1. **Name:**

ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment

1. **Short description:**

The institution responsible for ASEAN cooperation on the environment, has an interest in coastal and marine environments.

1. **Formality:**

Formal. Operates within the ASEAN Secretariat.

1. **Regional coverage:**

Southeast Asia

1. **Members (including states and non-states):**

ASEAN member states.

1. **Includes non-state actors?**

On an ad hoc basis (giving presentations, partnerships, etc.)

1. **Date created:**

1992

1. **Date visibly started to engage with maritime security (e.g. first document that refers to it):**

Unclear

1. **Brief History and Description:**

In 1983, the ASEAN Ministerial Understanding on Fisheries Cooperation was adopted by the ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Food (AMAF) to foster closer cooperation in the areas of fisheries management and conservation, exchange of technology, fisheries trade and marketing. Following the dissolution of the ASEAN COFAF in 1992 and the 14th AMAF decision of providing SOM-AMAF the important role in reformulating new policy guidelines for ASEAN cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry, the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGFi) was reconstituted as one of the subsidiary bodies providing technical support to SOM-AMAF.

ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME) aims to ensure ASEANs coastal and marine environment are sustainably managed; representative ecosystems, pristine areas, and species are protected; economic activities are sustainably managed; and public awareness of the coastal and marine environment instilled. AWGCME also functions as a consultative forum to promote coordination and collaboration among various relevant ASEAN and other regional marine-related initiatives to ensure a well-coordinated and integrated approach to the conservation and sustainable management of the coastal and marine environment

The ASWGFi is supported by the following sub-working working groups in the implementation of the strategic plan of action:

ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASA) provides a platform for government and private sector to formulate and harmonize shrimp production and certification standards, and to discuss issues affecting shrimp production and trade;

Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (FCG/ASSP) provides a mechanism for ASEAN and SEAFDEC to work together in developing common or coordinated positions on international fisheries issues and implementing mutually agreed fisheries programs;

ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF) provides a platform to discuss and address common problems on fisheries management and development faced by AMS; and

Expert Working Group on ASEAN Good Aquaculture Practice (EWG-ASEAN GAqP) provides a mechanism to develop and review the ASEAN certification system and best practices guidelines or standards for aquaculture commodities.

1. **Maritime Security Issues Covered:**

IUU Fishing

1. **Noteworthy documents and strategies:**

* STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION ON ASEAN COOPERATION ON FISHERIES 2016-2020
* ASEAN-SEAFDEC Joint Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating IUU Fishing
* Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain

1. **Meeting Intensity:**

1 meeting a year

1. **Ongoing projects and activities:**

ASEAN cooperation to improve the governance of transboundary fishing and traceability of fishery products in order to combat IUU fishing. In particular, improve the regulation and control of fishing vessels through registries, the use of vessel monitoring systems and effective catch documentation schemes.

Action points:

* Foster cooperation among ASEAN Member Countries and with international and regional organizations in combating IUU fishing
* Strengthen regional and national policy and legislation to implement measures and activities to combat IUU fishing, including the development and implementation of national plans of action (NPOAs) to combat IUU fishing, and promote the awareness and understanding of international and regional instruments and agreements through information dissemination campaigns
* Establish and strengthen regional and sub-regional coordination on fisheries management and efforts to combat IUU fishing including the development of regional/sub-regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) networks.
* Build up the capacity among AMS including functions for regional and sub-regional cooperation, to effectively meet the requirements of Port State Measure and Flag State Responsibilities
* Implement the ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fisheries Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain

1. **Funding structure:**
2. **Challenges:**

As it takes place within the ASEAN structure, an ongoing challenge is its perception as a talking shop, tied into broader regional limits to cooperation

The Meetings recognised that collective regional actions are still needed to address cross-cutting environmental issues, such as marine debris pollution

1. **Cooperation or link with other arrangements:**

ACFC; AMAF; SEAFDEC

Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership

1. **Institutional contacts:**
2. **Noteworthy literature**:
3. **Knowledge gaps to follow up on:**

Seems to be a recognition of the potential for overlap. Document states ‘The implementation of the SPA Fisheries will be carried out by the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWFi) and ASEAN Fisheries Consultation Forum (AFCF), pending the outcomes of the streamlining of SOM-AMAF/AMAF structure’. Efforts to structure / streamline current governance.