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## EUROPEAN INLAND FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMISSION

# TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION

Mondsee, Austria, 14 – 21 June 2006

# **SUMMARY OF PROGRESS REPORT SUB-COMMISSION II - Aquaculture**

Chairperson:L. Váradi (Hungary)Vice-Chairperson:J.-P. Proteau (France)Rapporteur:P. Lengyel (Hungary)Technical Secretary:U. Barg (FAO)

This Sub-Commission includes four *ad hoc* Working Parties and an Eastern European Affairs initiative. Activities and achievements of the Sub-commission during the inter-sessional period are summarized in the followings:

## 1. Activities of the ad hoc Working Parties

## 1.1. Ad hoc Working Party on the Relationship between fish transfer and fish health

Convener: E. Hudson

No report from the convener has been received.

# 1.2. Ad hoc Working Party on Aquatic Resources Management in Aquaculture

Convener: M. Verdegem

The working party concentrated on preparations for publishing a comprehensive review of water use and re-use in aquaculture. In order for policy makers, developers and the aquaculture industry itself to make sound decisions concerning allocation of water resources for aquaculture development a comprehensive review on this issue is needed. Therefore, the working party proposes to publish a book on this issue. This book would give a comprehensive review of the present and future water use in aquaculture as well as water related constraints for further development. The book would target a broad audience, including irrigation specialists, aquaculturists, students, policy makers, administrators, water engineers and scientists involved with aquaculture development. A proposed outline is shown in the full report of the Sub-Commission. Once a publisher is identified, a special mini-symposium will be organized in the

first half of 2007. Drs Verdegem, Bosma and Verreth published a paper on "Reducing water use for animal production through aquaculture" in 2006 which includes comparisons of water use in terrestrial animal farming and aquaculture. The abstract of this paper is given in the full report of the Sub-Commission.

# 1.3. Ad hoc Working Party on Organic Fish Farming

Convener: V. Hilge

The Convener presented a paper on conventional and organic aquaculture in Europe at an Infofish Conference on "Organic aquaculture and sea farming" in 2004. The paper presents results of surveys by questionnaires on the situation of organic fish and organic fish feed production in Europe. In 2005 the convener participated in the "Thematic Conference on Organic Aquaculture in the European Union: Current Status and Prospects for the Future" and gave a presentation on "Organic Aquaculture in the World: Principles, public perception, markets and potential of organic products". At present a research project is conducted on quality changes during processing and storage of selected products of bio-trout and conventionally produced trout as a prerequisite for a manual for artisanal trout farmers. In addition, a number of feeding trials with ecofeeds of different origin for trout have been performed.

### 1.4. Ad hoc Working Party on Market Perspectives of European Freshwater Aquaculture

Convener: L. Varadi

The planned EIFAC/EC Workshop on Freshwater Aquaculture Marketing had to be postponed. However, marketing of freshwater products continues to be a very critical issue especially in Eastern Europe. EIFAC, together with FAO and the European Commission should make futher efforts to investigate the possibilities of organizing a follow up EIFAC/EC Working Party meeting on European Freshwater Aquaculture Marketing.

#### 2. Eastern European Affairs initiative

In November 2004 the Network of Aquaculture Canters in Central and Eastern Europe (NACEE) was formally established by 23 founding member institutions. The Research Institute for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Irrigation (HAKI), Szarvas, Hungary, is the coordinating institution of NACEE. NACEE is developing and promoting aquaculture cooperation with numerous organizations both within and outside the CEE region. In 2005, the by-laws and rules of procedure of the Network were adopted. Expert groups were established to work on four priority areas including sturgeon culture, carp genomics, introduction of non-conventional species into aquaculture, and aquaculture education. NACEE assisted FAO in the preparation of National Aquaculture Sector Overviews (NASO) and Prospective Analyses of Future Aquaculture Development (PAFAD) in 19 CEE countries, and in the development of a Central-Eastern European Regional Aquaculture Review Report. To date NACEE has grown into an internationally acknowledged thematic network, with 31 member institutions from 13 countries.