



## PROSPECTUS

### INTRODUCTION

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing occurs in all capture fisheries and poses a direct and significant threat to the effective conservation and management of fish stocks. The 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing (PSMA) is a significant international development in global efforts to combat IUU fishing. The entry into force of the PSMA and its effective implementation would not only strengthen international efforts to curb IUU fishing but will, as a result, also contribute to strengthened fisheries management and governance at all levels.

In June 2014, the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) expressed its appreciation of FAO's efforts in conducting a global series of regional capacity-development workshops to prepare for the entry into force of the Agreement. COFI encouraged FAO to press ahead with the convening of the regional workshops. The area of the Mediterranean and Black Sea has been identified as one of the priority regions to benefit from such a workshop within the framework of the FAO project<sup>1</sup> funded by the Government of Norway – *Support the Effective Implementation of the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing (GLO/515/NOR)*. In this regard, it is worth noting the work carried out by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean of the FAO (GFCM) in relation to port State measures. A regional scheme for port State measures was adopted by the GFCM in 2008 by means of a recommendation binding on the 24 Contracting Parties to the Commission (rec. GFCM/32/2008/1). The GFCM is now in the process of aligning the text of this recommendation with that of the PSMA in recognition of the crucial importance of this instrument in the fight against IUU fishing in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

Nonetheless, awareness about the PSMA itself and what is expected in terms of its implementation and related costs and benefits should be raised further in support to the ratification process in the region. To date in this region, only the European Union has become party to the PSMA.

Apart from the countries in this region, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations will also be invited to participate and contribute to the delivery of the workshop.

### OUTCOME AND OUTPUTS

The workshop is organized to improve the understanding of the provisions of the PSMA, to highlight the policy, legal, institutional and operational requirements for effective implementation of the provisions, and to enhance the necessary skills of national officers in the implementation of port State measures (PSMs). It is expected that, following the workshop, countries will be better placed to strengthen and harmonize PSMs, thereby promoting enhanced social and economic development, and food security, which ultimately contribute to achieving improved fisheries conservation and management and reduced damage and stress on their related ecosystems.

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<sup>1</sup> The project is executed by the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department's Policy and Economics Branch in collaboration with the FAO Development Law Branch and with the support of FAO subregional and regional offices.

The desired outputs of the workshop include:

- enhancement of participants' awareness of the deleterious effects of IUU fishing and the benefits of developing and integrating strengthened and coordinated port State measures into existing Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) tools, including through Regional Fishery Bodies;
- increased awareness of the association of organized crime and corruption with IUU fishing, and mechanisms to purge such illicit activities;
- assurance of the comprehensive understanding of the provisions of the PSMA, existing relevant regional and international instruments, practices, requirements, standards and strategies, and their relation to participants' countries;
- identification of PSMs requirements and minimum standards at international and regional level and the degree of implementation in existing national legislation, institutions and procedures;
- identification of potential benefits of implementing PSMs at regional and national levels, including combating IUU fishing, the assurance of effective implementation of fisheries management measures of Regional Fishery Bodies, and the control of the welfare of fishing vessel crew in conformity with human rights and "decent work" conditions defined in relevant International Labour Organization Conventions;
- increased understanding of the costs and benefits of implementing the PSMA by the countries in the region;
- enhanced awareness of the potential consequences of non-ratification of the PSMA by States, when trading with States that have ratified and are implementing the Agreement;
- identification of needs and challenges for implementing PSMs at regional and national levels, including improved laws, policies, institutions, procedures/operations and capacity;
- strengthening of shared understanding of the role of good governance in implementing PSMs;
- identification of priority areas for PSM implementation in the region, with particular reference to PSMA implementation related to capacity building needs and opportunities;
- identification of possible mechanisms at regional and national level which would serve to implement PSMs and integrate them with existing MCS tools; and
- contribution to the development of guidelines and strategies for the region, including legal, policy, operational and administrative requirements.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Riparian countries of the Mediterranean and Black Sea will be invited to participate in the workshop. Experts from middle or senior management levels are expected to be nominated, with due consideration for gender balance, to attend the workshop, and should ideally have, between them, knowledge and work experience in matters related to the legal, operational and policy aspects of port

State measures. The participation of administrators, fisheries managers and fisheries inspectors involved in MCS, as well as port authority personnel, is encouraged.

Each country is welcome to designate up to three persons to participate<sup>2</sup>. In addition, officials from embassies located in Albania and senior Government officials from Albania are especially welcome to attend at least the first day of the workshop.

## **PRE-WORKSHOP WORK**

Prior to the workshop, a questionnaire will be sent to all countries to review port State measures schemes (both at the regional and national levels). The responses to the questionnaire will contribute to the workshop preparations and will be used as reference material and expanded upon during the workshop.

## **STRUCTURE OF THE WORKSHOP**

The workshop will be conducted in English. It will take place over 5 days and will be delivered by resource persons from FAO and regional and international organizations, as well as internationally recruited experts. The definite agenda will be circulated prior to the workshop; an outline of the contents of the workshop is given below.

### ***Day 1-2***

The first two days will be dedicated to presentations focusing on:

- IUU fishing in the global context and its association with organised crime and corruption;
- relevant work of FAO and other international or regional entities;
- overview of PSMs and related instruments in the global context,
- introduction to PSMs, and relevant procedures;
- relevant activities and strategies of the GFCM;
- practicalities of implementing PSMs globally;
- responses to the national questionnaire on PSMs; and
- options for implementing PSMs in the region.

### ***Day 3-4***

During the third and fourth day, the participants will examine aspects addressed in the presentations in separate working groups, with the guidance of resource persons. The working groups will engage in problem-solving exercises, using fictitious but realistic factual situations (possibly including role plays and case studies), and address legal/policy, institutional/capacity development and operational aspects of implementing the PSMA. Existing gaps or constraints for implementing minimum standards of the PSMA shall be identified at national, sub-regional and regional levels. Each working group shall draw up measures to address the gaps, priorities for actions and recommendations.

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<sup>2</sup> A maximum of two participants per country from Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) eligible countries will be supported by the project.

## **Day 5**

The consolidated results of the working groups shall be used by the workshop on the fifth day to identify regionally agreed strategies and recommendations for the implementation of PSMs. These strategies and recommendations will be included in an annex to the workshop report.

Finally, an evaluation of the workshop will be conducted.

## **WORKSHOP DOCUMENTS**

The following is a tentative list of workshop reference documents:

- the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
- Doulman, D.J. and Swan, J., A guide to the background and implementation of the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1074. Rome, FAO. 2012. 165 pp.
- the 2001 FAO International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
- the 2013 FAO Voluntary Guidelines for flag State performance
- Strategy document: Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels. The way forward. COFI/2014/SBD.2
- GFCM Recommendation REC.MCS-GFCM/32/2008/1 Regional scheme on port state measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in the GFCM area

These documents are available on-line and will be sent also to the confirmed participants.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

The participants are expected to arrive in time to participate in the event from 29 February to 4 March 2016.

Expressions of interest to attend the workshop should be addressed to FAO Rome: [Gaelle.Hermanus@fao.org](mailto:Gaelle.Hermanus@fao.org) or [Lori.Curtis@fao.org](mailto:Lori.Curtis@fao.org). Travel<sup>3</sup> of country participants will be handled by FAO (Rome). Upon confirmation of attendance, participants will be contacted by FAO for travel arrangements, accommodation and disbursement of daily subsistence allowance.

Funding is available to support the participation from ODA eligible countries.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> FAO will handle travel arrangements only for those participants supported by FAO funding.

<sup>4</sup> The list of ODA eligible countries, as of January 2015, is available here:  
[www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf)