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COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Thirty-second Session

Rome, 11-15 July 2016

**FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF
THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES,
ROME, 9-13 JUNE 2014**

Executive Summary

At its Thirty-first Session in June 2014, COFI made a number of decisions and recommendations to the Secretariat and Members. This information paper summarizes actions taken by the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, in collaboration with Members and relevant agencies, to address the principal decisions and recommendations directed to the Secretariat. In the attached table, the "Para" coheres with the paragraph number of the report of the Thirty-first Session of COFI (COFI/2016/Inf.6).

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ACTION TAKEN TO FOLLOW UP DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATION BY COFI 31

No	Para	Action Taken
1	8	As with SOFIA 2014, SOFIA 2016 is scheduled to be delivered several weeks in advance of COFI to provide members adequate time for review.
2	9	FAO does not have data on fleet capacity or social economic aspects of the fishery targeting each specific stock. Therefore, no such information can be linked to stock status. Stock status by species were not available for years earlier than 2009, which makes disaggregation into region impossible. All species/stocks have been updated in SOFIA 2016. The ratio of stocks fished sustainably cannot be expressed in terms of volume or value for the whole period of 1974-2013 because status by species/stock data were not available for years earlier than 2009.
3	10	The web-based questionnaire was reviewed and updated as requested by COFI and in accordance with comments provided by respondents in 2013. Supplementary questionnaires submitted to the COFI sub-committees on trade and aquaculture were also developed on the web-based platform and in coherence with the COFI questionnaire on the Code. Assistance was provided to Members by the Secretariat and Regional / sub-regional / country FAO offices in the completion of the questionnaire, to the extent possible. The response rate for the 2015-2016 questionnaire reached an all-time record of 115 Members and 25 RFBs.
4	11	A section on the implementation of the voluntary guidelines on small-scale fisheries was added to the Code questionnaire. Information from this new section is also proposed by FAO to be used in the context of the definition of the indicators of the SDGs, namely in relation to SDG 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources, target ‘Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets’
5	12	FAO is actively promoting adoption of the Code via the Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture, which is increasingly being adopted by countries. The status of implementation is being monitored through an aquaculture web-based questionnaire, which is also being used by countries as a performance self-assessment tool.
6	13	As at 4 April 2016, 24 FAO Members had deposited their instrument of adherence to the PSMA, making it likely that the Agreement will come into force prior to COFI 32. Advocacy by FAO's senior management and FAO's capacity development programme on the PSMA increased awareness greatly and promoted adherence to the Agreement.
7	13	FAO has been playing a substantial role in capacity building in Somalia that tackles root causes of piracy off its coast. In May 2012, a strategic partnership agreements were signed among FAO, IMO, UN Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), WFP and the European Union. These agreements commit to the improvement of coordination, the strengthening of anti-piracy and maritime capacity of States in the western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden, and the development of viable and sustainable alternatives to piracy in Somalia. The 3rd meeting of the Joint FAO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on IUU Fishing and Related Matters, which was held at IMO Headquarters on 16-18 November 2015, recommended that the FAO Secretariat, in cooperation with the IMO Secretariat, make information on piracy and armed robbery against ships and other

		security-related issues, which might be relevant to the fisheries sector, available to FAO Members and RFBs.
8	14	FAO is actively engaged in strengthening the capacity of member countries and assisting them to put the Guidelines into practice. This assistance includes regional projects which aim to develop trawl fisheries management plans that take into account ecological, social and economic considerations. Among others, two major regional projects are being implemented in Southeast Asia and in Latin America and Caribbean (REBYC-II program). The trawl fisheries management plans developed with the help of these projects will address the bycatch issues and contribute to the more sustainable use of fisheries resources in the regions. FAO is also implementing a project “Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)” where the management of bycatch forms a major component. Furthermore, FAO is currently in the process of assessing global discards in order to have updated information on how the world is performing in managing bycatch and reducing discards.
9	15	In response to the concerns related to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG), FAO is in the process of developing Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear. In this regard, FAO is convening an Expert Consultation on the Marking of Fishing Gear on 4-7 April 2016 in Rome at FAO Headquarters. The standard for the marking of fishing gear would be of benefit to coastal states in addressing problems associated with ALDFG and would also positively contribute to maritime safety and in deterring IUU fishing. The Guidelines will provide practical means of identifying the ownership and position of fishing gear and assist States in meeting their obligations under international agreements. Furthermore, FAO is an active member in the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML), driven by UNEP.
10	16	The effective cooperation between FAO, ILO and IMO is ongoing. Two years ago, FAO agreed to IMO’s request to provide assistance in developing and conducting regional seminars on the implementation of the 2012 Cape Town Agreement. So far, three seminars have been held, in Agadir, Morocco, on 9-11 April 2014; in Belize City, Belize, on 20-24 October 2014; and in Bali, Indonesia on 13-17 April 2015. In addition to improving safety at sea in the fisheries sector, it is expected that the Cape Town Agreement would become a useful tool in combating IUU fishing, since fishing vessels, which fall under the scope of the instrument, would be subject to Port State Control. FAO participated in the ILO Meeting of Experts to Adopt Flag State Guidelines for Implementation of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No.188) at ILO Headquarters on 21-25 September 2015. The Meeting adopted the Guidelines on flag State inspection of working and living conditions on board fishing vessels, in which there is a reference to relevant FAO voluntary instruments. IMO been cooperating with FAO on the implementation of the IMO ship identification number scheme in the context of the Global Record, for example through meetings of the Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group. The 3rd meeting of the Joint FAO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on IUU Fishing and Related Matters, in which ILO also participated, was held at IMO Headquarters on 16-18 November 2015. The meeting adopted several recommendations on future collaboration between FAO, ILO and IMO in the fight against IUU fishing.
11	22	In consultation with Bureau, the statements by Canada and Mexico on the SSF Guidelines were attached as ANNEX F to the Chairperson’s Report of the Technical Consultation on SSF Guidelines, which is attached to the Report of COFI 31 as APPENDIX G.

12	26	<p>Workshop on the Development of a Global Assistance Programme in Support of the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines was held in December 2014 - www.fao.org/3/a-i4880e/index.html</p> <p>A number of follow-up steps for FAO were agreed on that occasion. These steps and the current status are listed here below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workshop proceedings will be made available as soon as possible to all participants as well as to a broader audience: DONE -- www.fao.org/3/a-i4880e/index.html • As a priority, a proposal for support to implementation of the SSF Guidelines and the continued development of the GAP will be developed based on the outcomes of the workshop and other relevant events. This proposal will be shared with resource partners as a basis for a continued dialogue on funding of the GAP and implementation of the SSF Guidelines: DONE – Umbrella Programme established and first project funded by Norway activated at the end of October 2015 • Subject to adequate financial support and building on the detailed guidance received through the workshop, as well as on other relevant inputs, the GAP framework will be further developed, including consideration of the need for monitoring and governance mechanisms for implementation of the SSF Guidelines: ONGOING – This was the nature of the ‘Rethinking the GAP’ CSO-FAO meeting to support a coherent approach to implementing the SSF Guidelines among development partners and stakeholders held on 22 February 2016 in Rome. • In the meantime and as part of FAO’s ongoing and continued support to small-scale fisheries, special consideration will be given to the proposed immediate actions: awareness-raising campaigns; development of support material; and strategic workshops, in particular for the development of regional action plans as called for in the SSF Guidelines: ONGOING - Four regional consultations held in 2015 (Southeast Asia, South Asia, East Africa, and Near East and North Africa) • New partnerships and synergies to further facilitate implementation at all levels will be explored, in particular considering requests from countries for support in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines: ONGOING
13	29	<p>In summer 2015 FAO established an FAO Umbrella Programme for the Promotion and Application of the SSF Guidelines - Enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to food security and sustainable livelihoods. The first project supported by Norway under the Umbrella was activated end of October 2015.</p>
14	30	<p>Implementation of VG-SSF in a participatory manner could play the similar role to enhance SSF as the proposed Sub-Committee.</p>
15	33	<p>The BGI working group has been established virtually in LinkedIn.</p>
16	34	<p>With regard to the coordination and collaboration with other UN Agencies as well as global and regional processes, including FAO and non-FAO RFBs, the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department established a Task Force on United Nations-related processes as well as a Task Force on RFBs in order to prioritize and coordinate its work and activities.</p>
17	35	<p>FAO has published a review of the implementation of performance review report by 19 RFBs during the period 2004-2014, including six FAO RFBs. The FAO</p>

	36	publication Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1108, “The implementation of performance review reports by regional fishery bodies, 2004–2014”, is now available online at http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4869e.pdf
18	37	A technical consultation on transshipment at sea was not convened as there was no consensus reached at COFI in 2014.
19	38	Regional capacity development workshops on the benefits of the implementation of the PSMA were delivered, in collaboration with relevant regional and international entities, in the following regions in 2014 -2016: Caribbean, Latin America, North West Indian Ocean (including adjacent seas and gulfs), African continent bordering the eastern Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean. FAO is seeking to broaden its capacity development programme to assist countries in enhancing their legislative, institutional and operational capacity to implement the PSMA.
20	40	<p>The design of the Global Record system, which is built on the in-house Vessel Record Management Framework (VRMF), is being specified by technical groups (see the row below), comprising experts from Members, RFMOs, IGO, etc., where issues such as data standards and linking with existing systems are discussed.</p> <p>FAO is currently working on a Global Record Pilot Project, which is an initial, yet functioning, version of the Global Record, which comprises information from a few key Members, and possibly RFMOs, as the Pilot Project Partners. In this regard, special attention is being paid to the needs of developing countries and initial support missions have taken place to evaluate the work required. At the end of the Pilot Project phase, coverage will be extended beyond the initial Partners to a wider set of data providers, to move towards the first version of the Global Record.</p> <p>The 3rd meeting of the Joint FAO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on IUU Fishing and Related Matters, in which ILO also participated, was held at IMO Headquarters on 16-18 November 2015. The meeting adopted several recommendations on future collaboration between FAO, ILO and IMO in the fight against IUU fishing, including some related to the Global Record.</p>
21	41	In order to take up the role of the advisory committee, the need of which was recognized by COFI, FAO established the Global Record Informal Open-ended Technical and Advisory Working Group (GRWG), open to all FAO Members and Observers. The GRWG has met twice, on 23-25 February 2015 and on 21-23 March 2016. On the recommendation from the GRWG, three specialized core working groups (GRCGs) were set up to address technical issues in further detail. These core groups work mainly through virtual workspaces but had also a physical meeting on 30 September-2 October 2015. Extra-budgetary funds have been secured until the end of the first quarter of 2017 but the long-term financing is still an issue.
22	42	The initial work to develop the guidelines started in late 2014. A working document was developed in early 2015 and the Expert Consultation was held in July 2015 with 15 experts and resource persons deliberating on the draft guidelines, which was consequently submitted to the 15th Session of COFI-FT for discussion in February 2016. The Technical Consultation is held in April 2016 and the outcome of the meeting will be reported to COFI 32.

23	43	The outcome of and follow-up to the Global Conference on Inland Fisheries is addressed under Agenda item 9.1 in the forthcoming session of COFI.
24	47	<p>i) Preparation of technical reviews: “A Global Estimate of Theoretical Annual Inland Capture Fisheries Harvest”, “Connections between inland fisheries and internationally agreed instruments and mechanisms – Priorities for raising awareness”</p> <p>ii) Convening of a Global Conference on Inland fisheries and associated publications</p> <p>iii) Participation and awareness raising World Water Forum</p> <p>iv) Development of a Source to sea GEF project</p> <p>v) Blue Growth initiative: 1) working with AGL for the more effective integration of inland fisheries and aquaculture into irrigation systems; 2) With RNE: creating general awareness of the importance of including environmental issues in inland capture fisheries management</p> <p>vi) Cooperative work proposed to look at appropriate valuation of fisheries in water sector decision making.</p> <p>vii) Provision of technical input to CBD COP documentation encouraging inclusion of fisheries related to Aichi target 6. Noting that many new treaties and instruments specifically identify marine fisheries at the exclusion of inland fisheries</p> <p>viii) FAO is currently developing cooperation projects and development assistance in inland fisheries with IFAD, GEF and member countries in projects in Indonesia, Republic of Congo, Mauritania Madagascar, Angola, South Sudan and Malawi</p>
25	48	<p>i) APFIC/FAO regional workshop to develop Asia stocking guidance</p> <p>ii) APFIC/FAO Development of an evaluation framework for stocking and culture based fisheries</p> <p>iii) Evaluation of CIFAA (to strengthen it)</p> <p>vi) EIFAC Continued strengthening of EIFAAC by implementing the project approach to issues of concern; Raise awareness concerning the need for the use, and provide guidance on the inclusion, of knowledge of behaviour, including migration behaviour, in the management of migratory fish species (e.g. sturgeon in Europe)</p> <p>v) FAO has been assisting the Lake Chad Basin Commission (CBLT/LCBC) with the development of a Lake Chad Fisheries Management Plan using the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. The plan has been finalized, and is in effect.</p> <p>vi) FAO is also working with AfDB regarding support to the Programme de Réhabilitation et de Renforcement de la Résilience des Systèmes Socio-Ecologiques du Bassin du lac Tchad/Programme to Rehabilitate and Strengthen the Resilience of Lake Chad Basin Systems (PRESIBALT)</p> <p>viii) FAO through TCI is providing some technical advice to the World Bank Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project.</p>
26	49	<p>i) Other assessment method for estimating value and/scale of inland fisheries</p> <p>ii) Valuations ongoing</p>

		<p>iii) Technical publications: 1) FAO/UNEP TEEB “Valuation of inland fisheries an ecosystem service”; 2) “Freshwater fisheries harvest replacement estimates (land and water) for protein and the micronutrients contribution in the lower Mekong River basin and related countries”</p> <p>iv) Starting to move on the next update state of inland fishery resources</p> <p>v) Assistance to Mongolia (Ministry of Environment; NGO Taimen Conservation Fund) in creating better understanding for the importance of including environmental aspects concerning fish into river basin use planning (2 workshops)</p>
27	50	Deferred/cancelled due to lack of resources
28	54	An update on FAO’s work on post-harvest activities was presented to COFI-FT. The work covering SIDS has to some extent been streamlined and integrated within FAO’s overall work, including the Blue Growth Initiative
29	55	FAO has continued its work on value-chains with emphasis on value-chain upgrading and development, in particular in the Asian and African regions
30	57	A research paper, “Analysis of gaps and inconsistencies in the seafood traceability standards and norms”, was prepared by two expert consultants and presented to the 15th Session of COFI FT as document COFI:FT/XV/2016/Inf.8.
31	59	With financial support from Norway, the Expert Consultation was held in July 2015 with 15 experts and resource persons deliberating on the draft guidelines, which was consequently submitted to the 15th Session of COFI-FT for discussion in February 2016. The Technical Consultation is held in April 2016 and the outcome of the meeting will be reported to COFI 32.
32	61	<p>FAO provided technical and data support for the State of Sustainability Initiative (SSI) in preparation of their review of capture fisheries ecolabels, “Standards and the blue economy”, to be launched in May 2016.</p> <p>FAO provided technical support and served on the Steering Board of a multi-stakeholder 3-year project, the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI), in development of a benchmarking tool to assess seafood certification schemes against the FAO Certification Guidelines and other FAO instruments. The GSSI benchmarking tool was launched at an FAO Conference, Vigo, Spain, October 2015.</p>
33	62	<p>FAO – CITES cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding continues, and receives guidance from Members as well as RFMOs and National Fisheries Authorities. FAO continues to work closely with CITES in order to be able to communicate Members wishes and to keep Members abreast of upcoming issues and opportunities. FAO’s programme of work supports Members in relation to, i) liaison prior to Parties proposing listing amendments; ii) decision making when amendments are being considered for listing; and iii) in implementation of any subsequent listing related requirements.</p> <p>COFI FT in Agadir 2016 unanimously supported FAO’s Expert Advisory Panel for the assessment of listing or delisting proposals for commercially exploited aquatic species at CITES CoP-17, which is planned for June 2016. Shark and ray species are</p>

		<p>already proposed for CITES listing amendment by CITES Parties, although the final notification of species proposals will only be published by CITES on the 27 April 2016.</p> <p>The FAO Expert Advisory Panel is instructed to concentrate their advice on technical issues related to fisheries management and international trade issues, and the likelihood of implementation success to realize effective conservation. Both the IUCN /Traffic Report and the FAO Expert Advisory Panel include information on species vulnerability to extinction (biology and ecology) but the FAO process provides additional socio-economic and fishery information.</p> <p>With regard to funding of FAO's Expert Advisory Panel, formal letters of request were sent out in April 2016 to ask for assistance to augment FAO's Regular Programme investment in attending to CITES listing proposal process.</p>
34	63	FAO continues its efforts to provide timely expert views on market practices, definitions and parameters, and existing international codes or agreements that could be relevant for fish trade, especially in the area of fisheries subsidies, in close collaboration with WTO.
35	64	The continued collaboration of FAO with World Customs Organization (WCO) is reflected in the new version of HS, HS 2017, which will enter into force on 1 January 2017 for all Contracting Parties to the Harmonized System Convention. HS2017 will include amendments related to fish and fishery products for species and/or product forms that need to be monitored for food security purposes and for better management of resources, in particular for potentially endangered species. At present, no progress has been made on the separation of species by farmed and wild origin due to time limitation, lack of available free HS codes and no support from the majority of HS member countries when FAO proposed this split in the previous revision cycle.
36	69	Technical assistance for the development of aquaculture is being provided to countries regularly and actively based on requests.
37	70	Biosecurity has been identified as one of the seven priority areas by the 8th session of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture (SCA) as a basis for its future work. Therefore, further guidance by the SCA can be expected. Currently, based on government requests for technical assistance both at national and regional levels, FAO conducts a gap analysis through an FAO self-assessment survey on performance and capacity on aquatic animal health (AAH). This is key for developing national policies and regional frameworks, including targeted capacity building on all aspects of AAH management.
38	71	Efforts have been made to strengthen S-S Cooperation in promoting sustainable aquaculture, especially through the development of FAO-China-Africa and Asia-Pacific programmes, or triangular-cooperation FAO-China-Kingdom of the Netherlands and Africa programmes.
39	73	The terminology has been revised and uploaded in the Aquaculture Glossary.

40	74	The Advisory WG has held its first Session just before the 8th Session of the SCA. Participants were identified according to the rules of the Organization. The WG has made specific recommendations on the scope of its deliberations which were presented to the SCA.
41	76	Through inclusive consultations and following a regional approach, regional priorities were defined and agreed upon by the Eighth Session of the Sub-Committee, which met in Brasilia, Brazil from 5 to 9 October 2015.
42	77	<p>It has neither been possible, nor does it seem likely, to finance GAAP activities through the regular budget; the regular budget is and is likely to remain very thin for some time ahead. The only way feasible in this regard is to use regular budget to provide seed money to use to mobilize extra-budgetary resources.</p> <p>To this end, two project concept notes (Aquaculture for Youth Employment in Africa and Southeast Asia, and Aquaculture, Culture-based Fisheries and Stock Enhancement Practices for Food, Income and Employment in Small Islands Developing States) have been prepared and submitted to potential donors for consideration.</p>
43	81	FAO continues to support FAO and non-FAO regional fisheries bodies (RFBs) and maintains the function of secretariat to the Regional Fisheries Body Secretariats Network (RSN), which will hold its sixth meeting in the margins of COFI 32 in July 2016. FAO also provides legal and technical assistance to the Secretariats of those RFBs that have been established under the FAO Constitution, as well as others. Moreover, the FAO RFB Task Force has been re-activated and four issues of the Newsletter of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariat Network have been published.
44	82	<p>FAO continues to provide support to States and RFMOs with the implementation of the International Guidelines on Deep-sea Fisheries in the High-seas through various projects, including through the ABNJ Deep Seas project of the Common Oceans programme. These projects address a range of issue related to deep-sea fisheries from legal and policy aspects, fisheries management, stock assessment, vulnerable marine ecosystems, impact assessments, species identification and data collection and reporting. A database on measures for vulnerable marine ecosystems (VME database), developed at the request of the UNGA, is available online.</p> <p>FAO is in the process of developing international Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear. The standard for the marking of fishing gear would positively contribute to the problems caused by lost and abandoned fishing gear in deep water fisheries.</p> <p>The FAO, along-side many partners, has been assisting countries in understanding climate change and ocean acidification implications to fisheries and aquaculture, in measuring the greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation potentials within the sector, in identifying and implementation adaptation priorities, in representing the sector in national and global climate change discussions and in accessing climate finance. This work has been guided by the Divisions' Climate Change Strategy (2011-2016), which is nested within the broader strategies and frameworks of the FAO and coordinated</p>

		through the Global Partnership for Climate, Fisheries and Aquaculture (PaCFA). Kindly refer to COFI/2016/8 for additional information.
45	83	<p>Through the availability of extra-budgetary funding FAO has supported member countries to improve sustainability of fisheries in an ecosystem context, including with respect to biodiversity through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries.</p> <p>FAO continues to actively collaborate with relevant international institutions (e.g. CBD, UNEP, GEF etc.) to create synergies between respective programmes aimed at enhancing sustainable use of biodiversity.</p> <p>FAO has developed a project document for a new phase of the EAF Nansen Programme that includes support to coastal countries in Africa on various aspects of sustainability of fisheries, including the impacts of oceans acidification, pollution and climate change on fishery resources and marine ecosystems. Available to the programme is the RV Dr. Fridtjof Nansen and studies will be conducted on the above aspects.</p> <p>The FAO has undertaken a comprehensive study on ocean acidification impacts on fisheries and aquaculture in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Monaco Scientific Center. The study will take stock of the scientific knowledge available, ecological and economic impacts on the fisheries and aquaculture sector, as well as cost and benefits of potential adaptation measures.</p>
46	84	This is being pursued in the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture, which is being actively promoted with countries, and through policy advice via partners and to countries.
47	85	<p>Supporting member countries in practical implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF), understood as the approach that promotes integration of the three pillars of sustainability, has become a long lasting commitment in FAO. This has been possible thanks to the availability of extra budgetary funding such as, for example, the Norway-funded EAF Nansen project, the suite of Mediterranean projects funded by Italy and the EU, or GEF funded LME programmes such as the CCLME or the BoBLME. The approach is also mainstreamed in other projects and is becoming the reference framework for sustainable fisheries.</p> <p>The Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture (EAA) has also been promoted in the context of GEF –funded projects in Latin America, Africa and Southeast Asia.</p> <p>FAO has collaborated with the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES), the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DfO), Canada in the organization of a workshop on “Making the Ecosystem Approach operational”. The workshop took stock of experiences made so far in the implementation of multi-sectoral marine management</p>

		– referred to as ecosystem based management (EBM) or Ecosystem Approach (EA) – in the Atlantic and identified steps for the way forward to implementation.
48	86	Further elaboration and more technical precision regarding the BGI is available in COFI/2016/9,
		Kindly refer to the action taken in response to Paragraph 82 above. A global conference on climate change adaptation in fisheries and aquaculture will be co-organized in Bangkok, Thailand from 8-10 August 2016.
		The Guideline of fisheries and aquaculture census and surveys, with the particular focus on small-scale operators, was developed under the Research Agenda of the Global Strategy of Improving Agriculture and Rural Statistics. The first version was available on-line and the revised version is currently under printing. In addition, FAO has actively participated in development and implementation of national social-economic surveys. The project has initiated in Oman and Haiti, while are in discussion for Bangladesh, Cambodia and Nicaragua.
49	87	The conference was held in Vigo, Spain, on 8 and 9 October 2015 successfully. It attracted over 500 participants and Ministers and official delegations from around the world to review how the Code of Conduct. Many of challenges we face over the next twenty years were addressed at the event such as Fishing for the Future, Market reports, Consumers & Industry, Trade and Challenges, Fisheries Management and Fishing Rights, IUU fishing – The situation and prospects, Sustainability and certification. A Ministerial Roundtable on Blue Growth was also organized.
50	89	The recommendations have been fully taken note and reflected as much as possible in the draft MYPOW 2016-19 for further review by the Members.
51	90	The amendments have been reflected appropriately in the 2015 edition of the Basic Text.
52	91	Eight meetings of the Bureau of COFI 32 and three Informal Meetings for other COFI Members were organized by the Chairperson during the inter-sessional period.
53	95	The date of the thirty-second session of COFI was approved as 11-15 July 2016, by the 153rd Session of the FAO Council in December 2015.
54	98	The report of COFI 31 was finalized with the additional comments from Members in close consultation with Bureau.