



Mission Report

50th Governing Board Meeting of SEAMEO BIOTROP

8-11 October 2012
Singapore

A. SEAMEO Officials and Staff Member on Mission

Tinsiri Siribodhi

B. Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity

SEAMEO BIOTROP held their 50th Governing Board Meeting (GBM) in RELC International House, Singapore. The Centre is located in Bogor, Indonesia. The current Centre Director is Dr. Bambang Purwantara. The Centre has 120 staff.

The selection of Chairperson is on rotation basis, by alphabetical order. The term of the chairmanship is two years. The current Chairperson is the Governing Board member from Singapore, Prof Wong Sek Kun from the National University Singapore, 2011-2012.

C. Participants

Total of 18 participants attended the meeting. They are Governing Board Members from Cambodia, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam; representatives of the Governing Board Members from Indonesia; SEAMEO Secretariat representative (Tinsiri Siribodhi), SEAMEO BIOTROP Director and staff. Governing Board Member from Brunei Darussalam was unable to attend.

D. Organizer/s

SEAMEO BIOTROP with the support from the Chairman of the Board from Singapore, Prof. Wong Sek Kun from National University of Singapore (NUS).

E. Highlight of the Activity/Summary Points

In Camera-Session

1. The board agreed on the reappointment of Dr. Jess Fernandez, the Deputy Director for Program for another three years term, starting 1 August 2013- 31 July 2016.

Key Discussion

1. The Board took note on the new auditing standards informed by the Secretariat but would like to request the Secretariat to re-discuss with the auditor on postponing or exempting

the new standards for SEAMEO Centres. This is due to 1) SEAMEO is a non-profit organization and 2) the differences in auditing standards of different countries. The Board also added that if the new standard is enforced, the extra cost should be borne by the auditor or SEAMEO Secretariat not by the SEAMEO Centres.

2. SEAMEO BIOTROP will organize an International Conference with the theme, “Enhancing and Promoting the Real Values of Tropical Biodiversity of Southeast Asia” in 2013. This activity is an initiative under the 9th Five Year Development Plan (2012-2019).
3. SEAMEO BIOTROP will conduct In-Country Training courses for CMLV countries, starting 2013. The Board supported the initiative and was very pleased to help in the coordination of the training in their respective countries.
4. SEAMEO BIOTROP will organize a Policy Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Environment and Tropical Biology in 2013. The Secretariat informed the Meeting about the Asia Pacific CSR Forum which will be organized in Bangkok on 25-26 October by Asian Institute of Management (AIM), which SEAMEO Secretariat is one of the partners. The Secretariat invited SEAMEO BIOTROP to participate in the Forum.
5. SEAMEO BIOTROP will celebrate its 45th Anniversary on 5-7 February 2013.
6. The next GBM will be from 26-28 September 2013 and back to back with the Conference.

Feedback on SEAMEO College

1. The Board raised the question on the name of the “SEAMEO College” which they felt that it does not imply to the concept of the College.
2. The Board said that overall the proposed region issues which was presented is well covered in the board area of the region and is adaptable.
3. The GB member from Indonesia suggested an issue on “Community Education” which refers to skills, knowledge and experience of the local community which can be transfer into credit.

F. Role/Participation of SEAMEO

1. Gave an opening remark on behalf of the SEAMEO Secretariat.
2. Gave a brief presentation on SEAMEO College and responded to the questions from the Board members.
3. Presented SEAMEO Integrated report FY2010/2011 in video multimedia format.
4. Informed the Board about the winners of the ESD SEAMEO-Japan award.
5. Informed the Board on the new auditing standard and its implication to the Centre.

G. Side Meeting/s

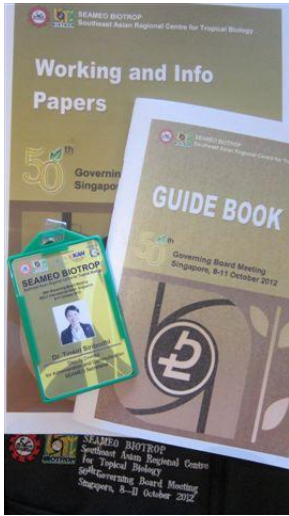
N/A

H. Follow-up Actions Needed

1. Report back to the Director on the comment of the Board on the new auditing standards.
2. Link Dr. Malcom, FAO to SEAMEO BIOTROP
3. Send information on CSR Forum to Dr. Bambang.

I. Appendices/Related Conference Materials and Outputs

Some pictures from the meeting



Materials for the meeting



The Meeting