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**TECHNICAL CONSULTATION TO REVIEW PORT STATE
MEASURES TO COMBAT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND
UNREGULATED FISHING**

Rome, Italy, 31 August-2 September 2004

**PROGRAMMES OF ASSISTANCE TO FACILITATE HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL
STRENGTHENING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SO AS TO
PROMOTE THE FULL AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF
PORT STATE MEASURES TO COMBAT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED
AND UNREGULATED FISHING**

SUMMARY

This paper responds to a recommendation of the 2002 Expert Consultation to Review Port State Measures to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unreported Fishing that FAO elaborate and implement programmes of assistance to facilitate full and effective implementation of such measures. The paper proposes that existing FAO initiatives to combat IUU fishing be supplemented through a specific global programme. This would entail regional workshops and follow-up, in-country activities that would be provided to Members on a request basis. The paper invites the Technical Consultation to consider the merits of such assistance and, if appropriate, to provide broad guidance on its development and implementation.

RATIONALE

1. The FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU), which was adopted in 2001 and calls for the elaboration of national plans of action by 2004 contains specific provisions on the measures to be taken by port States. It also addresses measures to be implemented by all States, flag States, coastal States, and RFMOs, as well as internationally agreed market related measures, research and the special requirements of developing countries.
2. An Expert Consultation to Review Port State Measures to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing was held at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy from 4 to 6 November 2002. The Expert Consultation recommended, *inter-alia*, that FAO elaborate and implement programmes of assistance to facilitate human resource development and institutional strengthening, including legal assistance, in developing countries so as to promote the full and effective implementation of port State measures to combat IUU fishing.

OBJECTIVE

3. The general objective of the proposed port State programme is to promote and facilitate human resource development and institutional strengthening, with a view to the adoption and implementation of port State measures at the national level and a harmonized system of port State measures at the regional or sub-regional level. Such measures would include, *inter-alia*, the development of regional memoranda of understanding and the incorporation of port State measures to combat IUU fishing into domestic legislation. Some key elements to be addressed, as noted by the Expert Consultation, would comprise port access, inspection, prior notice of port access, sanctions, awareness and capacity building in port State measures and exchange of information.

SCOPE

4. The proposed programme would be global in scope; they would cover developing countries and countries in transition and would take account of existing FAO Regular and Field Programme initiatives¹ to implement the IPOA-IUU as well as of the relevant outputs of the FAO Technical Consultation to Review Progress and Promote the Full Implementation of the IPOA to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing and the IPOA for the Management of Fishing Capacity, which was held at FAO Headquarters, Rome, in June 2004.

STRUCTURE AND DELIVERY MECHANISM

5. The proposed port State programme would be delivered through a total of 15 regional workshops in addition to in-country follow-up activities, as required, aimed especially at developing countries and countries in transition in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Near East. Participants would be drawn from fisheries, shipping, legal and other appropriate backgrounds.
6. The workshops will be initiated concurrently and will be held in the first two years of the programme. They will focus on the practical aspects of developing and implementing memoranda

¹ These initiatives include: FAO regional workshops aimed at strengthening capacity in developing countries to (a) elaborate national plans of action to combat IUU fishing (NPOAs-IUU) and (b) implement more effective systems of fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance and vessel monitoring; distribution and application of the IPOA-IUU Technical Guidelines (FAO. 2002. *Implementation of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing*. FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries No. 9. FAO. Rome. 122p).

of understanding with minimum requirements for port State measures in the region or sub-region, including the elements described above, and on incorporating such measures into national legislation and facilitating cooperation between port States to that end, as appropriate. The workshops will be structured to facilitate human resource development and institutional strengthening, provide general legal assistance and identify appropriate in-country follow-up.

7. After this two-years phase, it is proposed that in-country follow-up assistance be undertaken, which will focus on further facilitating human resource development and institutional strengthening. It will take account of and complement the outputs of the workshops and include such elements as training, information exchange, awareness raising and legal assistance. This assistance will also contribute to enhance other initiatives being carried out by FAO such as development of NPOAs-IUU.

ESTIMATED COSTS AND TIMEFRAME

8. It is estimated that the minimum cost for the proposed 15 workshops and associated activities would be US\$ 1.5 million. The cost of in-country follow-up assistance is difficult to ascertain because it would be provided on a request basis, but is expected to be substantial (in excess of US\$ 10.0 million). Funds to support the programme would have to originate from extra-budgetary sources.

9. It is anticipated that the 15 workshops would be delivered within a 3-year period once funding is secured. Follow-up activities would be programmed to take place within a period of 2 to 5 years following the completion of the respective workshops.

SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE TECHNICAL CONSULTATION

10. The Technical Consultation is invited to consider the merits of, and need for, the proposed programme for assistance to facilitate human resource and institutional strengthening in developing countries and in countries in transition to promote the full and effective implementation of port State measures to combat IUU fishing. In addition the Consultation is invited to provide, as appropriate, broad guidance on how the programme should be developed and implemented.