordings for the document to be signed by ASEAN and SEAFDEC. ASEAN Secretariat will circulate the document for consideration by Member Countries prior to the 28th AMAF Meeting.

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

80. The Meeting also expressed support for a project proposal on “ASEAN – SEAFDEC Tsunami Affected Countries”, which had been jointly developed by Thailand and SEAFDEC. The primary objectives were to build/ rebuild capacity for management of fisheries, coastal habitats and simple early warning system in selected fishing communities.

81. The Meeting acknowledged the concern expressed by the ASWGFi on the impending decline of financial support from Japan for SEAFDEC that would have impact on the effective implementation of cooperation projects and activities as well as the existing close ASEAN-Japan cooperation through SEAFDEC. The Meeting agreed to the recommendation of the ASWGFi to request the 28th AMAF

to convey this concern of ASEAN Member Countries to the Government of Japan.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

6.3.3.2 ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASSA)

82. The Meeting took note of the concept proposal presented by Thailand on the ASEAN Shrimp Alliance, which appears as **ANNEX 33**.

83. The Meeting noted that Thailand as country proponent of this initiative proposed the establishment of the ASSA with the primary aims supporting the ASEAN Member Countries in enhancing their capability in response to the international trade in shrimp and shrimp products. The scope of the ASSA covers the areas of (i) information sharing through consultation and web-based information tool; and (ii) establishment/harmonisation of shrimp production standard among ASEAN Countries for international trade.

84. The Meeting agreed that the concept proposal be further elaborated with more details on mechanism and arrangements for deliberation on standards that meet the mutual interests, concerns and requirements of all stakeholders in shrimp industry, including producers, exporters, potential buyers, and consumers.

Action Line: Thailand

6.3.4 Cooperation in Agricultural Cooperatives

6.3.4.1 Consideration of the Report of the 8th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Agricultural Cooperatives (ASWGAC), 19-22 July 2006, Siem Reap, Cambodia

85. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 8th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Agricultural Cooperatives (ASWGAC) held on 19-22 July 2006 in Siem Reap, Cambodia which appears as **ANNEX 34**.

86. The Meeting noted that the exchange visit for cooperatives personnel and leaders had been organised on 21-24 November 2005 in Phnom Penh, Kampong Thom and Siem Reap Provinces. The exchange visit was attended by participants from Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar and Thailand. The next exchange visit would be held in Lao PDR (2006) and Philippines (2007).

87. The Meeting further noted that the Workshop on Food Marketing System of Selected Agricultural Cooperatives would be organised tentatively in 2007 in Malaysia. The non-ASEAN Member Countries such as Australia, Japan and ROK would be invited to participate and share their experiences in food marketing system. The ACEDAC Secretariat was requested to provide technical inputs and work closely with the ASEAN Secretariat, as well as in consultation

with Member Countries for identifying the Food Marketing System suitable for promotion among Agricultural Cooperatives in ASEAN.

88. The Meeting also noted that from 10 Strategic Alliances (SA) projects, the SA Project on Beef Farming has made good progress by the signing of MOU between Johor State Farmers' Organisation and Krida Satwa Cooperative of Indonesia for trading of goats of Ettawa (Jafnapari). A total of 290 goats of Ettawa (Jafnapari) breed have arrived in Malaysia in June 2006. Malaysia still offered other ASEAN Member Countries that have the same species to have similar cooperation.

89. The Meeting was informed that 13th ACEDAC Board Meeting and the 8th ASWGAC Meeting considered and endorsed the project proposal for ASEAN-Japan cooperation on "*Strengthening of Partnership among Japan and ASEAN Countries*". The National Focal Points had been established to coordinate the project implementation among relevant parties at national and regional levels (i.e. departments, agencies and cooperatives). The Project Proposal would be further discussed under Agenda Item 8.3.3.

90. The Meeting was also informed that the 14th Meeting of the ASEAN Centre for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives (ACEDAC) Board would be held in Indonesia, tentatively in the second week of July 2007, back-to-back with the 9th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Agricultural Cooperatives.

6.3.5 Cooperation in Training & Extension

6.3.5.1 Consideration of the Report of the 13th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Agricultural Training and Extension (AWGATE), 25-27 July 2006, Yangon

91. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 13th Meeting of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Agricultural Training and Extension (AWGATE) held on 25-27 July 2006 in Yangon which appears as **ANNEX 35**.

92. The Meeting noted that the 13th AWGATE reviewed and updated the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) of the ASEAN Cooperation in Agricultural Training and Extension and agreed to include four (4) newly-proposed activities to the SPA namely the : (i) Regional Training on Production and Processing of Estate Crops (Indonesia); (ii) IPM Regional Training on Bio-Pesticide (Indonesia); (iii) Increasing Agricultural Productivity and Enhancing Knowledge and Skills through the ASEAN Apprenticeship Programme (Indonesia); and (iv) Training of Trainers on Abaca Production and Management. The 13th AWGATE Meeting also agreed to the outline of the annual country report that would allow Member Countries to have better exchange of information on agreed topics and draw any conclusions as lessons-learned.

93. The Meeting took note with appreciation the IPM Training Module on Citrus that had been produced by Brunei Darussalam and distributed to all Delegates of the 13th AWGATE Meeting, a copy of which was also provided to all

SOM-AMAF Leaders during the Special SOM-27th AMAF Meeting. In addition, the Regional Training Programme on IPM in Citrus was conducted by the Department of Agriculture of Brunei Darussalam on 2-9 May 2006 in Bandar Seri Begawan. The training module on star fruit would be developed by Malaysia for completion by December 2007. Viet Nam also informed the new schedule of the Regional Training on Edible and Medicinal Mushroom Production Technology for ASEAN Extension Workers to be held on 1-22 November 2006 in Ha Noi. Member Countries are encouraged to send their participants to the training.

Action line: Viet Nam

94. The 13th AWGATE Meeting also reviewed and provided comments to the proposed ASEAN – ROK Training Course on Technology Transfer Programme on Integrated Development Planning to be held on 18 October – 7 November 2006 in ROK. Each ASEAN Member Country would be invited to nominate two (2) participants through their respective ASEAN National Secretariat, one to be nominated by the SOM-AMAF and one by the Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOM-RDPE), as has been the practice in the implementation of this activity in the previous years.

Action line: Member Countries

95. The Meeting was informed that the 13th AWGATE Meeting considered and endorsed the ASEAN Japan initiatives on South-South Cooperation Promotion Project for Agricultural Productivity Enhancement in Developing Countries. The Project Proposal would be further discussed under Agenda Item 8.3.3.

96. The Meeting was informed that the 14th AWGATE Meeting will be hosted by Philippines tentatively in June 2007.

6.3.6 Cooperation in Research and Development in Agriculture

6.3.6.1 The 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Technical Working Group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD), 23-24 August 2006, Jakarta

97. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Technical Working Group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD), held on 23-24 August 2006 in Jakarta, which appears as **ANNEX 36**.

98. The Meeting recalled that the ATWGARD was established with its initial key objective to spearhead the implementation of the SEAFAR CARD and the CARD-KNet in collaboration with SEARCA. After the 1st ATWGARD Meeting last year, it was recommended that the scope of the ATWGARD should not to be limited merely to database knowledge networking, but be broadened to include other activities related to agricultural R&D. The 2nd ATWGARD Meeting therefore agreed to revise the Terms of Reference (TOR) and Rules of Procedures (ROP)

of the ATWGARD, taking into consideration the more active participation and leadership demonstrated by Member Countries. It was agreed that once the CARD-KNet is ready for its implementation, a separate TOR will be finalised to confirm the collaborative roles of SEARCA with the ATWGARD. The Meeting agreed to adopt the revised TOR and ROP, which appear as **ANNEX 37**.

99. The Meeting took note with appreciation the initiative of Indonesia as the current Chairman of the ATWGARD, in establishing the ASEAN Agricultural Research and Development Information System (ASEAN ARDIS) in providing a virtual venue for Member Countries in implementing the activities of the ATWGARD. It was noted that the features of the ASEAN ARDIS allow Member Countries with registered account to upload the information independently into the system. Member Countries were encouraged to provide relevant information to make optimum use of the ASEAN ARDIS, with the assistance of the Indonesian Agency of Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD) of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of Indonesia.

100. The Meeting was informed that the 3rd Meeting of ATWGARD would be hosted by Malaysia in 2007.

6.4 Cooperation in Forestry

6.4.1 Consideration of the 9th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF) and its Related Experts Groups Meetings, 17-19 August 2006, Bali, Indonesia

101. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the 9th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF), held on 17-19 August 2006 in Bali, Indonesia which appears as **ANNEX 38**.

102. The Meeting took note of the initiative on Peer Consultation Framework (PCF), in which Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia and Philippines were identified as key players in a pilot PCF trial. It was informed that the PCF trial had been recommended to be conducted cautiously since it involves intensive review of the policy of one member country by the other Member Countries. This Pilot PCF trial is expected to start in October 2006 and other Member Countries have expressed interest to join as observers.

103. The Meeting was informed of the progress and engagement of East Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance process (FLEG) in combating illegal logging and illicit trade of forest products in the region. East Asia FLEG process was launched in 2001 in a first Ministerial Meeting in Bali with the support from the World Bank and other donors. It was informed that the East Asia FLEG process sought closer ASEAN cooperation and further institutionalisation into an established regional mechanism involving governments, business, civil society and other ASEAN global partners.

104. The Meeting took note of the coordinative role of the Philippines in the FLEG. It was informed that that the 2nd East Asia FLEG Ministerial Meeting will be organised in the Philippines in early 2007.

105. The Meeting took note of the establishment of the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) during the Special Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for the Implementation of CITES in December 2005, the adoption of the Terms of Reference for the Network, and formation of a Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) to support the implementation of ASEAN-WEN. An ASEAN Ministers Statement was issued during the launching the ASEAN-WEN. The TOR and the ASEAN Statement appear as **ANNEXES 39 and 40**. In another development, Indonesia will host the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN-WEN to finalise the Work Programme of ASEAN-WEN. It was informed that Indonesia proposed to establish an ASEAN Timber Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-TEN) alongside the ASEAN-WEN.

106. The Meeting took note of the request by Member Countries to further enhance ASEAN Forest Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) as it provides an effective means of communication particularly in discussing the legality of timber in Forest Certification process, harmonisation of laboratory testing procedures/standards, and exchanging information of ASEAN herbal and medicinal plants and R&D matters. The ASEAN Secretariat was requested to promote and coordinate CHM-related activities.

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

107. The Meeting was also informed of ASEAN cooperation in international arena in forestry, particularly in the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) sessions. Recently, an ASEAN input paper on the indicative elements and proposal on Non-Legally Binding Instruments on All Types of Forest has been adopted by ASOF and submitted as a regional position for consideration in UNFF deliberations. The ASEAN Input Paper appears as **ANNEX 41**

108. The Meeting was also informed of Indonesia's proposal on the draft Joint Statement on ASEAN Cooperation to Combat Illegal Logging and Its Associated Illegal Trade in Timber and Timber Products. The Meeting noted that combating illegal logging and its associated trade in the region has been a common interest of the ASEAN Member Countries. However, due to the limited time in considering the draft Joint Statement, the 9th ASOF Meeting could not reach consensus in adopting the said Statement.

109. In line with Indonesia's proposal, the Meeting took note of the Philippines' proposal on the draft Statement of the Special Senior Officials Meeting of the 27th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry on ASEAN Cooperation to Strengthen Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) in the Region, which appears as **ANNEX 42**. The Meeting agreed that the Member Countries would review the draft statement as a Ministerial Statement for the consideration of the 28th AMAF to be held in Singapore in November 2006.

Action Line: Member Countries

110. The Meeting gave its full support to the initiatives and recommendations of the 9th ASOF Meeting. It was informed that the 10th ASOF Meeting will be held in Lao PDR prior to the Special SOM-28th AMAF Meeting in 2007.

AGENDA ITEM 7: ASEAN PLUS THREE COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE

7.1 Progress of Projects Under ASEAN+3

111. The Meeting took note the Information Paper on the ASEAN+3 Cooperation Project which appears as **ANNEX 43**.

7.1.1 Alleviating Poverty and Strengthening Food Security in the Asian Region

i. East Asia Rice Reserve Management System (EAERR)

112. The Meeting took note of the progress report of the East Asia Rice Reserve Management System (EAERR), presented by the General Manager which appears as **ANNEX 44**.

113. The Meeting was informed that the Working Group Meeting on Draft EAERR Agreement was jointly organised by the Project Management Team (MT) and the ASEAN Secretariat on 16-17 May 2006 in Jakarta. The Working Group Meeting had agreed in-principle to the latest draft of EAERR Agreement, which has been ready for submission to the 7th PSC-EAERR Meeting. The Working Group also proposed to rename the draft Agreement on EAERR as Agreement on ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (PTERR).

114. The Meeting took note of the following activities that had been implemented:

- Release of EAERR stockpiled emergency rice reserve under Tier 3, as emergency food aid for flood victims in Madura, East Java, Indonesia, in February 2006. In addition, 80 MT of rice was provided by EAERR for cooperation project with WFP in rehabilitating villages damaged by flood in Jember, East Java, Indonesia. The project was carried out in March until May 2006, under the Food for Work (FFW) program coordinated by WFP.
- The Poverty Alleviation Project has been carried out in Lao PDR since September 2005 and scheduled to be completed by August 2006. Two villages have been selected as the project sites based on the criteria established by Lao PDR Government. It is estimated that after completion of all activities, the target beneficiaries (approximately 450 beneficiaries from 90 households) will receive immediate benefits from the project in terms of improvement of income, food security and social welfare.
- With the request of the Government of Philippines for EAERR to utilise the stockpile emergency rice reserve for disaster victims in Leyte and Mindanao, Tier 3 Programme has also been carried out in Philippines.

The Government of Japan provided approximately 1,000 MT rice of EAERR stockpiled emergency rice reserve to be stored in Leyte, Mindanao and Manila.

- A study on the implementation of the release of East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve under Tier 1 and 2 programs has been conducted by a Team comprised of representatives from National Food Authority (NFA), the Philippines and Office of Agricultural Economics (OAE), Thailand. The implementation of Tier 1 arrangement between Vietnam and the Philippines is now underway and this can be considered to validate and implement the result of the study.

115. The Meeting discussed the possible need to extend the pilot project as the process of evaluation and completion of the needed protocols of the AMAF Plus 3 and generation of the documents for implementation would go beyond the March 2007 life of the pilot project.

ii. ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS)

116. The Meeting took note of the progress report of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) which appears as **ANNEX 45**.

117. The Meeting noted that various activities of AFSIS Project have been carried out through out the year. Among the significant achievements were: improvement of AFSIS website and database for more practically and broader range of information with graphic presentation; organisation of the Meeting of Directors-General of Agricultural Statistics and Information in ASEAN + 3 Countries, which was conducted back to back with the Fourth Focal Point Meeting on 21-24 February, 2006 in Siem Reap, Cambodia; organisation of workshop on the Statistical Data Collection, Analysis and Dissemination in Agriculture in ROK (6 – 20 August 2006); and the development and finalisation of the second Phase of the AFSIS Project, which was agreed at the “Technical Meeting for the Preparation of the Proposal for the 2nd Phase of the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project”, held on 25 May 2006 in Phuket, Thailand.

118. The Meeting considered and agreed to submit the proposal for the 2nd Phase of the AFSIS for further consideration and endorsement by the forthcoming AMAF and AMAF+3, accordingly. The project proposal appears as **ANNEX 46**.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

7.1.2 Research and Development on Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

i. The Third ASEAN+3 Seminar on Multifunctionality of Agriculture

119. The Meeting was informed that the 3rd ASEAN+3 Seminar on Multifunctionality of Agriculture was organised on 17-18 January 2006 in Tokyo,

Japan, with its primary objective to review the progress of the project implementation, particularly on the reports of respective country case studies (CCSs). The discussion in the Seminar also focused on the application of economic valuation techniques to analyse whether intangible outcomes (externalities) can be quantified and applied in agricultural policy development.

7.1.3 Human Resources Development in Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

China

i. *Study Tour on Agriculture Development in China for Senior Officials from ASEAN Plus Three countries*

120 The Meeting was informed that the Study Tour was organised on 20-30 October 2005 in China. The Programme was participated by officials in-charge of agricultural cooperation from ASEAN and Plus Three Countries, and the ASEAN Secretariat.

ii. *Symposium on Quality and Safety of Agricultural products for ASEAN Plus Three*

121. The Meeting was informed that the Seminar on Agro-Products Quality and Safety for ASEAN Plus Three was organised on 13 – 15 October 2005 in Shenzhen, China. The Symposium was participated by the officials in-charge of agricultural cooperation from ASEAN Member Countries, China and the ASEAN Secretariat.

iii. *Seminar on Rural Renewable Energy Utilisation and Agricultural Sustainable Development for 10+3 countries (Household Bio-gas Technology and Equipment Exhibition)*

122. The Meeting recalled that the Seminar was endorsed by the last 5th AMAF+3 Meeting for implementation under AMAF+3 Cooperation. The seminar along with an exhibition is being planned for the officials, technicians and experts of ASEAN countries including those of Japan and Korea. Pending status of the Seminar from China, the progress of the Seminar will be reported in the next SOM+6th AMAF Plus 3 Meeting.

iv. *Seminar on Review and Prospects of Agricultural Cooperation between China and ASEAN*

123 The Meeting recalled that the Seminar was endorsed by the last 5th AMAF+3 Meeting for implementation under AMAF+3 Cooperation. The objective of the seminar is to strengthen agricultural cooperation activities between China and ASEAN countries. Pending status of the Seminar from China, the progress of the Seminar will be reported at the next SOM-6th AMAF Plus 3 Meeting.

Japan

i. Training Course on Plant Variety Protection (plant Breeder's Right)

124. The Meeting was informed that the Training Course on Plant Variety Protection (Plant Breeder's Right) is scheduled to be organised from 22 August to 11 November 2006 in Japan. Japan invited government officials in-charge of improving system of protection of plants breeder's right. The objective of this training course is to create system to protect plant breeder's right for developing countries.

ii. Reconstruction Support Project for Agriculture in Asia

125. The Meeting recalled that the Project was endorsed by the last 5th AMAF+3 Meeting for implementation under AMAF+3 Cooperation. The Program is intended to facilitate sharing of experiences and lessons learnt from on-going post-tsunami rehabilitation activities in the region, and to help participating countries to strengthen local and national capacities in participatory decision-making and integrated agriculture, forestry and fisheries development. The status of the Project will be reported by Japan at the next SOM-6th AMAF Plus 3 Meeting.

iii. Seminar of Agricultural Policies

126. The Meeting was informed that the Seminar on Agricultural Policies in ASEAN Countries was organised on 19-20 January 2006 in Tokyo, Japan back-to-back with the 3rd Seminar on Multifunctionality of Agriculture. The Seminar was attended by officials in-charge of agricultural policies from ASEAN Member Countries. After discussion, it was noted that although agricultural policies of individual Member Countries are quite similar in terms of self-sufficiency of food and export oriented production, certain important issues such as land tenure, degradation of soil and environment, and plan for Millennium Development Goals are needed to be adequately addressed. In addition, it was also reported that results of agricultural cooperation, implemented in the ASEAN region through support and assistance from Japan as well as other organisations, had potential to be disseminated among Member Countries as well as with other regions. In this regard, Japan expressed its intention to extend support to the identified least developed Countries (LDCs) to expedite the process of narrowing economic gaps and promote integration of Asian region, particularly with the concept of "South-South Cooperation".

iv. Strengthening Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting (MAR) on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in Asia

127. The Meeting recalled that the Project was endorsed by the last 5th AMAF+3 Meeting for implementation under AMAF+3 Cooperation. The main objective of the project is to develop, establish and operationalise an efficient globally harmonised forest related national MAR system in Asian countries that

directly contributes to improved sustainable forest management (SFM) regimes. In cooperation with FAO, the project will run for 5 years. The status of the Project will be reported by Japan at the next SOM-6th AMAF Plus 3 Meeting.

Korea

i. *Training Course on Underground Water Management and Development*

128. The Meeting was informed that the Training Course on Underground Water Management and Development was organised from 26 June – 15 July 2006 in ROK by KOICA and Korea Rural Community & Agriculture Corporation (KRC). The objective of the training was to transfer the technology on agricultural water development and to provide opportunities to exchange information among participants and strengthen international cooperation between Korea and developing countries.

ii. *Training Programme on Plant Quarantine for ASEAN*

129. The Meeting was informed that the Training on Plant Quarantine for ASEAN is tentatively scheduled to be held on 11 – 23 September 2006 by MAF-ROK and the National Plant Quarantine Service (NPQS) of ROK.

ASEAN's proposal

130. The Meeting recalled that the following project proposals were presented during the SOM-5th AMAF for cooperation under the ASEAN+3 Cooperation. During the Meeting, the Plus Three Countries were of the view that it was still premature for them to make any technical and financial commitment at this stage, and would consider the possibility of implementing them in the future.

- i. *A Capacity Building in Testing of Agriculture Chemical Residue in Pepper;*
- ii. *Training Course on Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) for ASEAN Member Countries;*
- iii. *ASEAN Workshop on Centre for Agricultural Research and Development Database Knowledge Networking (CARD K – Net); and*
- iv. *Agricultural Hazards Early Warning System (AHEWS).*

7.2 New Project Proposal to be Submitted for ASEAN+3 Cooperation

- i. *Project proposal on Strengthening Human Resource Capacities for Agricultural Competitiveness of ASEAN Countries (CLMV)*

131. The Meeting considered and endorsed the new project proposal on Strengthening Human Resource Capacities for Agricultural Competitiveness of ASEAN Countries (CLMV), presented by Myanmar which appears as **ANNEX 47**.

The ASEAN Secretariat was requested to transmit the proposal to the AMAF Plus 3 focal points of China, Japan and Korea for comments.

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

AGENDA ITEM 8: COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, AND OTHER THIRD PARTIES

8.1 ASEAN – Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP)

132. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Secretariat Information Paper on ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Programme which appears as **ANNEX 48**.

133. Out of five agriculture-related projects approved for implementation under the AADCP Programme Stream, the following four projects have been implemented: i) Quality Assurance Systems for ASEAN Fruits and Vegetables; ii) Quality Assurance and Safety of Fish and Fishery Products, iii) Strengthening Animal Health Management and Biosecurity; and iv) Strengthening ASEAN Plant Health Capacity. The project on food safety entitled “Strengthening ASEAN Capability in Risk Assessment in Support of Food Safety Measures” will be jointly implemented under the ASEAN Food Safety Network, the ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety, and the ASEAN Sub-committee on Food Science and Technology.

134. Under the AADCP Regional Partnership Scheme (RPS), three projects are being implemented, namely: Operationalise Guidelines on Responsible Movement of Live Food Finfish, Establishment of a Reference Laboratory for the Southeast Asian Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme, and Strengthening Aquatic Animal Health Capacity and Biosecurity in ASEAN. Implementation of these projects involves collaboration between ASEAN and Australia.

8.2 ASEAN – China Cooperation in Agriculture

135. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Secretariat Information Paper on ASEAN – China Cooperation in Agriculture which appears as **ANNEX 49**.

8.2.1 Activities under the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund (ACCF)

136. The Meeting noted that the following training and workshop was organised in 2005: Training Course on TBT and SPS Measures within China-ASEAN FTA (8-25 September 2005 in Beijing), ASEAN-China Workshop on Development of Edible Mushrooms Industry (25 September – 1 October 2005, Jakarta), and China-ASEAN Workshop on Sustainable Development of Bamboo Industry (16-21 December 2005, Hangzhou, PR China).

137. The Meeting was informed that following the ASC approval through ad-referendum in May 2005, the project proposal on Workshop on Development of Hybrid Rice for Tropic Region was submitted to China. The 7th Meeting of the ASEAN China JCC Working Group held on 14 March 2006 in Nanning, China, approved in-principle the project proposal for implementation, taking into account comments and inputs to the project proposal.

8.2.2 Activities under the MOU between the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China and the Association of Southeast Asian nations (ASEAN) Secretariat on Agricultural Cooperation (2002-2006)

138. The Meeting noted that a number of activities in the area of personnel training, technical exchange, demonstration programme, and trade promotion programmes had been organised by China in 2005. The activities were participated in by representative from ASEAN Member Countries and China.

8.2.3 Proposed MOU on ASEAN-China Inspection and Quarantine Cooperation

139. The Meeting recalled that the proposed draft MOU on ASEAN-China Inspection and Quarantine Cooperation was tabled during the last Special SOM-26th AMAF, and comments provided by Member Countries were conveyed through their respective ASEAN Country Coordinators. Consequently, China has revised the draft MOU, incorporated its comments and technical inputs received from various sectors. The revised draft MOU was presented to the ASC 2/39 in January 2006 and additional comments were received from Member Countries. The latest version of the proposed MOU (as of 22 August 2006) appears as **ANNEX 50**.

140. The Meeting agreed that additional views and comments are welcomed, and requested all Member Countries to provide them to the ASEAN Secretariat by 22 September 2006. The ASEAN Secretariat will consolidate all comments received for circulation and seek possible endorsement from SOM-AMAF. The agreed language will be submitted to ASEAN bodies concerned for further consideration in finalising the MOU.

***Action Line: Member Countries
ASEAN Secretariat***

141. The Meeting was also informed that the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the PR China will host the "China-ASEAN Entry Exit Inspection and Quarantine Cooperation Forum" on 2 November 2006 in Nanning, in conjunction with the 3rd China ASEAN Expo. The Senior Officials or Vice-Ministers from the government authority in-charge of the administration of entry-exit inspection and quarantine of all ASEAN Member Countries were invited to attend. In this regard, Member Countries indicated to have a high level representation with the rank of Senior Officials or Vice Ministers to the Forum.

8.3 ASEAN – Japan Cooperation in Agriculture

8.3.1 ASEAN-MAFF Japan Project on Multifunctionality of Agriculture in ASEAN Member Countries

142. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Secretariat Information paper on the ASEAN MAFF Japan project on Multifunctionality of Agriculture in ASEAN Countries which appears as **ANNEX 51**.

143. The Meeting was informed that the Participating ASEAN Member Countries (PAMCs) have completed the implementation of their respective Country Case Studies (CCSs) for Phase 2 which focus on the quantitative analysis of the various external functions of agriculture. The Final Reports of the CCSs were presented in the Sixth Working Group Meeting of the ASEAN-MAFF Japan Project on Multifunctionality of Agriculture in ASEAN Countries, held on 18-20 July 2006 in Vientiane. With the approval of MAFF Japan, a consultant has been engaged to prepare the Final Report of Phase 2.

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

8.3.2 Human Resource Development Programme for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

(i) Indonesia

144. The Meeting was informed that the Third Training Course on “*Dairy Husbandry Technology*” as the last one of its series was organised on 15 February–16 March 2006 in the National Agribusiness In-Service Training Centre on Dairy Husbandry and Post Harvest Technology, Batu-Malang, East Java, Indonesia. Twenty-one participants from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam attended the Training. The Training Report appears as **ANNEX 52**.

(ii) Malaysia

145. The Meeting was informed that the Third Training Course on “*Agricultural Extension Methodology with Special Focus on Business and Production Planning for ASEAN Member Countries*” was organised on 12 February–11 March 2006 at the Agricultural Extension Training Institute (AETI), Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia. The Training was participated in by sixteen (16) participants from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

146. The Meeting was further informed that the Government of Malaysia is considering to extend the implementation of the training course for another three years, from 2007 to 2009 with support sought from JICA.

Action Line: Malaysia

(iii) The Philippines

147. The Meeting was informed that the First Phase of the “*Third Country Training Programme on Participatory Approaches in Managing Extension Delivery System*” was organised on 21 February–3 March 2006 at the Metro Centre Hotel and Convention Centre, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines. The Training was participated in by twenty-seven (27) participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. After the training, the participants are expected to be involved in the development activities of the rural communities in their respective Countries.

148. The Second Phase of the Third Country Training Programme will be conducted on 16-27 October 2007 at the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAF), Tagaytay City, Philippines. The official invitation will be sent to Member Countries by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) through diplomatic channels.

Action Line: Philippines

(iv) Thailand

149. The Meeting was informed that the Second Training Course on “*Sustainable Agricultural Production through Agricultural Extension Approaches*” was conducted on 31 October-10 December 2005 at the National Agricultural Extension and Training Centre, Kasetsart University, Kamphaengsaen Campus, Nakhon Pathom Province. The Training was organised by the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JICA, in collaboration with Kasetsart University and the Department of Agricultural Extension. The Training was attended by twenty-two (22) participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

8.3.3 New Initiatives for ASEAN-Japan Cooperation in Agriculture.

150. The Meeting considered and endorsed two (2) new Initiatives for ASEAN-Japan Cooperation in Agriculture, which appears as **ANNEX 53**.

i. Strengthening of Partnership among Japan and ASEAN Countries (Project 1)

151. The project aims to enhance ASEAN-Japan economic partnership, particularly through agricultural cooperative network and relevant ASEAN and Japan institutions/ agencies. The Japan’s Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (JA-Zenchu) will play a key role in the implementation of the project. JA-Zenchu is an apex body of Japan’s agricultural cooperative movement representing the interests of Japanese farmers and their agricultural cooperative organisations (JA Group). The key activities under the project include establishment of information network system; exhibition of ASEAN local products at Display Centre in Japan; and human resources development through training, workshops and seminars. An expert from Japan would be dispatched to be based

at the ASEAN Secretariat for project implementation and coordination. The project was expected to run for a period of 5-years.

ii. South-South Cooperation Promotion Project for Agricultural Productivity Enhancement in Developing Countries (Project 2)

152. The main objective of the project is to disseminate ASEAN's advance technology and experiences in agriculture to Member Countries as well as to some Asian Least Developed Countries (LDCs). The ASEAN Secretariat was proposed to play a coordinating role in collecting the well established agricultural technology/ system and to arrange for the dispatch of ASEAN experts for third country training. The duration of the project would be for 5 years.

153. In view of the comments and suggestions provided by Member Countries on project implementation and management, the Meeting agreed that the planned project activities should initially focus on ASEAN LDCs i.e. CLM countries. As for the involvement of other Asian LDCs and Africa, the Meeting noted that there is a need for consultation and guidance from the ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC).

154. The Meeting also considered and agreed in principle to the proposal to develop a mechanism for tripartite cooperation/ partnership involving ASEAN, Japan, and non-ASEAN recipient counties under the South-south Cooperation Project:

- An agreement entitled "South-South Cooperation Partnership Agreement" needs to be developed and signed by all three parties mentioned above. The agreement should serve as a framework agreement, clearly identifying the roles and responsibilities of each partners and implementation mechanism.
- A focal point for each party will be nominated to compose a Steering Board to oversee the delivery of technical training assistance and expert services to the recipient countries. A technical institution such as FAO could be considered to be a member of the Steering Board if all parties concerned are agreeable.
- The functions of the Steering Board will include the approval of the training courses to be organised by ASEAN, the approval of the terms of reference and services agreement of ASEAN experts to be dispatched, and resolving of emerging issues.
- The agreement will cover the detailed implementation arrangements as an annex to two key activities of the South-South Cooperation Project; organising technical training in ASEAN Member Countries and dispatch of ASEAN Experts to non-ASEAN recipient country.

8.4 ASEAN – ROK Cooperation in Agriculture

155. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Secretariat Information paper on the ASEAN ROK Cooperation in Agriculture which appears as **ANNEX 54**

i. Technology Cooperation for Improvement of Efficiency in the Handling of Perishable Crops in ASEAN Countries

156. The Meeting noted that the first three-years of the ASEAN-ROK Project on Technology Cooperation for Improvement of Efficiency in the Handling of Perishable Crops in ASEAN Countries were completed in 2005. A new project proposal was submitted by ROK to be implemented tentatively in September 2006.

ii. ASEAN-ROK Training Programme on Plant Quarantine

157. The Meeting was informed that the project proposal was submitted by ROK during the 7th Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning and Review Committee (JPRC), held on 3-4 March 2005 in Bali, Indonesia. Under the project, ROK will invite two plant quarantine experts from each ASEAN Member Country to participate in the training Programme, tentatively scheduled to be held on 11-23 September 2006.

iii. ASEAN-ROK Training Programme on Aquaculture Technology

158. The Meeting was informed that the project proposal was submitted by ROK during the 7th Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Planning and Review Committee (JPRC), held on 3-4 March 2005 in Bali, Indonesia. Under the project, ROK will invite one expert on aquaculture technology from each ASEAN Member Country to participate in the training, tentatively scheduled in September 2006.

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

8.5 ASEAN - US Cooperation in Agriculture

8.5.1 Strengthening Human Resources Development for the Risk Assessment and Management

159. The Meeting recalled that the project proposal was one of the three short-listed projects for possible ASEAN-USDA cooperation. Taking into consideration the long delay in the implementation of the project because of the inavailability of funding from USDA, the Meeting agreed that the project proposal be withdrawn from future discussion in SOM-AMAF Meetings unless there is clear indication of the availability of fund for the project to be implemented.

8.5.2 ASEAN/USDA Young Agriculturist Entrepreneurship Development Programme

160. The Meeting recalled that the project proposal was also one of the three short-listed projects for possible ASEAN-USDA cooperation, and that the implementation of the project has been pending for quite a long time due to the unavailability of funding support from USDA. The Meeting considered and agreed that the project proposal be withdrawn from future discussions in SOM-AMAF Meetings unless there is a clear indication of the availability of funds for it to be implemented.

8.5.3 ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership

161. The Meeting was informed that ASEAN and US have agreed on a master plan to enhance ASEAN-US relations and cooperation for the next five years (2006-2011). The Framework Document for the Plan of Action (POA) to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced Partnership was signed by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on 27 July 2006, following ASEAN-US Post Ministerial Conference. The POA covers three areas including political and security, economic and social and development cooperation. Under these three areas, there are 28 sub-areas outlining 161 joint measures and activities. The Framework Document for the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-US Enhanced partnership appears as **ANNEX 55**.

162. The Meeting was further informed that ASEAN and the US are initiating the discussions on how to proceed with the implementation of the POA. The ASEAN Secretariat will keep Member Countries informed on the latest developments on this matter.

Action line: ASEAN Secretariat

8.5.4 Building Trade Capacity in Southeast Asia: Exporting Asian Foods to Global Markets

163. The Meeting took note of the information on the project proposal entitled "Building Trade Capacity in Southeast Asia: Exporting Asian Foods to Global Markets, which appears as **ANNEX 56**, proposed by the Kenan Institute Asia with funding support from the USAID. The project aims to support export capacity building in the packaged food sector, focusing on manufacturers and exporters of packaged food, particularly on 'food ingredients and seasonings' and 'ready-to-cook and ready-to-eat' food. The expected result of the project is to establish valuable marketing channel for ASEAN manufacturers, which will be achieved by creating access to ASEAN Member Countries' database of certified food export companies and suppliers and posting company information or their links on the project website.

164. It was noted that this US-funded project is open for participation of all ASEAN Member Countries. However, because of the lack of funds (US\$ 400,000), it will only be a pilot project that has to be completed by September 2007. Given this time constraint, the Kenan Institute Asia as the project

proponent needs to approach individual Member Countries in order to expedite implementation of the project activities. The Meeting expressed support to the project and agreed to provide the project proponent with the list of focal points in their respective countries in order to give their feedback and help identify the appropriate companies who can participate. The list of focal points and contact details for this purpose will be submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat in due course.

**Action line: Member Countries
ASEAN Secretariat**

AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS

9.1 Election for Membership to the FAO Council

165. The Meeting recalled that the matter on the election for membership to the FAO Council was deliberated during the 27th AMAF (29 September 2005, Tagaytay city, the Philippines) and the ASEAN Secretariat was tasked to suggest a mechanism for equitable representation of interested Member Countries in the FAO Council. Pursuant to the 27th AMAF decision, the ASEAN Secretariat prepared a discussion paper looking into a possible mechanism for “ASEAN Representation Format in FAO Council”, which appears as **ANNEX 57**.

166. To ensure a more equitable and fair representation among ASEAN Member Countries who are members of FAO, Malaysia forwarded a proposal based on a rotation basis according to the alphabetical order for election to the FAO Council and the three key management committees; namely, the Programme Committee, the Finance Committee and The Committee on Constitutional and Legal matters. The proposal appears as **ANNEX 58**.

167. After a lengthy deliberation, the Meeting did not reach a consensus in adopting the agreeable principles. Some Member Countries pointed out that the issue may need further consultation with various concerned authorities/ agencies, especially at national level. In view of the complexity of the issue and the lack of consensus, the Meeting agreed to drop this agenda item from future discussions in the SOM-AMAF Meetings.

9.2 Free Trade Agreements with Dialogue Partners

168. The Meeting took note of the ASEAN Secretariat Information paper on Free trade Agreements with Dialogue Partners which appears as **ANNEX 59**.

169. The Meeting was informed of the progress of the ASEAN Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with China, Japan, South Korea, India and with Australia and New Zealand. It was informed that most of these FTA are expected to be in place by 2010 in line with ASEAN Framework Agreement on 11 Priority Integration Products Sectors. In FTA negotiation with the dialogue partners, the timelines for completion of the Free Trade Agreements had been set in two groups; a faster timeline for the ASEAN 6 and later for CLMV countries.

9.3 ASEAN-Pakistan Cooperation in Agriculture

170. The Meeting was informed that during the 3rd ASEAN Pakistan Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee Meeting held in Islamabad on 5 June 2006, Pakistan presented the potential areas for cooperation with ASEAN as shown in **ANNEX 60**.

171. The Meeting noted Pakistan's proposal for future areas of cooperation and joint ventures in the following areas:

- Cold storage / cold chain;
- Market infrastructure;
- Fruit & vegetable processing industry;
- Processing and Post Harvest Technology know-how;
- Improving the marketing efficiency & effectiveness of market of small farmers produce;
- Designing interventions to improve livestock processing & marketing specially large ruminants (Halal Food);
- Vegetable Oil and oil seeds; and
- Exchange of Research and Development

172. With regard to Pakistan's proposal to establish a joint working group for Cooperation, Collaboration and Investment in the Agriculture Sector, the Meeting shared the view that cooperation programmes/activities could be initiated through the already existing sectoral bodies under SOM-AMAF in the areas of crops, livestock, fisheries, and agricultural training and extension. Further consultation could also be conducted through the annual SOM-AMAF meetings.

9.4 ASEAN - India Cooperation in Agriculture

173. The Meeting was briefed by the representatives of India on the possible technical cooperation in agriculture between ASEAN and India. The presentation paper appears as **ANNEX 61**.

174. In view of the wide options of technical cooperation ranging from exchange of genetic resources to graduate training programmes, India proposed to establish a Working Group on ASEAN-India cooperation in agriculture so that technical cooperation programmes could be formulated and implemented in the region. The Meeting considered the proposal and recommended that since there are many ASEAN Working Groups already established on various technical aspects, the proposed activities could be accommodated in the agenda of the relevant Working Groups. The Meeting also encouraged the use of existing mechanism with other dialogue partners to be used as a reference to promote ASEAN-India cooperation. Member Countries were also encouraged to submit relevant proposals for possible cooperation with India in Agriculture.

Action Line: Member Countries

9.5 ASEAN IRRI Consultation

175. The Meeting took note of the presentation by Mr. Duncan Macintosh of IRRI on “*ASEAN-IRRI Activities: An Update*”, which appears as **ANNEX 62**.

176. The presentation highlighted the various activities implemented and on-going IRRI-ASEAN project cooperation activities under three major initiatives, namely: i) Education and Training for Rice Farmers (Rice Knowledge Bank); ii) Education and Training for Rice Farmers and Scientists (‘Rice Camp’ for young people in ASEAN); and Environmental Indicators.

177. The Meeting considered and agreed to the recommendation for inclusion in the draft Joint Press Statement of the 28th AMAF to highlight the achievements of IRRI-ASEAN collaboration, taking into account the following suggestions:

- (i) the 28th AMAF to endorse the Rice Knowledge Bank (RKB) and its incorporation to the activities of the AWGATE and any other similar ASEAN activities;
- (ii) the 28th AMAF to endorse the concept of Rice Camps at IRRI for ten young science students of rice farmers from each country as part of efforts to develop and encourage the next generation of ASEAN rice scientists and rice farmers to be conducted at least once a year; and
- (iii) the 28th AMAF to endorse the development of a series of environmental indicators for ASEAN rice production as being developed by IRRI in partnership with ASEAN Member Countries.

Action Line: SOM-AMAF Chairman

178. The Meeting also agreed to further ASEAN-IRRI collaboration in the areas of agricultural vulnerability to extreme climate, the IPM Knowledge Network, Genetically-Modified Food Testing Network, the agricultural research and development, rice-based pulses production system, East Asia Rice Reserve Management System and Plus Three training activities.

9.6 ASEAN-USBC Consultation

179. The representatives of the USBC made presentations on the issues related to food safety, specifically on the risk analysis and risk assessment process, Adventitious Presence (AP) Standard related to Genetically Modified (GM) material in food and feed, and the Uniform Cooking Poultry Standard recommended by WHO and OIE. After the presentations, three technical recommendations were made for the consideration and endorsement of the next AMAF Meeting in Singapore. However, the Meeting was of the view that these technical issues and proposals must be considered by technical bodies under the SOM-AMAF first. The Meeting recommended the USBC to work closely with relevant bodies under the SOM-AMAF such as the ASWGL, ATF on Codex, and AEGFS. The ASEAN Secretariat was also requested to provide assistance in this endeavour. The Information Paper appears as **ANNEX 63**

Action Line: ASEAN Secretariat

9.7 Preparation for the 28th Meeting of AMAF and 6th AMAF+3 Meeting

180. The Meeting was briefed by Singapore on the preparations made for the coming 28th AMAF and related meetings, scheduled to be held tentatively on 13-18 November 2006. The information paper on the tentative programme and accommodations appears as **ANNEX 64**.

AGENDA ITEM 10: DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

181. The Meeting was informed by Singapore that the next Special SOM-28th AMAF would tentatively be held in July 2007 in Singapore.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

182. The Meeting considered and adopted the Report of the Special Senior Officials Meeting of the Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (Special SOM-27th AMAF) held on 29-31 August 2006 in Bohol, Philippines.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

183. The delegations of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, and the ASEAN Secretariat expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Philippines for the hospitality accorded them and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. The delegations also thanked the ASEAN Secretariat for the assistance rendered.

184. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN cooperation and cordiality.
