

FISHERY COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC

STATUTES

Promulgated by the Director-General on
19 September 1967, under Article VI, paragraph 2, of
the FAO Constitution, pursuant to Resolution 1/48 of the
Forty-Eighth Session of the FAO Council (12-23 June 1967)

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations:

Considering

1. The terms of Resolution 1/48 adopted by the Council at its Forty-Eighth Session which reads as follows:

THE COUNCIL

Noting that the need for effective international action
for the development and the rational utilization of the
fishery resources of the Eastern Central Atlantic had
been established;

Considering that, as recommended by the Committee on
Fisheries at its Second Session, the establishment of
a Committee of selected Member Nations and Associate Mem-
bers under Article VI-2 of the Constitution for the Eastern
Central Atlantic area would, as an interim measure, lead
to international co-operation in that area;

Authorizes the Director-General of the Organization to
establish, under Article VI-2 of the Constitution, a
Committee of selected Member Nations and Associate Mem-
bers to be known as the "FAO Fishery Committee for the
Eastern Central Atlantic", and to select its membership
from among Member Nations and Associate Members in Africa
whose territory borders the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Sparte
to the mouth of the Congo River and such other Member Nations
and Associate Members fishing or carrying out research in the
sea area concerned or having some other interest in the fish-
eries thereof, whose contribution to the work of the Committee
he deems to be essential or desirable;

Further authorizes the Director-General to promulgate the Statutes of the Committee and in particular to determine its terms of reference along the general lines of those terms of reference of the FAO Regional Fisheries Commission for Western Africa which relate to sea fisheries;

Requests the Director-General, when selecting the members of the Committee and determining its terms of reference, to give consideration to the views that may be expressed thereon by the Technical Conference on the Fisheries of West African Countries scheduled to be held in Dakar from 31 July to 4 August 1967; and

Requests the Director-General to report to the Council, at its next Session, on measures taken to implement this resolution.

2. The provisions of Article VI of the Constitution whereby the Conference, the Council, or the Director-General on the authority of the Conference or Council, may establish committees to study and report on matters pertaining to the purposes of the Organization and determine the terms of reference and the reporting procedures, as appropriate, of such committees; and

3. The principles and procedures of the Organization governing committees established under Article VI of the Constitution;

Hereby promulgates the statutes of the "FAO Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic", established under Article VI, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, which shall be as follows:

1. Area

The area of the Committee is defined as all the waters of the Atlantic bounded by a line drawn as follows: from a point on the high water mark on the African coast at Cape Spartel (lat. 35°47'N, long. 5°55'W) following the high water mark along the African coast to a point at Ponta da Moita Seca (lat. 6°07'S, long. 12°16'E) along a rhumb line in a northwesterly direction to a point on 6° south latitude and 12° east longitude, thence due west along 6° south latitude to 20° west longitude, thence due north to the Equator, thence due west to 30° west longitude, thence due north to 5° north latitude, thence due west to 40° west longitude, thence due north to 36° north latitude, thence due east to 6° west longitude, thence along a rhumb line in a southeasterly direction to the original point at Cape Spartel.

2. Membership

The Committee shall be composed of Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization selected by the Director-General. Such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization shall be selected from among Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization in Africa whose territory borders the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Spartel to the mouth of the Congo River, and such other Member Nations and Associate Members fishing or carrying out research in the sea area concerned or having some other interest in the fisheries thereof, whose contribution to the work of the Committee the Director-General deems to be essential or desirable.

3. Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the Committee shall be to give advice designed:

- (a) to promote, co-ordinate and assist national and regional programmes of research and development, leading to the rational utilization of the marine fishery resources of the area defined under 1. above;

- (b) to assist Member Governments in establishing the scientific basis for regulation measures for the conservation and improvement of marine fishery resources;
- (c) to encourage education and training through the establishment or improvement of national and regional institutions and by the promotion and the organization of seminars, study tours and training centres;
- (d) to assist in the collection, interchange, dissemination and analysis or study of statistical, biological and environmental data and other marine fishery information;
- (e) to assist Member Governments in formulating programmes to be implemented through sources of international aid to help achieve the objectives described in (a), (b), (c) and (d) above;
- (f) to promote liaison and co-operation among competent institutions within the sea area served by the Committee insofar as the Constitution, the General Rules, regulations and facilities of the Organization permit.

4. Subsidiary Bodies

- (i) The Committee may establish sub-committees or working parties on problems of major importance or of a specialized nature;
- (ii) The establishment of any subsidiary body shall be subject to the determination by the Director-General that the necessary funds are available in the relevant chapter of the budget of the Organization. Before taking any decision involving expenditure in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies the Committee must have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.

5. Reporting

The Committee shall submit to the Director-General reports on its activities and recommendations at such appropriate intervals as to enable the Director-General to take them into consideration when preparing the draft Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization and other submissions to the Conference, Council or the standing Committees of the Council. The Director-General shall bring to the attention of the Conference through the Council any recommendations adopted by the Committee which have policy implications or which affect the programme of finances of the Organization. Copies of each report of the Committee will be circulated to Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and international organizations for their information as soon as they become available.

6. Observers

- (i) Any Member Nation or Associate Member of the Organization that is not a member of the Committee may, upon its request, be represented in an observer capacity if so decided by the Conference or Council;
- (ii) States which, while not Members of the Organization, are members of the

United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency may, upon their request, and with the approval of the Council of the Organization, be represented in an observer capacity in accordance with the provisions relating to the granting of observer status to nations adopted by the Conference of the Organization.

7. Participation of International Organizations

Participation of international organizations in the work of the Committee and relations between the Committee and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and General Rules of the Organization, as well as the rules on relations with international organizations adopted by the Conference and Council of the Organization.

8. Rules of Procedure

The Committee may adopt and amend its own rules of procedure which shall be in conformity with the Constitution and General Rules of the Organization and with the Statement of Principles Governing Commissions and Committees adopted by the Conference. The rules of procedure and amendments thereto shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General.

FISHERY COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Adopted by CEEAF at its First Session (24-28 March 1969),
approved by the Director-General (14 April 1975) and
confirmed by the Sixty-Sixth Session of the FAO Council (June 1975)

RULE I

Membership

1. Members of the Committee are selected by the Director-General of the Organization from among Member Nations and Associate Members in Africa whose territory borders the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Spatol to the mouth of the Congo River and such other Member Nations and Associate Members fishing or carrying out research in the Eastern Central Atlantic or having some other interest in the fisheries thereof, whose contribution to the work of the Committee he deems to be essential or desirable. Member Nations and Associate Members shall be considered as Members of the Committee upon receipt by the Director-General of notification of their acceptance of the invitation to be so considered.

2. Each Member of the Committee shall, before the opening of each session, communicate to the Director-General the name of its representative who should, as far as possible, have responsibilities related to marine fishery research and development.

RULE II

Officers

1. The Committee shall elect, at the end of every session, a Chairman and a maximum of three Vice-Chairmen who shall remain in office until the election of the new Chairman and new Vice-Chairmen.

2. The Chairman, or in his absence a Vice-Chairman, shall preside at meetings of the Committee and exercise such other functions

as may be required to facilitate the work of the Committee. The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

3. In the event that both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen are unable to serve, the Director-General or his representative shall act as Chairman, until an ad hoc Chairman is elected.

4. The Director-General shall appoint from among the staff of the Organization a Secretary of the Committee who shall be responsible to him.

RULE III

Steering Committee

The Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Committee will act as a Steering Committee during sessions.

RULE IV

Sessions

1. The Committee shall normally hold only such sessions in each biennium as are listed in the Programme of Work of the Organization for the relevant period, subject, however, to the authority of the Director-General to make exceptions when in his view such action is necessary for the fulfillment of the Programme of Work as approved by the Conference; such exceptions being reported to the session of the Council immediately following such action.

2. The sessions of the Committee shall be

convened by the Director-General, who shall decide on the place where they are to be held, in consultation with the Chairman and the competent authorities of the host country, taking into account the views expressed by the Committee.

3. Notice of the date and place of each session of the Committee shall normally be communicated at least three months before the session to all Members of the Committee, to such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Committee and to such non-Member Nations of the Organization and international organizations as may have been invited to attend the session.

4. Each Member of the Committee shall have one representative who may be accompanied by alternates and advisers. An alternate or adviser shall not have the right to vote except when substituting for a representative.

5. Meetings of the Committee shall be held in private unless the Committee decides otherwise.

6. A majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

RULE V

Agenda

1. The Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman, shall prepare a provisional agenda for each session of the Committee.

2. The first item on the provisional agenda shall be the adoption of the agenda. No matter referred to the Committee by the Conference or Council of the Organization may be omitted from the agenda.

3. Any Member of the Committee may request the Director-General to include specific items in the provisional agenda.

4. The provisional agenda shall be circulated by the Director-General at least two months before the date on which the opening of the session is scheduled to take place, to all Members of the Committee, to such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Committee

and to such non-Member Nations of the Organization and international organizations as may have been invited to attend the session.

5. Any Member of the Committee and the Director-General may, after the dispatch of the provisional agenda but not later than one month before the date on which the opening of the session is scheduled to take place, propose the inclusion of specific items in the agenda. Such proposals shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons why the inclusion of the items in the agenda is considered desirable. These items shall be placed on a supplementary list, which shall be dispatched by the Director-General to all Members of the Committee, other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization attending the session and to such non-Member Nations and international organizations invited to the session, failing which the items shall be communicated to the Chairman for submission to the Committee.

6. Documents to be submitted to the Committee at any session shall be furnished by the Director-General to the Members of the Committee, the other Members of the Organization attending the session and to the non-Member Nations and international organizations invited to the session, at the time the agenda is dispatched or as soon as possible thereafter.

7. Subject to paragraph 2 of this Rule, the Committee may, at any session, decide by a two-thirds majority to amend the agenda by the deletion, addition or modification of any item.

RULE VI

Voting Procedures

1. Each Member of the Committee shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the Committee shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast, unless otherwise provided in these Rules.

3. Upon the request of any Member of the Committee, voting shall be by roll-call, in which case the vote of each Member shall be recorded.

4. When the Committee so decides, voting shall be by secret ballot.

5. Voting in the Committee shall be carried out mutatis mutandis in accordance with the pertinent provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization.

RULE VII

Observers

1. Any Member Nation or Associate Member of the Organization that is not a Member of the Committee, but has a special interest in the work of the Committee may, upon request communicated to the Director-General, attend sessions of the Committee, its subsidiary bodies or ad hoc meetings, in an observer capacity if so decided by the Conference or Council of the Organization. Such Member Nations or Associate Members may submit memoranda and participate without vote in the discussions.

2. States which, while not Members of the Organization, are Members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency may, upon their request and subject to the provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization relating to the granting of observer status to nations, be invited to attend sessions of the Committee, its subsidiary bodies, and ad hoc meetings in an observer capacity. The status of States invited to such sessions or meetings shall be governed by the relevant provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization.

3. Subject to the provisions of the following paragraph the Director-General may invite international organizations to attend sessions of the Committee in an observer capacity.

4. Participation of international organizations in the work of the Committee and the relations between the Committee and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization as well as by the general regulations of the Organization on relations with international organizations. All such relations shall be dealt with by the Director-General.

RULE VIII

Records and Reports

1. At each session, the Committee shall approve a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions including, when requested, a statement of minority views. Such other records for its own use as the Committee may on occasion decide shall also be maintained.

2. The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee shall be transmitted to the Director-General at the close of each session, and he shall circulate them to Members of the Committee and to nations and international organizations that were represented at the session and, upon request to other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization for their information.

3. Recommendations having policy, programme or financial implications for the Organization shall be brought by the Director-General to the attention of the Conference through the Council.

4. The Director-General may request Members of the Committee to supply information to him in order to keep the Committee informed on action taken by its Members on the basis of its recommendations.

RULE IX

Subsidiary Bodies

1. The Committee may establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the accomplishment of its task.

2. Membership in subsidiary bodies may be made up of all or selected Members of the Committee or of individuals appointed in their personal capacity.

3. The Committee may recommend to the Director-General the convening of ad hoc meetings, either of representatives of Members of the Committee or of experts serving in an individual capacity, in order to study problems that because of their specialized nature could not fruitfully be discussed during the normal sessions of the Committee.

4. Experts who are to serve in their personal capacity as members of any subsidiary body or who are to be invited to attend ad hoc meetings shall be chosen by the Committee unless the Committee decides otherwise, and shall be appointed by the Director-General in accordance with established procedures.

5. The terms of reference of the subsidiary bodies and the questions to be discussed by ad hoc meetings shall be determined by the Committee.

6. The establishment of subsidiary bodies and the convening of ad hoc meetings shall be subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of the Organization. The determination of such availability shall be made by the Director-General. Only such sessions of subsidiary bodies and ad hoc meetings shall be convened in each biennium as are listed in the Programme of Work of the Organization for the relevant period, subject, however, to the authority of the Director-General to make exceptions when in his view such action is necessary for the fulfillment of the Programme of Work as approved by the Conference; these exceptions being reported to the Session of the Council immediately following such action.

7. Before taking any decision involving expenditures in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies or the convening of an ad hoc meeting, the Committee shall have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.

8. Each subsidiary body and ad hoc meeting shall elect its own officers.

9. The Rules of the Committee shall apply mutatis mutandis to its subsidiary bodies and ad hoc meetings.

RULE X

Expenses

1. Expenses incurred by representatives of

Members of the Committee, their alternates or advisers, when attending sessions of the Committee, sub-committees, working parties or ad hoc meetings, as well as the expenses incurred by observers at sessions, shall be borne by the respective governments or organizations.

2. Expenses of experts invited by the Director-General to attend sessions or meetings in their individual capacity shall be borne by the Organization.

3. Any financial operations relating to the Committee and its subsidiary bodies shall be governed by the appropriate provisions of the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

RULE XI

Languages

English and French shall be the working languages of the Committee. Spanish interpretation shall also be provided at its sessions.

RULE XII

Amendment and Suspension of Rules of Procedure

1. Amendment of, or addition to, these Rules may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the membership of the Committee provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the amendment or addition has been given. Amendments or additions to these Rules shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General.

2. Any of the above Rules of the Committee, other than Rules I-1, II-4, IV-1, 2 and 6, V-2, VI-1 and 2, VII, VIII-3 and 4, IX-5, 6 and 7, X and XII-1 may be suspended by the Committee by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given. Such notice may be waived if no Member of the Committee objects.