Committee on Fisheries

Thirtieth Session

Rome, Italy, 9-13 July 2012

Follow-up to the Recommendations of the Twenty-ninth Session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, Italy, 31 January - 4 February 2011

Executive Summary

At its Twenty-ninth Session in 2011, COFI made a number of recommendations to the Secretariat and Members. This informational document summarizes actions taken by the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, in collaboration with Members and relevant agencies, to address the principal recommendations directed to the Secretariat.

In the attached table, the “Para” coheres with the paragraph number of the report of the Twenty-ninth Session of COFI (COFI/2012/Inf.6)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
<th>Para</th>
<th>Actions Taken</th>
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|     | **Agenda item 4**  <br>Progress in the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the related instruments |      | **i**  <br>Agreed that additional efforts were required to broaden and deepen the implementation the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) and its associated instruments  <br>- Continued to promote the implementation of the Code and related instruments so as to give full effect to the Code including organization of a Regional Policy and Planning Workshop on the implementation of the Code in the Caribbean in Barbados, December 2011, aiming at achieving improved fisheries management and utilization in the Wider Caribbean Region.  <br>- Participated actively in developing a draft of revised System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA) under the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) and ensured as much as possible the concepts utilized in SEEA, especially on the component of fish resources, to be in line with those in the Code and UNCLOS.  

**ii**  <br>In relation to the Code's implementation:  <br>- Encouraged countries to embrace the Code and its best practices and to use them as a foundation for national policy and as a base for the revision of fisheries related legislation. (see action vii as well).  <br>- Planned a number of advocacy seminars with partners in reaction to COFI requests. The first one took place in Oslo in March 2012.  

**iii**  <br>underscored the importance of using information collected from the Code’s questionnaire to identify implementation challenges, linkages to FAO’s technical assistance programme, and to quantify and assess progress and results achieved  <br>- The international donor community is encouraged to take note of information contained in the consolidated Code responses as a means of formulated their bilateral and multilateral development assistance programmes.  <br>- In the modifications to the CCRF aquaculture questionnaire, the impact assessment of FAO’s direct assistance to the member State is considered with additional questions on FAO assistance related to Article 9.  

**iv**  <br>underlined the need for FAO to continue to promote the implementation of the international plans of action (IPOAs). In particular, the Committee recognized the threats posed to sustainable fisheries by illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and fleet overcapacity  <br>- Promotes the implementation of the IPOA-IUU and in particular urges countries to draft and revise their NPOAs-IUU. In addition, FAO seeks to foster the implementation of other instruments that support national, regional and international action against IUU fishing. |
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<th>v</th>
<th>requested FAO to prepare a report on the extent of the implementation of the 1999 FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks), and the challenges being faced by Members in implementing the instrument, for presentation to the Thirtieth Session of COFI</th>
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<tr>
<td>vi</td>
<td>Requested FAO support in capacity-building to implement the ecosystem approach to inland fisheries</td>
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<td>vii</td>
<td>The Committee stressed the need for well-targeted capacity development activities to be continued and strengthened. This should include, inter alia, technical assistance to support the implementation of the IPOAs and the EAF and EAA. Encouraged initiatives to facilitate technology transfer to developing countries and regional workshops to promote the Code’s implementation</td>
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<td>viii</td>
<td>Welcomed the positive results of the 2010 pilot test of the electronic Code questionnaire and agreed that it should be implemented for the 2012 COFI Session</td>
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<td>ix</td>
<td>Encouraged the continuation of the ongoing collaboration between FAO, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in relation to safety at sea</td>
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<td>8(j)</td>
<td>Sent a separate questionnaire on this particular IPOA and a report of the outcome is available as a reference document.</td>
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| 9 | - Convened an expert workshop in December 2011, to develop a strategy for improved assessment of inland fisheries that includes ecosystems.
- As follow-up to the workshop FAO and partners organized a special session on inland fisheries at the World Fisheries Congress in May, 2012 |
| 9 | - Carried out pilot implementation projects in different regions in order to enhance the implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries and aquaculture (EAF/EAA) with extra-budgetary funding (e.g. Norway-funded EAF Nansen and Sweden-funded Global Programme), strongly focusing on capacity building of local and national stakeholders and government institutions to develop and implement management plans within an ecosystem approach. In some case studies implementation of EAF/EAA has been addressed jointly due to the strong interactions.
- A toolbox for facilitating implementation of the EAF has been developed and available both on line and as a paper version. |
| 11 | There were a number of “teething” problems with the use of the electronic questionnaire. These problems will be reported to COFI in document (COFI/2012/3) together with options for improvement. |
| 12 | - A new safety standard for small fishing vessels, “Safety recommendations for decked fishing vessels of less than 12 metres in length and undocked fishing vessels”, has recently been completed and is in the process of being published.
- A new FAO/ILO/IMO guidelines to assist competent authorities in the implementation of voluntary instruments on the design, construction and equipment of fishing vessels of all types and sizes (Implementation Guidelines), has also been completed. The document was approved by IMO |
in 2011 and then forwarded to ILO and FAO for consideration, as appropriate, for timely publication.

- Continued assisting IMO in accelerating the entry into force of the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol with the development of a new draft Agreement on the implementation of the Protocol, which would be adopted at a diplomatic conference scheduled in South Africa, October 2012.

**Agenda item 5**

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<th>Decisions and recommendations of the 12th session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade</th>
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<td>13(b)</td>
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<td>13(d)</td>
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<td>14(a)</td>
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| x | Referred the Report of the Expert Consultation to Develop an FAO Evaluation Framework to Assess the Conformity of Public and Private Ecolabelling Schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, Rome, 24–26 November 2010, to the Thirteenth Session of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade for further guidance and follow-up action, including consideration of the need to convene a Technical Consultation on this matter |
| xi | Agreed to continue FAO collaboration with the World Trade Organization (WTO) on issues related to trade in fish and fishery products, and in particular the ongoing negotiations on fisheries subsidies |
| xii | Technical aspects related to trade and management should be considered by the FAO Expert Advisory Panel for Assessment of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) listing proposals for commercially-exploited aquatic species in accordance with the existing terms of reference; |
| xiii | FAO should initiate work to develop international best practices for the ecolabelling of fish and fishery products |

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<th>Agenda item 6</th>
<th>Decisions and recommendations of the 5th session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture</th>
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<td>xv</td>
<td>FAO should continue to provide input to improve the classification of fish and fishery products in the World Customs Organization’s Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System) and provide technical assistance to developing countries implementing new Harmonized System codes.</td>
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<td>xiv</td>
<td>- Presented, in March 2012, a joint proposal to World Customs Organization (WCO) for the revision of the codes related to agriculture, forestry and fisheries for HS2017. The modifications for fish and fishery products have the aim to further enhance the capacity of the Harmonized System (HS) to monitor the fishery trade flows. FAO is also working with United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) to modify fishery component of Central Product Classification (CPC) to introduce the same level of detail as HS2012 and separation of aquaculture and capture origins of products.</td>
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<td>xv</td>
<td>FAO should monitor and analyse the impact of international trade in fish and fishery products on food security.</td>
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<td>xvi</td>
<td>Requested FAO to study the possibility of funding under the Regular Programme the FAO Expert Advisory Panel for Assessment of CITES listing proposals for commercially-exploited aquatic species.</td>
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<td>xvi</td>
<td>- The Sub-Committee on Fish Trade emphasized that FAO work related to CITES be financed through Regular Programme Funds. While in principle this is recognized by the Council and by the Department, due to the difficult current financial situation, CITES related activities, including the Expert Advisory Panel, continue to depend on extra-budgetary funding, exclusively by Japan so far, but preferably by other Members as well in the future.</td>
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<td>xvii</td>
<td>Recommended that more emphasis should be given to FAO’s work towards the development of aquaculture in Africa, Latin America, small island developing States (SIDS) and Central Asia and the Caucasus and Near East.</td>
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<td>xvii</td>
<td>- Continued its efforts in promotion of aquaculture development in Africa and the Latin America especially through Aquaculture Network of the Americas (RAA) and Aquaculture Network of Africa (ANAF). FAO and ANAF discussed about the possibility of holding a Regional Workshop to identify capacity building needs for aquaculture data collection and monitoring in alignment with the Strategy-STA as well as a corresponding regional project.</td>
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<td>xviii</td>
<td>Recommended that in the future FAO Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) greater priority be given to the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department for its work on aquaculture</td>
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<td>xix</td>
<td>Recommended that the new reporting questionnaire on aquaculture be simplified, finalized and implemented</td>
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<td>xx</td>
<td>Recommended that FAO develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private certification schemes with the FAO aquaculture certification guidelines</td>
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<td>xxi</td>
<td>Underscored the necessity for improving biosecurity in aquaculture and strongly recommended that assistance be provided to address the two fast spreading diseases of Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome (EUS) in freshwater fish in Southern Africa and Infectious Myonecrosis Virus in shrimp in Southeast Asia</td>
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<td>xxxii</td>
<td>Appreciated the establishment of regional aquaculture networks in Latin America and Africa and recommended that assistance be provided to improve their contribution to aquaculture development in those regions</td>
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<td>- Continued supporting RAA by assisting to the initial formulation and implementation of the programme of work through UTF funding provided by Brazil as current secretariat of the network</td>
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<td>- Organized two meetings with ANAF in order to review different mechanisms for consolidation; identify modalities for strengthening partnerships; ascertain practical measures to increase member country buy-in; discuss options for assistance to ANAF; provide support in making ANAF web site functional including training on national and regional staff.</td>
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<td>- Conducted a national consultation on the establishment of a sub-regional aquaculture network in Micronesia in 2011-2012 in preparation for a regional TCP project on the establishment of Micronesia Association of Sustainable Aquaculture (MASA).</td>
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<td>- Prepared a project proposal to complement the activities of Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish) in order to develop networking mechanisms on aquaculture up-to-date information and technology; and enhance capacity development. Extra-budgetary funding is sought after for this project.</td>
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<th>Agenda item 7</th>
<th>Progress made with regard to measures against IUU fishing</th>
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<td>xxxiii</td>
<td>Requested FAO to report to the Thirtieth Session of COFI concerning progress with the implementation of its capacity-development work to support port State measures</td>
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<td>- Initiated its capacity development programme to support members to implement the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) in 2012. A comprehensive reference material on the Agreement has been developed for this purpose.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Initiated preparation of system to support data sharing and dissemination identified in the PSMA and request members to provide national contact point and a list of designated ports. FAO also plans to develop a simple information management tool to facilitate field implementation of the measure.</td>
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| xxiv | Requested FAO to form an open-ended working group or similar mechanism to draft terms of reference for the ad hoc working group envisioned in Article 21 of the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported | 33 |
|      | - Convened an open-ended technical meeting to review draft terms of reference for the ad-hoc working group referred to in Article 21 of the PSMA. The outcome of the technical meeting is contained in document (COFI/2012/8). The report of the open-ended working group is also available. |
and Unregulated Fishing

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<th>xxv</th>
<th>Welcomed the arrangements made to convene the FAO Technical Consultation on Flag State Performance in May 2011</th>
<th>34</th>
<th>- The first session of the Technical Consultation was convened as planned. The second session took place on 5-9 March 2012. Good progress was made at the resumed session but it was not possible to complete the negotiations. COFI will be requested to advise on a recommendation made by the Technical Consultation concerning further work.</th>
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<td>xxvi</td>
<td>Encouraged FAO to provide technical assistance to developing countries to support the implementation of market-related measures to combat IUU fishing</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>- Organized regional workshops to provide technical assistance to developing countries to support the implementation of market-related measures to combat IUU fishing and to inform participating countries of developments in this field.</td>
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<td>xxvii</td>
<td>Indicated that the development of the Global Record should be done in a cost-effective manner, taking advantage of existing systems and information technology (IT) platforms, where possible. To achieve efficiencies, the Committee proposed that FAO further consults with other organizations, particularly IMO, IHS-Fairplay and regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), as appropriate. Indicated its preference, to support the Global Record as a long-term initiative, for the use of FAO Regular Programme funds to the extent possible, supplemented as required, by extra-budgetary funding</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>- A modest amount of extra-budgetary funding has been provided for the Global Record and this has been committed to capacity development for countries on strengthening their national registries in preparation for the Global Record. More will take place in the near future. A Global Record website exists and a newsletter has been issued. Standardized definitions in draft form have been prepared and will be shared for comment in the near future. Implementation of Phase 1 of the Global Record has been proposed as a key MCS activity in the GEF funded project on ABNJ through the project identification framework (PIF). Work within FAO to try and leverage other systems for use by the Global Record is ongoing. - Developed the information tools and framework which provide support for other instruments, including the Port State Measures Agreement and the revised High Seas Vessel Authorization Record, and have also been used to assist the tuna regional fisheries management organizations as they move toward improved management of their vessel data. Additional development and review of the framework with data in the public domain is planned for 2012. The framework is also being explored for further applications and may have a role in the context of the Global Record.</td>
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<td>xxviii</td>
<td>Recognized that capacity development in the management of fisheries is an essential aspect to the assistance to be provided to developing countries for their participation in the Global Record</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>(See the paragraph above)</td>
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Agenda item 8  Fisheries and aquaculture in our changing
| xxix | Recommended that FAO should continue efforts to keep Members informed about the implications of climate change for fisheries and aquaculture, based on the best available scientific information and the needs of vulnerable nations and developing countries | 40(b) | - Review of CC impacts in Review of the State of World Marine Fishery Resources – FAO Technical Paper No. 569  
- Developed template for understanding vulnerabilities of aquatic and human fishery and aquaculture systems and undertook impacts, vulnerability reviews in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Pacific regions  
- Based on above reviews, five regional workshops were held to identify priority adaptation actions with stakeholders  
- Organized the APFIC workshop in May 2011" and published “The potential impact of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture in the Asian region” (RAP publication 2011/16)  
- Supported the Canary Current Commission’s Climate Change Working Group  
- Initiated Community-level vulnerability mapping and adaptation planning in Kenyan coral reef-dependent communities  
- Developed integrated monitoring and early warning systems in Nicaragua  
- Contributed to the Climate Change and Global Food Crisis Session of the Ocean : Innovation & Opportunity Symposium in Korea, September 2011  
- Participated in the International Workshop on Climate and Ocean Fisheries, Cook Islands, October 2011  
- Co-organized the 2nd International Symposium "Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans" in Korea, May 2012  
- Contributed to Chapter 7 of the 5th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)  
- Supported the development of SSF guidelines, in particular regarding vulnerabilities specific to the sector |

| xxx | Recommended that FAO should provide Members with information on possible fishing industry contributions to climate change and on | 40(d) | - Organized an Expert Workshop on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Strategies & Methods in Seafood, Rome, Italy, January 2012 and prepared for another expert workshop on mitigation potentials and transitioning |

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1 Benguela Current, Caribbean SIDS, Lake Chad Basin, Latin and Central America, Pacific SIDS, Vietnam

| xxxi | Recommended that FAO should continue and strengthen support to Members and especially developing countries, particularly in relation to adaptation, including facilitating access of these countries to UN adaptation funds for fisheries and aquaculture | 40(f) | - Adaptation project development commenced in several fisheries and aquaculture in Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, Asia and Pacific Regions such as African Great Lakes, Caribbean and Pacific SIDS, Chilean marine fisheries and aquaculture and Mekong River Basin  
- Published “The fisheries and aquaculture sector in national adaptation programmes of action: importance, vulnerabilities and priorities” (FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular. No. 1064)  
- Gap analysis of climate change and DRM policies, institutions and activities across the African continent(NFFP programme) |
| xxxii | Recommended that FAO should help to raise the profile and awareness of the role of fisheries and aquaculture regarding food security under climate change, considering that important terrestrial food sources could be seriously affected in many areas | 40(g) | - Contributed to the FAO/WB Climate Smart Agriculture activities including the CSA Sourcebook  
- Participated in the FAO/OECD Workshop on Risks and Vulnerabilities in a context of climate change  
- Participated in the development of the FAO-Adapt Programme  
- Contributed to Rio+20 Green Economy inputs  
- Contributed to IAEA Expert Workshop on identifying the impacts of Ocean Acidification on Food Security (Monaco, 2011)  
- Contributed to initiatives on fisheries and climate change in the West Indian Ocean region through consultation at national and local levels |
| xxxiii | Agreed that better coordination | 41 | - Continued to support the Global Partnership on |
between UN organizations and agencies is required and encouraged FAO to improve interagency coordination and look for stronger synergies

| xxxiv | Agreed that marginalization of fisheries and aquaculture is a major problem and requested FAO to continue efforts to raise the profile of the sector, including in the preparations for the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) 17 |
| xxxv  | Noted FAO’s roadmap for fisheries, aquaculture and climate change, encouraged its further development and recommended that appropriate funding be provided |

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Climate, Fisheries and Aquaculture (PaCFA) including:
- PaCFA Programme Framework
- PaCFA partners’ climate change activities
- PaCFA 2012 meeting (during COFI)
- PaCFA 2012 COFI side event
- UN Oceans PaCFA task force
- Joint workshop and project development with PaCFA partners

- Organized a special session on African fisheries and aquaculture during the 3rd UNFCCC COP Oceans Day, Durban South Africa; presenting a Durban Fisheries Declaration
- Participated in several UNFCCC COP 17 side events, including the “FAO Climate Smart Agriculture Day”, “Ensuring Survival: Oceans, Climate, and Security” and “Ocean Acidification: The Other Half of the CO2 Problem”
- Participated in the UNFCCC LDC Expert Group (LEG) Meetings and Workshops
- Participated in UNFCCC Expert meeting on National Adaptation Plans
- Provided input into preparations for FAO Regional Conferences
- Dissemination of published resources

- Coordinated with relevant projects, such as NFFP, SmartFish, SIDA Global, etc.
- Used fisheries and aquaculture Medium-term strategy in discussions with potential partners
- Developed TCP on Adaptation of aquaculture to climate change in Central Asia and mainstreamed climate change into existing and pipeline projects

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Agenda Item 9

FAO’s Role for improved integration of fisheries and aquaculture development and management, biodiversity conservation and environmental protection

- Collaborated with CITES continuously, in particular with regard to the interpretation of the listing criteria for commercially exploited aquatic species, definition of the term “introduction from the sea”, management recommendations and identification guides for sea cucumbers, review the compliance with the recommendations on Caspian sturgeon stock assessment and TAC setting, attendance of relevant CITES meetings and comprehensive reporting to the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade on all these activities.
- Collaborated with CBD on biodiversity issues in
(b) continues its efforts to work with and strengthen RFBs; and
(c) continues to collaborate with non-governmental organizations

fisheries including discussions related to VMEs and EBSAs.
- Collaborated closely with UNEP in the implementation of the CCLME project, preparation of the second phase of the GCLME project and of the deep-sea project as part of the ABNJ programme, as well as has been a partner of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership
- Continued its collaboration with other UN agencies’ programmes, such as the ABNJ, UN-Ocean and Global Partnership for Oceans, coordinated actions related to ocean governance (RIO+ 20, LMEs, the MDGs (DESA), etc.) and supported UNDOALOS on its regular process of reporting on ocean and fisheries
- Succeeded in incorporating a dedicated chapter on fish for the first time in the OECD/FAO Agricultural Outlook 2011-2020 based on the fish projection model which has been developed and is being fully integrated with the overall food projection process.
- Worked with and strengthen RFBs, in particular through the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN), as well as collaborated with non-governmental organizations, in particular through the process of elaborating the Guidelines on SSF.

xxxvii Recommended that FAO provide support in capacity building and implementation of the International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards and ensure that the guidelines do not become barriers to international trade

50 - Provided capacity building to developing countries through GEF projects where FAO is either GEF agency or GEF co-agency. Currently, these projects amount to in excess of $43 million and address bycatch management and reduction of discards in tuna and trawl fisheries. The projects address inter alia sharks, seabirds, turtles and fish (including juveniles of target species). Additionally, capacity building on bycatch management has been enhanced through the publication of Best Practices IPOA/NPOA Seabirds1 in all FAO languages. As a precursor to capacity building, FAO has also carried out preliminary studies in individual studies on trawl bycatch in Madagascar, Nigeria, Cameroon and Guyana and carried out regional workshops in the Latin America and Caribbean region to formulate a follow up project to the successful global shrimp trawl project which concluded in 2008.

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<th>xxxviii</th>
<th>Approved the development of a new international instrument on small-scale fisheries that would draw on relevant existing instruments, complementing the Code. The Committee agreed that the new instrument should be voluntary in nature, address both inland and marine fisheries and focus on the need of developing countries. The Committee indicated some preliminary issues to be addressed in this instrument, recommending that all stakeholders should be associated, as appropriate, with its development. The Committee agreed that the new instrument should take the form of international guidelines, rather than an international plan of action or a new Code article.</th>
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<td><a href="https://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en">https://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en</a></td>
<td>- Actively supported the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), which have so far organized 12 dedicated national consultations and one regional consultation in 2011-12.</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en">https://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en</a></td>
<td>- Used the opportunity of various national and regional events to raise awareness on the guidelines development process and receive feedback from a wide range of stakeholders.</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en">https://www.fao.org/fishery/ssf/guidelines/en</a></td>
<td>- Linked up with the Too Big to Ignore Network, a broad based academic network, seeking to improve and expand understanding and research on SSF.</td>
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<td>xxxix</td>
<td>Agreed on the need to strengthen the conditions of safety at sea in particular with regard to small-scale fisheries</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.safety-for-fishermen.org/en/">https://www.safety-for-fishermen.org/en/</a></td>
<td>- Recommendations on safety at sea were prepared by the Expert Workshop in February 2012 for the Guidelines.</td>
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<td>xl</td>
<td>Agreed to the establishment and implementation of a global assistance programme along the thematic areas proposed in document COFI/2011/8</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>- Support towards small-scale fisheries is at the core of FAO’s Extra-budgetary Programme on Fisheries and Aquaculture for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security, with funding from Netherlands and Sweden through the FAO Multi-Partner Programme Support Mechanism (FMM), which has been facilitating widespread consultations for the development of the Guidelines. Additional funding is received from Korea and Norway.</td>
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Other aspects funded by the FMM within the SSF component included studies on tenure aspects in small-scale fisheries of Latin America and socio-economic assessments of African marine and inland small-scale fisheries.

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<th>Agenda item 11</th>
<th>FAO’s Programme of Work in fisheries and aquaculture</th>
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<td>xli</td>
<td>Agreed to de-emphasize the convening of the Global Conference on Fleet Capacity, without prejudice to the general work on fishing capacity</td>
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<td>xlii</td>
<td>Did not support the proposed de-emphasis of the issues related to safety at sea for fishing vessels</td>
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<td>xliii</td>
<td>Agreed to review its practices including its rules of procedure at its Thirtieth Session in 2012</td>
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<td>xlv</td>
<td>Agreed that FAO through its Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, and in particular the Assistant Director-General for Fisheries and Aquaculture, should play a proactive advocacy role about fisheries and aquaculture issues, within their respective mandates, through regular high-level, direct contacts with Members and stakeholders, especially with regard to promoting implementation of the Code and its related instruments, and proposing priority areas of work</td>
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<th>Agenda item 12</th>
<th>Any other matters</th>
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<td>xlv</td>
<td>Approved Sri Lanka’s proposal to convene an Asia Regional Ministerial Meeting entitled “Aquaculture Development for Food Security and Economic Development” and to request for FAO to be a partner in this activity, along with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA)</td>
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