

## Preface

The APEC-ATC Sub-Group on Conservation and Utilization of Plant and Animal Genetic Resources has held four Workshops since its initiation in 1995. The second workshop, namely *Workshop on Conservation and Utilization of Farm Animal and Aquatic Genetic Resources*, was held in November 1998 in Tainan, Chinese Taipei emphasizing more on animal genetic resources. The objectives of the Workshop were to discuss the cultural, social and economic value and importance of animal genetic resources; to exchange the expertise on conservation and utilization measures and technologies among member economies; to share information on genetic resources collections; and to formulate future collaboration plans. In addition to status reports from member economies, several prominent experts were invited to deliver lectures related to the workshop themes.

Following by one of the workshop recommendations submitted to the ATC Working Group, an APEC booklet focusing on the relationship between indigenous animals and human with local agricultural implications was scheduled and entrusted later to the Chinese Society of Animal Science by Council of Agriculture, Chinese Taipei. The objectives of the Society are to promote research and education in bringing together scientists and educators in farm animal agriculture, facilitating the dissemination of scientific and technical information through publications and scientific meetings, and conducting a scientific liaison and outreach program in support of farm animal agriculture. Therefore, we hope that this publication will assist not only in sharing expertise and experience with friends, but also promoting international cooperation among economies of the Asia-Pacific region.

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