	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación
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**WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC FISHERY COMMISSION (WECAFC)**

**FIFTEENTH SESSION**

**Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 26-28 March 2014**

**Draft Programme of Work of WECAFC (2014-2015)**

## 1. Introduction

1. The background paper on "Intersessional activities and matters", referred to the attention of the Commission (WECAFC/XV/2014/4)<sup>1</sup>, showed the progress made in the last intersessional period. The document showed that over 80 percent of the approved Programme of Work 2012-2013 was actually implemented, although sometimes to a lesser extent than was originally planned. Overall, the last Programme of Work seems to have been realistic and achievable. The main contributions to the implementation of the Commission's Programme of Work were received from FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) and FAO's regular programme. Joint activities with CFMC, NOAA, CRFM, TBF, GCFI, IGFA, IFREMER, EU and the World Bank further contributed to the implementation of a range of activities of the joint Working Groups.

2. Compared to most of the previous intersessional periods it appears that the Working Groups have done a tremendous job this period. Major achievements and substantial progress have been made. However, the large dependence on the Secretariat in terms of supporting the initiation and implementation of the activities is a remaining weakness. As has been noted many times before, the current reliance on the Secretariat (provided free-of-charge by FAO) should be reduced in favour of increased member state commitment to the Commission' work programme and its objectives.

3. FAO, although formally requested by the members at the 14<sup>th</sup> session, has not managed to carry out a full re-orientation and strategic planning process of the Commission. Funding was not available to do so. Instead, FAO supported a performance review process, following the decision by COFI (30<sup>th</sup> session) in 2012 that all RFBs should undergo a performance evaluation process. The results of the WECAFC performance review are presented in WECAFC/XV/2014/11<sup>2</sup>.

4. The WECAFC Reorientation and Strategic Planning Workshop, held in Guadeloupe, 29-30 January 2014, with generous support from the Government of France and the EU,

<sup>1</sup> The draft (as presented to the 6<sup>th</sup> SAG meeting) is available as:  
[ftp://ftp.fao.org/FI/DOCUMENT/wecafc/6th\\_sag\\_2013/5e.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/FI/DOCUMENT/wecafc/6th_sag_2013/5e.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Not yet available in January 2014

allowed the Secretariat to prepare and discuss a draft of this Programme of Work. An earlier (first) draft had been presented to the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) as WECAFC/SAG/VI/2013/6<sup>3</sup>.

## **2. Background**

5. The background to WECAFC Programme of Work has remained partly unchanged from what was reported to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> SAG sessions and to the 14<sup>th</sup> session of WECAFC. Therefore this part has been moved to Annex A.

## **3. Work programme preparation**

6. This work programme was prepared following the WECAFC Strategic Plan 2014-2020, based on the priorities expressed by the members in the on-line performance review survey, with inputs from most of the member countries as well as the SAG and WECAFC Bureau members. It was developed in a participatory manner and takes in consideration the past, ongoing and planned activities of partners and other stakeholders in the region. The work programme addresses sectoral priorities as expressed in the CCCFP, CPFs, FAO Regional Conference and other important policy and strategy documents. Moreover, the planning and implementation process has been aligned with FAO's new Strategic Framework.

7. The currently proposed work programme 2014-2015 is largely informed by the work programme 2012-2013 as approved by the 14<sup>th</sup> session of WECAFC in February 2012. It takes in consideration the objective, principles and functions of the Commission as well as the activities undertaken currently by FAO/WECAFC and partners (e.g. CRFM, CERMES, CLME, CFMC, OSPESCA, IFREMER, ACPFishII, etc) in the region and the intersessional activities (see WECAFC/XV/2014/4).

8. The activities and projects of the proposed work programme for 2014-2015 can be found in detail in Annex B.

9. This work programme is the second work programme "new style" of WECAFC. The work programme adheres to the amended "Rules of Procedure of the Commission" as prepared for and endorsed by the 14<sup>th</sup> session of WECAFC.

10. The Work Programme adopts from the WECAFC Strategic Plan 2014-2020 the vision, goal and mission as well as its guiding principles, considerations and focus areas.

## **4. Responsibilities**

11. In terms of responsibilities for the implementation of the 2014 -2015 Work Programme can be found in the proposed Rules of Procedure of the Commission. The functions and duties of the chairpersons, executive committee, technical advisory committee, national focal points and the secretariat are all laid out in the Rules of Procedure.

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<sup>3</sup> This document is available at: [ftp://ftp.fao.org/FILE/DOCUMENT/wecafc/6th\\_sag\\_2013/6e.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/FILE/DOCUMENT/wecafc/6th_sag_2013/6e.pdf)

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## **5. Coordination and management aspects**

### **5.1. *Planning, coordination and management***

12. The planning, coordination and direction of the work programme are core functions that are the responsibility of the Secretariat and Executive Committee (former Bureau), which will work closely together with the Technical Advisory Committee –TAC (former SAG) and with the National Focal Points.

### **5.2. *National level implementation arrangements***

13. National level implementation of the activities and projects will be a major responsibility of the National Focal Points and their respective organizations designated by the member governments. They will provide national level coordination of the work programme (i.e. the activities and projects under the work programme) and, as needed, the manpower and material resources for such coordination function. It is anticipated that a national coordinator should be designated for each project.

### **5.3. *(Sub)Regional and national centres***

14. A proven structure for a regional cooperative arrangement is one that comprises a few (two or three) (sub)regional centres that have responsibilities for certain species and production systems; national centres that will adapt for national application the results of the work from the (sub)regional centres. These (sub)regional centres conduct research, training and information dissemination at the regional level as well as in the countries where they are located, while the national centres perform the adaptation work and extension activities to promote the technology at the national level. The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) of the University of the West Indies (UWI) can be regarded as an example of a sub-regional centre in terms of fisheries governance issues. Other centres may need to be identified. The national centres will be selected by the National Focal Points, while (sub-) regional centers will be determined by the Commission or its TAC. All centres as well as the national focal points and their respective organizations are engaged in information exchange.

### **5.4. *Personnel for work programme development, management and implementation***

15. The technical expertise to develop, organize and implement the programme, as well as to provide specialist advice and inputs to the component activities, will come from a number of sources, and a combination of schemes.

#### ***Secretariat staff***

16. The basic technical expertise for project development and a coordination mechanism will be provided by the Secretariat personnel.

17. The secretariat of the Commission will consist for the period 2014-15 of one Secretary (part-time - FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Officer serving the Caribbean region – as in-kind contribution by FAO) and a full-time bi-lingual secretarial staff/administrative staff. The position of the bi/tri-lingual secretarial staff will be partly supported by the FAO SLC Regular Programme and partly by national and regional level projects.

18. National staff supported by the members of the Commission could be seconded to the Secretariat at any time for specific technical tasks and or general secretariat support

tasks. A member or collaborating national centre or agency can assign, for a short period, staff to work at the Secretariat on certain aspects of a project being jointly implemented by the agency and the regional body. The honorarium and expenses made by these national staff will be covered by the member of the commission seconding these staff.

19. Through special linkages with Universities and other institutions, MSc students, post-graduate students and/or volunteers, having the required expertise, may also be accommodated within the Secretariat. No honorarium will be paid to students and volunteers, but expenses made in relation to the work for a project or for the secretariat will be paid by the respective project or the FAO SLC Regular budget. In the 2012 -2013 biennium two Dutch student volunteers have worked at the Secretariat. The Secretariat welcomes offers for volunteers from any of the WECAFC member states.

### **TAC**

20. Members will, through the TAC, support the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the projects and activities under the work programme. The exact Terms of Reference (TORs) of the TAC can be found in the proposed Rules of Procedure of the Commission. FAO's WECAFC budget covers the participation of 5 TAC members in TAC activities.

21. The expenses made in relation to the attendance of others in TAC meetings will be covered by the Members of the Commission themselves. The costs involved in participation of TAC members in projects, technical meetings and activities will be covered by either the project budget or the respective member of the commission.

### ***Staff of (sub)regional and national centres***

22. The staff of centers will provide specialist technical inputs in formulating and implementing at the regional and national levels projects and activities under the work programme. Experts of the centres can take part in disciplinary or multidisciplinary or systems oriented research, training and information development activities.

### ***Project staff***

23. These are specialists hired on a project basis either in the field or assigned to the Secretariat. They possess specialist skills and experience needed to formulate and/or execute specific projects. The specialists can be hired (depending on their skills, qualifications and project budget) under the FAO partnership programmes such as TCDC (Technical Cooperation between Developing Countries) and TCCT (Technical cooperation between Countries in Transition) or as national consultants. Remuneration of the project staff is incorporated in the project budget and is paid from the proceeds received from implementation of a project.

### ***Junior technical staff***

24. Junior technical staff can be assigned to the WECAF Commission and will be fully supported by collaborating agencies/governments to work either at the Secretariat or in specific projects that may be located elsewhere. Their services are for a short period, and meant to supplement available secretariat or project expertise. Their participation in the work programme is meant to also improve their own technical expertise for the benefit of their sponsor institutions or themselves.

### **Subsidiary bodies**

25. Apart from the TAC, other subsidiary bodies can be established on request of the Commission. These subsidiary bodies can have different forms and titles. Subsidiary bodies can be in the form the (ad-hoc) Working Groups sub-Commissions or Committees. These subsidiary bodies will comprise experts organized for a specific task, activity or project under the Work Programme. They are groups of technical experts on the various disciplines required to execute the task or project. The subsidiary bodies will (in general) be staffed by experts from focal organizations, centres and collaborating agencies. A Subsidiary body can be formed to tackle a certain special activity that requires multidisciplinary expertise such as development of policy guidelines, development of best management practices, development of training materials and courses, etc. Subsidiary bodies will respond to specific requests from the TAC and function in support of the work programme implementation.

26. Presently there are 7 Working Groups of which most are active and one Sub-Committee. The latter is the Sub-Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Lesser Antilles, which has been dormant since 1995.

27. Many of the current Working Groups have been established as partnerships with sub-regional regional fishery bodies, such as CRFM, OSPESCA and CFMC, while other Working Groups work closely with research institutions (CERMES, IFREMER, etc) or NGOs (e.g. TBF, IGFA).

## **6. Funding and related arrangements**

28. Article VI Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) under the FAO Constitution, receive as in-kind contribution from FAO a part-time secretary. Moreover, FAO's regular programme budget finances the organization of regular sessions of the Commission. Nevertheless, FAO regular Programme funding is not supposed to be used to finance travel and accommodation of delegates of members to the sessions of the Commission. The regular programme budget available at FAO in support of the WECAF Commission has been rather stable for the past five-six years, at around USD 160 000 – 170 000 per year, of which a large part is provided as staff inputs, thus in-kind.

For the 2014 – 2015 biennium the following budget, which we will call the administrative budget, is indicated in below table:

<b>Administrative Budget</b>	<b>2014 in US\$</b>	<b>2015 in US\$</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b><i>Professional staff</i></b>			
None	0	0	Part-time secretary provided by FAO;
<b><i>Administrative support</i></b>			
Bi/tri-lingual secretary/administrative support to Secretariat (12 months annually)	12000	12000	50% of salary covered by SLC Regular Programme – remaining to come from projects
<b><i>Activities</i></b>			<b><i>(General operational)</i></b>

Equipment purchase for secretariat	0	0	computer, printer, furniture, etc
Duty travel of secretariat	5000	5000	Technical, administrative and legal assistance
Travel and accommodation of delegates to Commission meetings	15000		Exceptional support to facilitate attendance by members in need in view of revival of the Commission (since 2008)
Preparation and publication of 15 <sup>th</sup> session meeting report	15000		Translation, lay-out, publication and dissemination
Organization costs of 15 <sup>th</sup> session of the Commission meetings and TAC meetings	15000	10000	These funds will support the hosts of these meetings in the organization
Legal assistance on the Rules of Procedure and options for reorientation	10000		
Translation services in support of 15 <sup>th</sup> session of the Commission	18000		The interpretation services at the session are covered by the Government of Trinidad
Training of Secretariat	0	0	
<b>Activities</b>			<b>(Technical)</b>
Support to work programme implementation	10000	13000	in support of work on priorities of the Commission
Consultancies for work programme implementation	0	0	in support of work on priorities of the Commission (only possible under projects)
<b>Total Administrative budget</b>	<b>100 000</b>	<b>40 000</b>	

29. The indicative administrative budget is presented in detail for 2 years (2014 and 2015). It covers planning, administration, coordination and management costs of the Commission. It should be noted however that a large part of the preparatory work (e.g. drafting of background papers and other research and translation of background documentation for the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission has been carried out under the 2012- 2013 SLC Regular Programme Budget. If these costs would have been added to the preparation costs of the 15<sup>th</sup> session, it would have become clear that the organization of one regular session meeting carries a budget of approximately 80 000 USD.

30. Moreover, the FAO Regular Programme provides for (in-kind) contribution to the Secretariat in terms of 50% of the SLC Fishery and Aquaculture Officer (P4 level) staff time, which should be valued at 50 000 USD per year and the office, furniture and administrative support infrastructure, which can be valued at 10 -20 000 USD per year. FAO Headquarters technical assistance to the Commission can be valued at an average of 40 000 USD per year, although some fluctuation could be noticed in the support provided in recent years. In total, the FAO contribution to the WECAF Commission can be valued between 160 and 170 000 USD per year.

31. It is clear that the above FAO Contributions are insufficient to carry forward a proper WECAFC work programme in the region. Financial resources in support of the Commission and its work, shall therefore not only come from FAO. The members of the Commission are required to assist in kind and through funding of the activities and projects under its work programme. Donations and other forms of assistance received from non-member countries, organizations, individuals and other sources are also welcomed.

32. The Secretariat and Executive Committee will assist the Commission and the individual members and observers in the development of partnerships with donors to adopt more cohesive approaches and procedures to support the work programme of the commission; a work programme that addresses the most urgent needs of the members.

33. The administrative and operational activities of the Commission will require supported from the FAO Regular Programme and donors. FAO Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) support is not accessible for the work of the Commission, but individual members may request assistance in fisheries and aquaculture and link it with ongoing WECAFC activities.

## **7. Implementation of the technical work programme**

34. The technical work programme will largely rely on extra-budgetary funding of projects and activities. In the budget table below the budget requirements as well as the extra-budgetary resources already made available (by FAO and donors) are shown on a project base. It is clear that a large part of the projects and activities under these projects remain unfunded for moment.

35. Recognizing that extra-budgetary assistance from member countries and other donors will be required, it should be noted that [wherever appropriate and applicable] activities will be implemented through technical cooperation in line with the objectives of cost-effectiveness and regional self-reliance in programme implementation.

36. Support to the WECAFC Work Programme in 2014-2015 has been secured for a variety of activities. Some major upcoming activities include:

- FAO/WECAFC Workshop on Implementing the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 24 – 28 March 2014 (Organized with Trust fund support of USD 90 000 from the Government of Norway)
- FAO-WECAFC-INFOPECA workshop on lionfish and sea cucumber in the Caribbean – the roadmap to sustainable exploitation and marketing, Cuba, April 2014 (Organized with funding from FAO Headquarters Regular Programme of USD 65 000)
- FAO/WECAFC Technical Workshop on Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas Areas of the Western Central Atlantic, Barbados, 7-9 October 2014 (organized with Trust Fund support of USD 80 000 from the Government of Japan)
- FAO/WECAFC Training workshop for fisherfolk and fisheries managers on marine protected area (MPA) management, 3-5 November, Barbados (organized with Trust Fund support of USD 50 000 from the Government of Japan)
- FAO/WECAFC/CERMES Workshop on Strengthening organizations and collective action in fisheries: Towards the formulation of a capacity development programme, Barbados, 10-13 November 2014 (Organized with funding of USD 45 000 from FAO headquarters Regular programme and USD 6 000 from FAO SLC)

## **8. Linkages with other regional organizations**

37. Experiences, lessons, technology, information as well as expertise of other regional and international organizations and programmes (such as CFMC, OSPESCA, CRFM, OECS, CLME, ACPFishII, NOAA, NAFO, ICCAT, ICES, and others) will likely be valuable for the Commission and the implementation of its work programme, as was the case in the 2012 -2013 biennium. Linkages and collaboration with these organizations and programmes will be sought wherever possible. An information exchange mechanism, in line with the relevant activity, will be established and strengthened by the Secretariat to facilitate these linkages and collaboration. The joint working Groups established at the 14<sup>th</sup> session are examples of well-functional partnerships in support of the work of WECAFC. Similarly the series of joint workshops with CRFM held in Jamaica in December 2012 were beneficial to the membership of both institutions.

38. It is foreseen to enter into Memoranda of Understanding with partner organizations in the coming years to develop these into long-term partnerships.

## **9. Participation in international events and forums**

39. In order to support the interests of the members of the Commission in global forums, such as the FAO Committee on Fisheries and its subcommittees on Aquaculture and Trade, the Secretariat will advise the National Focal Points of such events and facilitate participation of members in these events, where possible. Development of joint statements by the members for use in these global forums will be assisted by the Secretariat (if required).

## **10. Suggested Action by the Commission**

40. The Commission is invited to review, amend as appropriate, and endorse the draft programme of work of WECAFC (2014 -2015)



## **ANNEX A - Background**

It is recognized that in the last decade most of the WECAFC activities were carried out with the financial support of the FAO Regular Programme Budget and extra-budgetary projects (see WECAFC/SAG/VI/2013/5 and WECAFC/XV/2014/4). Additional support was mainly forthcoming from the United States (through the Department of State and the Caribbean Fishery Management Council), the CLME project and France, through IFREMER.

### *WECAFC and partners*

In view of this historical situation and at the same time acknowledging the ongoing trends in inter-agency/ inter-institutional and inter-project collaboration in the Caribbean region, it is foreseen that WECAFC will contribute to projects and activities of partners in the region (e.g. CRFM, CFMC, OSPESCA, OECS, ACS, CERMES, IFREMER, CLME, NOAA, UNEP, UNDP, ACPFishII, etc) and vice-versa.

By doing so, it is understood that each agency, institution and project, has its own work programme or strategic plan, and that collaboration with the other partners is sought for activities that appear in the programme or plan of two or more agencies, institutions and projects. In this way, certain activities will be generally led by one stakeholder (partner) and the other partners will team-up. Duplication of efforts and overlap of activities, causing wasting of limited resources, will be avoided by good communication between the secretariats and managers active in fisheries and related sectors in the region. They will meet frequently in different fora, meetings and workshops to exchange information and further collaboration.

WECAFC is aware that its strengths include, amongst others, its membership range and coverage, its mandate, the technical back-up and sustainable (although limited) funding by FAO, its political convening power, and its capability to provide a valuable linkage between science and management. It is therefore important that WECAFC capitalizes on its specific strengths and collaborates with proper partners in the areas where the Commission is weaker and allowing those partners to take a technical lead in these areas. The Commission can do so through joint projects, technical support and information exchange, including facilitating the flows of information from FAO at global level to the region and vice-versa.

### *FAO and regional governance issues*

Being a Commission, established under the FAO Constitution, for which FAO provides the Secretariat, it is required from the Commission to report to FAO on a technical level to the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department and the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), consisting of FAO members. In addition, the Commission is expected to report to the FAO Regional Conference.

The 33rd FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in May 2014 in Santiago, Chile, and will determine FAO's regional priorities for the biennium 2014 -2015. The Regional Conference will provide an opportunity to bring the work of WECAFC to the attention of agriculture and fisheries ministers of the region and pass to them the conclusions and recommendations from the 15th session of WECAFC (Port of Spain, 24-28 March 2014), together with the outcome of the Thirteenth Session of the Commission of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Latin America and the Caribbean (COPESCAALC), and the priorities received from the members of the Network of Aquaculture of the Americas (RAA).

The Regional Conference provides, as such, the possibility to raise the profile and importance of fisheries within the region and increase funding options.

Currently the priority areas (in all sectors) set by the FAO Regional Conference for this region include the following:

- 1) Food and nutrition security
- 2) Plant, animal health (including transboundary diseases) and food safety
- 3) Climate change (mitigation and adaptation) and sustainability of agriculture and natural resources (including biodiversity)
- 4) Support to family farming and rural development
- 5) Enhanced institutional capacities, policy formulation and investment
- 6) Addressing Gender and youth issues

WECAFC has contributed mainly to priority areas 1, 3 and 5 in this intersessional period.

As FAO has undergone a reform process in recent years, the priorities at global level have changed. Currently the 5 Strategic Objectives of FAO are the following:

1. *Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.*
2. *Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner.*
3. *Reduce rural poverty.*
4. *Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels.*
5. *Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.*

It is clear that the objective and work of WECAFC contributes most to FAO's strategic objective no.2; however, the activities of the commission will also directly or indirectly contribute to FAO's other Strategic Objectives. The extent of this contribution will largely depend on the Programme of Work determined by the members.

Moreover, the Country Programming Framework (CPF) process<sup>4</sup>, in which FAO has engaged with the national Governments in the region, is an important priority setting mechanism for FAO (and indirectly also WECAFC). The CPF aims to strengthen the effectiveness, impact, and visibility of FAO assistance to Member countries through a strategic and coherent country programme, developed in close consultation with the Government and other national stakeholders, fully aligned with the national programming cycle and UN programming process, and pursuing the achievement of national development objectives and MDGs within the FAO Strategic Framework. The CPF represents FAO's corporate response to Member countries assistance needs, including disaster risk reduction and preparedness, recovery and rehabilitation and provides FAO partners (Government, national stakeholders, external development partners) with a comprehensive vision of the nature and scope of FAO's medium-term (from 4 to 5 years) assistance strategy in a country and an estimate of the resource requirements for its implementation.

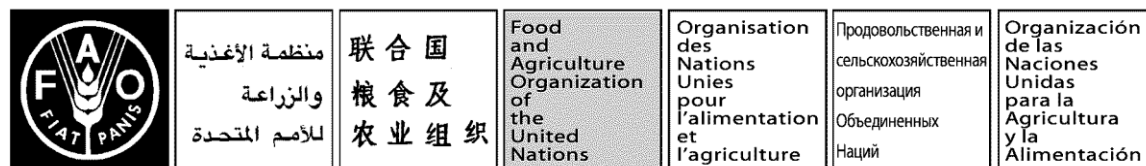
Apart from the FAO governance aspects, there have been some major governance initiatives in fisheries at regional level in the WECAFC mandate area. For instance, the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP), which draft agreement was approved by the Fourth Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) Ministerial Council (held in St. Johns, Antigua in May 2011) and the St. Lucia "Declaration on illegal,

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<sup>4</sup> More information on the CPFs can be found at:

<ftp://ftp.fao.org/TC/TCA/NMTPF/NMTPF%20guidelines/FactSheetAboutCPF.pdf>

unreported and unregulated fishing”, approved by the CRFM Ministerial Council meeting in July 2010, as well as the CRFM –OSPESCA Belize Declaration and Joint Action Plan in 2012. Through these initiatives the CARICOM countries have made an important effort towards transboundary regional collaboration in fisheries and aquaculture. WECAFC should recognize and internalize these initiatives to improve governance of the sector in the CARICOM countries, and similar initiatives in the Central American region.



## ANNEX B Draft WECAFC Work Programme for the period 2014 -2015

**Technical Focus Area 1. Improve regional fisheries governance**

**Goal:** Improved regional governance of the marine fisheries and aquaculture sector for more effective conservation, management and development and sustainable use of the living marine resources in the area of competence of WECAFC.

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement foreseen	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	Partners
1.1 Dissemination of the latest information on the CCRF and related instruments and guidelines	Recommendations for improvement and harmonization of legal frameworks for fisheries and aquaculture in the region	Emails and letters to members, making them aware of guidelines and instruments  Response to FAO CCRF monitoring questionnaire	2014 -2015	no	5 000	FAO SLC (secured)	
1.2 Promotion of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) and Aquaculture (EAA)	EAF and EAA incorporated in national policies and strategies of WECAFC members  EAF based fisheries management and conservation plans developed	National policy and strategy documents  Fisheries management plans	2014 -2015		400 000	CLME+ FAO TCP Member countries	CLME, OSPESCA, CRFM, UWI, CANARI
1.3 Provision of	Recommendations for	Mission reports of	2014 -2015	Not applicable;	300 000	FAO TCP	CRFM, OSPESCA,

fisheries legal and policy advice in line with the CCRF to WECAFC members	changes in the policies, strategies, laws and regulations	consultants National strategies, laws and regulations		submission for information in 2015		GEF World bank Member countries	OECS
1.4 Facilitate the regional application of the 2008 International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas	Recommendations from the FAO/WECAFC Technical Workshop on Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas Areas of the Western Central Atlantic, scheduled to be held in Barbados, 7-9 October 2014  Effective functioning of WECAFC WG on deep sea fisheries in the high seas	Report from the Technical Workshop  WECAFC resolution on deep sea fisheries in the high seas fisheries	2014	Yes, in 2016	100 000	Government of Japan (via a Japan-FAO global trust fund)  Member countries	UNEP
1.5 Support the national level application of the 2010 FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards by WECAFC members	GEF project: “Sustainable management of bycatch in Latin America and Caribbean trawl fisheries (REBYC-II LAC)” realizes its objectives	Adoption of bycatch management by REBYC II LAC countries: Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago  Recommendations for the WECAFC membership	2014-2015	Yes, in 2016	5.8 million	GEF FAO Member countries	
1.6 Promote the ratification and implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) among WECAFC	Capacity built among at least 8 WECAFC members for implementation of the PSMA in the WECAFC region	Report and capacity building materials from a regional workshop to build capacity for implementation of the PSMA	2014	Yes, in 2016	60 000	FAO NOAA PEW	CRFM, OSPESCA

members							
1.7 Support to the application of the International guidelines on small scale fisheries	<p>Organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Small Scale Fisheries (SSF) Congress, Merida, Mexico, 21-25 September 2014 supported and SSF guidelines disseminated</p> <p>Implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food promoted in the region</p>	<p>Recommendations and other outcomes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Small Scale Fisheries (SSF) Congress, Merida, Mexico, 21-25 September 2014.</p> <p>WECAFC members adopt the SSF and Tenure guidelines</p>	2014 -2015	<p>Endorsement by the 16<sup>th</sup> session</p> <p>Resolution in support of implementation of the guidelines in the region</p>	30 000	<p>FAO</p> <p>Too Big To Ignore (TBTI)</p>	<p>UWI/CERMES</p> <p>CRFM</p> <p>OSPESCA</p> <p>CINESTAV</p>

### Technical Focus Area 2: Increase regional information and collaboration in fisheries

**Goal:** Increased availability of essential information for fisheries management, through inter-agency/ inter-institutional and inter-project collaboration in the Wider Caribbean region on fisheries, aquaculture and related issues, building on the comparative advantages of each, in support of responsible development and management of the sector.

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement foreseen	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	
2.1 Strengthening disaster risk management capacity in the fisheries sector in the	Implementation of the strategy, action plan and programme proposal on disaster risk management and climate change adaptation in fisheries and aquaculture in the CARICOM region	<p>Strategy and action plan approved by CARICOM</p> <p>PIF and PPG approved</p>	2014 -2015	Yes, in 2015	5.6 million	<p>FAO</p> <p>Member countries</p> <p>GEF</p>	<p>CRFM, TNC,</p> <p>CARIBSAVE,</p> <p>CDEMA, CCCCC,</p> <p>UWI/CERMES</p>

Caribbean	Approval and implementation of the GEF Special Climate Change (SCCF) project on “Climate Change Adaptation in the Eastern Caribbean Fisheries Sector”						
2.2 Provision of technical and legal advice for the implementation of the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy	Clear and comprehensive draft protocols prepared	Draft protocols	2014-2015	No, for information only	80 000	CRFM Member countries	
2.3 Improved management of reef fisheries and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)	Increased capacity among fisherfolk and fisheries managers to participate effectively in coastal/reef management and MPAs  Organization of an FAO/WECAFC Training workshop for fisherfolk and fisheries managers on marine protected area (MPA) management, 3-5 November, Barbados	Report of a regional capacity building workshop on fisheries and MPAs.  Approval and implementation of Improving Forest and Protected Area Management in Trinidad and Tobago (GCP/TRI/004/GFF)	2014-2015	Yes, recommendations and advice will be passed to the Commission for endorsement	300 000	GEF Japan FAO Member countries	UNEP, CAMPAN, GCFI, CARIBSAVE, TNC, WWF
2.4 Improved fishery and aquaculture data collection, analysis and dissemination at regional and	A regional fisheries and aquaculture statistics database established at WECAFC  Participation of WECAFC and its members in the Global Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem database.	Response rate to FAO annual fisheries and aquaculture statistics requests has increased. Evidence of WECAFC member	2014-2015	No, achievements will be reported upon to the session	40 000	FAO EU?	FIRMS

national level	Participation in the FAO Global vessel record by WECAFC members	participation in the VME and Global Record databases					
2.5 Regional resources and fisheries inventories prepared and disseminated	Prepare and share regional fisheries inventories –through the Fisheries Resource Management System (FIRMS) Partnership – with all members and ensure up-to-date and accessible information in support of responsible fisheries management.	WECAFC-FIRMS agreement Number of inventories published on-line	2014-2015	No, the WECAFC-FIRMS agreement will be submitted for endorsement to the 15 <sup>th</sup> session.	50 000	FAO, FIRMS, CLEM+, France, member countries	OSPESCA, CRFM, NOAA, IFREMER
2.6 Increase the availability of information on the contribution of fish to food security and the social and economic value of the fisheries sector	Establish collaboration with ECLAC to assess the fisheries sector value and the fish and fisheries products value chain.	Studies and reports	2015	No, only for information	30 000	CLME+	ECLAC, INFOPECA, CRFM, CERMES
2.7 Participate and provide advice and information to activities of partner agencies	Increased sharing of information and communication between the WECAFC Secretariat and other fisheries, aquaculture and environment stakeholders active in the region and neighbouring regions	Minutes of meetings Reports of activities of partner organizations and projects	2014-2015	no	10 000	FAO SLC Regular budget	

### Technical Focus area 3. Strengthen regional fisheries management and best-practice approaches for fisheries and aquaculture

**Goal:** Increased capacity of fisherfolk and aquaculturists to apply modern production technologies, better management practices and produce high quality and safe fish and fishery products for human consumption.



Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement foreseen	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	Partners
3.1 Strengthen the capacity of the Caribbean Network of Fishers Organizations (CNFO), national and primary fisherfolk organizations	Competent fisherfolk representatives participating professionally in regional and national level fisheries management decision making processes	Attendance lists of capacity building activities  Manuals and other capacity building materials prepared	2014 -2015	no	300 000	FAO TCP support foreseen	
3.2 Support the establishment of a regional shellfish hatchery for the Wider Caribbean	Investment/business plan study	Investment/business plan  Grant/loan support from a development bank	2014 -2015	No, for information only	100 000	Caribbean Development Bank  Member countries	
3.3 Establishment of aquaculture demonstration activities	Sustainable aquaculture practices by small-scale farmers in various WECAFC member countries	Adaptation of aquaculture practices following advice given  Aquaponics and marine cage farming developed; various aquaculture manuals produced	2014-2015	No, for information only	1 million	FAO TCP/Trust fund and Telefood support  Brazil  PetroCaribe	Aquaculture Network of the Americas (RAA)
3.4 Development of regional aquaculture Better Management Practices (BMPs), guidelines and Codes	Regional guidelines for responsible introduction of species in aquaculture developed; BMPs for specific species developed and Codes of Practices developed and adopted by aquaculturists	Codes of Practice and BMPs adopted and disseminated.	2014-2015	Some BMPS and guidelines for endorsement by the 16 <sup>th</sup> session	50 000	TCP  Brazil	Aquaculture Network of the Americas (RAA)
3.5 Review of fish supply chain	Capacity built on Codex Alimentarius, HACCP, ISO, Good Hygiene Practices and other fish	Increased number of facilities authorized to	2014-2015	No, for information only	200 000	EU  FAO	IICA, CRFM

performance and increased application of fish quality and safety measures	quality and safety measures Recommendations and advice for improving fish quality and safety	export to the EU, USA and Japan				Member countries	
3.6 Sustainable Brazil-Guianas Shrimp and Groundfish fisheries	Re-establishment of the WECAFC Shrimp and GroundFish Working Group  Draft management and investment plan for the shrimp and groundfish fisheries developed  Implementation of the CLME+ SAP strategy (No.6) to "Implement Ecosystem Based Management (EBM)/ Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) of the Guianas-Brazil continental shelf with special reference to the shrimp and groundfish fishery".	WG TORs and meeting minutes  Draft management plan  IDB funded project "Investing in ecosystem-based shrimp and groundfish fisheries management of the Guianas -Brazil Shelf" implemented successfully	2014 -2015	No, for information only	150 000	CLME IDB FAO Member countries	CRFM, UNEP
3.7 Improved transboundary management of Caribbean Spiny Lobster	Effective functioning of the WECAFC Working Group on Caribbean Spiny Lobster, <i>Panulirus argus</i>  Resource assessment carried out and a draft regional management plan developed  Implementation of CLME+ SAP Sub-Strategy 4A "Enhance the governance arrangements for implementing an ecosystems approach for spiny lobster fisheries"	New Terms of Reference  Reports of meetings  Draft sub-regional management plan	2014-2015	No, for information only	300 000	FAO TCP NOAA CLME+	Joint WG with CRFM, OSPESCA, CFMC
3.8 Improved transboundary management of the	Effective functioning of the CRFM/ WECAFC Working Group on Flyingfish of the Eastern Caribbean	WG TORs and minutes of meetings	2014-2015	Yes, for regional endorsement in 2016	20 000	CRFM CLME	Joint WG with CRFM

Flyingfish in the Eastern Caribbean	Implementation of CLME+ SAP Sub-strategy 5A: Enhance the governance arrangements for implementing an ecosystem approach for flyingfish fisheries.	Finalized and endorsed the Subregional Fisheries Management Plan for Flyingfish in the Eastern Caribbean				FAO SLC regular budget	
3.9 Increased knowledge of and experience with offshore FADs	Effective functioning of the IFREMER/WECAFC Working Group on Development of Sustainable Moored Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Fishing in the Lesser Antilles	Continuation of demonstrations in various MAGDELESA project countries  Findings and recommendations of the MAGDELESA Project  Working group meeting reports	2014-2015	Yes, recommendations and advice will be passed to the Commission for endorsement	20 000	IFREMER/EU funded research  Member countries	
3.10 Strengthened research and management capacity for Queen Conch in the Caribbean	Effective functioning of the CFMC/OSPESCA/CRFM/WECAFC Working Group on Queen Conch, <i>Strombus gigas</i> ” Draft regional management plan for Queen Conch Agreement on conversion factors for processing Implementation of CLME+ SAP Sub-Strategy 4B	New TORs for the joint working group  WG reports  Update for CITES	2014 -2015	Yes, recommendations and advice will be passed to the Commission for endorsement	300 000	CFMC/NOAA  FAO  CLME  Member countries	Joint WG with CFMC, OSPESCA and CRFM
3.11 Improved management and conservation of billfish fisheries in the Caribbean	Effective functioning of the WECAFC/CRFM/CFMC/OSPECA Working Group on Recreational Fisheries  Draft regional management and conservation plan for billfish developed  Implementation of CLME+ SAP Sub-strategy 5B: Enhance the governance arrangements for	WG TORs and reports  Approved GEF/ World Bank pilot project proposal on the “Introduction of billfish management and conservation in the Western Central Atlantic Region”; Consortium on Billfish Management and	2014-2015	Yes, recommendations and advice will be passed to the Commission for endorsement	2 million	GEF  World Bank  Conservation international  Member countries  FAO	TBF, IGFA, ICCAT, CRFM, CFMC, OSPESCA, GCFI, 7 <sup>th</sup> WRFC

	<p>implementing an ecosystem approach for large pelagics fisheries</p> <p>Increased awareness on the value of recreational fisheries; support to the 7<sup>th</sup> World Recreational Fisheries Conference, Brazil, September 2014.</p>	<p>Conservation in the Western Central Atlantic (CBMC) established</p>					
3.12 Improved management and conservation of sharks	<p>Establishment of a joint working group on sharks conservation and management.</p> <p>A Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) for the conservation and management of sharks developed</p> <p>Two additional WECAFC members have developed and are implementing NPOAs –Sharks</p>	<p>WG TORs and reports</p> <p>A draft RPOA</p> <p>Number of NPOA's sharks developed by WECAFC members</p> <p>Implementation records</p>	2014 -2015	<p>submission for information in 2015;</p> <p>RPOA endorsement in 2016 by WECAFC</p>	80 000	<p>Japan</p> <p>USA</p> <p>PEW</p> <p>Member countries</p>	<p>CRFM,</p> <p>OSPESCA,</p> <p>CFMC</p>
3.13 Collaborative efforts to combat the lionfish invasion in the Caribbean	<p>Organization of the FAO-WECAFC-INFOPESCA workshop on lionfish and sea cucumber in the Caribbean – the roadmap to sustainable exploitation and marketing, Cuba, April 2014</p> <p>Increased implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Control of Invasive Lionfish in the Wider Caribbean</p>	<p>Workshop report</p> <p>Country reports on efforts made to implement the strategy</p>	2014-2015	Resolution on the Lionfish Strategy by WECAFC15	60 000	FAO	<p>INFOPESCA</p> <p>OSPESCA</p> <p>NOAA</p>
3.14 Improved management and conservation of spawning aggregations of grouper and snapper	<p>Effective functioning of the CFMC/WECAFC/OSPESCA/CRFM Working Group on Spawning Aggregations</p> <p>Implementation of the CLME+ work on reef fishes</p>	<p>Evidence of implementation of the regional closed season for Nassau grouper</p> <p>Reports of the meetings of the Working Group on Spawning Aggregations</p>	2014-2015	Regional management recommendations	80 000	<p>CFMC</p> <p>NOAA</p> <p>Member countries</p>	<p>UNEP –SPAW</p> <p>CRFM</p> <p>CFMC</p> <p>NOAA</p>

**Management Focus Area 4: Create an enabling environment within the WECAFC Secretariat to support the achievement of the goals and objective of the Commission.**

**Goals:**

- 1) To deliver high-quality administrative, technical, logistical and scientific support to the Commission, Scientific Advisory Group and the Working Groups.
- 2) To facilitate communication and collaboration among Members and other stakeholders through effective dissemination of information, education, outreach and capacity building.

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement foreseen	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	Partners
4.1 Organize the fifteenth session of the Commission in 2014	Recommendations and advice to WECAFC members on fisheries management in the region	Approved work programme Report of the session	March 2014	yes	80 000	FAO Regular budget	Govt. of Trinidad and Tobago
4.2 Organize the TAC meeting in 2015	Technical and scientific advice for consideration by the 16 <sup>th</sup> session of the Commission	Report of the meeting	2015	Yes, in 2016	20 000	FAO Regular budget	
4.3 Prepare for the organization of the sixteenth session of the Commission in 2016	Timely organized session which will discuss interesting subjects that meet the needs of the members of the Commission	Background papers prepared Host country confirmed	2015	Yes, in 2016	80 000	FAO Regular budget Member countries contribution	Host country contribution

4.4 WECAFC Performance Review	WECAFC performance review conducted among members and other relevant stakeholders following request from COFI.	Performance review report with clear findings and recommendations endorsed by the session and published	First semester of 2014	Yes, in 2014	10 000	FAO Member countries	
4.5 Improved functioning and resource mobilization through strategic planning	Draft medium term strategic plan for the period 2014 - 2020 prepared	Draft strategic plan	2014	Yes, for Commission endorsement in 2014	20 000	FAO Regular Programme France Member countries	
4.6 Strategic re-orientation of WECAFC	Options paper prepared for the 15 <sup>th</sup> session	Resolution on the way forward at the 15 <sup>th</sup> session Agreement on reform of WECAFC	2014	Yes, in 2014	30 000	FAO Regular Programme	
4.7 Facilitate the organization of (joint) Working Group meetings and workshops	Successfully organized workshops, WG meetings and other events in which WECAFC is partner	Reports of the events and workshops	2014-2015	No, for information only	--		All stakeholders
4.8 Develop projects and seek funding for long-term effective functioning of the Commission, implementation of its biennial programmes of work and prioritized	At least 3 Trust Fund projects prepared and submitted to potential donors for funding	Draft project documents in the required format	2014 -2015	No, for information only	--	WECAFC members	All relevant stakeholders

projects							
4.9 Establish and manage the WECAFC website	The WECAFC Website will be a portal for those interested to accessing information on-line and for disseminating information related to the work of WECAFC, FAO and its members in the region	Website on-line	2014-2015	No, for information only	3000	FAO WECAFC members	All relevant stakeholders
4.10 Partnerships established with institutions in the environment and other sectors	A formal partnership established with the UNEP-SPAW  Collaboration increased with international and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and civil society as part of an effort to improve linkages and understanding of grass roots issues, environmental conservation, advocacy and private sector investment in resource management.	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNEP-SPAW  MoUs with other key partners	2014 -2015	Yes, for endorsement by the 16 <sup>th</sup> session		UNEP-SPAW FAO	CRFM, OSPESCA, TBF, IGFA, ICCAT, various NGOs