



# COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

## Thirty-fourth Session

1-5 February 2021

### **FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, ROME, 9-13 JULY 2018**

#### **Executive Summary**

At its Thirty-third Session in July 2018, COFI provided decisions and recommendations to the Secretariat and Members. This information paper summarizes actions taken, 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-third Session of COFI (COFI/2020/Inf.6).

## ACTION TAKEN TO FOLLOW UP DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY COFI 33

No	Para <sup>1</sup>	Matters need to be followed up	Status <sup>2</sup>			Action Taken
			C	O	N	
<b>Agenda Item 4: State of world fisheries and aquaculture</b>						
1	7	The Committee reiterated the importance of operational national data collection systems to support scientific and decision-making processes, emphasizing the need for capacity building in developing countries and wide dissemination of the State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) report.	X	X		<p>- Regional project (TCP/RER/3706) on “Improved data collection for sustainable management of inland fishery resources in the West Balkans”, Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia with collaboration from European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) research institutes, 2018-2020.</p> <p>- In 2018 and 2019, 11 countries assisted with capacity building in fishery and aquaculture statistics. An updated course in fishery statistics is under development.</p> <p>- An electronic SOFIA page was produced which significantly enhanced visibility of SOFIA2018. 3875 print publications of SOFIA 2018 were produced and distributed, 500 flyers and booklets, SOFIA was promoted through interviews and interactions with the media and included in or referenced in many presentations in various forum of FAO staff.</p> <p>- For aquaculture, FAO is developing an information system on Aquatic Genetic Resources to be used as a national data collection tool that will link to FIAS tools.</p> <p>- FAO is developing the Guidelines on Sustainable Aquaculture with an integrated vision and within the CCRF Questionnaire system country tracking progress</p>
2	8	The Committee recommended a more robust peer review process, sharing the report with Members well in advance of publishing, and the potential to draw from additional data sets to fill particular data gaps, such as estimates of fish losses.	X	X		<p>- A robust peer review process was implemented for SOFIA 2020.</p> <p>- A new methodology for SOFIA’s Sub-Indicator 12.3.1.a - Food Loss Index is being developed jointly by the Fisheries Division (NFI) and the Statistics Division (ESS). The methodology was applied and tested in the fishery sector in selected countries. Generating data on fish losses is being encouraged through the development of e-learning tools.</p>
3	9	The Committee commented that the late release of SOFIA and other COFI documents	X			While COFI was postponed due to the pandemic of COVID-19, SOFIA 2020 was launched on 08 June 2020 during a virtual webinar with high-level panellists and 1520 participants.

<sup>1</sup> Paragraph numbers of the report of COFI 33

<sup>2</sup> C: Completed; O: On-going; N: Not yet started

		limited the time for adequate review, noting that this might affect the quality of discussions and efficiency of the Committee. The Committee strongly requested the Secretariat to address this timing issue with a clear deadline for subsequent sessions.				
4	11	The Committee expressed strong interest in discussing the establishment of a sub-committee on fisheries management in order to assist the international community, especially developing states.		X		The Joint Task Force for Investigation of the Proposal to Establish a New Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (JTF) between the Bureau and the Secretariat was established. The JTF organized three meetings and the relevant document, COFI/2020/10, was prepared based on discussion in the JTF and the Bureau Meetings. The document was made available on the COFI website on 05 February 2020.
5	12	The Committee highlighted the role of regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) and other regional processes for the sustainable management of common fisheries resources, and called for increased support to Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) and national mechanisms for sustainable fishery management.	X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EIFAAC 30th Session, Dresden, Germany, September 2019.</li> <li>- CACFish 6th Session, Izmir, Turkey, October 2018.</li> <li>- CACFish-funded training activities in Central Asia region on: genetic aquatic resources, cage aquaculture in lakes, culture-based fisheries, 2018-2019.</li> <li>- FAO continues its efforts to promote and enhance the effectiveness of the Regional Commission for Fisheries (RECOFI) in close cooperation with member countries. FAO continues efforts in collaboration with the Coordination Group for the establishment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Aquaculture and Fisheries Organization (RAAFO).</li> <li>- Forty-third session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), Athens, Greece, 4-8 November 2019.</li> <li>- Forty-second session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy, 22–26 October 2018.</li> <li>- The Regional Fishery Body Secretariats' Network (RSN; currently composed of 53 regional mechanisms/agreements) was supported with basic staff time allocation and financial resources.</li> <li>- RSN magazine published and widely disseminated.</li> </ul>
			X			
			X			
			X			
				X		
				X		
					X	
			X			

						- Preparation and publication of FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 651 “Regional fisheries management organizations and advisory bodies. Activities and developments, 2000–2017”.
6	14	The Committee stressed the need for capacity development to boost implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines).		X		<p>- Under the FAO SSF Umbrella Programme, new activities have initiated, in particular at the national level, but also in support of other partners such as regional organizations and small-scale fisheries organizations. Global guidance on the development of national plans of action in support of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines is underway.</p> <p>- In line with the specific action of the Regional Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea (RPOA-SSF), an “SSF University” initiative is being launched by the GFCM, in coordination with partner organizations including NFIP, to build capacity among SSF organizations in the region.</p>
Agenda Item 5: Progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) and related instruments						
7	17	The Committee welcomed the improvements to the 2018 questionnaire including the section on small-scale fisheries and requested that certain areas be more comprehensive, while maintaining its length. The Committee requested further enhancement of the web-based application and related data management and processing tools, and called for FAO to ensure the availability of the questionnaire in all FAO languages.	X			<p>- Internal task team established to review and propose further enhancements.</p> <p>- Web-based application and related data management and processing tools successfully launched in all FAO languages, including the integration of SDG indicator 14.6.1 and 14.b.1 reporting and validation process.</p>
8	18	The Committee noted the progress of Members in the implementation of the Code and related instruments, but also identified gaps and constraints, such as limited financial and human resources, gaps in technical and regulatory capacity, the need for improved institutional frameworks for responsible fisheries and	X		X	<p>- TCP facility on gap analysis between EU Acquis regulations and Serbian fisheries legislation, 2019.</p> <p>- CACFish-funded training activity in Central Asian region on: post-harvest markets and food safety regulations for fish and fishery products, Istanbul, November 2019.</p>

		aquaculture and to reduce post-harvest losses. The Committee underscored the important role of FAO in assisting Members to overcome these challenges.			
9	19	The Committee called upon FAO to consult with Members on matters of potential confidentiality in the use of the country data and information submitted through the Code questionnaire. It further emphasized the need for Members to validate the use of any information obtained from the questionnaire for SDG reporting.	X		
			X		
			X		
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshop in SDG 14.b held in 2019 for the Pacific region; national workshop on SDG 14 held in Oman.</li> <li>- Validation of SDG Indicator 14.6.1 and 14.b.1 scores integrated within the CCRF Questionnaire system. Only validated indicators scores reported to UNSD.</li> <li>- All support by FAO for the Convention on Biological Diversity's Global Biodiversity Outlook Reporting (see para 91) only involved the release of multi-country regionalised data assessments, where Member data could not be discerned (remained anonymous).</li> </ul>
10	20	Members requested FAO to further strengthen international cooperation on occupational health and safety issues in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors and to promote decent work for fish workers.		X	
				X	
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional seminars on decent work held in Asia and Africa in 2019.</li> <li>- FAO continues its work on social responsibility on fish and aquaculture value chains to promote decent work. At the request of Members, FAO is setting a scoping paper to be presented at the next session of COFI-FT.</li> </ul>
<b>Agenda Item 6: Decisions and recommendations of the Sixteenth Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, Busan, the Republic of Korea, 4-8 September 2017</b>					
11	23	The Committee expressed support for FAO's capacity building activities on post-harvest and market access issues, in particular for small-scale producers and processors in developing countries.		X	
					Projects related to capacity building activities on post-harvest and market access issues, in particular for small-scale fisheries, are regularly identified, developed and supported. Improved processing techniques are introduced and promoted in developing countries, taking into consideration food safety, socio-economic and environmental circumstances.
12	24	The Committee noted the challenges arising from increasing market access requirements and emphasized the need to avoid these becoming unnecessary technical barriers to trade (TBTs).		X	
					In order to improve transparency in international trade of fish and fishery products, FAO is constantly updating the GLOBEFISH website. Information dissemination, particularly on market access issues focusing on major import markets, can contribute to transparency of non-tariff measures and the reduction of trade barriers.
13	25	The Committee expressed strong support for FAO's provision of scientific advice to the Codex Alimentarius Commission	X		
					Adequate funding was secured. The Food System and Food Safety Division now receives USD 500 000 more per year for the provision of scientific advice to the Joint FAO/WHO Centre (Codex Food Standards and Zoonotic Diseases (CJW)). The Fisheries Division

		noting the need to ensure adequate funding for this work.			(NFI) works jointly with CJW and benefits from these resources.
14	26	The Committee supported the outcome of the Expert Consultation on Trade in Fisheries Services and the continued work of FAO in this regard. This includes a best practice review to be presented at the next session of the Sub-Committee.		X	FAO will continue its work in analyzing and compiling best practices in trade in fisheries related-services.
15	27	The Committee recommended that future guidance on social sustainability be developed in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including industry and fish worker associations, building on experience from the development of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains.		X	FAO developed a draft guidance on social responsibility in fish value chains, which was submitted to COFI:FT. In order to develop the draft guidance, FAO organized four multi-stakeholder consultations (Agadir, Brussels, Rome and Shanghai), with an attendance of more than 150 participants. In addition, FAO facilitated an online public consultation in order to reach other relevant stakeholders, which received more than 750 comments and feedbacks. This process helped make the guidance inclusive, practical and including the entire fish value chain. Currently, FAO is working on the development of a scoping paper in order to provide a clear outline of the topic.
16	28	The Committee highlighted the importance of reducing food waste and losses, especially in the post-harvest value chain, and the need to provide technical assistance to developing countries in this regard.	X		The Food Loss and Waste (FLW) in Fish Value Chains ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/flw-in-fish-value-chains/en/">http://www.fao.org/flw-in-fish-value-chains/en/</a> ) website was launched in May 2019 and provides policy and technical guidance to policy-makers, development practitioners, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and value chain actors for the development of solutions to food loss and waste problems. It promotes a multi-disciplinary approach that considers policy, regulatory framework, capacity building, technology, service, infrastructure, and markets as necessary entry points to FLW reduction.
17	29	The Committee reiterated its support for the work of FAO on commercially-exploited aquatic species of interest to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and underlined the important role of the FAO Expert Advisory Panel in reviewing CITES	X		FAO coordinated and hosted the sixth FAO Expert Advisory Panel for the Assessment of four Proposals to Amend Appendices I and II of CITES Concerning Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species (Expert Panel) prior to the eighteenth CITES Conference of Parties (CoP18) 21-25 January 2019). Report, Summary sheet and videos are available here: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fishery/cites-fisheries/ExpertAdvisoryPanel/en">http://www.fao.org/fishery/cites-fisheries/ExpertAdvisoryPanel/en</a>

		listing proposals for those species. Some Members encouraged FAO to review the conservation impacts on species already listed.			
18	30	The Committee recalled the report of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade noting the request of some Members to work closely with CITES Secretariat to ensure the timely sharing of the Expert Panel report to enable sufficient time for decision-making. The Committee encouraged FAO to enhance its cooperation with CITES, to improve the current situation.	X	X	<p>- FAO liaised with the CITES Secretariat to ensure available information on the species proposed for listing on Appendix in CITES CoP 18 was shared with FAO Members and analyzed by the FAO Expert Advisory Panel for the Assessment of four Proposals to Amend Appendices I and II of CITES Concerning Commercially-exploited Aquatic Species (Expert Panel) very early in the communication cycle (Panel dates 21-25 January 2019). This was achieved through close cooperation and involvement/attendance of CITES Secretariat staff in FAO Panel and communication processes.</p> <p>- FAO is working with CITES to describe marine species information in the CITES Trade database. This data assessment will highlight successes and challenges for documentation of trade of commercially exploited aquatic species under Appendix II listed. Report prepared – in final review with CITES Secretariat.</p> <p>- FAO circulated CITES information prior to the 17th Session of COFI-FT held in Vigo, Spain 25-29 November 2019 and presented information, alongside the CITES Secretariat on the CITES' policy and practice, plus forward planning to COFI-FT delegations, resulting in a series of decisions that were agreed and forwarded to COFI 34.</p> <p>- FAO presented the "FAO- CITES management and trade support for States" as part of the sharks and rays work programme to the CBD ocean thematic meeting in Montreal, Canada (11-15 November 2019); to the European Commission (review of the implementation of the shark finning regulation and assessment of the impact of the 2009 European Community Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of Sharks) in Ispra, Italy (07-11 October 2019); and to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List meeting ("Sharks and Rays to 2020 and Beyond") in Vancouver, Canada (11-12 December 2019).</p> <p>- FAO completed an assessment of the CoP17 listings amendment process to ascertain the advisory value of species proposals, the FAO Expert Panel and the IUCN-TRAFFIC assessment. Results published in 2019, "Informing CITES Parties: Strengthening</p>
			X		
				X	
			X		

			X		<p>science-based decision-making when listing marine species", available on:  <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/faf.12411">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/faf.12411</a>.</p> <p>- The report of the Expert Panel was presented at the eighteenth CITES Conference of Parties (CoP18) in the CITES CoP Plenary and in a FAO-led side event, that included International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and IUCN.</p> <p>- FAO participated and reported to the ASEAN regional meeting on results of the Expert Panel information to allow countries to prepare for the CITES CoP18 vote. See here:  <a href="http://www.seafdec.org/regional-consultation-for-development-of-the-asean-seafdec-common-position-on-the-proposed-listing-of-commercially-exploited-aquatic-species-into-the-cites-appendices-convened-by-seafdec/">http://www.seafdec.org/regional-consultation-for-development-of-the-asean-seafdec-common-position-on-the-proposed-listing-of-commercially-exploited-aquatic-species-into-the-cites-appendices-convened-by-seafdec/</a></p> <p>- An assessment of the impacts of CITES shark and ray listing on fisheries in Sri Lanka published. See here:  <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca5641en/CA5641EN.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca5641en/CA5641EN.pdf</a></p>
19	31	The Committee expressed support for the cooperation of FAO with the World Trade Organization (WTO) on trade issues in general and on fisheries subsidies in particular.		X	<p>FAO has been cooperating with WTO and Shanghai Ocean University to provide an on-going international fish trade training programme to support the government, industries, and other stakeholders. In addition, FAO is providing technical support to WTO on fisheries subsidies.</p>
20	32	The Committee welcomed the adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes (CDS) by the FAO Conference in July 2017, and encouraged their implementation to harmonize CDS and prevent trade in products from IUU fishing while minimizing TBTs.	X		<p>- FAO promoted several regional and international workshops to raise the awareness of the CDS Guidelines, including: "International fish trade, market and governance" held in Shanghai, China, in December 2017; three FAO regional workshops in 2018 for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) on "Effective Fish Trade and Sustainable Development" held in Victoria, Seychelles, for the African and Indian Ocean SIDS, in Auckland, New Zealand, for the Pacific SIDS, and in Bridgetown, Barbados for the Caribbean SIDS; an FAO "International Seminar on Sustainable Seafood Value Chain: Traceability" held in Shanghai, China in November 2018; and an FAO gap analysis workshop for the "Elaboration of a National Strategy and Roadmap for the Effective Implementation of the 2009 FAO's PSMA" in San José, Costa Rica, in February 2019.</p> <p>- FAO is also developing a practical guidance document for the CDS Guidelines as a critical and integral part of its implementation plan. This document will provide in-depth descriptions of key technical and</p>

			X		<p>practical aspects of the Guidelines and information for Members establishing trade measures to combat IUU fishing.</p> <p>- CDS Guidelines had been included in the FAO umbrella programme to support the implementation of the 2009 Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) to combat IUU fishing, coupled with other complementary instruments, mechanisms, guidelines, and tools. The section of "Market State Measures" in the pre-assessment questionnaire was updated to better define national capacity building demand under the FAO IUU Umbrella Programme.</p>
Agenda Item 7: Decisions and Recommendations of the Ninth Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, Rome, 24-27 October 2017					
21	36	The Committee expressed support for the Blue Growth Initiative (BGI), as a strategy for the sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture, and recognized the Common Vision for Food and Agriculture as a useful framework to support the sustainable growth of aquaculture.	X		
			X		- A High-Level International Meeting on the Global Blue Growth Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Mexico City, 27-28 November 2017.
			X		- RAP: A project on scaling up of integrated mangrove-shrimp farming in support for the Blue Growth Initiative was implemented in southern coastal provinces of Viet Nam during 2017-2018.
			X		- Regional Conference "Aquaculture today and tomorrow: unlock the potential" (Verona, Italy, 16-17 May 2019) organized by Eurofish in cooperation with the GFCM.
			X		- Side Event on Aquaculture in Blue Economy perspective (Medfish4ever, Marrakech, Morocco, 10 June 2019) organized by GFCM.
			X		- Workshop on Aquaculture Farmers and Farmer Organizations - Promoting Good Practices to Boost Responsible Aquaculture (Pordenone, Italy 20 February 2020) organized by the GFCM in cooperation with FAO, Ministero delle politiche agricole, alimentari e forestali e (MIPAF) of Italy and Associazione Piscicoltori Italiani (API).
				X	- FI is supporting the development of BGI Strategies in Africa and will present the first agreed approach (Eastern Africa completed) at the Blue Conference in Djibouti, which was originally scheduled to be held from 6 to 7 April 2020, but postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and seek further recommendations for the adoption of the approach to other African regions/ nations.
			X		- The Common Vision for Food and Agriculture and "Transforming Food and Agriculture to achieve the SDGs" are applied as a framework in the development

					of “Sustainable Aquaculture Guidelines” and an associated implementation mechanism: “Integrated Global Aquaculture Sustainability Programme”.
22	37	The Committee recognized the growing need for implementation of best practices in aquaculture, and recommended that FAO develop sustainable aquaculture guidelines to provide guidance to the sector.	X X X X X	X	<p>- Regional project (TCP/SEC/3701) on fish feed for smallholder farmers in Central Asia, will develop a good practices Guideline, 2018-2020.</p> <p>- Resolution GFCM/41/2017/2 on guidelines for the streamlining of aquaculture authorization and leasing processes.</p> <p>- An Expert Consultation on the Development of Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture (GSA) was held in FAO Headquarters 17- 20 June 2019 and attended by 15 experts, one resource person and FAO staff. From that, it proposed a roadmap and methodology, which was submitted to the 10th Session of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture in August 2019. The Sub-Committee supported the proposal to convene regional consultations. The first Regional Consultation on the Development of GSA was held in Africa (Bamako, Mali), 29-30 November 2019 and attended by 22 Government representatives. A report is available on: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/cb0280en/cb0280en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/cb0280en/cb0280en.pdf</a></p> <p>- Global and Regional consultations for the development of case studies and lessons learned have started in November 2019.</p> <p>- Trainings on aquaculture governance are being conducted based on theoretical and practical approaches that include inputs from various country/regions to further refine the existing technical guidelines.</p>
23	38	The Committee welcomed the draft report on The State of the World’s Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and recommended its finalization by the Secretariat and wide distribution.	X		The report was finalized and launched in August 2019 along with an In Brief summary in all languages. These have been distributed to national focal points and are available for download on the Aquatic Genetic Resources (AqGR) themed website
24	39	The Committee recommended that FAO develop a global information system, including a registry of species, to monitor and assess the status of		X	A global information system is being developed. A prototype is underway with funding from the government of Germany. A prototype registry of farmed types will become operational in the first semester of 2021.

		aquatic genetic resources relevant to aquaculture.			
25	40	The Committee highlighted the important issues of biosecurity, aquatic animal health, and antimicrobial resistance. It recommended that FAO continue its work with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), noting the development of the progressive management pathway towards better biosecurity in aquaculture, and the need to build the capacity of Members to better manage their biosecurity issues.	X		
			X		
			X	X	
			X		
			X		
			X		
				X	
				X	

- Workshop on animal health and risk analysis in finfish aquaculture in Larnaca, Cyprus (October 2018) organized by the GFCM.

- Training on finfish Pathology within the Aquaculture Demonstrative Centre of Trabzon (April 2020) organized by the GFCM.

- The Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and FAO have agreed to a UTF project which includes one component on engaging the country into a Progressive Management Pathway for Aquaculture Biosecurity, by assessing the sector with regards to biosecurity at farm level and by developing guidelines.

- Continued collaboration with the OIE includes: The second multi-stakeholder meeting on the Progressive Management Pathway for Improving Aquaculture Biosecurity (PMP/AB) which was held in Paris, France, in January 2019 and hosted by the OIE. Report of this meeting can be found in the link: <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb0745en>

- Delegates from OIE participated during the 10th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture held in Trondheim in August 2019: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca7417t/CA7417T.pdf>

- Delegates from OIE participated in a Round-Table Discussion on Moving Forward through Lessons Learned on Response Actions to Aquatic Disease Emergencies held at FAO headquarters 16-18 December 2019. One of the main outcomes is the preparation of a draft Decision Tree for Dealing with Aquatic Animal Mass Mortality Events (MMEs) (tentative title) that can be considered as one of the tools for PMP/AB: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/41211/en>

- RAP: FAO, in collaboration with Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), organized a regional consultation on AMR associated with aquaculture in Asia, in September 2018.

- RAP: A regional TCP project on capacity building in mitigating AMR risk associated with aquaculture in Asia has been approved on 27 November 2018. Its entry-on-duty date (EOD) was 01 February 2019 and the not-to-exceed date (NTE) is 31 July 2021.

			X		<p>- FAO, through the AMR Working Group (where NFIA/NFIM are members) is currently developing the new FAO strategy on AMR that will revise the FAO Action Plan on AMR (2016-2020). An information document is being prepared on this as the 128th Session of the Programme Committee reiterated that the 163rd Session of the Council invited this new strategy be reviewed by COFI 34.</p> <p>- In 2019 two AMR-related publications were published:  FAO. 2019. Aquaculture development. 8. Recommendations for prudent and responsible use of veterinary medicines in aquaculture. FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries. No. 5. Suppl. 8. Rome  <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca7029en/ca7029en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca7029en/ca7029en.pdf</a>  Smith, P. 2019. The performance of antimicrobial susceptibility testing programmes relevant to aquaculture and aquaculture products. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1191. Rome, FAO.  <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca6028en/ca6028en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca6028en/ca6028en.pdf</a></p>
26	41	The Committee stressed the importance of increasing attention to aquaculture production in inland areas, diversification of aquaculture, protection of aquatic biodiversity and native species, selective breeding, as well as extension services to support inclusive strengthening of value chains. It also highlighted the need to improve consumer perception of the aquaculture sector.	X	X	<p>- FAO is in the process of developing the Sustainable Aquaculture Guidelines and an associated implementation mechanism “Global Integrated Aquaculture Sustainability Programme”</p> <p>- As part of the “Global Integrated Aquaculture Sustainability Programme”, NFIA is developing, in consultation with Members, a draft global plan of action for aquatic genetic resources (AqGR) which includes a priority area on development of AqGR for aquaculture.</p> <p>- In UAE, a UTF project has been agreed between the government and FAO, which includes one component on fish market analysis and identification of consumers preferences and sought attributes at the time of purchase and another component on improving the performance of commercial Recirculating Aquaculture Systems for inland fish production.</p> <p>- RAP: a TCP project on supporting local feed self-sufficiency for inland aquaculture in Indonesia was implemented.</p> <p>- Trainings on aquaculture production, best practices, economics and governance have been conducted for existing and potential farmers, extension service providers and small-medium aquaculture projects being implemented in various countries. New species have been selected and promoted for commercial aquaculture:</p>
			X		
			X		

			X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kenya: commercial production of seaweed and development of small demo projects (crab, oyster, finfish, shrimp) within the mangrove forests channels</li> <li>- Zambia: Commercial production of tilapia is well accepted and the private sector is getting more involved after the start of the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project (ZAEDP)</li> <li>- Zanzibar: Sea cucumber, mud crab milkfish and native tilapia, including integration of sea cucumber with seaweed, cage crab with milkfish</li> </ul>
			X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mediterranean and Indian Ocean countries – trainings on improving consumer perception of aquaculture products have been conducted (CIHEAM- Sustainable development of coastal communities training course in Lecce, Italy)</li> </ul>
				X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO organized the fifth edition of the Maghreb Aquaculture Days (Ifrane, Morocco 2-4 July 2019) titled "Freshwater aquaculture: status and perspectives". This event aimed at strengthening collaboration and technical capacity of countries of North Africa in the field of freshwater aquaculture. To promote the sustainable development of the sector and to improve knowledge-sharing among member countries, the meeting proposed to establish a sub-regional network dedicated to the development of freshwater aquaculture under the aegis of the Arab Maghreb Union.</li> </ul>
				X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is assisting the government of Mauritania through TCP/MAU/3801: “Management of water bodies for the production and marketing of aquaculture products and inland fisheries in Mauritania”. This project focusses on the promotion and development of freshwater aquaculture in water bodies close to Senegal River.</li> </ul>
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New GEF project "Strengthening management and governance for the conservation and sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity in coastal marine ecosystems in Chile" (GCP /CHI/044/GFF) will become operational in 2021.</li> </ul>
27	42	The Committee noted the importance of knowledge-sharing among member countries, notably through regional networks and South-South Cooperation, and specifically recommended that FAO continue its work on aquaculture development	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two Aquaculture Demonstrative Centres for the Black Sea established in Romania and Turkey by the GFCM and in collaboration with hosting countries and 4 training organized. During the COVID-19, the GFCM launched the ADC online initiative with 3 courses during 3 weeks provided by more than 15 experts from Romania and Turkey. The courses registered more than 4000 followers around the world.</li> </ul>
			X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop project for Cabo Verde on seaweed aquaculture under the China-FAO SSC trust fund;</li> </ul>

		in small island developing States (SIDS).	X		<p>- Provided assistance for Cabo Verde under an UTF programme for Blue Economy.</p> <p>- Developed national aquaculture business development strategies for five Pacific Island Countries under the Micronesia Association for Sustainable Aquaculture (MASA) Network and Kiribati, as guidance documents to ensure that their aquaculture developments are sustainable and economically viable. Knowledge-sharing opportunities were also enabled for MASA countries and Kiribati through a regional forum to discuss and develop a regional strategy for Micronesia on aquaculture business development.</p>
28	43	The Committee expressed its concern and noted that the role of certifications in national and international markets highlighted the need to strengthen the capacity of small-scale producers to attain certifications to secure and improve market access. It further noted that certifications should not create unnecessary TBTs.	X	X	<p>- EIFAAC Symposium on Food Safety and Conservation for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture included a Session on Certification, Dresden, Germany, September 2019.</p> <p>- With the support of the Japan Trust Fund, FAO produced a study “Seafood certification and developing countries: Focus on Asia” (2018). Certification and ecolabelling schemes were reviewed and recommendations drawn from case studies to guide developing countries in supporting their fisheries and aquaculture sector to achieve certification and improve market access. FAO co-organized and provided technical inputs to a workshop on “Chinese seafood sustainability standard for responsible fisheries” (May 2019). Bringing FAO and international expertise, the workshop supported the Chinese assessment process to develop a national ecolabelling scheme and helped identify challenges and potential actions to secure responsible and sustainable fisheries in China. In addition, also with the support of the Japan Trust Fund, the study "Promoting Sustainable Seafood Production and trade: Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative and Beyond" (2020) was produced. The study looks at some of the challenges faced by non-certified fisheries and farms through an exploration of the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI)’s Benchmark Tool applications including guidance for the development of national ecolabelling and aquaculture certification schemes. Another study is planned for 2020/2021 to document the challenges and opportunities of aquaculture certification in developing countries.</p>
29	44	The Committee supported the request from the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) members to hold a global conference on		X	Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) offered to host the GCA2020 in Shanghai, China from October 26-30. The organizers FAO, NACA and MARA jointly decided to postpone the Conference to 22-27 September 2021.



		It supported the transfer of the Aquaculture Network for Africa (ANAF) initiative to the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and requested FAO to continue to support the network.	X		<p>FAO has partnered with the African Development Bank and WorldFish to support the Zambian Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock to implement the Zambian Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project. The project is funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Government of the Republic of Zambia. The AfDB support comes as a loan to the Republic of Zambia to increase aquaculture production and to generate employment opportunities for youth and women. The project supports the advancement of the aquaculture subsector as a viable and inclusive business opportunity to improve livelihoods along the aquaculture value chain. More concretely, the project (i) provides support for and promotion of reliable access to quality input and output markets; (ii) provides competitively priced risk sharing access to finance; and (iii) supports the development of an enabling infrastructure. FAO supports the project through the provision of Technical Assistance with respect to aquaculture technology, processing technology, and fish health issues, while research and knowledge development are being supported through collaboration with WorldFish and national universities. This project gave genesis to the development of a similar Government project in Malawi funded by the AfDB (10 million USD).</p> <p>- The Secretariat of ANAF was transferred to AU-IBAR in 2019.</p>
Agenda Item 8: Fisheries and ocean governance					
Agenda Item 8.1: Combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing					
31	48	Members referred to the challenges they are facing in combatting IUU fishing and requested FAO to provide additional technical assistance to improve their performance as coastal, flag, market, processing and port States.	X		<p>- In 2017, FAO launched its Global Programme to Support the Implementation of the PSMA and complementary International Instruments (the Programme). As at August 2020, the Programme has supported: (i) 33 developing States in the formulation of national strategies and action plans for the implementation of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (PSMA) and complementary international instruments to combat IUU fishing; (ii) 18 developing States to reformulate their national policies and legislation, and 13 developing States in updating their monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) systems and procedures, in order to align with the requirement of the PSMA and complementary international</p>

				X	<p>instruments; (iii) 54 officials from 16 developing States to receive legal training in international fisheries law, and 24 officials from 7 countries to receive MCS and port inspection training; and (iv) four States to receive national-level seminars on the PSMA.</p> <p>- As part of the Programme, FAO has been developing technical materials to be used as reference documents, as well as capacity development resources for States, to combat IUU fishing. These include, among others: 1) a comprehensive checklist of flag, coastal and port State responsibilities to combat IUU fishing; 2) a checklist of legal measures and provisions to incorporate into States' national legislation to effectively combat IUU fishing; 3) a checklist of monitoring, control and surveillance systems and procedures to incorporate into States' national operations to effectively combat IUU fishing, and 4) a guidance document for States to implement catch documentation schemes at national level. The exact titles of these documents are yet to be finalized. The documents are expected to be published in the first quarter of 2021.</p>
32	51	The Committee commended the ongoing work of FAO in supporting developing States in preparation for, or implementation of, the PSMA and complementary instruments and tools to combat IUU fishing. It encouraged further cooperation and coordination with States and other relevant IGOs engaged in complementary capacity development initiatives.	X	X	<p>- On the margins of the 10th Session of RECOFI (9-11 July 2019), a side event was organized in cooperation with FAO to support and provide the representatives of RECOFI member countries with a clear idea regarding the implementation of the PSMA and the important role to deter IUU fishing and in addressing SDG 14.</p> <p>- Parties to the PSMA, at their second meeting, encouraged FAO to continue work on the development of a global portal for capacity development to combat IUU fishing, which will aim to consolidate information on capacity development initiatives worldwide to allow for better coordination and cohesion among actors. The portal was completed, but undergoing internal testing.</p> <p>- In addition, and as a complementary action to the development of the global portal, FAO has made efforts to engage and coordinate capacity development activities with a number of actors, including the World Bank, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Norway Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), the European Commission's Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States of America (NOAA), and the non-governmental organization Stop Illegal Fishing, among others.</p>

33	52	The Committee welcomed the initial discussions of the Parties on information sharing mechanisms in support of the implementation of the PSMA and recommended that existing regional information exchange mechanisms be taken advantage of when developing a global system for information exchange under the PSMA to avoid duplication of effort.		X	A prototype for the PSMA Global Information Exchange System (GIES) is under development and will be presented to the third meeting of the PSMA Technical Working on Information Exchange.
34	53	The Committee recommended that the Global Record be further developed, in particular to allow for automatic uploading from other monitoring, control and surveillance systems.		X	A new version for the Global Record information system to be released in 2021, with a number of new functionalities, including automatic upload.
35	55	The Committee welcomed the global study on transshipment conducted by FAO, and called for in-depth studies to support the development of guidelines on best practices for regulating, monitoring and controlling transshipment.	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An in-depth global study on transshipment to be published prior to COFI34, including a list of considerations for the development of future guidelines on transshipment.</li> <li>- A series of regional webinars to be organized by FAO to disseminate the results of the global study and promote further discussions on the subject prior to COFI34.</li> </ul>
36	56	The Committee expressed support for the work of FAO in continuing to develop the technical guidelines for the estimation of the magnitude and geographic extent of IUU fishing, noting the value of these guidelines for the production of consistent and reliable estimates, determining national, regional, global trends, and measuring the impacts of IUU fishing.		X	Undertaking the development of the third volume of the technical guidelines, a practical step-by-step guide to estimating the magnitude of IUU fishing.
37	57	Considering that certain subsidies may contribute to overcapacity, overfishing and IUU		X	Participated in WTO subsidy negotiations and related technical meetings, providing technical advice on fisheries management, governance, trade, IUU fishing and other relevant aspects. Due to the effects of the

		<p>fishing, the Committee called upon FAO to continue providing technical advice to the ongoing negotiations on fisheries subsidies at the WTO.</p>			<p>COVID-19 pandemic, the WTO Ministerial meeting in 2020 was postponed and the rhythm of continuous meetings of WTO Members to negotiate fisheries subsidies has changed. A new negotiation text recently tabled by the Chair of the WTO Negotiating Group on Rules is expected to create a positive momentum still for 2020. FAO continues to engage in several technical support in events in Geneva in areas associated with the negotiation process, particularly on IUU, overfishing and overcapacity, together with other international organizations or at the request of WTO.</p>
38	58	<p>Recognizing the links between IUU fishing, safety at sea and poor working conditions in parts of the fisheries sector, the Committee commended the ongoing cooperation between IMO, ILO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and FAO on IUU fishing and related matters, and encouraged further joint initiatives.</p>	X	X	<p>- Fourth session of the FAO/ILO/IMO Joint Working Group on IUU fishing and related matters was organized through the joint Secretariat of the three organizations in Torremolinos, Spain, from 23-25 October 2019 back-to-back with the Torremolinos Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, held from 21-23 October 2019.</p> <p>- Regular bilateral meetings with ILO, IMO and UNODC held. Actively participated in and invited ILO, IMO and UNODC to relevant meetings and workshops.</p> <p>- Contributed to IMO trainings and invited ILO, IMO and UNODC to participate in FAO trainings.</p> <p>- FAO continues to build on existing cooperation and communication with IMO, ILO and UNODC on key areas of work concerning IUU fishing, safety at sea, governance, promotion of value chains and trade in the fisheries sector and related matters. Efforts have been made to identify opportunities for joint work to enhance synergies across various ongoing technical assistance and capacity building initiatives for Members. Under FAO's Global Capacity Development Programme to support the implementation of the PSMA and complementary international instruments and regional mechanisms to combat IUU fishing, FAO and UNODC continue to cooperate in areas of legislative reviews, capacity building, development of knowledge products and awareness-raising to assist Members in strengthening their fisheries governance frameworks and enforcement capacities. In light of FAO's ongoing work on developing sustainable fisheries and aquaculture value chains, FAO will continue to explore joint work and coordinate in efforts to strengthen institutional capacities and regulatory frameworks and enhance information sharing and cooperation for greater transparency and sustainable management of fisheries and oceans resources.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8.2: Small-scale and artisanal fisheries governance</p>					

39	61	The Committee welcomed progress in implementing the SSF Guidelines, including mainstreaming in laws, policies and other initiatives, and encouraged continued work under the FAO SSF Umbrella Programme at global, regional and national levels.	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Summary of developments will be in COFI paper for session on small-scale fisheries.</li> <li>- In view of implementing the SSF Guidelines in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea region, a Regional Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea (RPOA-SSF) was adopted by GFCM CPCs in 2018 and a consultation process was carried out in 2019 to identify and plan short-term and mid-term priorities and concrete actions to implement the RPOA-SSF.</li> </ul>
40	62	The Committee requested FAO to further develop an implementation monitoring system for the SSF Guidelines and to report on progress and provide its support to national, sub-regional and regional initiatives, particularly through the national committees.	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expert solicitation took place in 2019/20. The draft report will be published as soon as possible.</li> <li>- E-consultation on monitoring took place in early 2020 to solicit inputs from interested stakeholders on the most important aspects of the Guidelines to be monitored and appropriate methodologies.</li> <li>- Expert workshop envisaged for 2021.</li> <li>- Recruitment of shared research fellow under way with WorldFish Centre under existing MoU.</li> <li>- A mapping tool has been developed to track implementation of the RPOA-SSF (and likewise the SSF Guidelines) in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea region (GFCM).</li> </ul>
41	64	The Committee highlighted the need to recognize and address the special role of women and the vulnerability of indigenous and local communities and minorities in SSF.	X		Dedicated activities starting to empower women through collaboration with The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC), Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), in Tanzania, Oman, thematic study on indigenous peoples under development for inclusion in the Illuminating Hidden Harvests (IHH) study; gender advisory network established for the IHH study, inclusion of the Alliance of Indigenous Peoples in SSF in Central America in the Organización del Sector Pesquero y Acuícola del Istimo Centroamericano (OSPESCA) working group on the SSF Guidelines; support to Arctic Indigenous Peoples seminar.
42	65	The Committee encouraged FAO to provide capacity development and technical support to small-scale fisheries, including by addressing socio-economics, gender dimensions, and post-harvest and data collection challenges found in the sector.	X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Projects with focus on post-harvest/women started in Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Uganda in 2020.</li> <li>- Projects to work toward National Plans of Action for the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines started in Madagascar and Namibia in 2020.</li> <li>- Other SSF projects started in Myanmar and Philippines.</li> <li>- Tool to guide the development of a National Plan of Action for the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines and related training are under development.</li> </ul>

				X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training course on the SSF Guidelines implementation is under preparation.</li> <li>- Training on trans-disciplinary approaches to small-scale fisheries was developed and training of trainers was conducted in 2019.</li> <li>- 58 country case studies were conducted under the Illuminating Hidden Harvests (IHH) study and related methods developed and e-learning was prepared.</li> </ul>
43	66	The Committee highlighted the importance of achieving SDG 14.b on providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets, and encouraged FAO to equivalently support Members where this concerns inland fisheries resources.		X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical paper on chapter 7 of the SSF Guidelines being finalized; dedicated session on SSF in sub-committee on fish trade in 2019; Regional workshop on SDG 14.b for the Pacific in 2019; Regional workshop on SDG 14.b for Asia envisaged for 2021.</li> <li>- Guidance on reporting on SDG 14.b.1 for the Pacific regional is being finalized.</li> <li>- To support the application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT) and the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines (SSF Guidelines), regional workshops have been held to share knowledge and to inform the development of practical guidance on tenure, access and user rights for both marine and inland fisheries: Regional Workshop on Tenure, Access and User Rights of the Great Lakes and Inland Water Bodies of the World (2020). Report forthcoming.</li> </ul>
44	67	The Committee acknowledged the limited statistics available on SSF. It welcomed the efforts of FAO to assess inland and marine fisheries and encouraged further improvements in statistical collection systems to inform national policy and future editions of SOFIA, including the development of best practices for management of inland fisheries and a plan for implementation of the 10 steps for responsible inland fisheries. The Committee also looked forward to the results of the Hidden Harvest 2 initiative in 2020.		X		Preparation of Illuminating Hidden Harvests study under way for launch in early 2021.

45	69	The Committee welcomed the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) in 2022, encouraged cooperation and support for the celebrations, and requested FAO to develop a planning roadmap.		X		Internal IYAFA Task Force, dedicated email, webpage, visual identity, communication materials completed, International Steering Committee established, Western Central Atlantic Coordination Committee for IYAFA established in 2020 and drafting of roadmap underway.
46	71	The Committee appreciated the Global Work Programme to Advance Knowledge on Rights-based Approaches for Fisheries as a means to support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines and, more generally, to facilitate the formalization of appropriate access and resource rights in fisheries. It noted that these are key factors for food security and reduced conflicts in SSF.	X		X	<p>- To support the application of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure and the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines, regional workshops have been held to share knowledge and to inform the development of guidance on tenure, access and user rights for both marine and inland fisheries: Regional workshops on tenure, access and user rights held for countries of 1) South East Asia and Bay of Bengal (2019), 2) Latin America and the Caribbean (2019). Reports at <a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/CA7066EN/">http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/CA7066EN/</a> and forthcoming.</p> <p>- Workshop on Tenure, Access and User Rights of the Great Lakes and Inland Water Bodies of the World (2020). Report forthcoming.</p>
47	72	The Committee noted the preparations for the UserRights 2018 Conference in Yeosu, the Republic of Korea. It further welcomed the proposed development of a repository to inform rights-based fisheries, and invited FAO to support capacity development for fair and equitable tenure systems.	X		X	<p>- UserRights 2018 Conference (<a href="http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/user-rights/en/">http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/user-rights/en/</a>) successfully held (See <a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca6967en">http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca6967en</a> and <a href="http://www.fao.org/fishery/static/tenure-user-rights/index.htm">http://www.fao.org/fishery/static/tenure-user-rights/index.htm</a> for the proceedings). The two major outcomes of the meeting being:</p> <p>- Requests for local work on the ground to develop rights-based fisheries management systems, and a call for the development of Voluntary Guidelines on Tenure and User Rights in Fisheries. Subsequently, the Friends of UserRights (FoUR meeting) directed FAO to work on guidance to support the development of capacity for tenure systems.</p> <p>- Capacity development underway on Tenure, Access, and User Rights through knowledge sharing at regional meetings and the development of practical guidance on the topic.</p>
Agenda Item 8.3: Global and regional ocean processes						
48	73	The Committee reaffirmed the role of COFI as the most important international forum for policy debate and the adoption of policy instruments in the	X			Side events in the 46 Committee on World Food Security, including: SE120 Treasures of the oceans and inland waters - ensuring food security and nourishing nations: Gaining and sharing knowledge in the Decade of Action on Nutrition. From healthy waters to healthy people. See



		and UN Environment in facilitating formal coordination mechanisms between RFBs and the Regional Seas Programmes.	X	X	<p>Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Sea Organizations and Regional Fishery Bodies.</p> <p>- Participation as RSN Secretariat in the 2019 annual meeting of Regional Sea Organizations convened by UN Environment.</p> <p>- Among RFBs established by FAO, GFCM continues to follow developments in coordination with NFI, with a view to showcase its ongoing cooperation with the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan as a regional best practice.</p>
52	82	The Committee called for FAO to continue its cooperation with RFBs and RFMOs and commended FAO for the support provided to the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN), noting its important role in facilitating the coordination, exchange of experiences and lessons learned by RFBs. It recommended that FAO dedicate more resources to the work of the RSN.		X	In-kind support to RSN and minimum essential resources allocated.
53	83	The Committee requested FAO to continue supporting the reorientation from advisory bodies to management bodies of the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF) and the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC), facilitate the strengthening of the Regional Commission for Fisheries (RECOFI) and provide support for the establishment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Aquaculture and Fisheries Organization.	X	X	<p>X</p> <p>- Support to RECOFI to formulate new Conservation and Management Measures and to establish cooperative framework with the relevant Regional Sea Organization (ROPME).</p> <p>- Assistance provided to WECAFC for its transformation process into a regional fishery organization/agreement and to Commission for Small-Scale and Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture of Latin America and the Caribbean (COPPESAALC) during the process to review its mandate.</p> <p>- Zero-draft agreement to establish the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Aquaculture and Fisheries Organization prepared and submitted to concerned countries.</p> <p>- WECAFC: WECAFC 17 Commission supported with three meeting documents addressing strengthening of statistics and data, capacity building issues, information on state of WECAFC fisheries.</p> <p>- CECAF: contributed to the PESCAO project addressing governance issues and capacity building in Statistics and data, and continued to support the regional CECAF statistics database as well as updates</p>

			X		of stock and fisheries status in the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS).
			X		- Session of the CECAF artisanal fisheries working group was held in 2018, and follow-up work in line with the work plan is under way.
			X		- RECOFI: RECOFI 10 Commission supported with two meeting documents addressing minimum data requirements, and FIRMS, and a side event on FIRMS.
Agenda Item 9: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development					
54	87	Noting that SDG reporting was the responsibility of Members, the Committee acknowledged that FAO was the primary UN agency with responsibility for fisheries (marine and freshwater) and aquaculture and has the important role of assisting competent authorities in tracking their progress in achieving SDG 14 and the other goals of the 2030 Agenda.	X	X	- Second round of SDG indicator 14.6.1 and 14.b.1 reporting by countries facilitated through CCRF questionnaire.  - SDG14 framework supported with new 2 indicators as Tier1 indicators (14.4.1, 14.7.1), and 2 as Tier2 indicators (14.6.1, 14.b.1).  - In the context of the Malta MedFish4Ever Declaration, that is in line with the objectives of the SDG 14, GFCM supported the countries to assess the level of progress in implementing the objectives of the Declaration through a dedicated questionnaire shared in the context of the GFCM High-Level Conference on MedFish4Ever initiative: Advances and renew commitments (June 2019)
55	88	The Committee reiterated its support for strengthened cooperation between FAO and international, regional and national bodies, as well as the private sector, in strengthening the development and delivery of suitable indicators for monitoring progress towards achieving SDG and Aichi Biodiversity Targets relevant to fisheries.	X	X	- FAO worked with the CBD Secretariat and the Fisheries Expert Group of IUCN to adapt a small component of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) Questionnaire, so as to allow Members to present a regional picture of delivery against the Code and Aichi Biodiversity Target overlapping areas of interest.  - Capacity building workshops organized with the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) (October 2019) and in Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) area (March 2020) on SDG14.4.1. Similar workshop was planned for June 2020 in the Pacific with involvement of RFBs such as SPC, but postponed. Resources for other similar regional workshops during 2020-21 will be sought.
56	90	The Committee emphasized the need to ensure comparability and consistency of reporting indicators at global, regional and national levels, whilst minimizing the burden on Members.	X	X	Methodologies developed supported by e-learning course for SDG14.4.1, and first SDG14.4.1 questionnaire released in November 2019 with response from 70 countries .
57	91	The Committee agreed that data and information	X	X	FAO used a small component of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) Questionnaire

		submitted through the Code questionnaire could be used for reporting on SDG indicators and Aichi Biodiversity Targets in aggregate and, where permission is explicitly granted by Members, for reporting on their national progress, subject to adequate consultation and validation of inputs by Members, as stated in paragraph 19 of COFI33.				results – of special interest to mainstreaming of biodiversity in fisheries - to allow Members to present a regional picture of delivery against the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi Target 6 (CBDs fisheries indicator). These responses included information on overlapping areas of interest that provide new information on ecosystem-related action taken by Members to be included in CBD's Global Biodiversity Outlook Report (GBO 5) released on 15 September 2020.
58	93	The Committee requested FAO to continue to assist Members in strengthening statistical capacity and delivery of their data and information, especially in data-poor situations. It further requested support to provide tools and publishing guidelines to assist in this activity.	X		X	<p>- In 2018 and 2019, 11 countries and 3 regional bodies were assisted with capacity building in fishery and aquaculture statistics. An updated course in fishery statistics is under development.</p> <p>- FAO, with the support of Japan, funding developed the Calipseo software framework which deployment is now being tested in Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>- GFCM provided support to Mediterranean and Black Sea countries through the release of the GFCM Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF - Version 19.1) manual; GFCM conducted a feasibility phase on the application of quality indicators to the fisheries data in 2019.</p>
59	94	The Committee recognized the synergies between the SDGs and the Blue Economy, with the need for broad cooperation on developing new economic platforms and processes (e.g. Blue Forum, Blue Ports, Blue Fashion) in a sustainable way.			X	In general, the Secretariat has aimed to link its fisheries and aquaculture programmes and activities to broader trends and processes, including those regarding the SDGs and the Blue Economy. This includes collaboration and inputs to the work of the UN Global Compact on the Ocean Economy on both capture fisheries and aquaculture. As part of its Blue Growth Initiative, specific activities and events have been carried out on Blue Forum through the Vigo Dialogues on Blue Ports as well as on Blue Fashion. As part of the preparations for the Forum and to understand better some of the issues to be addressed, a research paper was written about gender equity. Women's access limitations to credit, resources, technology, or training undermine productivity and result in negative implications for food security and nutrition. The Forum also aims to highlight the importance of addressing gender equality in its working groups.
60	96	The Committee expressed the need for FAO to increase communication for clarifying and enhancing awareness of multi-sectoral approaches	X			In order to help clarify and enhance implementation of Blue Growth, Blue Finance guidance notes aimed at providing governmental, non-governmental, private and public stakeholders with information, resources and concrete pathways for obtaining finance to support blue growth transitions at local, national, regional and

		for Blue Growth and delivery of the 2030 Agenda and better elaborate its plans for the BGL.			global scales have been produced. In addition a coordinator for the Blue Growth network was hired to elaborate plans and revise the FAO Blue Growth strategy.
61	97	The Committee further requested FAO to review potential opportunities of Blue Growth and Blue Economy initiatives and present this to the seventeenth session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade in 2019.	X		FAO has organized, with the Port of Vigo (Spain) two workshops on Blue Growth Ports with the participation of experts from 19 countries who launched the idea of creating a network of ports, involving different stakeholders in order to advance toward the concept of Blue Growth. It was concluded that Ports are economic hubs that can help develop other interrelated activities, such as creating jobs, generating wealth, promoting efficient use of natural resources, maritime tourism.
Agenda Item 10: Climate change and other environment related matters					
62	101	The Committee stressed that effective responses to climate change require effective fisheries management in line with the 2030 Agenda. It requested the development of guidelines on climate change adaptation and mitigation in fisheries and aquaculture, and welcomed the offer from Canada to host an expert workshop on fisheries management in the context of climate change.	X		Guidelines with a focus on adaptation published in Fisheries Technical Paper 650, Decision-making and Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector. See <a href="http://www.fao.org/policy-support/tools-and-publications/resources-details/en/c/1257362/">http://www.fao.org/policy-support/tools-and-publications/resources-details/en/c/1257362/</a>
63	102	The Committee commended the work of FAO on biodiversity mainstreaming and requested FAO to prepare and operationalize a fisheries and aquaculture biodiversity plan as part of its Biodiversity Strategy and contribution to the CBD Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework, building on its Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform. It also noted the need to see a greater engagement of FAO in international fora focused on the environment where fisheries-related issues are discussed.	X	X	<p>- FAO participated in the CBD's Thematic Consultation on Area-based Conservation Measures for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to represent the interests of the fisheries sector in discussions on how sectoral area-based management initiatives under the remit and control of the fisheries sector can be recognized and encouraged in the Post-2020 targets. [Montreal, Canada – 1-3 December 2019]</p> <p>- NFI staff were part of FAO's delegation to the 2nd Meeting of the Open Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and provided inputs to FAO's comments on the zero draft of the Framework [Rome, Italy, 24-29 February 2020] where a key focus was the recognition that sustainable use of natural resources was a legitimate and valued pathway to biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>- FAO contributed to and co-facilitated a workshop on how area-based management initiatives could be used to meet commitments to the CBD biodiversity targets in North Africa. GFCM, as the responsible RFMO in</p>

			X	X	<p>the Mediterranean Sea, actively participated, providing insights on the procedure to establish Fisheries Restricted Areas in the Mediterranean. There were discussions about the future possible recognition of GFCM FRAs for conservation purposes as OECM within the CBD framework.</p> <p>- A fisheries and aquaculture plan nested in the FAO-wide Biodiversity Action Plan was developed.</p> <p>- FAO participated in CBD ocean thematic meeting in Montreal, Canada (November 2019), that was part of the preparation for negotiations to realise the CBD Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework, whose final formulation was expected to be discussed by CBD Parties in China in October 2020, but the meeting was postponed.</p> <p>- In relation to species focussed conservation work (species threatened with extinction), FAO assisted Members in Multilateral Environmental Agreement processes to inform on the status of vulnerable species being considered for augmented management and trade controls (e.g. CITES and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)).</p>
64	103	The Committee noted that FAO, CITES, IUCN and other relevant international bodies use a range of criteria to characterize the state of commercially-exploited aquatic resources and requested FAO to continue cooperating with those other international bodies, to harmonize the criteria used to characterize commercially-exploited aquatic resources to the extent possible. It suggested that FAO could explore the possibility of cooperation with these organizations to monitor the conservation status of these species.	X		<p>FAO convened meetings with IUCN and CITES, inviting also International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) to draft a description of the congruence, complementarity and challenges across stock status and extinction risk assessments of marine fishes. This description was to be submitted to a scientific journal to highlight the different approaches of fisheries and biodiversity conservation communities in describing the status of marine stocks and species. However, at the final stage of drafting, participating authors from IUCN would not agree to submission of the manuscript for publication unless all authors stated they supported IUCN's bid for the Red List Index be accepted as a complementary indicator to FAO's fish stocks indicator (SDG 14.4.1) for reporting on delivery of SDG 14.4. This was not supported by the non-IUCN authors and therefore the joint manuscript could not be submitted to a scientific publication. To ensure FAO's commitment to this process was available to Members, components of the completed work are shared through the COFI papers (COFI/2020/SBD.17).</p>
65	104	The Committee commended the work of FAO in relation to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded	X		<p>- In 2019 FAO along with the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) conducted 4 regional workshops aimed at ALDFG issues and identifying and sharing best practices for mitigation. An FAO report from the four workshops entitled "Report of the 2019</p>

		fishing gear (ALDFG). It encouraged FAO to conduct further work on quantifying the impacts of ALDFG and developing and documenting best practices for addressing ALDFG, including the recovery and recycling of gear, the use of biodegradable gear to minimize its contribution to marine plastic pollution, as well as the reduction of ghost fishing.		X	<p>FAO/GGGI Regional Workshop on Best Practice to Prevent and Reduce Abandoned, Lost and otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear" has been completed and is provided as a COFI background Session Document (COFI/2020/SBD.6).</p> <p>- FAO along with IMO are the Co-Secretariats of the IMO/FAO/UNESCO-IOC/WMO/IAEA/UN/UNEP/UNIDO Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) WG43 on sea-based sources of marine litter tasked with providing a global overview of sea-based sources of marine litter, including fishing gear and its relative contribution and impacts. WG43 ToR will include quantification of the impacts of ALDFG and identifications of interventions due end of 2020. Progress from WG43 is provided as a COFI background Session Document (COFI/2020/SBD.8).</p> <p>- Joint FAO/IMO Norad-funded GloLitter programme aims at assisting developing countries to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from the maritime transport and fisheries sectors and identify opportunities for the reduction of plastic uses in both industries. The first phase of this programme commenced on March 30th and will run for 3.3 years.</p> <p>- The Symposium on Responsible Fishing Technology for Healthy Ecosystems and a Clean Environment, which was held in China on 8-12 April 2019 (ICES-FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour) included a session on ALDFG. See report on <a href="http://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/CA5742EN/">http://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/CA5742EN/</a></p>
			X	X	
66	105	The Committee welcomed the recommendations of the Technical Consultation on the Marking of Fishing Gear, and endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear (VGMFG). It supported the development of a comprehensive global strategy to tackle issues relating to ALDFG and to support implementation of the Guidelines, and encouraged the involvement of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and relevant		X	<p>- In 2019 the FAO along with GGGI 4 regional workshops on ALDFG supported the implementation of the VGMFG, the report is provided as a COFI background Session Document (COFI/2020/SBD.6). FAO is currently developing a technical manual for gear marking and developing a framework to assist relevant authorities in determining the need for and requirements of a gear marking system in their fisheries as provided in the annex of the VGMFG.</p> <p>- The GloLitter programme mentioned above aims at assisting developing countries to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from the maritime transport and fisheries sectors and identify opportunities for the reduction of plastic uses in both industries. The FAO component of this project is focused on ALDFG, which is a significant component of marine plastic litter. The first phase of this programme commenced on March 30th and will run for 3.3 years.</p>

		RFMOs, regional fisheries management arrangements and other relevant international bodies.			
67	106	The Committee welcomed the work of FAO on bycatch, including work on marine mammal bycatch and the recommendations of the Expert Workshop on Means and Methods for Reducing Marine Mammal Mortality in Fishing and Aquaculture Operations. The Committee encouraged FAO to continue its work, engaging with Members, relevant experts and organizations, such as the International Whaling Commission and the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission, in the development of best practices in the form of technical guidelines. This would require further consultations among Members.	X	X	<p>- An Expert Meeting to Develop Technical Guidelines to Reduce Bycatch of Marine Mammals in Capture Fisheries was held in Rome, Italy, 17–19 September 2019 with participation of 29 fisheries and bycatch experts and observers, including from International Whaling Commission (IWC) and North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO). The meeting report is available at: <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca7620en/ca7620en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca7620en/ca7620en.pdf</a></p> <p>- The technical guidelines are undergoing a final consultation with COFI members for publication before COFI 34.</p> <p>- In 2019, GFCM produced two methodologies for standardized data collection on bycatch, which were endorsed by the GFCM Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC): i) Monitoring discards in Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries; ii) Monitoring incidental catch of vulnerable species in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. This second methodology was developed jointly with Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area (ACCOBAMS), The Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA), International Union for the Conservation of Nature - Mediterranean (IUCN-Med), BirdLife International and Mediterranean Association to Save the Sea Turtles (MEDASSET). With the same partners, GFCM put together an Identification Guide of Vulnerable Species incidentally caught in Mediterranean fisheries and is currently producing pocket versions by subregion. The good practice guides for the handling of vulnerable species caught incidentally in Mediterranean fisheries (produced in English and French in 2018) were translated into Arabic and Turkish in 2019 based on countries' requests.</p>
68	107	The Committee expressed concern about the effects of pollution, including microplastics, from gold mining and other sources, on aquatic resources, and encouraged FAO to continue collecting information on its impacts on aquaculture and fishery resources, and		X	<p>- Since 2019 the EAF-Nansen Programme has been sampling different marine and freshwater fish species in several locations to obtain data on contaminants. Some of the samples have been analyzed and others still need to be collected.</p> <p>- In 2019, FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO) launched a call for data on methylmercury and total mercury in fish to consider whether it is feasible to proceed with the establishment of maximum levels for additional fish species and to request the Joint</p>

		implications for food safety, both in marine and freshwater systems, including the work of the EAF-Nansen Programme.			FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) to issue a call for data.
69	108	The Committee noted with concern, the issue of underwater anthropogenic noise and encouraged FAO to consider to conduct a review of its impact on marine resources, and its socioeconomic consequences.	X	X	<p>- The subject of underwater noise from fishing operations has been incorporated in the Fish-OPS Programme and resources are being mobilized for activities on this subject.</p> <p>- The joint GFCM/OceanCare Workshop on Anthropogenic Underwater Noise and impacts on fish, invertebrates and fish resources (WKNOISE) addressed issues related to reported anthropogenic underwater noise effects on fish and invertebrates, including potential socio-economic impacts [FAO headquarters, 21-22 February 2019]</p>
<b>Agenda Item 11: FAO's Programme of Work in fisheries and aquaculture under the FAO Strategic Framework</b>					
70	110	The Committee reiterated its support for the BGI, and confirmed its validity as the framework for achieving tangible outcomes for the work of FAO in fisheries and aquaculture. In this respect, FAO was encouraged to integrate existing regional activities on Blue Growth into its programme of work, as well as to support the development of new regional initiatives.		X	The Blue Hope in the Mediterranean Sea project was initiated on 1 September 2018 to strengthen the capacity of Government, key institutions and stakeholders in Algeria, Tunisia and Turkey to develop and implement integrated, multisectoral tools and investment programmes using the FAO Blue Growth Initiative (BGI) framework in order to make these sectors more productive and sustainable, the associated value chains more efficient and inclusive, and to reduce rural poverty. Consultations with key stakeholders as well as training sessions were organized at different dates. Three project investment proposals have been produced for one country and are under review. Collecting data and information needed to draft other local integrated investment plans is at an advanced stage in two other countries.
71	111	The Committee welcomed the engagement of FAO in BGIs and noted its expanding work in oceans. It emphasized the need to maintain the priority of traditional work in support of sustainable global fisheries and aquaculture management.		X	Traditional work in support of sustainable global fisheries and aquaculture management is very much complementary to the BGI and continues to be prioritized as an integral part of the BGI
72	112	The Committee endorsed the priority areas of work for 2018–2019 noting the importance of the work of FAO in support of achieving the SDGs, especially SDG 14.		X	In general, NFI is aligning its programmes with the various SDGs, including SDG14. As custodian agency of four indicators under SDG14, FAO provides support to members on methodological issues, reporting and implementation.
73	113	The Committee requested the FAO Secretariat to		X	During the period, FAO has strengthened the inclusion of climate-related and other global and/or sector-

		take into account climate-related and other global and/or sector-specific developments and trends, as well as the recommendations of the FAO Regional Conferences concerning fisheries and aquaculture, in the implementation of its Programme of Work and Budget.				specific developments and trends, as well as the relevant recommendations of the FAO Regional Conferences, in the implementation of its Programme of Work and Budget. This includes a number of activities and projects, publications as well as the programme and recommendations of the FAO International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability: Strengthening the Science-Policy Nexus in 2019.
74	114	The Committee recommended that the FAO Programme of Work 2018-2019 should pay particular attention to the negative impact of climate change and natural disasters on SIDS in order to improve fisheries and aquaculture in line with SDG 14 and the 2030 Sustainable Agenda.	X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support for SIDS to implement climate change adaptation measures using the FAO Climate Change Adaptation Toolbox (<a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ca7229en/ca7229en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ca7229en/ca7229en.pdf</a>)</li> <li>- E-learning Fisheries &amp; Aquaculture response to Emergencies (FARE) course, training of trainers course.</li> <li>- Methods and tools for climate change adaptation in fisheries and aquaculture</li> <li>- Impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture (Ch. 25) <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/i9705en/i9705en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/i9705en/i9705en.pdf</a></li> </ul>
75	115	The Committee encouraged FAO to continue to collaborate with other international organizations, RFBs and RFMOs, to advocate the positive contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to sustainable development, and avoid the duplication of efforts.	X	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collaboration strengthened with Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), Conférence Ministérielle sur la Coopération entre les Etats Africains Riverains de l'Océan Atlantique (COMHAFAT), COPPESAALC, RECOFI, SWIOFC, Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC), Centre for Blue Governance (University of Portsmouth), and Central Arctic Ocean Fishery Agreement.</li> <li>- GFCM, on behalf of FAO, signed a MoU with North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) in 2020 with a view to strengthen cooperation between these two organizations, particularly in connection with matters related to Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and the fight against IUU fishing.</li> </ul>
76	116	The Committee emphasized the value of the technical competence of FAO on fisheries and aquaculture, and stressed the importance of maintaining and further strengthening that capacity.	X			The reach of FAO's technical competence on fisheries and aquaculture has been further strengthened and expanded through improved inclusion in cross-cutting activities on food security and nutrition, gender, resource management, biodiversity and trade. This includes both internal and external activities, as well as ensuring broad and science focused agendas of the FAO International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability and the planned Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium +20, as well as strengthened collaboration with partners in academia as well as

					agencies such as WTO, OECD, Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), WHO, ILO etc.
77	117	The Committee reiterated the importance of the core function of FAO in collecting, analysing and disseminating statistics on fisheries and aquaculture, including gender disaggregated data when possible, to inform the policies and plans of Members towards the attainment of the SDGs.		X	FAO continued to maintain and disseminate statistics on six typologies of fishery and aquaculture statistics (employment, fleet, capture production, aquaculture production, commodities production and trade, food balance sheets), with 12 datasets at global and regional level updated and disseminated. The effort to disaggregate gender statistics in fishers and fish farmers employment dataset has been pursued in close liaison with Member countries.
78	118	Members requested FAO to maintain a strong presence and visibility at field-level with concrete activities supporting compliance with international agreements and translation of technical guidelines into national and regional policies and plans, in addition to its normative work to set standards and advocate policies and practices for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development.		X	FAO GLOBEFISH continued its efforts to focus on information sharing and increasing the dissemination of market and compliance issues. Closer cooperation with the FISH INFO Network and FAO Liaison Offices was implemented. New publications and information on compliance were published online. Publications and information are being translated into more languages. To better disseminate best practices and information, including how to facilitate compliance, closer cooperation with OECD and ILO was established. Joint events and ongoing discussions with United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNEP, WTO and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) are being carried out focusing on increasing the coverage of information being shared, allowing a more comprehensive approach towards compliance and opportunities. Additional products are being developed to support compliance, facilitate and enhance international trade on fish and fish products, and create closer links with businesses, including virtual capacity-building activities and virtual business roundtables.
79	119	The Committee urged FAO to promote best practices through South-South and triangular cooperation in the fisheries sector in order to enhance food security and nutrition.		X	<p>- On 27 June 2019, the first Triangular Cooperation Project was signed within the FAO-China South-South Cooperation (SSC) Programme, between FAO, the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The project aims to strengthen aquaculture production and value chain development in Ethiopia.</p> <p>- Develop aquaculture chain to enhance food security in Balkan region.</p>
80	120	The Committee encouraged further cooperation between FAO, the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) agency,		X	- Support to African Union Non-State Actor platforms provided. - Inclusion of African Union Development Agency, Regional Fishery Bodies and staff of government institutions in workshops to provide advice, steer development of knowledge and guidance about appropriate tenure, access and user rights as

		AU-IBAR, the African Regional Fisheries Bodies and National Fisheries Institutions to support implementation of the 2018-2019 FAO Programme of Work as well as implementation of regional frameworks and reform strategies in the field of fisheries and aquaculture.	X	X	<p>called for in the African Union Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa.</p> <p>- Nepad and African Union Inter-African Bureau of Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) supported and participated in a meeting of the FAO Worldfish SADC EAC joint platform on AqGR management and conservation in April 2019 (GCM). Further meetings are planned.</p> <p>- AU-IBAR supported and participated in the Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture/GSA in Bamako in 2019 as part of Committee on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa (CIFAA)</p>
<b>Agenda Item 12: Multiyear Programme of Work (MYPOW) of the Committee</b>					
81	122	The Committee requested the insertion of, and strongly urged adherence to the following indicator, “All COFI documents, including SOFIA, are to be made available in all FAO languages at least four weeks before the session commences”, in paragraph 17 of the draft MYPOW 2018–2021.	X	X	<p>- The deadline of preparation of COFI documents was set as the end of March 2020 in the Department in order to allocate a full month for clearance in the Organization prior to translation. However, due to the evolving situation caused by Coronavirus, the overall process had to be adjusted.</p> <p>- The first COFI 34 working paper (COFI/2020/10) was made available on the relevant website on 05 February 2020, 21 days behind the deadline requested, namely six months prior to the Session of COFI 34.</p>
82	123	The Committee requested the Secretariat to explore the possibility of integrating a roadmap, covering a period of at least three COFI sessions, in future MYPOW’s.		X	The Secretary of COFI intends to explain in the Session when he introduces the MYPOW 2018-2021 about the agenda including prospects for the future.
<b>Agenda Item 14: Other matters</b>					
<b>Agenda Item 14-2: Any other matters</b>					
83	126	The Committee welcomed the report from the Republic of Korea on the progress of the pilot programme for the World Fisheries University. It noted that a number of Members expressed their strong support for the initiative and called for continued cooperation between FAO and the Republic of Korea to make progress on a joint agreement, as part of the		X	FAO World Fisheries University pilot programme MOU between FAO and the Republic of Korea signed (14/05/2019), 30 candidates selected for 18-month pilot Master’s degree programme starting March 2020.

		agreed step-by-step approach.			
84	127	The Committee also noted that the Republic of Korea was working closely with FAO with the aim to finalize and sign a host country agreement for a partnership and liaison office in the Republic of Korea, which would allow the signing of an MoU between FAO and the Republic of Korea for the Pilot Partnership Programme for the World Fisheries University, and requested to be kept informed of the next steps and their implications.	X		Host country agreement for FAO's partnership and liaison office in the Republic of Korea was co-signed in March 2019, and the office opening ceremony held 13 May 2019.
85	128	The Committee requested the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the Bureau, and mindful of the rules of procedure for establishing subsidiary bodies, to develop a proposal for the possible establishment of a new sub-committee on fisheries management, to be submitted for the consideration of Members at the next session of COFI. The Committee underlined that the proposal should elaborate on all relevant aspects, including financial and administrative implications and terms of reference for such a sub-committee, including identifying ways to achieve efficiencies and avoid duplication with other COFI sub-committees. The Committee noted that such a sub-committee		X	The Joint Task Force for Investigation of the Proposal to Establish a New Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (JTF) between the Bureau and the Secretariat was established. The JTF organized three meetings and the relevant document, COFI/2020/10 was prepared based on the discussion in the JTF and the Bureau Meetings. The document was made available on the COFI website on 05 February 2020.

		could include a standing agenda item on sustainable small-scale fisheries. The document should be available at least six months prior to the thirty-fourth session of COFI.				
Agenda item 15: Date and place of the next Session						
86	129	The Committee agreed that the 34th session of COFI will be held in Rome in the third quarter of 2020. The exact date would be determined by the Director-General in consultation with the COFI Bureau, for presentation to the next FAO Council in December 2018 and the 41st FAO Conference in 2019.		X		The date of the 34th Session of COFI was determined from 13 to 17 July 2020, but then postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. From 14 to 16 July 2020, during the week COFI 34 was originally scheduled, NFI organized “Virtual Dialogues on the Path for COFI 34” featuring six virtual webinars. In July 2020, the 164th Session of the FAO Council approved the new dates for the 34th Session of COFI as 1-5 February 2021.