

**Resolution GFCM/35/2011/3**  
**concerning the procedure to submit new proposals of decisions**  
**to the annual sessions of the GFCM**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECALLING* that the objectives of the Agreement establishing the GFCM, are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and best utilization of living marine resources;

*AWARE* of the necessity for coordinated and timely actions by all Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties of GFCM (CPCs) to ensure the enforcement of GFCM's conservation and management measures, and the need to encourage all CPCs of GFCM to abide by these measures;

*CONSIDERING* the need for action to ensure the effectiveness of the GFCM objectives;

*TAKING* into account the conclusions of the GFCM Performance Review, in favour of the improvement of the effectiveness of the Commission with regards to the decision-making process in the field of fisheries and aquaculture management;

*NOTING* that the GFCM, at its Thirty-fourth Session, debated on the importance of adopting a strict procedure concerning the submission of new proposals for decisions to the Annual Sessions of the Commission;

*ADOPTS*, in conformity with the provision of paragraph 1 (b) and (h) of Article III and Article V of GFCM Agreement, that:

1. Contracting Parties shall ensure, to the extent possible, to submit to the GFCM Secretariat at least 15 days before the beginning of each Annual Session, any new proposal for decision related to the fisheries and aquaculture management in order to guarantee its communication in timely manner to the other Contracting Parties.
2. All efforts should be endeavored in order for these proposals to be, to the extent possible, elaborated by more than one member and presented in at least two of the GFCM working languages.
3. To ensure the effectiveness of GFCM objectives, paragraphs 1 and 2 are without prejudice to the adoption of any other decision regarding fisheries and aquaculture management needed during the Annual Session.

4. Any new proposal for decision introduced beyond the time-limit fixed under paragraph 1 shall be first submitted to the Commission for approval at the opening of the Annual Session in order to be considered or not during the Session.

5. The submission of proposal for decision shall follow a procedure well defined by the Commission. The Task Force, as established to follow-up on the Recommendations of the GFCM Performance Review, shall review the question and submit a proposal on this subject to the consideration of the Thirty-Sixth Session of the Commission. The procedure, thus proposed by the Working Group and adopted by the Commission in 2012, shall be annexed to the present Resolution.