

Thailand's statement
The 35th Session of Committee on Fisheries (COFI 35)
Agenda Item 14:
FAO's Programme of Work in fisheries and aquaculture under
the FAO Strategic Framework
[WCP]

- With reference to Para 23 of COFI/2022/12 document, Thailand actively participated in the development of the PMP/AB and the virtual events, i.e. Fish/Vet Dialogue (June 2021) and Tilapia health: *quo vadis* (December 2021)
- On PMP/AB, we request that Thailand be considered as a pilot country. Not only will we be able to share our experience and competence in this area; being considered as a pilot country will improve our existing biosecurity systems for the benefit of aquaculture stakeholders and our trading partners.
- It is worthwhile to note that Thailand is leading the ASEAN Network on Aquatic Animal Centres (ANAAHC); we wish to further engage with FAO in building capacity of ANAAHC especially on the aspect of risk assessment.
- The two virtual events are quite successful and we encourage FAO to continue to organize the Fish/Vet Dialogue on a regular basis. It is very important that competent authorities (e.g. fisheries and aquaculture authorities, veterinary services, food safety agencies, etc.) involved in managing diseases in aquaculture work together and share responsibilities. We wish to emphasize the importance of engagement with the industry in this endeavor (thus private public sector partnership) and a focus on small scale holders as they are the sector that needs utmost assistance in terms of aquatic health services. An event similar to the Tilapia health: *quo vadis* may be expanded to focus on other important commodities such marine finfish and seaweeds.