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Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific

June 12, 2001

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His Excellency Mr. Rodolfo Severino Secretary General Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) The ASEAN Secretariat 70 A JI. Sisingamangaraja Jakarta, Indonesia TIT ASFAN SECRETATION I ILL FAT/MAIL D JE 27/6/01 TIME 9.45 BY TC DESTINATION ACTION IN RCS

Excellency,

I respectfully refer to the meeting between the Coordinator of the intergovernmental organization of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) and the Assistant Director of the Bureau of Economic and Functional Cooperation at the ASEAN Secretariat on 10 April 2001 to establish cooperation in aquatic animal health management, aquaculture education and livelihoods development for the rural poor that depend on aquatic resources.

NACA recognizes that ASEAN could effectively muster political will to support the development and implementation of technical endeavors that result in well-informed policies, better management practices, and appropriate technologies for sustainable aquaculture development and aquatic resources management, to reduce poverty and improve food security in the region. This cooperation could be effected through:

- (i) the development of technical assistance, institutional development, technology transfer, and human resources development in support of selected programs in (1) the NACA Work Programme 2001-2005, on one hand, and (2) the Strategic Plan of ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (1999-2004), particularly in food security programs, and in the Framework for the ASEAN Plan of Action on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication;
- (ii) the development of technical, management and policy guidelines and strengthening of national and regional capacities to control aquatic animal diseases, and implement Article 9 (Aquaculture Development) and other relevant articles of the code of responsible fisheries and other relevant articles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

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- (iii) the development and communication of policy guides and transfer of methodologies, technologies and good aquaculture management practices that will improve the quality of rural life in ASEAN countries; and
- (iv) the conduct of symposia, training and seminars related to the field of endeavor.

In the implementation of cooperation activities, ASEAN and NACA will work together obtaining funding and the necessary personnel and other resources. Each side is to identify a contact person for coordination purposes.

It is recognized that specific agreements would be required to implement the abovementioned activities on a case-by-case basis, and provisions regarding the treatment of intellectual property, if any, created or furnished in connection with the implementation of these activities, will be included in the agreements.

I look forward to receiving your favorable response on this matter.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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NACA Governing Council $\frac{13}{6}$