Title: The History of Development of Fisheries Management and Co-Management Studies in Vietnam

Authors: Ha Xuan Thong, Coastal Resources Institute (Vietnam)

Abstract: Vietnam is the peninsular country and lying in the area of monsoon tropical

climate therefore has very diversify and abundant and valuable fish resources. Since long time ago the fisheries resources in natural water bodies (as in dams, rivers, lake, canals, sea) have been concerned as common property (and is owned but fish is common), however the exploitation of fish resources have already closely managed by different level of government and communities of fishers (van chai-village of fishermen) Studying the different fish resources management forms of feudal system and the experiences of regulated regime of fish resources management in France colonial regime from the end of 19 century to 1945 as well as the fixed regime of fish resources management of Vietnamese governments after 1945 and the self-management tradition of fishermen communities helps to find-out and affirm the better form of fish resources management for small scale fisheries base on combination of participation of communities and government and legislations. This study is aimed to summary the process of forming the idea and applying creatively and diversity of co-management community- based in Vietnam adapting the customs and tradition and cultural character of different locations.

Keywords: small scale fisheries, diversity and abundant of fish resources, monsoon tropical climate, customary and traditional management form, open approach of common property, co-management, community-based, forming management idea, applying co-management approach, local cultural character