

Prof. Dr. Anuar bin Hassan

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh,

The Institute of Tropical Aquaculture (AKUATROP) has grown significantly since its establishment in 2004. The year 2011 has seen considerable changes with respect to infra-structure facilities and researchers. In August 2011, we eventually relocated to our new building and expanded our research facilities. The new building is consisted of 13 laboratories, a computer room, a post-graduates lounge and a tutorial room to facilitate research and teaching programs for our post-graduate students.

Furthermore, we are glad to have the third largest post graduate enrollment among all the institutes and faculties in UMT with a total of 79 student's enrolment. The statistic have also shown that AKUATROP has attracted significant student's interest in aquaculture sector as it became the second higher field of study in UMT.

AKUATROP has established linkages with government and private sectors to accelerate our research activities. In 2011, AKUATROP has signed a joint venture with Iris Marine Sdn. Bhd. to work jointly on spiny lobster project involving the participation of the PEMANDU, Jabatan Perdana Menteri.

In addition, two other research projects on Fresh Water Pearl production and Fish Project Miller, both were undertaken involving KETENGAH and Kenyir Lake, Terengganu. All these research projects will be expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

Our vision is to place AKUATROP on the centre stage of research excellence in the field of aquaculture in Malaysia, as well as to enhance its existence and reputation internationally. To accomplish the above objectives, AKUATROP is promoting international collaborative researches with research institutions of Asia, Europe and Canada. AKUATROP has also been inviting international scientists and researchers every year to share their expertise, transfer new technology and disseminate their knowledge during seminars and workshop organized by AKUATROP.

All the research and public service activities in 2011 of AKUATROP are documented in this sixth annual report. We sincerely hope that readers will find our activities in this report interesting and which will provide useful information.

I thank our staff for their hard work throughout the year.



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