



# Legal Office

## Fisheries and aquaculture

The Legal Office advises on the development of international legal and non-binding instruments for fisheries and aquaculture, and assists in their subsequent implementation at national level.

One of the most important international instruments is the FAO **Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries**. The Code is the reference instrument for sustainable use and conservation of aquatic resources and sets globally accepted standards for capture fisheries and aquaculture. The Legal Office provided legal advice in the development of the Code and continue to do so in the development of related instruments. The Legal Office assists FAO members in the implementation of the Code in national legislation and policies, where the Code serves as a checklist to ensure that national legislation is comprehensive. Through consultation of stakeholders and capacity-building, the Legal Office ensures that national legislation for fisheries and aquaculture responds to the needs of our member states.

Other legal instruments on fisheries and aquaculture in which the Legal Office has been involved:



**Agreement** on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (2009)

**Agreement** to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas (1993)

**International Plan of Action** to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (2001)

**International Guidelines** on Bycatch Management and reduction of Discards contained therein (2011)

**Technical Guidelines** on Aquaculture Certification (2010)

**International Guidelines** for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas (2008)

Organizational Result C01  
Members and other stakeholders have improved formulation of policies and standards that facilitate the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and other international instruments, as well as response to emerging issues