CENTRAL ASIAN AND CAUCASUS REGIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE COMMISSION

Report of the

FOURTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN AND CAUCASUS REGIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE COMMISSION

Tbilisi, Georgia, 28–30 November 2017
CENTRAL ASIAN AND CAUCASUS REGIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE COMMISSION

Report of the
FOURTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN AND CAUCASUS REGIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE COMMISSION

Tbilisi, Georgia, 28–30 November 2017

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Ankara, 2018
PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This is the final version of the report as approved by the Fourth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Central Asian and Caucus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish), held in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 28 to 30 November 2017. The report was prepared by the CACFish Secretariat.

The material in the appendices is reproduced as submitted.

**FAO. 2018.**

**ABSTRACT**

The Fourth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish) was held in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 28 to 30 November 2017. The meeting was attended by five CACFish Member States (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey) and four Observers (Georgia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan). The TAC discussed scientific recommendations on the following issues of relevance to CACFish: 1) activities and outputs of regional fisheries projects; 2) implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication in the region; 3) inventory and certifying of water bodies in Kyrgyzstan. The TAC also reviewed and revised the second five-year regional work programme (RWP2) of CACFish for 2015–2020 and developed activities for the intersessional period of 2018–2019 for discussion and approval by the Sixth Session of CACFish to be held in Turkey in October 2018.
CONTENTS

PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT ................................................................. iii
ABSTRACT........................................................................................................ iii
OPENING OF THE MEETING .......................................................................... 1
ADOPTION OF AGENDA .................................................................................. 1
UPDATES ON MAIN DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ....................... 1
DISCUSSION AND ENDORSEMENT OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ADVICE TO THE COMMISSION ............................................................... 2
    ARMENIA ...................................................................................................... 2
    AZERBAIJAN ................................................................................................ 3
    KYRGYZSTAN ............................................................................................ 4
    TAJIKISTAN ................................................................................................ 4
    UKRAINE ..................................................................................................... 5
INVENTORY AND CERTIFYING OF WATER BODIES IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC .......... 6
INTERVENTION BY FAO RPL ......................................................................... 6
REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE FIVE-YEAR REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME (2015–2020) FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SIXTH SESSION OF CACFISH ................................................................. 6
INTERSESSIONAL WORK PLAN FOR 2018–2019 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SIXTH SESSION OF CACFISH ................................................................. 6
ONGOING OR SCHEDULED REGIONAL ACTIVITIES (RESEARCH PROJECTS, PROGRAMMES, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, EVENTS) OF RELEVANCE TO TAC (VERBAL REPORT BY MEMBER STATES) ................................................................. 7
ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF TAC ......................... 7
ANY OTHER MATTERS .................................................................................... 7
DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT TAC MEETING .................................................... 7
ADOPTION OF MEETING REPORT ................................................................ 7

APPENDICES
AGENDA .......................................................................................................... 9
LIST OF DOCUMENTS .................................................................................... 11
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS .................................................................................. 12
REVISED SECOND REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME (RWP2) .............................. 14
OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. The Fourth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Central Asian and Caucasus Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish) was officially opened on 28 November 2017 by Mr Revaz Asatiani, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Georgia, in Tbilisi, Georgia. Mr Asatiani noted that although Georgia is not a CACFish member, they regularly participate in CACFish meetings and workshops. He expressed interest in contributing to future action plans for CACFish work. The meeting was attended by five Members of CACFish: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey. Representatives from the following non-Member states also attended: Georgia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan (List of Participants in Appendix 3).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2. The Secretariat proposed a revision to the provisional agenda, namely adding an intervention by Mr Raimund Jehle, FAO Regional Programme Leader, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and FAO Representative for Georgia. The revised agenda was approved by the Committee (Appendix 1).

UPDATES ON MAIN DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3. Mr Mehman Akhundov provided a summary of the main decisions and recommendations of the Fifth Session of CACFish and updated Members on status of proposed activities for the intersessional period 2018-2019. Mr Mehman Akhundov reported that four members participated in the Fifth Session of CACFish held in Tashkent in 2016, namely: Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey.

4. Mr Akhundov explained that the Fifth Session reviewed a number of documents prepared by the Secretariat including a financial report of the CACFish budget. Mr Akhundov noted that the limited number of activities completed in the intersessional period was partly due to the limited budget. He expressed appreciation to Turkey for the voluntary contribution of USD 100 000 and urged Members to pay their arrears. The CACFish Secretary’s retirement from FAO in 2016 also contributed to delayed implementation of the planned activities. The budget of CACFish was decided at USD 180 000/year for the period 2016-2017. The Fifth Session of CACFish decided to increase the budget by USD 20 000 however this decision was postponed until 2018.

5. Mr Akhundov reported on the status of the activities approved for the intersessional period:
   - Regional expert meeting on conservation of genetic resources of fish, Turkey, completed May 2017;
   - Meeting of the regional expert group on small-scale fisheries, Turkey, completed September 2017;
   - Regional training on the establishment of national fisheries and aquaculture data and information management system, Kyrgyzstan, not completed;
   - Regional workshop on habitat rehabilitation for inland fisheries, Tajikistan, not completed;
   - Inland fisheries stock assessment pilot study in Tajikistan and regional training, not completed;
   - Regional training on best practices for cage culture in reservoirs and lakes will be held in Turkey, December 2017;
   - Analysis of available fisheries and aquaculture data and information in Central Asia and the Caucasus, regional, TBD 2018;
• Harmonization of catch certification documentation in Central Asia and the Caucasus for export/import, TBD;
• Fourth Meeting of TAC, Georgia, completed November 2017;
• Sixth Session of CACFish will be held in Turkey, 16–18 October 2018.

6. Mr Akhundov requested the Secretariat to provide an update on the project FishCAP, which was developed by FAO and Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Turkey in coordination with CACFish. The Fifth Session of CACFish approved FishCAP activities and a budget of 2 million USD, to be submitted to the FAO–Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP). The Chairman requested the Secretariat to provide an update on the status of the FishCAP project. The Secretariat explained that the budget of proposals to FTPPII was limited to a maximum of 1 million USD by the Turkish Government. Due to this reduced budget, FAO cancelled some activities, focusing on capacity building in aquaculture sector and post-harvest such as food safety and quality assurance for improved market access. The timeframe was also reduced from four to three years.

7. Regarding monitoring implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) in the CACFish region, Mr Akhundov reported that Azerbaijan had filled out the CCRF questionnaires in 2015 and specifically for aquaculture in 2017. The Fifth Session of CACFish also approved the format for data collection in the aquaculture sector and its use for the next TAC meetings to facilitate future monitoring.

8. Mr Akhundov expressed concerns that CACFish should receive equal consideration by FAO as other regional commissions, for example, Chairs should be financially supported to participate in the ERC and COFI meetings. The Chairman commended CACFish members for improved cooperation with regional and international organizations such as Commission of Aquatic Bioresources of the Caspian Sea, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and others.

9. The Secretariat provided an update on the outcomes of the Sixteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) Sub-Committee on Fish Trade held in the Republic of Korea, September 2017, and the session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, which met in Rome, October 2017.

10. The Secretariat gave an update on the main results and recommendations of the 29th Session of European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) held in Poland, September 2017. Preceding the EIFAAC Session was an International Symposium on “Adaptation of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture to Climate Change”. Recommendations of the Symposium were shared with the CACFish Members.

DISCUSSION AND ENDORSEMENT OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ADVICE TO THE COMMISSION

11. The Secretariat invited Members and Non-Members to briefly report on the status of activities and outputs of regional fisheries projects in their respective countries. Member states also provided highlights of developments in fisheries and aquaculture sector.

ARMENIA

12. Trends of fishing industry development in Armenia in previous years resulted in many business entities obtaining wide experience and efficient management skills in fishery that makes this sector
profitable and promising. At present, about 10,000–15,000 tonnes of commercial fish are produced in the country annually, the greater part of which is the golden trout – *Salmo ichchan*. Due to high quality of the trout which is in high demand in the Russian Federation, as well as in other countries, about 20 percent of the fish products are exported. Fish farming is of strategic significance for Armenia as fisheries can be set up not only in low land but also in sub-mountain and even mountain areas and particularly in near border villages. This can be the only income source for households as the conditions for agriculture development in these mountain areas are not favourable and the possibilities for animal husbandry are very limited. The calculations prove that creation of more favourable conditions in the country for development of fishing industry will enable more efficient use of water resources in fish farming and as a result the volumes of fish production will go up. More than a hundred families in the mountains, near borders and remote communities will be engaged in these fish business activities. Currently, frozen and processed fish and caviar are exported to the United States of America, Georgia, Russian Federation, Ukraine and several Arabic countries. Over the last years, the rapid growth of valuable fish production is noted, namely of trout (*Salmonidae*) and *Acipenseridae*. Based on the latest information, at present valuable species (*Salmonidae* and *Acipenseridae*) constitute 65-70 percent of all the fish produced in Armenia. The main fish species produced in Armenia for commercial purposes are rainbow trout, Sevan summer trout, Gegarkuni, carp, silver carp, white and black amur and *Acipenseridae*. In recent years fish farms have successfully attempted to breed Japanese carp (*koi*) and African catfish as a high growing rate of these species allows reducing growing time of commercial fish and consequently make more efficient use of water areas.

**AZERBAIJAN**

13. In the intersessional period following the Third Meeting of TAC, which took place in Bishkek (February 2015), Azerbaijan held as well as participated in the following activities related to TAC and CACFish. After in 2014 Milli Majlis (the Parliament of Azerbaijan) passed a new law “On Fisheries”, which was prepared with FAO’s technical support, in 2016–2017 the government adopted a number of regulations aimed at development of fisheries: 1) on the fisheries fund; 2) on accounting in fisheries; 3) on acclimatization; 4) on crossbreeding; 5) the list of water bodies for fisheries; 6) on the special system of fishery resources security; 7) on the fisheries assessment; 8) rules for fishing; 9) rules for aquaculture; 10) on fiscal incentives for fisheries. In May 2015, Azerbaijan participated in the Fourth Session of CACFish, held in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia). In 2015 Azerbaijan prepared and submitted answers to the FAO Questionnaire on the status of implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries – Implementation of provisions of article 11: Post-harvest practices and trade. In 2016 Azerbaijan prepared and submitted answers to the Questionnaire for monitoring of implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995), the international plans of action for the management of fishing capacity, shark preservation, reducing incidental catch of seabirds, fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, as well as the Strategy for improvement of the quality of fisheries and aquaculture status and development trends information. In 2017 Azerbaijan prepared and submitted answers to the FAO Questionnaire on the status of implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries – Implementation of article 9: Aquaculture. Azerbaijan participated in the informal working meeting on FAO work priorities for the countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus for technical support in the field of agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture for the period of 2016–2020. This meeting took place in Ankara in March 2016. In June 2015, Azerbaijan took part in the workshop on aqua-feed and aqua-seed production and management in fisheries for countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus, which was held in China (Wuxi) under the framework of FAO–China South–South Cooperation programme. In April 2016, the Ministry of Agriculture of Turkey invited the delegation from Azerbaijan to visit the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (in Ankara) for sharing best practices in the field of regulating fisheries and aquaculture. In October 2016, Azerbaijan participated in the Fifth Session of CACFish in Tashkent (Uzbekistan), under the chairmanship of Azerbaijan, represented by Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Rauf Hadjiyev. Azerbaijan also took part in the 1st
meeting of the regional expert group on small-scale fishing. In October 2016, Azerbaijan was invited to attend the high-level Conference on “Cooperation in the field of fisheries and aquaculture in the Black Sea basin”, where Mr Rauf Hadjiyev, Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan, presented his report. In May 2017, Azerbaijan took part in the regional expert meeting “Conservation and management of genetic resources of fish” in Turkey, at Trabzon Fisheries Research Institute. In September 2017, Azerbaijan participated in and headed the working group at the 2nd meeting of the regional expert group on small-scale fishing (Isparta, Turkey), with the goal of developing the guidelines for the countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus. Azerbaijan took part in the 32nd session of COFI in Rome (Italy, July 2016), as well as in the 8th and 9th sessions of the COFI Sub-committee on Aquaculture in Brasilia (Brazil, September 2015) and in Rome (Italy, October 2017). At present, Azerbaijan is chairing two FAO regional commissions: 1) CACFish and 2) intergovernmental Commission of Aquatic Bioresources of the Caspian Sea. From 21 to 23 November 2017, Baku hosted the 1st (inaugural) session of the Commission of Aquatic Bioresources of the Caspian Sea, which was for the first time attended by a FAO representative, who was invited as an observer and presented a report “On scientific and technical cooperation for responsible fishing in the Caspian Sea”.

KYRGYZSTAN

14. In the intersessional period of 2015–2017, the following events, related to TAC and CACFish, were held in Kyrgyzstan. In May 2015, Kyrgyzstan participated in the Fourth Session of CACFish in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia). In 2015 Kyrgyzstan held the ministerial level talks with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) regarding the construction of the learning centre with a laboratory and a fish hatchery. The IDB experts came to a positive conclusion. However, the process was halted. In October 2016, Kyrgyzstan took part in the Fifth Session of CACFish in Tashkent (Uzbekistan). In May 2017, Kyrgyzstan participated in the regional expert meeting “Conservation and management of genetic resources of fish” in Trabzon (Turkey). In May–June 2017, Kyrgyzstan took part in drafting the Questionnaire on small-scale fisheries. In September 2017, Kyrgyzstan participated in review and discussion of the Questionnaire data on small-scale fisheries (Isparta, Turkey) to identify the guidelines for the countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus. For purposes of putting into practice the guidelines of the Council on the regulatory reform and based on the legal documents analysis, the plan for the next year is to improve the legal base for the fisheries sector, including review of the Fisheries law of the Kyrgyz Republic. The Kyrgyz Republic’s waters suitable for fisheries include 651 500 ha of lakes, 90 100 ha of water reservoirs, more than 1 000 ha of ponds and 3 500 rivers with a total length of 3 399 km. In this sector, there are more than 100 enterprises with different forms of ownership, which provide employment for people in many regions of the country, and their number is growing each year. In comparison to 2014 (805.3 tonnes), in 2015 the fish production constituted 1 100 tonnes and in 2016 – 2 020 tonnes. After the Kyrgyz Republic joined the Eurasian Customs Union (EACU) in 2015, the EACU’s technical regulations “On fish and fish products safety” and “On food safety” came into force in September 2017. To develop the fisheries sector, the Kyrgyz Republic reached an agreement on preferential zero rates on custom duties for importing impregnated roe of rainbow trout from third world countries until 2020.

TAJIKISTAN

15. Tajikistan reported that the fisheries sector had been increasing and that by 2017, the number of fish farms had reached 270. Fish production reached 2 075 tonnes in 2017. Regarding resources of the country, there are about 65 species of fish. Seven of these species (trout, carp, rainbow and white big head carp, white and black amur, catfish) are used for aquaculture and the rest are for capture fishery. Aquatic systems available for aquaculture include 8 492 water bodies, with the surface area of 8 476 km². The volume of water is 845 km². There are six major rivers with the surface area of 5 555 km², 1 300 lakes with
a total surface area of 705 km², the surface area is 45.3 km³, and 20 km³ of this amount constitute drinking water, and there are eight large reservoirs with the surface area of 556.31 km².

UKRAINE

16. Dr Demianenko thanked the Chairperson for the possibility to present information on the status of national aquaculture and main problems facing the sector. It is very important for member and non-member states to share such information in order to make effective decisions for moving forward in activities of the Commission. The Secretariat invited each country to present relevant information on the status of their national aquaculture and main problems in the national fishery sectors for it to be included in the TAC report. Ukraine supports a proposal from Azerbaijan asking the Secretariat to provide a specific format for countries to prepare national reports in advance of the next TAC meeting, as well as for the next meeting of the Commission. Dr Demianenko presented information about the status and main trends in Ukrainian aquaculture. He noted that the production of the Ukrainian aquaculture sector was relatively stable during recent years – about 20 000 tonnes annually. Acipenseridae spp. aquaculture (sturgeon aquaculture) has been one of the most developing aquaculture subsectors in Ukraine over the last few years. The production of sturgeon aquaculture (about 500 tonnes annually) is used domestically in the national fish markets, as well as exported to some other countries. Ukraine implements all the needed CITES procedures regarding Annex II listed species. At present, the work to improve traceability of aquaculture production on the national fish market is ongoing, through development of the relevant national legislation. One of the key problems facing aquaculture development in Ukraine is non-effective management of inland water bodies, mostly due to technical problems caused by gaps in national legislation on this aspect.

17. The Chairman pointed out that for the Fifth TAC meeting, countries were asked to prepare formal presentations on the fisheries and aquaculture sector. He noted the value of this country-level information and proposed the Secretariat to adopt this practice for the next TAC.

18. The Secretariat presented the meeting document CACFish/TAC4/2017/3 on implementation of the FAO Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines). The Secretariat informed the Committee on the regional survey on small-scale fisheries. The survey was conducted by a Turkish Institute (Egirdir Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute – SAREM). Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Ukraine completed national reports on the status of SSF. These reports have been further discussed, reviewed and finalized by participants from the above mentioned countries during an expert meeting held on 20–21 September 2017 in Egirdir, Isparta, Turkey. This survey of SSF was the first one implemented in the CACFish region.

19. The final report is yet to be finalized by SAREM. The aim of the report is to provide basic background information and to generate scientific and technical advice on implementation of the SSF Guidelines in the Central Asian region. The final report will include survey results, SWOT analysis and guidelines specific to the needs of the region to guide policymakers in the CACFish countries.

20. The Secretariat presented the meeting document CACFish/TAC4/2017/4 on the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes (CDS Guidelines), in order to address the RWP2 activity “Harmonization of catch certification documentation in Central Asia and the Caucasus for export/import”. A brief history of the development of the CDS Guidelines was presented, along with the features of the CDS Guidelines. Members were invited to consider activities in the intersessional period to raise awareness of Members and to propose means for implementation of the CDS Guidelines to meet the needs of the CACFish region.
INVENTORY AND CERTIFYING OF WATER BODIES IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

21. Ms Chinara Imankulova, Chair of TAC, gave a presentation on Inventory and certifying of water bodies in the Kyrgyz Republic. This presentation is available (only in Russian) at: [http://www.fao.org/3/I9208RU/i9208ru.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/I9208RU/i9208ru.pdf)

INTERVENTION BY FAO RPL

22. Mr Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader, FAO REU, spoke to the Members on the importance of FAO regional initiatives and strategic objectives, as well as UN Sustainable Development Goals when formulating the workplans of FAO regional commissions. Members thanked him for his intervention.

REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE FIVE-YEAR REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME (2015–2020) FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SIXTH SESSION OF CACFISH

23. The Committee reviewed the Second Five-year Regional Work Programme (RWP2). The Members discussed all items under the five components of the RWP2 and agreed on the following revisions. Given the budget constraints of CACFish, Member states decided to prioritize some activities. To reflect priorities, a column was added to Appendix 4 of the RWP2. One new activity was added and approved by all Members (1.1.2. Legal mechanisms for use of the waterbodies and lands, for the purposes of aquaculture).

INTERSESSIONAL WORK PLAN FOR 2018–2019 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SIXTH SESSION OF CACFISH

24. Based on the revision and prioritization of the RWP2, the Members approved the following priority activities in the intersessional period for consideration by the Sixth Session of CACFish, 16–18 October 2018, Turkey. These decisions were also based upon the CACFish approved budget of USD 360 000 for 2 years (USD 180 000/year). See table below for activities recommended by TAC:

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Estimated budget (USD)</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1. Review of Fisheries Law of Kyrgyz Republic</td>
<td></td>
<td>30 000</td>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.1. Provision of technical assistance for aquaculture production techniques and systems</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>45 000</td>
<td>Armenia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.1. Inland stock assessment in selected large water bodies</td>
<td></td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5. Provision of technical advice on restocking and culture based fisheries</td>
<td></td>
<td>40 000</td>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1. Development/updating of post-harvest management by development/effective implementation of marketing measures, rules, standards for safe and quality fish and fish products</td>
<td></td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Secretariat informed the Members that based on the decision of the Fifth Session of CACFish, the annual CACFish budget will be USD 180 000. In connection with this, the Members prepared Table 1 based on estimated Member contributions during the intersessional period 2018–2019 in the amount of USD 360 000. The Secretariat also informed Members of the submission of FishCap project proposal to the FAO–Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPPII) of 1 million USD. This project has not been approved yet, however it may provide extrabudgetary funding in the future. Members were also reminded of arrears and the importance of paying the CACFish membership fees which will facilitate these activities. The Secretariat was advised to send the notification letters to Member states not later than September.

**ONGOING OR SCHEDULED REGIONAL ACTIVITIES (RESEARCH PROJECTS, PROGRAMMES, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, EVENTS) OF RELEVANCE TO TAC (VERBAL REPORT BY MEMBER STATES)**

26. No issues were raised by Members under this agenda item.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF TAC**

27. Members unanimously elected Armenia as Chair and Turkey as Vice-Chair of TAC.

**ANY OTHER MATTERS**

28. N/A

**DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT TAC MEETING**

29. Armenia kindly offered to host the next meeting of TAC in 2019, subject to approval by Government.

**ADOPTION OF MEETING REPORT**

30. Final Report was adopted unanimously by Members on 30 November 2017.
APPENDIX 1

AGENDA

28 November 2017

Morning Session: 9.00-13.00

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Updates on:
   - Main decisions and recommendations of the Fifth Session of CACFish;
   - Main decisions and recommendations of the Committee on Fisheries Sub-Committees on Fish Trade (COFI FT) and Aquaculture (COFI AQ);
   - Main recommendations of the 29th Session of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) and the International Symposium on “Adaptation of inland fisheries and aquaculture to climate change”.

Afternoon Session: 14.30-17.30

4. Discussion and endorsement of technical and scientific advice to the Commission:
   - Summary of activities and outputs of regional fisheries projects;
   - Survey results and workshops on Implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (document: CACFish/TACIV/2017/3);

29 November 2017

Morning Session: 9.30-13.00

5. Discussion and endorsement of technical and scientific advice to the Commission (Continued):
   - Inventory and certifying of water bodies in the Kyrgyz Republic (Presentation by Ms Chinara Imankulova).

6. Review and update of the Five-year Regional Work Programme (2015-2020) for consideration by the Sixth Session of CACFish

Afternoon Session: 14.30-17.30

7. Intervention by Mr Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
8. Review and update of the Five-year Regional Work Programme (2015-2020) for consideration by the Sixth Session of CACFish (Continued)

9. Intersessional Work Plan for 2018-2019 for consideration by the Sixth Session of CACFish

10. On-going or scheduled regional activities (research projects, programmes, conferences, workshops, events) of relevance to TAC (verbal report by Member States)

11. Election of Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of TAC

12. Any other matters

13. Date and place of next TAC Meeting

30 November 2017

Morning Session: 9.30-13.00

14. Free time (Secretariat to prepare meeting report)

Afternoon Session: 15.30-17.00

15. Adoption of meeting report
## APPENDIX 2

### LIST OF DOCUMENTS

**Working documents**
- CACFish/TAC4/2017/1: Provisional Agenda of the Fourth Meeting
- CACFish/TAC4/2017/3: Implementation of SSF Guidelines in CA region
- CACFish/TAC4/2017/4: Harmonization of Catch Documentation Schemes in CA region

**Information documents**
- CACFish/TAC4/2017/Inf.1: Provisional list of documents
- CACFish/TAC4/2017/Inf.2: Provisional list of participants
- CACFish/TAC/2017/Inf.3: Report on Implementation of SSF Guidelines in CA Region
- CACFish/TAC/2017/Inf.4: Voluntary Guidelines on Catch Documentation Schemes

**Reference documents**
APPENDIX 3

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ARMENIA
Dr Jon Mkrtchyan
PhD, Biologist
“Sevani ishkhan” CJSC
Tel.: (+374) 10 200557
Mob.: (+37477328777
E-mail: jon.mkrtchyan@sevantrout.com
Jonmkrtchyan.2018@gmail.com

Mr Tigran ALEKSANYAN
Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of Armenia
E-mail: tigran-aleksanyan20@rambler.ru

AZERBAIJAN
Mr Rauf HADJIEV
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan
B.Aghayev Str., 100 A, Yasamal district, Baku
Tel.: (+994) 12 5666753
E-mail: raufhajiev@hotmail.com

Mr Mehman AKHUNDOV
Director of Azerbaijan Scientific-research Fish hatchery institute
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan
B.Aghayev Str., 100 A, Yasamal district, Baku
Tel.: (+994) 50 3245562
E-mail: azfiri@azeurotel.com

Mr Fuzuli NABIEV
Head of the Fishery Security Sector Department of Water and Bio Resources Reproduction and Security
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan
B.Aghayev Str., 100 A, Yasamal district, Baku
E-mail: azfiri@azeurotel.com

KYRGYZSTAN
Ms Chinara IMANKULOVA
Senior manager
Accounting and Monitoring of Fisheries Resources Division
Fisheries Department
Ministry of Agriculture and Amelioration of Kyrgyzstan
Tel.: (+996) 312870170
Mob.: (+996) 555071960
Fax: (+996) 312662830
E-mail: chinara.imankulova@yandex.ru

Mr Urmatbek MYRZAKMATOV
Tel: (+996)0553190565
E-mail: urmatdp@mail.ru
dpjrh@mail.ru

TAJIKISTAN
Mr Akhmadjon GAFUROV
Chairperson
SUE "MohiiTojikiston"
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan
Tel: (+992) 907523663
E-mail: balkhovasvetlana@gmail.com

Ms Svetlana BALKHOVA
Deputy Chairperson
SUE "MohiiTojikiston"
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan
Tel.:(+992) 918640909
E-mail: balkhovasvetlana@gmail.com

TURKEY
Ms Binnur CEYLAN
Engineer
General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
Tel.: (+90) 312 2583113
E-mail: binnur.ceylan@tarim.gov.tr
Ms Nuran CAVDAR  
Engineer  
General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock  
Tel.: (+90) 312 2583112  
E-mail: nuran.cavdar@tarim.gov.tr

UZBEKISTAN  
Mr Dilmurod SHOHIMARDANOV  
Fisheries Research Institute of Republic of Uzbekistan  
21A Kichik Khokha Yuli Str., Chilakzar, Tashkent  
Tel: (+998) 97 1571425  
dilmurodshoh@mail.ru

INVITED COUNTRIES

GEORGIA  
Mr Archil PHARTSVANIA  
Deputy Head  
Sectoral Development Division of the Agriculture and Food Department Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia  
6, Marshal Gelovani Avenue, Tbilisi  
Tel.: (+995) 322378024  
Mob.: (+995) 595 858349  
E-mail: archil.phartsvania@moa.gov.ge

KAZAKHSTAN  
Ms Saule ASSYLBEKOVA  
Doctor of Biological Science  
Deputy Director General  
Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
Tel.: (+7) 273831505  
Mob.: (+7) 70172 99 555  
E-mail: assylbekova@mail.ru

UKRAINE  
Mr Konstantyn DEMIANENKO  
Deputy Director on Science  
Institute of Fisheries and Marine Ecology (IFME)  
The State Agency of Fisheries of Ukraine  
Konsul'ska str. 8, Berdyansk, Zaporizhzhia reg., 71118  
Tel.: 00380615336604  
Mobile: 00380503227888  
Fax: 00380615336604  
E-mail: s_erinaco@ukr.net

CACFish SECRETARIAT

Ms Victoria CHOMO  
Secretary of CACFish  
Senior Fisheries and Aquaculture Officer  
Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU)  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
Budapest, Hungary  
Telephone: +36 1 373 3017  
Mobile: +36 30 391 7714  
E-mail: victoria.chomo@fao.org

Mr Atilla ÖZDEMİR  
International Aquaculture Expert  
Subregional Office for Central Asia (FAOSEC)  
Tel.:(+90) 312 3079562  
E-mail: atilla.ozdemir@fao.org

Ms Eva KOVACS  
International Expert on Fish Production  
Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU)  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
Budapest, Hungary  
Telephone: (+36-1) 4612-026  
E-mail: eva.kovacs@fao.org

Ms Zsofia HORVÁTH  
Programme Associate for Conference Services  
Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU)  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
Budapest, Hungary  
Telephone: +36 (1) 8141 283  
E-mail: zsofia.horvath@fao.org
### Component 1: Fisheries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Total budget (USD)</th>
<th>Budget sources and status</th>
<th>Priority status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1. Technical assistance for enhancing legal, regulatory frameworks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1. Review of Fisheries Law of Kyrgyz Republic</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>30 000</td>
<td>CACFish autonomous budget</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.2. Legal mechanisms for use of the waterbodies and land, for the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>purposes of aquaculture</td>
<td></td>
<td>400 000</td>
<td>No budget secured</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2. Capacity development for fisheries policy, management and planning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.1. Review of technical fishing regulations, licensing and logbook</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>35 000</td>
<td>No budget secured</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2. A preliminary study on Geographic Information Systems in fisheries</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>40 000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.3. Regional Workshop on Incorporation of Ecosystem Approach to</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>30 000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries into planning and management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.4. Capacity development of key stakeholders to enhance co-management</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>30 000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3. Fisheries data collection and management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

1 Proposed to be added by the Fourth Meeting of TAC, 29 November 2017
1.3.1. Technical assistance for establishment and improvement of fisheries and aquaculture data and information systems at national level

| Component 2: Aquaculture |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| **Activities** | **Timeframe** | **Total budget (USD)** | **Budget sources and status** | **Priority status** |
| 2.1. Capacity building for production systems | | | | |
| 2.1.1. Provision of technical assistance for aquaculture production techniques and systems | 2016-2020 | 45 000 | CACFish autonomous budget | Priority |
| 2.1.2. Capacity building for artificial propagation of fish seeds | 2017 | 35 000 | No budget secured, possible FishCap | Priority |
| 2.1.3. Ad-hoc training on hatchery production of trout | 2018 | 30 000 | No budget secured, possible FishCap | |
| 2.1.4. Farming of new fish species | 2016-2017 | 30 000 | No budget secured, possible FishCap | |
| 2.2. Provision of technical advice on broodstock management | 2016-2020 | 50 000 | No budget secured, possible FishCap | Priority |
| 2.3. Provision of technical advice on fish feed manufacturing | 2016-2020 | 100 000 | No budget secured, possible FishCap | |

Concept note will be submitted for FishCap funding under the FAO–Turkey Partnership Programme, December 2017
## Component 3: Inland Fisheries and Conservation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Total budget (USD)</th>
<th>Budget sources and status</th>
<th>Priority status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1. Support to inland fisheries management and conservation objectives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.1. Inland stock assessment in selected large bodies</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>CACFish autonomous budget</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2. Provision of technical advice on preservation of genetic resources</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
<td>35 000</td>
<td>No budget secured</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3. Workshop on the Habitat Rehabilitation for Inland Fisheries</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>35 000</td>
<td>No budget secured</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4. Provision of technical advice on the establishment of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) systems in inland fisheries</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>40 000</td>
<td>No budget secured</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5. Provision of technical advice on stocking, restocking and culture based fisheries</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>40 000</td>
<td>CACFish autonomous budget</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Component 4: Post-Harvest and Marketing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Total budget (USD)</th>
<th>Budget sources and status</th>
<th>Priority status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1. Provision of post-harvest management, food safety and quality and HACCP certification</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1. Development/updating of post-harvest management by development/effective implementation of marketing measures, rules, standards for safe and quality fish and fish products</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>CACFish autonomous budget</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.2. Provision of technical advice on fish marketing and fish processing and diversification of processed fish and fish products</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>No budget secured, possible FishCap</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2. Provision of fish market information</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2.1. Development of a (national) fish market information system</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>No budget secured</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>Timeframe</td>
<td>Total budget (USD)</td>
<td>Budget sources and status</td>
<td>Priority status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1. Support to research, technology development, training and education in fisheries and aquaculture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1.1 Advice and training on fish genetics resources</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>CACFish autonomous budget</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2. Training of researchers, technical ministerial staff, hatchery managers and representatives of fishers’ organization</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>No budget secured</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Fourth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish) was held in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 28 to 30 November 2017. The meeting was attended by five CACFish Member States (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey) and four Observers (Georgia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan). The TAC discussed scientific recommendations on the following issues of relevance to CACFish: 1) activities and outputs of regional fisheries projects; 2) implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication in the region; 3) inventory and certifying of water bodies in Kyrgyzstan. The TAC also reviewed and revised the second five-year regional work programme (RWP2) of CACFish for 2015-2020 and developed activities for the intersessional period of 2018-2019 for discussion and approval by the Sixth Session of CACFish to be held in Turkey in October 2018.