



## **ASEAN CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPONENT 5 OF ASEAN INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY (AIFS) FRAMEWORK**

**21 – 22 July 2015, Bangkok, Thailand**

### **CONCEPT NOTE**

#### **Background**

Food insecurity (in terms of inadequate availability, limited access, to safe, diverse and nutritious foods), poor health environment (health infrastructure/services, disease burden, sanitation facilities) and sub-optimal care practices are the basic causes of malnutrition. Malnutrition in all its forms – undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity – imposes unacceptably high economic and social costs on countries at all income levels. The traditional role of agriculture in producing food and generating income is fundamental, but the entire food system – from inputs and production, through processing, storage, transport and retailing, to consumption – can contribute much more to the eradication of malnutrition.

During the Thirty Sixth meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry, the revised ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and the new Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security (SPA-FS) 2015-2020, which incorporates a new component on nutrition was endorsed. The new nutrition component was introduced to enable ASEAN to address the challenges in the realization of the common goal of long-term food security and nutrition. The nutrition component of the new SPA-FS 2015-2020 is focusing on promoting nutrition-enhancing agriculture development to ensuring availability, accessibility and affordability of diverse, safe and nutritious foods to meet the dietary requirement of ASEAN population.

Improving food security and nutrition requires a multisectoral approach that begins with food and agriculture and includes complementary interventions in public health and education. The health and agriculture sectors are central to such efforts, reflecting their mandates to provide curative and preventative health services and to facilitate food production. The coordinated and collaborative effort between SOM-AMAF and SOMHD officials for supporting the implementation of nutrition component of SPA-FS 2015-2020 would be important.

There is also need of development of a Common ASEAN Position on Food Security and Nutrition. The Joint Consultative Meeting of the Senior Officials Meeting-ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF) and the Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development (SOMHD) on Integrating Nutrition in ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework which was held on 31 January 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand, has also concurred to the proposal of developing a concept paper for a Common Position on Food Security and Nutrition.

In line with above, ASEAN secretariat, with support of FAO, is to hold a meeting of SOM-AMAF.

#### **Objective**

The main objective of the meeting will be to finalize the ASEAN Common Position on Food Security and Nutrition and discuss the implementation of nutritional component

of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security in the ASEAN (2015-2020).

### **Expected outputs**

- The Common ASEAN Food Security and Nutrition Position prepared by ASEAN presented, discussed and finalized.
- A road map of priority actions with details, timeframe and implementation arrangements for nutrition component of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security prepared.

### **Participants**

The meeting will be attended by the ASEAN SOM-AMAF officials, ASEAN relevant technical working groups (such as working group on fisheries, crops, livestock and etc.), FAO and UNICEF technical experts. It is estimated to have around maximum of 40 participants.

### **Venue and date**

The meeting is proposed to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 21-22 July, 2015.