

**GENERAL  
FISHERIES  
COMMISSION  
FOR THE  
MEDITERRANEAN**

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**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN**

**REPORT OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION**

**Istanbul, Turkey, 24–27 January 2006**

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## PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document is the final version of the report adopted in Istanbul by the thirtieth session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) on 27 January 2006.

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### ABSTRACT

The thirtieth session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) was attended by delegates from 18 Members of the Commission. The Commission reviewed the intersessional activities of its Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and its Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ). Based on the advice emanating from SAC and proposals by Members, the GFCM adopted respectively: three binding recommendations on fisheries management measures, including on fishing effort and on the protection of sensitive habitats; two recommendations on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) Fishing, including on the establishment of a black list of vessels and on data confidentiality procedure. It also endorsed three recommendations from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), including on the establishment of a programme for transshipment by large-scale longliners. The GFCM reiterated its satisfaction with progress made in the implementation of the five regional projects executed by FAO in support to the Commission. The Commission ascertained its financial situation and agreed to use arrears to build a Working Capital Fund. It established in the Secretariat a post of Statistician and a post of Programmer/System Analyst. Work progress related to the new headquarters of the Commission was reviewed. The Commission decided to postpone to its next plenary the adjustments to its Rules of Procedure. The Commission established a Compliance Committee. It formalized the Environment Aquaculture Mediterranean Network (EAM) and the Statistical Information System on Aquaculture (SIPAM) as subsidiary bodies of CAQ, and endorsed the guidelines prepared by the Joint GFCM/ICCAT Working Group on Sustainable Tuna Farming. The Commission agreed on its programme of work and adopted its autonomous budget for the year 2006. The GFCM elected its new Bureau.

### Distribution:

Participants in the Session  
GFCM Mailing List  
FAO Regional and Subregional Fisheries Officers



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## **OPENING OF THE SESSION**

1. The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) held its thirtieth session in Istanbul, Turkey, from 24 to 27 January 2006.

2. The Session was attended by delegates from 18 Members of the Commission. Observers from the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Mediterranean Association of Fisheries Organizations (MEDISAMAK) and the World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF) also attended. The list of delegates and observers is given in Appendix B to this report.

3. The Session was called to order by Mr Abdellatif Berraho, Chairperson of the Commission, who welcomed the participants and thanked the Government of Turkey for hosting the session.

4. Mr Durali Koçak, Deputy Director-General, Directorate for Conservation and Control, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of Turkey, Mr Mehdi Eker. After recalling that half the century had elapsed since the holding of the fourth session of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean in Istanbul, he underscored the mutual responsibility of the countries concerned with the management of Mediterranean fisheries. He stressed the prominent role of GFCM as a focused international platform for ensuring the sustainability of fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Seas and their ancillary ecosystems. He reiterated the commitment of Turkey to follow the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and informed the Commission of several reforms that Turkey has undertaken in relation to its fishery sector, including the recent establishment of a National Fisheries Committee (NFC) and the forthcoming adoption of a new fishery law as well as the establishment of a General Directorate of Fisheries. He invited the Parties to recognize the need for a strong and efficient GFCM and reiterated that Turkey would continue to fully support the Commission and its related projects, such as EastMed. He pointed out some areas where Turkey expected the Commission to be more active: stocks management, the conservation of the aquatic ecosystems, the exchange of information and statistics and the analysis of socio-economic issues. Mr Koçak also referred to the adverse effects of land-based sources of pollution on fish stocks and their ecosystems, particularly in the Black Sea basin. He concluded by wishing all participants a fruitful meeting as well as an enjoyable stay in Istanbul.

5. Mr Jean-François Pulvenis de Séigny, Director, Fishery Policy and Planning Division, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Director-General of FAO and of the Assistant Director-General of the Fisheries Department. He warmly thanked the Government of Turkey for hosting this meeting, which marked a new phase in the existence of the Commission. He invited the interested parties to address the substantive constraints to the effective operation of the Commission derived from the fact that some have not deposited their respective instruments of acceptance of the amendments to the Agreement or have made their contributions to the autonomous budget for 2005 late or not at all. He recalled that whilst FAO is committed to fully support the Commission, success resides ultimately in the commitment and effective participation of its Members themselves and the effective implementation and enforcement of the decisions and measures adopted by the Commission. In relation with the 2006 budget, Mr Pulvenis de Séigny reiterated the need to fully endow

the Commission with human and financial means commensurate with its mandate. He thanked the Italian Government for its efforts to ensure the renovation of the new headquarters of the Commission and reiterated that meanwhile the Organization would continue hosting the Secretariat, as needed. Mr Pulvenis de Séligny stressed that the process of reform and adjustments undertaken by FAO at the initiative of its Director-General would not affect the strong commitment of the Organization to support regional fishery bodies, especially those established under its Constitution, such as the GFCM. In relation to the regional projects, he thanked those Members which support their financing. He stressed the importance of the items of the agenda related to the adoption of fisheries management measures and to the further strengthening of the Commission, such as the proposed establishment of a Compliance Committee, the suggested reorganization of the Committee on Aquaculture and the revision of the Rules of Procedure. He also underscored the renewed significance of the pending election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs in the light of the suggested broadening of their functions. Finally he wished the Commission every success in its endeavours.

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**

6. The Commission agreed to discuss, back to back, the Agenda item on the activities, conclusions and recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), the activities carried out by the Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) and the issues related to the management of Mediterranean fisheries, including the recommendations proposed by Members as well as recommendations emanating from ICCAT. The Commission further decided that all issues related to the implementation of the autonomous budget, including the proposed Programme of Work for 2006, should be treated as a stand-alone Agenda item. The agenda as amended is attached as Appendix A.

7. In relation to the documents submitted to the session (listed in Appendix C), several delegations deplored the late circulation of documents, which does not allow for a proper and timely preparation of the meeting by delegations. They expressed that, in the future, the Secretariat and the Members should ensure the timely circulation of these documents, in the two working languages (French and English), especially those related to budgetary issues which should be made available well in advance of the plenary session.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF GFCM**

8. The Executive Secretary of the GFCM introduced this agenda item on the basis of documents GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.4 and GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.8. He reviewed the main decisions and recommendations recorded in the report of the twenty-ninth session and informed the Commission on the follow-up actions that had been undertaken for their implementation.

9. The Commission noted with satisfaction the action taken by the Secretariat, by the Scientific Advisory Committee and by the Committee on Aquaculture. The Commission expressed the view that this review on the implementation of its decisions should be the occasion, in the future, for each Member to inform the Commission on actions that it had taken during the intersession to implement the decisions and recommendations of the Commission, especially those related to conservation and management measures. Members were invited to provide the necessary information to the Secretariat well in advance of the

session of the Commission to facilitate its processing by the Compliance Committee, should the Commission decide to establish such a subsidiary body in the course of the session.

## **INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEES**

### **Activities of the Scientific Advisory Committee (CSC)**

10. Mr Corrado Piccinetti, Chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Committee, informed on the activities of the Committee and its Sub-Committees on the basis of documents GFCM/XXX/2006/2, GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.5 and Inf.17. A total of fourteen meetings were held, including two of the Coordinating Meeting of the Sub-Committees (CMSC). All the meetings scheduled for 2005 were carried out, to the exception of the first meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Stock Assessment Methodology (PWGAM), which was rescheduled to take place in March 2006.

11. The Chairperson of SAC expressed concern about the sometimes limited participation of scientists because of financial difficulties faced by their respective research institutions as a consequence of the increasing number of SAC meetings.

12. He highlighted the efforts made by SAC during 2005 to intensify transversal activities among the Sub-Committees and reported the main results of their work as follows:

- The Workshop on Standardization of Selectivity Methods applied to trawling, acknowledged that square meshes were more selective than diamond meshes and that it was also necessary to evaluate selectivity in terms of economic impact for the fisheries.
- The Workshop on Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) emphasized the following topics: essential and sensitive habitats; modelling; ecosystems indicators, spatial and temporal monitoring of fishing effort; selectivity and gears as well as bycatch of vulnerable and protected species.
- The Working Group on Operational Unit finalized proposals for data aggregation and a data collection scheme. It further identified standards and minimum fishing effort parameters by fleet segments within the framework of the Operational Units (OUs).
- The Workshop on Statistical Framework and Databases appraised the relevant Mediterranean databases, including those of the FAO Regional Projects, and their possible integration within the GFCM database.

13. The Chairperson of SAC further informed the Commission of the main activities of the Sub-Committees as follows:

- The Sub-Committee on Stock Assessment (SCSA) made a total of 22 assessments of 20 stocks (nine demersal and 11 small pelagic), including six shared stocks and covering seven GFCM geographical sub-areas (GSAs). The estimated length at first sexual maturity of the anchovy was updated. The Commission was informed that SAC suggested to make more use of the results of the trawl survey MEDITS programme.

- The Sub-Committee on Economics and Social Sciences (SCESS) focused its work on issues related to OUs schemes. Emphasis was put on identifying homogeneous groups of vessels and determining economic data collection schemes, using the SAC classification of fleets segments and fishing effort parameters.
- The Sub-Committee on Statistics and Information (SCSI) also focused on the OU issues. SAC acknowledged the applicability for the whole Mediterranean of the concept. SCSI, through the MedFisis project, achieved substantial progress on the structuring of the GFCM vessel Register database, as an initial core of the GFCM regional database.
- The Sub-Committee on Marine Environment and Ecosystem (SCMEE) followed up on the issue of the protection of ecosystems and vulnerable habitats. Measures for the protection of sensitive habitats were identified.

14. The Chairperson of SAC highlighted how the activities on the OU could now be considered essential for a multidisciplinary approach to fisheries management, especially for the management of fishing effort of multispecies fisheries in the different GSAs concerned.

15. The Commission, after expressing its great satisfaction for the work done by SAC and the Secretariat, agreed that more work should be done towards the management of the fishing effort and to consider the relevance of the application of some specific indicators, either biologic, environmental, social and economical, encompassing all the components of the fisheries.

16. The Commission noted the need to reduce the number of meetings in the framework of SAC and also recommended further cooperation at regional level with partner international organizations, particularly with respect to the identification of sensitive areas and the implementation of ecosystem approach to fisheries.

17. The Commission acknowledged and endorsed the selection or confirmation of the following Members of the Bureau of SAC: Mr Corrado Piccinetti (Italy), Mr Nicos Hadjistephanou (Cyprus) and Ms Karlou-Riga (Greece) respectively as Chairperson, first Vice-Chairperson and second Vice-Chairperson. The Commission also endorsed the selection of the Coordinators for the four Sub-Committees of SAC, as follows:

- *SCSA*: Ms C. Karlou-Riga
- *SCSI*: Mr M. Camilleri
- *SCESS*: Mr M. Malouli Idrissi
- *SCMEE*: Mr M. Nejmeddine Bradai

### **FAO regional projects**

18. The Executive Secretary reported on the main activities of the FAO regional projects on the basis of document GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.15 in which the most significant achievements of CopeMed, AdriaMed, MedSudMed and MedFisis are summarized. The Secretary underlined the satisfactory coordination of projects and Secretariat activities and informed the Commission about their updated status.

19. The Greek delegation reported on the progress achieved for the establishment of Eastmed. The Commission expressed its satisfaction for such achievements.

20. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the progress made in the development and implementation of the regional projects and reiterated their utmost importance for the work of GFCM.

21. The Commission recommended that all efforts be made to avoid overlaps between the different projects, in particular in relation to fishery data collection, coordinated by the MedFisis project.

### **Activities of the Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ)**

22. In the absence of the Chairperson of CAQ and of the Technical Secretary of the Committee, the Executive Secretary reminded, on the basis of document GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.6, that the programme of work of CAQ had been updated at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission and priority had been given to the revitalization of SIPAM and the re-establishment of the Environment and Aquaculture in the Mediterranean Network (EAM). The main activities carried out in 2005 focused on the above priority and on the data collection, processing and dissemination by SIPAM. Courses and seminars were also organized by the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM).

23. The GFCM/ICCAT Working Group on Sustainable Tuna Farming produced, as required, Technical Guidelines which were developed under the following main topics: capture fisheries, transport and transfer, farming, including various parameters, harvesting and marketing. In this respect, the Commission expressed its satisfaction for the results of these joint activities with ICCAT. It endorsed the guidelines and invited CAQ to expand them through the EAM as necessary, especially on issues related to aquaculture and the environment.

24. The Commission noted that SIPAM continued collating and compiling the data submitted by the SIPAM Member countries (16 Members at present) and providing training. The Eighth SIPAM Annual Meeting allowed for the identification of a strategy to harmonize FAO Fishery Information, Data and Statistics Unit (FAO/FIDI) and SIPAM aquaculture production statistics, and confirmed the transfer of the coordination of SIPAM from the FAO Inland Water Resources and Aquaculture Service (FAO/FIRI) to the GFCM Secretariat. The Commission acknowledged the responsibility of MedFisis, on behalf of the Secretariat, in the implementation of the conceptual and system development tasks for revitalizing SIPAM.

25. The Meeting of experts for the re-establishment of EAM concluded that EAM should be re-established as a subsidiary body of the Committee on Aquaculture of GFCM. EAM should work through thematic working groups and EAM National Coordinators should be identified as soon as possible. GFCM endorsed this proposal.

26. The Commission acknowledged that CIHEAM/Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (IAMZ) was its primary partner for training in fisheries and aquaculture.

## **MANAGEMENT OF MEDITERRANEAN FISHERIES**

### **Recommendations emanating from the activities of SAC**

27. Upon proposal from the European Community (EC), the Commission adopted the following Recommendations in accordance with Article V of the GFCM Agreement:

- Recommendation GFCM/2006/1 on the management of certain fisheries exploiting demersal and small pelagic.
- Recommendation GFCM/2006/2 on the establishment of a closed season for the dolphinfish fisheries based on fishing aggregation devices (FADs).
- Recommendation GFCM/2006/3 on the establishment of fisheries restrictive areas in order to protect the deep sea sensitive habitats.

### **Recommendations on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Mediterranean**

28. The delegate from the EC presented the four draft recommendations on IUU fishing that had been submitted to the Commission at its twenty-ninth session and which were contained in document GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.9. These proposals, as follows, were adopted by the Commission, with reference to Article III 1 (b) and (h), Article V or to Article VII (1) of the GFCM Agreement:

- Recommendation GFCM/2006/4 on the establishment of a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in the GFCM area;
- Recommendation GFCM/2006/5 on the criteria for obtaining the status of cooperating non-contracting party in the GFCM area;
- Recommendation GFCM/2006/6 on the terms of reference for the GFCM Compliance Committee;
- Recommendation GFCM/2006/7 on data confidentiality policy and procedures.

29. In relation with the reference to trade restrictive measures contained in Recommendation GFCM/2006/4, the delegate from Japan noted that, in conformity with international law, such measures should be adopted only to stocks which are subject to management measures. They should also be associated with the obligation of applying to these stocks trade tracking systems, such as the statistical document programme of ICCAT, in order to identify the fish products from these stocks.

30. Concerning Recommendation GFCM/2006/6, the Commission underscored that point f) of the terms of reference of the Compliance Committee may cover, as appropriate, measures related to aquaculture or other activities. It was further noted that the composition of the Compliance Committee would be defined at the next plenary session of the Commission.

## **Recommendations from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) of relevance to the Mediterranean**

31. On the basis of document GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.10, the Commission reviewed and adopted as Recommendation GFCM/2006/8, and in accordance with Article V of the GFCM Agreement, the following Recommendations from ICCAT:

- Recommendation [05-04] to amend the Recommendation [04-06] on bluefin tuna farming (GFCM/2006/8 (A));
- Recommendation [05-05] to amend the Recommendation [04-10] concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT (GFCM/2006/8 (B));
- Recommendation [05-06] establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale longline fishing vessels (GFCM/2006/8 (C)).

32. In relation to the recommendation on bluefin tuna farming, the Commission was informed that Japan would prohibit the importation of farmed tuna which do not comply with the required sampling regulations. Some delegations expressed concern about the risk of overcapacity of tuna farms that may lead to an increase in IUU tuna fishing and thereby undermine the respect of currently allocated total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas. In that regard, the EC delegation underlined the importance of taking into consideration the responsibility of the importing States, over and beyond that of flag States.

33. The text of the Recommendations referred to above is reproduced in Appendix E of this report.

## **Recommendations related to the Pelagos Sanctuary for the conservation of marine mammals**

34. On the basis of document GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.18, the delegate from Monaco presented a draft recommendation on the Pelagos Sanctuary for the conservation of marine mammals.

35. The delegate from Japan expressed concern about this proposal as it was not supported with scientific evidence or reviewed by SAC before its submission to the GFCM. Some delegations were in favour of the adoption of the draft recommendation. However, the Commission decided that this proposal would be subject to further scrutiny by SAC and would be considered at the next plenary session of the Commission.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AUTONOMOUS BUDGET**

### **Issues related to the implementation of the autonomous budget**

36. The Executive Secretary made a detailed presentation of document GFCM/XXX/2006/3 entitled "Issues related to the autonomous budget" which contains a description of the status of acceptance of the GFCM Revised Agreement, of the contributions to the autonomous budget as well as a financial report and an administrative report of the Secretariat.

*Status of ratification of the Amendments to the GFCM Revised Agreement*

37. The Commission noted that nineteen Members had deposited their instruments of acceptance of the revised Agreement. Members who have not yet deposited their instruments of acceptance of the revised Agreement were Bulgaria, Egypt, Israel, Morocco and Syria.

38. The Executive Secretary reminded the Commission that the fact that all Members had not yet deposited their instruments of acceptance of the revised Agreement had negative implications on the implementation of the budget which had been approved at the Extraordinary Session of the GFCM in Malta. In addition, the Commission was informed that none of the Members that had not yet deposited their instruments of acceptance of the revised Agreement but that committed themselves to settle their contribution for 2005 through participating to the vote for the selection of the Executive Secretary at the twenty-ninth session, had remitted their contribution. The Commission urged all concerned Members to complete the acceptance procedure and to pay their contribution to the budget against the 2005 fiscal year.

39. The Commission also noted with concern that there were substantial delays in the receipt of the contributions and as a result, by September 2005, only 50 percent of funds corresponding to the adjusted budget level were available in the GFCM Trust fund. This had two consequences. The first was that FAO had to make a very substantial contribution to the GFCM. The second was that some savings accrued in the Trust Fund against planned expenditures for 2005. The Executive Secretary drew attention to a number of relevant legal provisions regarding the obligation of Members to pay their contributions including those of Financial Regulation V(3) whereby as of the 1 January of the following calendar year, the unpaid balance of such contributions shall be considered to be one year in arrears.

40. The delegate from Morocco informed the Commission that the completion of procedures to allow for the deposit of the instrument of acceptance was expected to be finalized in the near future and that the delays which had occurred could not, in any way, be considered as reflecting a lack of commitment towards the Commission, its objectives and activities.

41. The Commission further agreed to use arrears to build a Working Capital Fund for GFCM to serve, in 2006, as a buffer for the Secretariat in case of delays in the remittance of contributions.

*Financial report*

42. The Commission was informed of the financed expenditures incurred by the Commission during the inter-sessions period. In addition to the above-mentioned savings, the Commission noted that there had been significant deviations from the budget line allocations as had been foreseen in the budget approved at the Extraordinary Session of the Commission. This involved a substantial number of transfers between budget lines in order to cover travel, consultants, general overhead and chargeback expenditures. It was noted that the experience gained in the course of the first year of implementation of the autonomous budget would allow the Secretariat to reduce the need for transfers between budget lines.

*Administrative report*

43. The Commission was informed that the Executive Secretary had transmitted officially to Members and intergovernmental partner organizations the recommendations adopted by the Commission at its twenty-ninth session, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the GFCM Agreement and that no reservation were received in relation to these recommendations.

44. The Commission was informed of the recruitment of staff for the Secretariat. The Director-General, following receipt of the proposal by the GFCM Chairman in accordance with the relevant procedure, appointed the Executive Secretary with effect from 1 July 2005. The Deputy Executive Secretary/Fisheries Management Adviser was selected in accordance with the procedure adopted at the twenty-ninth session and appointed with effect from 15 October 2005. In view of limited expenditures, it was felt premature to hire an Administrative Financial Clerk in 2005. The post of Biostatistician remained frozen and part of its functions was covered by the MedFisis project. Aquaculture services were provided through consultancy and using the FAO visiting scientist programme. The Commission was also informed of intersessional activities, including the organization of and participation in meetings of partners organizations by the staff of the Secretariat, publications and other matters.

*Headquarters of the Commission*

45. The Commission was informed that an Exchange of letters between FAO and the Government of Italy extending to the new GFCM headquarters the provisions of the FAO headquarters Agreement, concluded in Washington on 31 October 1950, including the supplementary agreement of 16 October 1992, as amended, had been concluded.

46. The Commission was further informed that the FAO Infrastructure and Facilities Management Service and the competent national counterparts had jointly agreed upon the project for the refurbishing of the premises, taking into account all relevant considerations, including United Nations safety requirements and national legislation applicable to historical monuments. A call for tenders for the execution of the refurbishing was issued by the Italian authorities and the relevant contract awarded and the work began on 19 January 2006 .

47. The representative of Italy informed the Commission that by the end of March 2006, one third of the overall surface of the premises would be refurbished and he suggested that this would make possible for the Secretariat to occupy the premises as well as to organize a ceremony of transfer of the premises. The completion of the rest of the works is expected to take place by September/October 2006.

48. It was noted that the new headquarters could accommodate the staff of the MedFisis project, if deemed suitable, and that the premises would allow to hold the meetings of the GFCM Committees and their subsidiary bodies.

## **Programme of work for the intersessional period 2006**

### *Programme of work of the Scientific Advisory Committee*

49. The Chairperson of SAC introduced the programme of work adopted by the Eight session of the Committee on the basis of document GFCM/XXX/2006/6. He highlighted the wide range of foreseen activities and stressed the difficulty to ensure the effective delivery for all of them. Consequently, he invited the Members to provide guidance on major priority areas.

50. The Commission concurred as to the relevance of all the proposed activities and meetings, but agreed upon an order of priorities, in particular for SCSA and SCMEE, which takes into account the recommendations on fisheries management that were adopted during this session, as follows:

#### *Sub-Committee on Stock Assessment (SCSA)*

##### First priority:

- testing the biological and socio-economic indicators and reference points, for priority species, in the framework of the operational units concept, and convening a SCSA/SCSA/SCESS transversal meeting on stock assessment and Operational Units;
- pursuing the mapping of the distribution of juveniles for priority species;
- monitoring stocks assessed in 2004 and 2005, with priority to species covered by the Recommendation GFCM/2006/1 and assessing the state of other shared stocks, multispecies fisheries and fisheries targeting priority species;
- convening a meeting of the Permanent working group on stock assessment methodologies (PWGAM) in line with agreed Terms of reference.

##### Second priority:

- producing a reference document on the impact of selected fishing gear on the environment in order to promote the implementation of corrective selectivity measures;
- promoting the establishment of a network of Mediterranean technologists, including from industry and collecting information and establishing a databank on gear selectivity, using the agreed format provided in Appendix E.

#### *Sub-Committee on Marine Environment and Ecosystems (SCMEE)*

##### First priority:

- undertaking interdisciplinary pilot studies for identifying and applying the principles of the ecosystem approach on the management of shared stocks at the sub-regional level, and testing, in doing so, the ecological indicators for the spatio-temporal monitoring of fishing effort;
- pursuing coordination with projects on the monitoring and control of the impact of fishing on protected or endangered species, including with a view to enhancing such coordination.

Second priority:

- continuing to investigate and formulate a structured programme of research on species living at depths greater than 1 000 metres also considering the three sensitive habitats indicated in the Recommendation GFCM/2006/3;
- addressing together with ACCOBAMS the issue of the interactions between cetacean species in fishery activities, including in the pelagos sanctuary, through possibly convening a joint workshop on the subject.

*Sub-Committee on Statistics and Information (SCSI)*

- continuing the identification and extension of studies on operational units to all GSAs, with a priority to the GSAs covered by the Recommendation GFCM/2006/1 and those having shared stocks and priority species, and holding a transversal SCSI/SCSA/SCESS workshop on the implementation of Operational Units concept, including stock assessment;
- organizing a transversal SCSI/SCSA/SCESS workshop dedicated to fishing effort parameters identification and measurement standardization;
- formatting and storing in the GFCM databank information needed by the Commission, including those available from the FAO regional projects, FAO/FIDI and other programmes;
- finalizing, with the support of the MedFisis project, the framework of fleet data for the operational units and ensuring the compilation and storage of available relevant national data and their input into the GFCM databank;
- compiling a list of national databases on fisheries.

*Sub-Committee on Economic and Social Sciences (SCESS)*

- development of the use of socio-economic indicators in fisheries management through the implementation of the OUs approach;
- study of the legislative and socio-economic aspects of recreational fisheries;
- analysis of the impact of national and regional market forces (including supply and demand, prices, quality control) on the fishing industry and on the management of the fisheries concerned.

*Meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committee*

51. The Commission agreed upon the following meetings in support of the programme of work of SAC and its Sub-Committees.

Meeting	Date and venue
Ninth session of SAC	25–28 October/Rome
Session of SCSEA, including: Working Group on Demersal Species; Working Group on Small Pelagic Species	11–14 September/Rome
Session of the SCESS	11–14 September/Rome
Session of the SCSII	11–14 September/Rome
Session of the SCMEP including the Workshop on Interaction between Cetacean and Fishing Activities	11–14 September/Rome
Coordination Meeting of the Sub-Committees (CMSC)	15 September/Rome
SCSII/SCSEA/SCESS transversal Workshop on Stock Assessment and Operational Units	26–28 June/Rome
SCSII/SCSEA/SCESS transversal Workshop on Fishing Effort Parameters Identification and Measurement Standardization	30–31 May/Malaga
First SCSEA Permanent Working Group on Stock Assessment Methodologies	8–10 March/Istanbul

*Programme of the Committee on Aquaculture*

52. In the absence of the Chairperson of CAQ and of the Technical Secretary of the Committee, the Executive Secretary presented the programme of work of CAQ based on document GFCM/XXX/2006/6.

53. The Commission underscored that, because the sessions of CAQ are held on a biannual basis, it was difficult to forecast during its Plenary session the expenditures corresponding to all the activities to be carried out in 2006 by the Committee. The Commission agreed, however, on the need to take into account tentatively the major foreseeable activities of CAQ that could take place during the period between the Fifth session of the Committee, to be held in June 2006, and the next Plenary session of the Commission in 2007.

54. The Commission also agreed on the rescheduling of all pending activities which were planned for the 2005 intersession with the understanding that these activities had already been accounted for in the 2006 draft budget. These activities are the following:

- Workshop on Sustainability indicators for Aquaculture in the Mediterranean;
- global trend assessments of Mediterranean aquaculture, including a prospective analysis for some species on the basis of SIPAM data;
- Workshop on the market analysis of Seabass and Seabream in the Mediterranean;
- implementation of the first phase of the plan of revitalization of SIPAM;
- CIHEAM/IAMZ courses and seminars;

- fifth session of the Committee.

55. For the period June-December 2006, the Commission agreed on the following activities to be earmarked against the 2006 budget:

- Meeting of experts for the establishment of a subsidiary body of CAQ covering marketing and industry related issues, in replacement of the TECAM and SELAM networks (to be held back to back with the Fifth session of CAQ);
- ninth annual meeting of the SIPAM;
- identification and processing of information on the interactions aquaculture-environment (considered as a priority);
- first meeting of EAM (as a subsidiary body of CAQ), including a meeting of its Working Group on the Integration of Aquaculture in Coastal Zone Management including, if possible, the Workshop on Coastal Lagoons Management and their interaction with artisanal fisheries;
- comparative analysis of aquaculture legislations in Mediterranean countries, in collaboration with the FAO/FIRI NALO programme.

#### *Meetings of the Committee on Aquaculture*

56. The Commission confirmed its approval on the activities proposed for CAQ and agreed upon the following meetings in support of the programme of work of the Committee.

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date and venue</b>
Workshop on Sustainability Indicators for Aquaculture	5–6 April/Montpellier
CIHEAM course on aquaculture and the management of the environment	24–29 April/Murcia
Joint SIPAM/SELAM meeting on market analysis of the seabass and seabream	12 May/Rome
Course CIHEAM on the mariculture of algae: techniques, use and development prospect.	22–23 May/Saragossa
Meeting of experts for the establishment of a CAQ subsidiary body on marketing and aquaculture industry (in replacement of TECAM and SELAM)	2–3 June/Santiago de Compostela
Fifth session of the Committee on Aquaculture	5–7 June/Santiago de Compostela
SIPAM Annual meeting	Mid November/Cyprus or Lebanon
EAM meeting, including Working Group on aquaculture and coastal zone management and Workshop on coastal lagoons management and their interaction with the artisanal fisheries	TBD/Italy

## **GFCM budget for 2006**

57. The Executive Secretary made a detailed presentation of document GFCM/XXX/2006/7, entitled "GFCM budget and Member contributions for 2006". He recalled the distinction between the GFCM autonomous budget which includes the contributions of Members and the Global GFCM budget which also includes the FAO contribution. He drew the attention of delegates to a number of assumptions on the basis of which the budget had been prepared. The Commission reviewed and endorsed these assumptions, including the strengthening of the Secretariat, the inception of the EAM as a formal subsidiary body of CAQ, the provision of adequate support to the subsidiary bodies of the Committees (SAC and CAQ), the strengthening of FAO technical backstopping and support, the financing by Members of national inputs to the work of the Commission and the expenses related to the installation of the Secretariat in the new headquarters of the Commission.

58. The Commission debated extensively the budgetary estimates for 2006. As a result and upon suggestions from SAC, the Commission agreed to defreeze the post of the biostatistician (in the Professional category) and to establish a post of Programmer/System Analyst (in the GS category).

59. The Commission endorsed the proposal from SAC that funding be earmarked to support travel costs for participation up to 11 meetings, all together, for the SAC Coordinators of the Sub-Committees and for Members of the SAC Bureau in 2006.

60. On the basis of the revised programme of work, the total autonomous budget for 2006 was set at US\$1 038 316. The FAO's share of the global GFCM budget for 2006 was tentatively estimated at US\$114 350; therefore the global budget approved by the Commission, as reproduced in Appendix F, amounted to a total of US\$1 152 666.

61. The Commission concurred with the proposal made that the savings accrued during the year 2005 be carried forward to 2006 to finance activities to be carried out during that year. The Commission stressed, however, that its decision in this respect should be considered as exceptional and not setting a precedent. The normal course of action in presence of a surplus should have consisted in redistributing it to the Members which have paid their contributions in 2005 through a reduction of their contributions in 2006.

62. The Commission adopted its autonomous budget for 2006. This budget included the above mentioned funds unspent during 2005 which amounted to a total of US\$243 743. Therefore, Members' contributions were calculated on the basis of a budget figure of US\$794 573 as shown in the table of Member contributions for 2006 which is reproduced in Appendix G to this report.

63. The question on the date of the next session of GFCM was extensively debated. In particular because of the need stressed by several delegations to receive the SAC report with a sufficient anticipation in order to allow for consultations. Other delegations also referred to the necessity to follow the rules and procedures of the Commission, particularly its financial regulations. In this respect, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the fact that its authority to spend under the 2006 budget would lapse on 31 December 2006.

64. As a compromise, it was agreed that the thirty-first session of the Commission would be held, as close as possible to the end of the 2006 fiscal year, eventually during the first weeks of January 2007, in the understanding, however, that the report of SAC would be posted on the GFCM website not later than 15 November 2006 and that a circular communication would be dispatched to the Members to formally inform them accordingly. The Commission agreed that, should the SAC report not be available by 15 November 2006 so as to allow for a proper consultation of stakeholders, the thirty-first session will have to be rescheduled at a later date. It was also suggested that the Commission might wish to explore other options for defining financial period starting later in the calendar year, which would allow more flexibility for the Commission to meet when convenient in the course of the first quarter of the year.

65. In addition, the Executive Secretary was authorized to readjust activities and expenditures as required for meeting ongoing obligations at the expiry of 2006, before the formal adoption of the 2007 budget, using arrears if necessary.

66. The Commission urged all Members to fulfil their commitments and to pay their contributions, for 2005 and 2006, in full and in a timely manner in order to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cover all planned activities during 2006.

## **ISSUES CONNECTED WITH THE FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMISSION**

### **Adjustments to the Rules of procedure**

67. The GFCM examined document GFCM/XXX/2006/4 entitled “Issues connected with the functioning of the Commission”. The Commission noted that the item had been the subject of limited review at its Extraordinary Session in Malta in July 2004 and at the twenty-ninth session in Rome. On this latter occasion, the Commission took a number of decisions on various matters regarding the institutional life of the Commission. Having reviewed a number of selected Rules of Procedure, the Commission endorsed a proposal that a comprehensive document, containing suggestions for revision of the GFCM Rules of Procedure be prepared for consideration at its next session. Document GFCM/XXX/2006/4, prepared in response to that request, consisted of a narrative part providing information on a number of issues, two comparative tables presenting side by side the current and the proposed Rules of Procedure and a consolidated version of the proposed Rules of Procedure.

68. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the quality of this important document which responded to its request. The Commission noted however that the document had been made available late to delegations and only in one working language and, consequently, that a number of delegates had not been in a position to review the document in detail. While a number of issues dealt with in the document and reflected in revised Rules of Procedure had been under consideration for the past few years, they were nevertheless of an important nature and required careful consideration on the basis of advice by lawyers. In this connection, the Commission also noted that the delegations did not include legal advisers and, therefore, they could not have the benefit of their views on the draft. Accordingly, the Commission agreed with a proposal that the proposed document be reviewed by an Open Working Group to be convened during the intersessional period, in line with the practice followed for the preparation of Rules of Procedure of other FAO commissions, including fisheries commissions. The Working Group would review the proposed Rules of Procedure and propose such amendments as appropriate with a view to submitting a revised version of the

Rules of Procedure for adoption at its forthcoming Thirty-first session, thus bringing to a close this long standing item. Although Members were expected to finance the participation of their representatives, the Commission noted an offer by FAO to facilitate the organization of the meeting, either at the Headquarters of the Commission or at the premises of FAO.

69. The Commission underlined the fact that, in order for the Working Group to perform its tasks efficiently, it was essential for the competent legal services of the Members to review document GFCM/XXX/2006/4.

70. By way of preparation for the review of the proposed Rules of Procedure by national legal services and the Working Group, some Members made preliminary comments on the substance of a number of issues such as the relationship between the Commission and its subsidiary committees, the functions of the officers of the Commission during the intersessional period, the possibility of entrusting a number of administrative responsibilities to the bureau of the Commission during that period, budgetary matters, implications of the use of the various languages.

### **Compendium of recommendations and resolutions**

71. The Commission welcomed the preparation by the Secretariat of a compendium of recommendations and resolutions which it had requested at its Twenty-ninth session. The Commission agreed that this was a fundamental tool for the future functioning of the Commission. The Commission further agreed that it was essential to maintain such compendium up to date on a regular basis. The Commission asked the GFCM secretariat, presumably with the assistance of the Legal Office, to review the recommendations and resolutions, including from the viewpoint of their legal nature and make such proposals to the Commission as appropriate. In general, the Commission also emphasized the desirability of applying in future stricter terminology criteria for the designation of the various recommendations, resolutions and decisions.

### **Mandate of the Joint GFCM/ICCAT Working Group on Large Pelagic**

72. The Commission expressed its satisfaction for the excellent collaboration and cooperation with ICCAT and welcomed ongoing efforts of synergy between the two Commissions, which further strengthened the knowledge on Mediterranean tuna fisheries, in particular in relation to its multidisciplinary aspects. Some delegations recalled that primary responsibility to undertake stock assessment of Tunnidae and Istiophoridae is covered by ICCAT and its scientific committee.

73. The Commission acknowledged once more the positive achievements of the Joint GFCM/ICCAT Working Group on Large Pelagic Species since its establishment in 1989. In view of the wish expressed by ICCAT to consider the proposed updated mandate for the Joint Working Group at its next plenary session, the Commission decided to review progress made on this issue at its Thirty-first session. Some delegations expressed the wish to further reflect on this proposal for an updated mandate. In this context, the Secretariat was invited to assess the main results of the Working Group since its establishment, since the Commission considered that such assessment would facilitate the programming of the future activities of the Working Group.

## **ELECTION OF THE GFCM BUREAU**

74. All delegations paid special tribute to Mr A. Berraho as Chairperson of the Commission and expressed their deep gratitude to the outstanding commitments he showed during his mandate, a period that was marked by the launching of a new era for GFCM.

75. The Commission unanimously elected the following new members of the GFCM Bureau: Mr Mohamed Hajali Salem (Tunisia) Chairperson, Mr Riccardo Rigillo (Italy) First Vice-Chairperson and Second Vice-Chairperson: Mr Ivan Katavić (Croatia).

## **ANY OTHER MATTERS**

76. The President of the “Confédération internationale de pêche sportive (CIPS)” thanked the Commission for the granting of an observer statute of his organization with the GFCM. He ensured that the Confédération would make every effort to contribute promoting responsible fisheries in the Mediterranean through developing cooperation and partnership with the Commission. Delegations welcomed the participation of the recreational fishing sector in GFCM activities through the Confédération.

77. The President of MEDISAMAK expressed his satisfaction at the ongoing close cooperation with GFCM.

## **DATE AND PLACE OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION**

78. The Commission decided to hold the thirty-first session from 9 to 13 January 2007. The Commission welcomed the offer made by Italy to host the upcoming session of the GFCM, subject to confirmation by the relevant national authorities.

## **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

79. The report was adopted on Friday 27 January 2006.



## Agenda

- 1. Opening of the Session**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda and arrangements for the Session**
- 3. Implementation of the recommendations of the twenty-ninth session of GFCM**
- 4. Intersessional activities of the Committees**
  - Activities of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)
  - FAO Regional projects
  - Activities of the Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ)
- 5. Management of Mediterranean Fisheries**
  - Recommendations emanating from the activities of SAC
  - Recommendations on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Mediterranean
  - Recommendations from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) of relevance to the Mediterranean
  - Recommendations related to the Pelagos Sanctuary for the conservation of marine mammals
- 6. Implementation of the autonomous budget**
  - Issues related to the implementation of the autonomous budget
  - Programme of work for the intersessional period 2006
  - GFCM budget for 2006
- 7. Issues connected with the functioning of the Commission**
  - Adjustments to the Rules of procedure
  - Compendium of recommendations and resolutions
  - Mandate of the Joint GFCM/ICCAT Working Group on Large Pelagic
- 8. Election of the GFCM Bureau**
- 9. Any other matters**
- 10. Date and place of the thirty-first session**
- 11. Adoption of the Report**

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**List of documents**

GFCM/XXX/2006/1 Rev.1	Provisional Agenda
GFCM/XXX/2006/2	Intersessional activities 2004-2005
GFCM/XXX/2006/3	Issues related to the implementation of the autonomous budget
GFCM/XXX/2006/4	Issues connected with the functioning of the Commission
GFCM/XXX/2006/5	Management of Mediterranean fisheries
GFCM/XXX/2006/6	Programme of work for the intersessional period 2006
GFCM/XXX/2006/7	GFCM budget and Members contribution for 2006
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.1 Rev.1	Provisional List of Documents
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.2	Provisional List of Participants
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.3	Agreement for the Establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, Financial Rules and Rules of Procedures
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.4	Report of the Twenty-ninth Session of GFCM (Rome, Italy, 21–25 February 2005)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.5	Report of the Eighth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee, SAC (Tirana, Albania, 25–28 October 2005)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.6	Report of the Fourth Session of the Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) (Alessandria, Egypt, 7–9 June 2004)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.7	Statement of Competence and Voting Rights by the European Community and its member States
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.8	GFCM main recommendations and decisions adopted in 2005
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.9	Draft EC proposal for Recommendations on IUU Fishing in the Mediterranean
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.10	ICCAT Recommendations of relevance to the Mediterranean

GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.11	Draft Compendium on GFCM Recommendations and Resolutions
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.12	Note on GFCM Forecast of expenditure for 2006
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.13	Report of the 8 <sup>th</sup> SIPAM Annual Meeting, Split, Croatia, June 2005 (English only)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.14	Draft Report of the Expert Meeting on the re-establishment of EAM, Rome, Italy, December 2005 (English only)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.15	Major activities of the FAO Regional Projects in 2005
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.16	Report of the Third Meeting of the GFCM/ICCAT ad hoc Working Group on Sustainable Tuna Farming in the Mediterranean, Rome, Italy, March 2005
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.17	Report of the Coordinating Meeting of the Sub-Committees (CMSC), Tirana, Albania, October 2005. (English only)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Inf.18	Draft Monaco proposal on GFCM Recommendation related to the Pelagos Sanctuary for the Conservation of Marine Mammals
GFCM/XXX/2006/Dma.1	Fisheries Laws and Regulations in the Mediterranean: a Comparative Study. <i>GFCM Studies and Reviews</i> No 75. (English only)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Dma.2	Inventory of Artisanal Fishery Communities in the Western-Central Mediterranean. Draft <i>GFCM Studies and Reviews</i> No 77 (English only)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Dma.3	MedStat – An Adaptive Approach for the Improvement of Fishery Statistical Systems in Mediterranean Countries under FAO Projects. Draft <i>GFCM Studies and Reviews</i> No 79 (English only)
GFCM/XXX/2006/Dma.4	Interactions between Aquaculture and Capture Fisheries: a Methodological Perspective. <i>GFCM Studies and Reviews</i> No 78. (English only)

## Fleet data requirement for Operational Units (OUs)

**Table 1 - Fleet and area variables**

- **GSA:** GFCM Geographical Sub-Area
- **Country**
- **SAC Fleet segment:**
- **Vessel Number:** Number of fishing vessels belonging to the fleet segment.
- **Capacity** Gross Tonnage (GT) or Gross Registered Tonnage (GRT)
- **Operational Activity:** Open a code for each activity developed around the year. Code composed as follows:
  - First three characters indicate the United Nations country abbreviation
  - Followed by two-digit number identifying the GSA
  - Followed by the letter of the SAC fleet segment
  - Last 2-digit number indicates the specific Operational Unit number
- **Base ports:** port/s of operation of the given Operational Unit.

**Table 2 - Main resource and activity components variables per OU**

- **Operational Unit code:** as above. For each the next data on the fishing activity practiced around the year.
- **Activity:** Days at sea or hours fishing.
- **Fishing gear:** abbreviated (two or three characters) according to the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG).
- **Target species** (FAO code): scientific name of the bio-economically most important target species (up to a maximum of five species).
- **FAO species code:** The FAO three-letter code based on the English common name as from the International Standard Statistical Classification of Aquatic Animals and Plants (ISSCAAP).
- **Main associated exploited resources:** the species, species group or assemblage exploited in association with the target species previously indicated.
- **Fishing period:** self-explanatory (e.g. annual, June to September).
- **Relative Weight:** Percentage of total vessels included in the fleet segment that practiced this activity.
- **Areas** where this activity is practised: expressed in descriptive way.

**Table 3 - Economic components variables**

- **Gross Tonnage:** Total gross tonnage of fishing vessels belonging to the given Fleet Segment.
- **Horse Power:** Total engine power of fishing vessels belonging to the given Fleet Segment.
- **Employment:** Total number of people employed on fishing vessels belonging to the given Fleet Segment. The number of crew members can be estimated on a full time equivalent (FTE) basis.
- **Salary Share %:** Percentage of the revenues after discounting commercial costs, daily costs and fuel costs that pertain to the crew. It will be distributed among the crew as salary.
- **Landing weight:** Total landings in weight.
- **Landing value:** The volume of landed fish valued against actual market prices. It equals to quantities landed multiplied by the landing average price.
- **Vessel value of total Fleet:** This is defined as total invested capital – value of hull, engine, gear and equipment. The replacement-value method can be used to estimate this parameter.
- **Fishing days/year per vessel:** Number of fishing days per year.
- **Fishing hours/day per vessel:** Number of fishing hours per day.
- **Cost of fishing/day per vessel:** These include daily expenses incurred in fishing activity, such as fuel, lubricants, etc. They are variable costs that depend on the time spent in fishing.
- **Yearly Fixed costs per vessel:** These comprise costs not directly connected with operational activity, such as non-routine maintenance, vessel insurance, taxes and dues, etc. The fixed costs are all the costs that are inevitable to pay yearly, independently from the time spent to fish.

**Table 4 – Effort variables**

<p><b>Landing weight</b> = as above <b>Effort measure</b> = Capacity * Fishing Activity <b>LPUE</b> = Landings per Unit of Effort</p>
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Note:

**Effort** is to be expressed as a product of the Capacity and Fishing Activity for each Operational Unit, even if the landings data are available only at level of fleet segments. This information allows for the estimation of **LPUE/CPUE**: Landings/Catch per Unit of Effort.

**Standardization coefficient** could be applied for each fleet segment and activity to obtain a measure of equivalence between the fishing effort of one group of vessels (fleet segment or OU) and another.

## **GFCM recommendations on Mediterranean fisheries management**

### **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/1**

#### **MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN FISHERIES EXPLOITING DEMERSAL AND SMALL PELAGIC**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECALLING* that the objectives of the Agreement establishing the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and proper utilisation of living marine resources;

*RECALLING* the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference for the Sustainable Development of the Fisheries in the Mediterranean held in November 2003 in Venice;

*CONSIDERING* that in the advice for 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 the SAC considered that certain stocks are overexploited, some with a high risk of recruitment overfishing, and that sustainable management requires that measures aimed at controlling or reducing the fishing effort;

*RECALLING* Recommendation GFCM/2002/1 which urges the control of fishing effort and the improvement of the exploitation pattern of demersal fisheries, as well as limiting catches of juveniles of small pelagic species;

*ADOPTS*, in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 1 (b) and (h) of Article III and Article V of the GFCM Agreement that :

#### **Management of fishing effort for certain demersal fisheries**

1. GFCM shall develop a management programme of the fishing effort concerning in particular demersal trawling fisheries exploiting inter alia, the following species: hake (*Merluccius merluccius*), blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*), red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*), Striped mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*), red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) and Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in the following geographic sub-areas : Northern and Southern Alboran Sea (GSA 1 and 3), Northern Spain (GSA 6), Balearic Islands (GSA 5), Gulf of Lions (GSA 7), Corsica Island (GSA 8), Ligurian and North Tyrrhenian Sea (GSA 9), South and Central Tyrrhenian Sea (GSA 10), Sardinia (GSA 11), South of Sicily (GSA 16), Northern Adriatic Sea (GSA 17), Southern Adriatic Sea (GSA 18), Western Ionian Sea (GSA 19), Eastern Ionian Sea (GSA 20), Aegean Sea (GSA 22) as well as in the adjacent sub-areas, if relevant.

#### **Management of fishing effort for certain small pelagic fisheries**

2. GFCM shall develop a management programme of the fishing effort concerning in particular pelagic trawling and purse seines in the pelagic fisheries exploiting, inter alia, the following species : anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*), sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) and sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in particular in the following geographic sub-areas (GSAs) : Northern and Southern Alboran Sea (GSAs 1 et 3), Northern Spain (GSA 6), Gulf of Lions (GSA 7), Northern Adriatic Sea (GSA 17), South of Sicily (GSA 16) and Aegean Sea (GSA 22), as well as in the adjacent sub-areas, if relevant.

3. In order to develop management programmes of the fishing effort referred to in paragraph 1 and 2, the SAC shall in 2006 identify:
- The reference year
  - The operational units
  - The parameters to measure the fishing effort both in terms of capacity, fishing activity and, if relevant, number and dimension of fishing gears.

The SAC shall transmit to the Commission in 2006 the results of this identification.

### **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/2**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF A CLOSED SEASON FOR THE DOLPHIN FISH FISHERIES USING FISHING AGGREGATION DEVICES (FADS)**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECALLING* that the objectives of the Agreement establishing the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and proper utilisation of living marine resources;

*RECALLING* the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference for the Sustainable Development of the Fisheries in the Mediterranean held in November 2003 in Venice;

*NOTING* that the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) recommends that fisheries exploiting dolphin fish (*Coryphaena hippurus*) and using fish aggregating devices (FADs), could operate, in all geographical sub-areas (GSAs), only between 15 August and 31 December of each year;

*NOTING* that SAC has considered that this type of measure can significantly contribute to the reduction of the catches of small specimen of dolphin fish and contribute to the sustainability of this stock;

*ADOPTS*, in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 1(b) and (h) of Article III and Article V of the GFCM Agreement that:

1. In order to protect the dolphin fish (*Coryphaena hippurus*), in particular small fish, exploited by fleets flying the flag of Members, the dolphin fish fisheries using fish aggregating devices (FADs) shall be prohibited from 1 January to 14 August of each year, in all geographical sub-areas.

By way of derogation, if a Member can demonstrate that due to bad weather, fishermen of this Member were unable to utilise their normal fishing days (notified in advance to the Executive Secretary), then the Member can carry over days lost by this fleet in FAD fisheries until 31 January of the following year.

The Member shall notify these measures to the Executive Secretary, who will circulate the information to all the Members.

2. Each Member involved by the fishery referred to in paragraph 1 shall take the necessary measures to ensure the respect of the measure referred to in paragraph 1.
3. Each Member shall adopt the necessary measures to ensure the reporting of their total landings and transhipments of dolphin fish carried out by the vessels that fly their flag. Each Member

shall also expand, or maintain, an appropriate system of collection and treatment of fisheries catch and effort data.

4. The Commission requests SAC to analyse for the first time in 2010, the impact of this measure on the stocks and to recommend any change that may be deemed necessary to improve its effectiveness, in order to evaluate possible modifications to the closure and/or to propose additional management measures.
5. Members involved by the fishery referred to in paragraph 1 will submit an Annual Report on their implementation to the Secretariat. The Executive Secretary shall report to the Commission.

### **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/3**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF FISHERIES RESTRICTED AREAS IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE DEEP SEA SENSITIVE HABITATS**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECALLING* that the objectives of the Agreement establishing the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and proper utilisation of living marine resources;

*RECALLING* the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference for the Sustainable Development of the Fisheries in the Mediterranean held in November 2003 in Venice;

*RECALLING* the Resolution 59/25 of the United Nations General Assembly and in particular paragraph 66 and 67 calling the regional fisheries management organizations to adopt appropriate conservation and management measures in order to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems;

*RECALLING* the Recommendation GFCM/2005/1 on the management of certain fisheries exploiting demersal and deepwater species;

*CONSIDERING* that integration of environmental concerns in fisheries management is a way to protect the structure and functioning of the marine ecosystems that are in turn fundamental to the overall production of the seas, including the exploited resources and to the benefit of sustainable fisheries;

*CONSIDERING* that also human activities other than fisheries should care of the structure and functioning of the marine ecosystems to the benefit of healthy environment and sustainable fisheries;

*NOTING* that the Scientific Advisory Committee recommends to ban bottom trawling activity in the deep water coral reefs located in international waters (referred to as Lophelia reef off Capo Santa Maria di Leuca) in order to protect the coral;

*NOTING* that the Scientific Advisory Committee has indicated that the area referred to as “The Nile Delta area cold hydrocarbon seeps” is characterized by an exceptional concentration of cold hydrocarbon seeps which had favoured the development of a unique living community and recommends that the area should be given a full protection status by avoiding demersal fishing practices;

*NOTING* that the Scientific Advisory Committee recommends to ban trawling activities in the area referred to as “The Eratosthenes Seamount” located in the Eastern Mediterranean between the

Levantine Platform to the south and the Cyprus margin to the north near the subduction zone of the African plate, in order to protect the deep sea sensitive habitat;

*ADOPTS*, in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 1 (b) and (h) of Article III and Article V of the GFCM Agreement that :

1. Fishing with towed dredges and bottom trawl nets shall be prohibited in the areas bounded by lines joining the following coordinates:

**a) Deep Sea fisheries restricted area “Lophelia reef off Capo Santa Maria di Leuca”**

39° 27.72’ N, 18° 10.74’ E  
 39° 27.80’ N, 18° 26.68’ E  
 39° 11.16’ N, 18° 04.28’ E  
 39° 11.16’ N, 18° 32.58’ E

**b) Deep Sea fisheries restricted area “The Nile delta area cold hydrocarbon seeps”**

31° 30.00’ N, 33° 10.00’ E  
 31° 30.00’ N, 34° 00.00’ E  
 32° 00.00’ N, 34° 00.00’ E  
 32° 00.00’ N, 33° 10.00’ E

**c) Deep Sea fisheries restricted area “The Eratosthemes Seamount”**

33° 00.00’ N, 32° 00.00’ E  
 33° 00.00’ N, 33° 00.00’ E  
 34° 00.00’ N, 33° 00.00’ E  
 34° 00.00’ N, 32° 00.00’ E

2. For the same areas, Members shall call the attention of the appropriate authorities in order to protect these areas from the impact of any other activity jeopardizing the conservation of the features that characterize these particular habitats.

**RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/4**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIST OF VESSELS PRESUMED TO HAVE CARRIED OUT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING ACTIVITIES IN THE GFCM AREA**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECALLING* that the FAO Council adopted on June 23, 2001 an International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU). This Plan stipulates that the identification of the vessels carrying out IUU activities should follow agreed procedures and be applied in an equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory way;

*CONCERNED* by the fact that IUU fishing activities in the GFCM area continue, and these activities diminish the effectiveness of the GFCM conservation and management measures;

*FURTHER CONCERNED* that there is evidence of a high number of vessel owners engaged in such fishing activities which have re-flagged their vessels to avoid compliance with GFCM management and conservation measures;

*DETERMINED* to address the challenge of an increase in IUU fishing activities by way of counter-measures to be applied in respect to the vessels without prejudice to further measures adopted in respect of flag States under the relevant GFCM instruments;

*CONSIDERING* the results of the Third Ministerial Conference on the Sustainable Development of Fisheries in the Mediterranean which was held in Venice from 25 to 26 November 2003;

*CONSCIOUS* of the need to address, as a matter of priority, the issue of large-scale fishing vessels conducting IUU fishing activities;

*NOTING* that the situation must be addressed in the light of all relevant international fisheries instruments and in accordance with the relevant rights and obligations established in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement;

*ADOPTS* in accordance with paragraph 1 (h) of Article III and Article V of the GFCM Agreement that:

1. For the purposes of this recommendation the fishing vessels flying the flag of a non-Contracting Party are presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in the GFCM Convention Area, *inter alia*, when a Contracting Party or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, presents evidence that such vessels:
  - a) Harvest species in the GFCM Area and are not registered on the GFCM list of vessels authorized to fish species in the GFCM Area;
  - b) Harvest Tuna or Tuna like species in the Convention Area, whose flag State is without quotas, catch limit or effort allocation under relevant GFCM conservation and management measures
  - c) Do not record or report their catches made in the GFCM Area, or make false reports;
  - d) Take or land undersized fish in contravention of GFCM conservation measures;
  - e) Fish during closed fishing periods or in closed areas in contravention of GFCM conservation measures;
  - f) Use prohibited fishing gear in contravention of GFCM conservation measures;
  - g) Tranship with vessels included in the IUU list;
  - h) Harvest species in the waters under the national jurisdiction of the coastal States in the GFCM Area without authorization and/or infringes its laws and regulations, without prejudice to the sovereign rights of coastal States to make measures against such vessels;
  - i) Are without nationality and harvest species in the GFCM Area; and/or
  - j) Engage in fishing activities contrary to any other GFCM conservation and management measures.
  
2. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, shall transmit every year to the Executive Secretary before July 15, the list of vessels flying the flag of a non-Contracting Party presumed to be carrying out IUU fishing activities in the GFCM Area during the current and previous years, accompanied by the supporting evidence concerning the presumption of IUU fishing activity.
 

This list shall be based on the information collected by Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties.
  
3. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 2, the GFCM Executive Secretary shall draw up a draft IUU list and shall transmit it together with all the evidence provided to Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, as well as to non-Contracting Parties whose vessels are included on these lists before August 15 of each year. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, shall transmit their comments, as appropriate, including evidence showing that the listed vessels neither have fished in

contravention to GFCM conservation and management measures nor had the possibility of fishing species in the GFCM Area, before September 30 to GFCM.

Upon receipt of the draft IUU list, Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, shall closely monitor these vessels included in the draft IUU list in order to determine their activities and possible changes of name, flag and/or registered owner.

4. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 3, the GFCM Executive Secretary shall draw up a provisional list that he shall transmit two weeks in advance of the Commission Session to the Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, together with all the evidence provided.
5. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, may at any time submit to the GFCM Executive Secretary any additional information, which might be relevant for the establishment of the IUU list. The GFCM Executive Secretariat shall circulate the information at latest before the annual Commission Session to the Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, and to the non-Contracting Parties concerned, together with all the evidence provided.
6. The GFCM Compliance Committee shall examine, each year, the provisional list, as well as the information referred to in paragraphs 3 and 5. The GFCM Compliance Committee shall remove a vessel from the provisional list if the flag State demonstrates that:
  - a) The vessel did not take part in any IUU fishing activities described in paragraph 1, or
  - b) Effective action has been taken in response to the IUU fishing activities in question, including, *inter alia*, prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity.
7. Following the examination referred to in paragraph 6, the GFCM Compliance Committee shall submit to the Commission for approval, the provisional list of the vessels identified as carrying out IUU fishing activities in the GFCM Area.
8. On adoption of the list, the Commission shall request non-Contracting Parties, whose vessels appear on the IUU list:
  - to notify the owner of the vessel identified on the IUU list of its inclusion on the list and the consequences which result from being included on the list, as referred to in paragraph 9;
  - to take all the necessary measures to eliminate these IUU fishing activities, including if necessary, the cancelling of the registration or of the fishing licenses of these vessels, and to inform the Commission of the measures taken in this respect.
9. Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, shall take all necessary measures, under their applicable legislation:
  - a) So that the fishing vessels, the mother ships and the cargo vessels flying their flag do not participate in any transshipment with vessels registered on the IUU list;
  - b) So that IUU vessels that enter ports voluntarily are not authorized to land or tranship therein;
  - c) To prohibit the chartering of a vessel included on the IUU list;
  - d) To refuse to grant their flag to vessels included in the IUU list, except if the vessel has changed owner; and the new owner has provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owner or operator has no further legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of, the vessel, or having taken into account all relevant facts, the flag Contracting Party or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, determines that granting the vessel its flag will not result in IUU fishing;

- e) To prohibit the imports, or landing and/or transshipment, of any species from vessels included in the IUU list;
  - f) To encourage the importers, transporters and other sectors concerned, to refrain from transaction and transshipment of any species caught by vessels included in the IUU list;
10. The GFCM Executive Secretary shall take any necessary measure to ensure publicity of the IUU vessels list adopted by GFCM pursuant to paragraph 8, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, and through electronic means, by placing it on the GFCM Web site. Furthermore, the GFCM Executive Secretary shall transmit the IUU vessels list to other regional fisheries organizations for the purposes of enhanced cooperation between GFCM and these organizations in order to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.
  11. This recommendation shall apply initially to large-scale fishing vessels over 24 metres LOA, flying the flag of non-Contracting Parties. The Commission shall, in future annual meetings, review and, as appropriate, revise this recommendation with a view to its extension to other types of IUU fishing activities of non-Contracting Party vessels and, to Contracting Party, Cooperating non-Contracting Party.
  12. Without prejudice to the rights of flag Contracting Parties or Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, and coastal states to take proper action consistent with international law, the Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, shall not take any unilateral trade measures or other sanctions against vessels provisionally included in the draft IUU list, pursuant to paragraph 3, or which have been already removed from the list, pursuant to paragraph 6, on the grounds that such vessels are involved in IUU fishing activities.
  13. A non-Contracting Party whose vessel appears on the IUU list may request the removal of this vessel from the list during the intersessional period by providing the following information:
    - it has adopted measures so that this vessel respects all GFCM conservation measures;
    - it will be able to assume effectively its responsibilities with respect to this vessel in particular as regards the monitoring and control of the fishing activities executed by this vessel in the GFCM Agreement Area;
    - it has taken effective action in response to the IUU fishing activities in question including prosecution and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity, if relevant;
    - the vessel has changed ownership and that the new owner can establish the previous owner no longer has any legal, financial or real interests in the vessel or exercises control over it and that the new owner has not participated in IUU fishing, if relevant.
  14. The non-Contracting Party shall send its request for the removal of the identified vessel from the IUU list to the GFCM Executive Secretary accompanied by the supporting information referred to in paragraph 13.
  15. On the basis of the information received in accordance with paragraph 13, the GFCM Executive Secretary will transmit the removal request, with all the supporting information to the Contracting Parties within 15 days following the notification of the removal request.
  16. The Contracting Parties will examine the request to remove the vessel and arrive at a conclusion on either the removal from, or the maintenance of the vessel on the IUU list by mail within 30 days following the notification by the Executive Secretariat. The result of the examination of the request by mail will be checked by the Executive Secretary at the end of the 30-day period following the date of the notification by the Executive Secretary referred to in paragraph 15. If a Contracting Party does not reply the notification from the Executive Secretary, it will be considered as an abstention from the vote and part of the quorum for the decision-making.

17. The Executive Secretary will communicate the result of the examination of the removal request as of the end of the 30-day period following the date of the notification referred to in paragraph 15 to all Contracting Parties.
18. If the result of the exercise indicates that there is a two-thirds majority of the Contracting Parties in favour of removal of the vessel from the IUU list, the President of the GFCM, on behalf of the GFCM, will communicate the result to all the Contracting Parties and to the non-Contracting Party which requested the removal of its vessel from the IUU list. In the absence of a two-thirds majority, the vessel will be maintained on the IUU list and the Executive Secretary will inform the non-Contracting Party accordingly.
19. The Executive Secretary of the GFCM will take the necessary measures to remove the vessel concerned from the GFCM IUU vessels list, as published on the GFCM Web site. Moreover, the Executive Secretary of the GFCM will forward the decision of removal of the vessel to other regional fishery organisations.

### **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/5**

#### **CRITERIA FOR OBTAINING THE STATUS OF COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTY IN GFCM AREA**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*NOTING* the imperative international responsibility concerning the conservation of the living marine resources in the Mediterranean Sea for the needs of present and future generations;

*NOTING* that the sustainability can be ensured only if all the Parties which fish for marine resources cooperate with the Commission, which is the competent international body for the conservation and management of these marine resources within its area of competence;

*ADOPTS*, in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 1 (h) of Article III and Article V of the GFCM Agreement that:

1. Each year, on the basis of information supplied to GFCM by Members, the Secretary shall contact all non-Contracting Parties known to be fishing in the GFCM Area for species under GFCM competence to urge them to become a Contracting Party to GFCM in accordance with the provisions of the GFCM Agreement, or attain the status of a Co-operating non-Contracting Party. In doing so, the Secretary shall provide a copy of all relevant Recommendations and Resolutions adopted by the Commission;
2. Any non-Contracting Party requesting the status of a co-operating non-Contracting Party shall apply to the Secretary. Requests must be received by the Executive Secretary no later than ninety (90) days in advance of an Annual Session of the Commission, to be considered at that meeting;
3. Non-Contracting Parties requesting the status of Co-operating non-Contracting Party shall provide the following information in order to have this status considered by the Commission:
  - a) where available, data on its historical fisheries in the GFCM Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas;

- b) all the data that Contracting Parties have to submit to GFCM based on the recommendations and resolutions adopted by GFCM;
  - c) details on current fishing presence in the GFCM Area, number of vessels and vessel characteristics; and
  - d) information on any research programmes it may have conducted in the GFCM Area and the information and the results of this research.
4. An applicant for Co-operating non-Contracting Party shall also:
- a) confirm its commitment to respect the Commission's conservation and management measures and;
  - b) inform GFCM of the measures it takes to ensure compliance by its vessels of GFCM conservation and management measures.
5. The Compliance Committee shall be responsible for reviewing requests for co-operating status and for recommending to the Commission whether or not an applicant should receive co-operating status. In this review, the Compliance Committee shall also consider information regarding the applicant available from other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) as well as data submission of the applicant. Caution shall be used so as not to introduce into the GFCM Area the excessive fishing capacity of other regions or IUU fishing activities by granting cooperating status to the applicant;
6. Co-operating non-Contracting Parties status shall be annually reviewed and renewed unless revoked by the Commission due to non-compliance with GFCM conservation and management measures.

#### **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/6**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE GFCM COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*ESTABLISHES*, in accordance with Article VII (1) of the Agreement creating the GFCM, a Compliance Committee.

The functions of the Compliance Committee shall be to:

- a) Review compliance with conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and make such recommendations to the Commission as may be necessary to ensure their effectiveness;
- b) Review the implementation of measures of monitoring, control, surveillance, and enforcement adopted by the Commission as may be necessary to ensure their effectiveness;
- c) Define, develop and make recommendations to the Commission concerning the phased development and implementation of the GFCM Control and Inspection scheme;
- d) Monitor, review and analyze information pertaining to the activities of Non-Contracting Parties and their vessels which undermine the objectives of the Agreement including, in particular, IUU fishing, and recommend actions to be taken by the Commission to discourage such activities;
- f) Perform such other tasks as directed by the Commission.

The Compliance Committee will meet during the annual Commission Session.

## **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/7**

### **DATA CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECOGNISING* the need for confidentiality at the commercial and organisational levels for data, reports and messages submitted to GFCM, the following policy and procedures on confidentiality of data will apply;

*ADOPTS*, in accordance with paragraph 1 (h) of Article III and with Article V of the GFCM Agreement that:

1. Field of application

The provisions set out below shall apply to all data, reports and messages (electronic and of other nature) transmitted and received pursuant to GFCM recommendations

2. General Provisions

- a) The Executive Secretary and the appropriate authorities of the Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, transmitting and receiving data, reports and messages shall take all necessary measures to comply with the security and confidentiality provisions set out in sections 3 and 4.
- b) The Executive Secretary shall inform all Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties of the measures taken in the secretariat to comply with these security and confidentiality provisions.
- c) The Executive Secretary shall take all the necessary steps to ensure that the requirements pertaining to the deletion of data, reports and messages handled by the Secretariat are complied with.
- d) Each Contracting Party and Cooperating non-Contracting Party shall guarantee the Executive Secretary the right to obtain as appropriate, the rectification of data, reports and messages the processing of which does not comply with the provisions of the GFCM Agreement.
- e) The Commission may instruct the Executive Secretary not to make available the data, reports and messages received by a Contracting Party and Cooperating non-Contracting Party, where it is established that the Contracting Party and Cooperating non-Contracting Party in question has not complied with these security and confidentiality provisions.

3. Provisions on Confidentiality

Data, reports and messages shall be used only for purposes stipulated in GFCM recommendations.

4. Provisions on Security

- a) Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties and the Executive Secretary shall ensure the secure treatments of data, reports and messages, in particular where the processing involves transmission over an electronic network. Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties and the Executive Secretary must implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect data, reports and messages against accidental or unlawful destruction or accidental loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure or access, and against all inappropriate forms of processing.

The following security issues must be addressed from the outset:

- System access control: the system has to withstand a break-in attempt from unauthorised persons.
- Authenticity and data access control: the system has to be able to limit the access of authorised parties to a predefined set of data only.
- Communication security: it shall be guaranteed that data, reports and messages that enter the system are securely communicated.
- Data security: it shall be guaranteed that data, reports and messages that enter the system are securely stored for the required time and that they will not be tampered with.
- Security procedures: security procedures shall be designed addressing access to the system, system administration and maintenance, backup and general use of the system.

Having regard to the state of the art and the cost of their implementation, such measures shall ensure a level of security appropriate to the risks represented by the processing of the data, reports and messages.

b) Data Security

Access limitation to the data shall be secured via a flexible user identification and password mechanism. Each user shall be given access only to the data necessary for his task.

c) Security Procedures

Each Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party and the Executive Secretary shall nominate a security system administrator. The security system administrator shall review the log files generated by the software, properly maintain the system security, restrict access to the system as deemed needed and act as a liaison with the Executive Secretary in order to solve security matters.

## **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2006/8**

### **CONCERNING SELECTED ICCAT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECALLING* that the objectives of the Agreement establishing the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and proper utilization of living marine resources,

*ADOPTS* in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 1 (h) of Article III and Article V of the GFCM Agreement the following Recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT):

#### **GFCM/2006/8 (A)**

#### **RECOMMENDATION [05-04] BY ICCAT TO AMEND THE RECOMMENDATION [04-06] ON BLUEFIN TUNA FARMING**

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the increasing development of bluefin tuna farming activities, especially in the Mediterranean;

*RECALLING* the conclusions of the 6th Ad Hoc GFCM/ICCAT Joint Working Group Meeting on Stocks of Large Pelagic Fishes in the Mediterranean Sea relative to the effects of the bluefin tuna farming and on the solutions that could be studied to regulate this activity;

*CONSIDERING* the advice of the 2001 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) on effects of bluefin tuna farming in the Mediterranean on the collection of data and consequently on stock assessment procedures;

*DESIRING* to gradually implement effective management measures that permit the development of bluefin tuna farming in a responsible and sustainable manner in relation to the management of bluefin tuna;

*NOTING* the potential advantages of the use of underwater video monitoring in estimating the number of fish;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) whose flag vessels fish or transfer quantities of bluefin tuna to cages for farming, shall undertake the necessary measures:
  - a) to require that the captains of vessels (including tugs and towing vessels) carrying out transfer operations of bluefin tuna for caging maintain vessel logs and report the quantities transferred and the number of fish as well as the date, place of harvest and name of the vessel and of the company responsible for the caging. This detailed information shall be entered into a register which shall contain details of all the transshipments carried out during the fishing season. This register shall be kept onboard and be accessible at any time for control purposes;
  - b) to require the reporting of the total amount of the transfers of bluefin tuna for fattening and farming, carried out by their flag vessels, and include this information in the Task I data;
  - c) to set up and maintain a list of their flag vessels that fish for, provide or transport bluefin tuna for farming purposes (name of the vessel, flag, license number, gear type), i.e., fishing boat, transport vessel, vessels with pools, etc;
  - d) these tugs and towing vessels must also be equipped with an operational satellite tracking and monitoring system (VMS).
2. The CPCs under whose jurisdiction the farms for bluefin tuna are located in the Convention area shall adopt the necessary measures to:
  - a) ensure that a caging declaration is presented by the operator in accordance with the ICCAT format in the attached Annex, on each fishing or transport vessel that participated in the transfer of tuna to cages for fattening, including the quantities of bluefin tuna destined for farming. This declaration shall include information relative to the quantities (in t) of fish transferred to the cages, the number of fish, the date, the place, the location of the harvest, the name of the vessel, as well as its flag and license number;

- b) ensure that the tuna farms and the national scientific institutes obtain data as specified in the following paragraph on the size composition of the fish caught as well as the date, time and area of catch and the fishing method used, in order to improve statistics for stock assessment purposes;

To this end, establish a sampling program for the estimation of the numbers-at-size of the bluefin tuna caught which requires notably that size sampling at cages must be done on one sample (= 100 specimens) for every 100 t of live fish, or on a 10% sample of the total number of the caged fish. Size samples will be collected during harvesting<sup>1</sup> at the farm, following the ICCAT methodology for reporting Task II. The sampling should be conducted during any harvesting, covering all cages. Data must be transmitted to ICCAT, by 31 July<sup>2</sup> for the sampling conducted the previous year.

- c) ensure the reporting of the quantities of bluefin tuna placed in cages and of estimates of the growth and mortality while in captivity and of the amounts sold (in t);
- d) set up and maintain a registry of the farming facilities under their jurisdiction;
- e) each CPC referred to in this paragraph shall nominate a single authority responsible for coordinating the collection and verification of information on caging activities and for reporting to and cooperating with the CPC whose flag vessels have fished the caged tuna.

This single authority shall submit, to the CPCs whose flag vessels have fished the caged tuna, a copy of each caging declaration referred to in paragraph 2a, within one week after the completion of the transfer operation of bluefin tuna into cages.

3. CPCs referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate to ensure that quantities caged are consistent with the reported catches (logbook) amount of each fishing vessel.
4. The CPCs that export farmed bluefin tuna products shall ensure that the description of these products includes "Farming" in the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document (BTSD) or the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Re-exportation Certificate (refer to the *2003 Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Amendment of the Forms of the ICCAT Bluefin/Bigeye/Swordfish Statistical Documents* [Rec. 03-19]).
5. The CPCs shall transmit, each year, to the Executive Secretary, prior to 31 August:
- the list of flag vessels provided for in paragraph 1c),
  - the results of the program referred to in paragraph 2 b),
  - the quantities of bluefin tuna caged during the previous year,
  - the quantities marketed during the previous year.
6. The CPCs referred to in this recommendation as well as the Contracting Parties that import bluefin tuna shall cooperate, particularly through the exchange of information.
7. The Commission shall request non-Contracting Parties that farm bluefin tuna in the Convention area to cooperate in the implementation of this recommendation.

<sup>1</sup> For fish farmed more than one year, other additional sampling methods should be established.

<sup>2</sup> For 2006 (transmission of data relative to 2005), this date is advanced to 31 May.

8. Based on the information referred to in paragraph 4 on the BTSD reports and the Task I data, the Commission shall review the effectiveness of these measures.
9.
  - a) The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of farming facilities authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna caught in the Convention area (hereafter referred to as FFBs). For the purposes of this recommendation, FFBs not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna caught in the Convention area.
  - b) Each CPC under whose jurisdiction FFBs are located shall submit electronically, where possible, to the ICCAT Executive Secretary by 31 August 2004 the list of its FFBs that are authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna. This list shall include the following information:
    - name of the FFB, register number,
    - names and addresses of owner (s) and operator (s),
    - location,
    - farming capacity (in t)
  - c) Each CPC shall notify the Executive Secretary, after the establishment of the ICCAT record of FFBs, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record of FFBs at any time such changes occur.
  - d) The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record of FFBs, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the record through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT Web site, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs.
  - e) The CPCs under whose jurisdiction FFBs are located shall take the necessary measures to ensure that their FFBs comply with the relevant ICCAT measures.
  - f) To ensure the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures pertaining to bluefin tuna:
    - i) CPCs under whose jurisdiction FFBs are located shall validate Bluefin Tuna Statistical Documents only for the farms on the ICCAT record of FFBs;
    - ii) CPCs shall require farmed bluefin tuna, when imported into their territory, to be accompanied by statistical documents validated for FFBs on the ICCAT record of FFBs and;
    - iii) CPCs importing farmed bluefin tuna and the States that authorize the FFB shall cooperate to ensure that statistical documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation;
    - iv) The CPCs under whose jurisdiction FFBs are located shall exclude from the ICCAT record the FFBs that do not respect the sampling requirements mentioned in paragraph 2b.
  - g) Each CPCs shall take the necessary measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the imports and sale of bluefin tuna from farms not registered in the ICCAT record of farming facilities authorised to operate as well as those that do not respect the sampling requirements foreseen in paragraph 2b and/or do not participate in the sampling programme referred to in paragraph 2 b).

10. a) The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of vessels that fish for, provide or transport bluefin for farming, i.e. fishing boats, transport vessels, vessels with pools, etc.

For the purpose of this recommendation the vessels not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to fish for, provide or transport bluefin tuna for farming.

- b) Each CPCs shall submit, electronically where possible, to the ICCAT Executive Secretary by 31 August 2006 the list of the vessels that are authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna. This list shall include the following information:

- name of the vessel, register number
- previous flag (if any)
- previous name (if any)
- previous details of deletion from other registers (if any)
- international radio call sign (if any)
- type of vessels, length and gross registered tonnage (GRT)
- name and address of owner (s) and operator (s)
- gear used
- time period authorised for fishing and/or providing or transporting bluefin tuna for farming

- c) Each CPC shall promptly notify, after the establishment of the initial ICCAT record, the ICCAT Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record and any time such changes occur.

- d) The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record and take any measure to ensure publicity of the record and through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT Web site in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirement noted by CPCs.

11. Each CPC shall take the necessary measures so that the FFBs do not receive tuna from vessels that are not included in the ICCAT record (fishing vessels, transport vessels, vessels with pools, etc.)

12. The SCRS shall undertake trials to identify growth rates including weight gains during the fattening or caging period.

13. This recommendation replaces the 2004 Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Farming [Rec. 04-06].



**GFCM/2006/8 (C)****RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR  
TRANSHIPMENT BY LARGE-SCALE LONGLINE FISHING VESSELS**

*TAKING ACCOUNT* of the need to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activities because they undermine the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures already adopted by ICCAT;

*EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN* that organized tuna laundering operations have been conducted and a significant amount of catches by IUU fishing vessels have been transhipped under the names of duly licensed fishing vessels;

*IN VIEW THEREFORE OF THE NEED* to ensure the monitoring of the transshipment activities by large-scale longline vessels in the Convention area, including the control of their landings;

*TAKING ACCOUNT* of the need to collect catch data of such large scale long-line tuna to improve the scientific assessments of those stocks;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The Commission establish a program of transshipment which applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the "LSTLVs") and to carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipment from these vessels.

The Commission shall at its 2008 annual meeting, review and, as appropriate, revise this Recommendation.

2. The flag Contracting Party, Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity (hereafter referred to as CPCs) of LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorize their LSTLVs which fish for tuna and tuna-like species to transship at sea. However, the flag CPC may authorize the at-sea transshipment by its flag LSTLVs on the condition that such transshipment is conducted in accordance with the procedures defined in Sections A, B and D below.
3. Transshipments by LSTLVs in waters under the jurisdiction of CPCs are subject to prior authorization from the coastal State concerned.

**A. RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO RECEIVE TRANSHIPMENT IN THE  
ICCAT AREA**

4. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area from LSTLVs. For the purposes of this Recommendation, carrier vessels not entered on the record are deemed not to be authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species in transshipment operations.
5. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the ICCAT Executive Secretary by 1 July 2006 the list of the carrier vessels that are authorized to receive transshipments from its LSTLVs in the Convention area. This list shall include the following information:
  - The flag of the vessel
  - Name of vessel, register number

- Previous name (if any)
  - Previous flag (if any)
  - Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any)
  - International radio call sign
  - Type of vessels, length, gross registered tonnage (GRT) and carrying capacity
  - Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
  - Time period authorized for transshipping
6. Each CPC shall promptly notify the ICCAT Executive Secretary, after the establishment of the initial ICCAT record, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record, at any time such changes occur.
  7. The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record and take measures to ensure publicity of the record and through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT Website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements notified by CPCs for their vessels.
  8. Carrier vessels authorized for at-sea transshipment shall be required to install and operate a VMS in accordance with the 2003 Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Minimum Standards for the Establishment of a Vessel Monitoring System in the ICCAT Convention Area [Rec. 03-14].

## **B. AT-SEA TRANSHIPMENT**

CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLVs flying their flag comply with the following:

9. Transshipment operations at sea may only be undertaken in accordance with the procedures detailed below.

### **Flag State authorization**

10. LSTLVs are not authorized to transship at sea, unless they have obtained prior authorization from their flag State.

### **Notification obligations**

#### **11. *Fishing vessel:***

To receive the prior authorization mentioned in paragraph 10 above, the master and/or owner of the LSTLV must notify the following information to its flag State authorities at least 24 hours in advance of the intended transshipment:

- the name of the LSTLV and its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels,
- the name of the carrier vessel and its number in the ICCAT record of carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the ICCAT area, and the product to be transshipped,
- the tonnage by product to be transshipped,
- the date and location of transshipment,
- the geographic location of the tuna catches.

The LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State, not later than 15 days after the transshipment, the ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels, in accordance with the format set out in **Annex 1**.

## 12. *Receiving carrier vessel*

The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall complete and transmit the ICCAT transshipment declaration to the ICCAT Secretariat and the flag CPC of the LSTLV, along with its number in the ICCAT record of carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the ICCAT area, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.

13. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, transmit an ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the ICCAT area, to the competent authorities of the State where the landing takes place.

## 14. *Regional Observer Program*

Each CPC shall ensure that all carrier vessels transshipping at sea have on board an ICCAT observer, no later than 1 January 2007, in accordance with the ICCAT regional observer program in **Annex 2**. The ICCAT observer shall observe the respect of this Recommendation, and notably that the transshipped quantities are consistent with the reported catch in the ICCAT transshipment declaration.

15. Vessels shall be prohibited from commencing or continuing transshipping in the ICCAT area without an ICCAT regional observer on board, except in cases of “force majeure” duly notified to the ICCAT Secretariat.

## C. IN-PORT TRANSSHIPMENTS

16. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLVs flying their flag comply with the obligations set out in **Annex 3**.

## D. GENERAL PROVISIONS

17. To ensure the effectiveness of the ICCAT conservation and management measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:

- a) In validating the Statistical Document, Flag CPCs of LSTLVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLV.
- b) The Flag CPC of LSTLVs shall validate the Statistical Documents for the transshipped fish, after confirming that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Recommendation. This confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the ICCAT Observer Program.
- c) CPCs shall require that the species covered by the Statistical Document Programs caught by LSTLVs in the Convention area, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the ICCAT record and a copy of the ICCAT transshipments declaration.

18. The CPCs shall report annually before 15 September to the Executive Secretary:

- The quantities by species transshipped during the previous year.
- The list of the LSTLVs registered in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels which have transshipped during the previous year.

- A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received transshipment from their LSTLVs.
19. All tuna and tuna-like species landed or imported into the CPCs either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transhipped, shall be accompanied by the ICCAT transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.
  20. Each year, the Executive Secretary of ICCAT shall present a report on the implementation of this Recommendation to the annual meeting of the Commission which shall review compliance with this Recommendation.

ICCAT TRANSHIPMENT DECLARATION

Name of vessel and radio External identification: In case of transshipment  
 Call sign if any: ICCAT record number: Name and/or call sign,  
 Flag State authorization number of receiving carrier vessel:

Day Month Hour Year |2\_|0\_|\_|\_| Agent's name: Master's name of LSTLV: Master's name of Carrier:  
 Departure |\_|\_| |\_|\_| |\_|\_| from |\_\_\_\_\_|  
 Return |\_|\_| |\_|\_| |\_|\_| to |\_\_\_\_\_| Signature: Signature: Signature:  
 Transshipment |\_|\_| |\_|\_| |\_|\_| |\_\_\_\_\_|

Indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the landed weight in kilograms of this unit: |\_|\_| kilograms <sup>(3)</sup> <sup>(4)</sup> LOCATION OF TRANSHIPMENT.....

Species	Port <sup>(2)</sup>		Sea	Type of Product <sup>(1)</sup>								
				Whole	Gutted	Head off	Filleted					

If transshipment effected at sea, ICCAT Observer Signature:

### ICCAT REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME

1. Each CPC shall require carrier vessels included in the ICCAT record of vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the ICCAT area and which transship at sea, to carry an ICCAT observer during each transshipment operation in the Convention area.
2. The Secretariat of the Commission shall appoint the observers and shall place them on board the carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the ICCAT area from LSTLVs flying the flag of Contracting Parties and of non-Contracting Cooperating Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities that implement the ICCAT observer program.

#### Designation of the observers

3. The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
  - sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
  - satisfactory knowledge of the ICCAT conservation and management measures;
  - the ability to observe and record accurately;
  - a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.

#### Obligations of the observer

4. Observers shall:
  - a) have completed the technical training required by the guidelines established by ICCAT;
  - b) be nationals of one of the CPCs and, to the extent possible, not of the flag State of the receiving carrier vessel;
  - c) be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 5 below;
  - d) be included in the list of observers maintained by the Secretariat of the Commission;
  - e) not be a crew member of an LSTLV or an employee of an LSTLV company.
5. The observer tasks shall be in particular to:
  - a) monitor the carrier vessel's compliance with the relevant conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission. In particular the observers shall:
    - (i) record and report upon the transshipment activities carried out;
    - (ii) verify the position of the vessel when engaged in transshipping;
    - (iii) observe and estimate products transshipped;
    - (iv) verify and record the name of the LSTLV concerned and its ICCAT number;
    - (v) verify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;
    - (vi) certify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;
    - (vii) countersign the transshipment declaration;
  - b) issue a daily report of the carrier vessel's transshipping activities;
  - c) establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the captain the opportunity to include therein any relevant information;
  - d) submit to the Secretariat the aforementioned general report within 20 days from the end of the period of observation;
  - e) exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission.

6. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the LSTLVs and of the LSTLV owners and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer;
7. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag State which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.
8. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behavior which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 9 of this program.

#### **Obligations of the flag States of carrier vessels**

9. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag States of the carrier vessels and their captains shall include the following, notably:
  - a) Observers shall be allowed access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment;
  - b) Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 5:
    - (i) satellite navigation equipment;
    - (ii) radar display viewing screens when in use;
    - (iii) electronic means of communication.
  - c) Observers shall be provided accommodations, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
  - d) Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
  - e) The flag States shall ensure that captains, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.

The Secretariat, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, is requested to provide to the flag State of the carrier vessel under whose jurisdiction the vessel transshipped and to the Flag CPC of the LSTLV, copies of all raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip.

The Secretariat shall submit the observer reports to the Compliance Committee and to the SCRS.

#### **Observer fees**

- a) The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the ICCAT Secretariat and the ICCAT Secretariat shall manage the account for implementing the program;
- b) No observer shall be assigned to a vessel for which the fees, as required under subparagraph a), have not been paid.

### IN-PORT TRANSHIPMENT BY LSTLVs

1. Transshipment operations in port may only be undertaken in accordance with paragraph 3 of the Introduction and the procedures detailed below:

#### **Notification obligations**

#### **2. Fishing vessel:**

- 2.1 Prior to transshipping, the captain of the LSTLV must notify the following information to the Port State authorities, at least 48 hours in advance:

- the name of the LSTLV and its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels,
- the name of the carrier vessel, its number in the ICCAT record of carrier vessels, and the product to be transshipped,
- the tonnage by product to be transshipped,
- the date and location of transshipment,
- the geographic location of the tuna catches.

- 2.2 The captain of a LSTLV shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform its Flag State of the following;

- the products and quantities involved,
- the date and place of the transshipment,
- the name, registration number and flag of the receiving carrier vessel and its number in the ICCAT record of vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the ICCAT area,
- the geographic location of the tuna catches.

The captain of the LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State the ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels, in accordance with the format set out in Annex 1 no later than 15 days after the transshipment.

#### ***Receiving vessel:***

3. No later than 24 hours before the beginning and at the end of the transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall inform the Port State authorities of the quantities of catches of tuna and tuna-like species transshipped to his vessel, and complete and transmit the ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of carrier vessels to the competent authorities within 24 hours.

#### ***Landing State:***

4. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, complete and transmit an ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of carrier vessels to the competent authorities of the landing State where the landing takes place.
5. The port State and the landing State referred to in the above paragraphs shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the flag CPC of the LSTLV to ensure that landings are consistent with the reported catches amount of each vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that degradation of the fish is avoided.
6. Each flag CPC of the LSTLV shall include in its annual report each year to ICCAT the details on the transshipments by its vessels.

## Budget for 2006

	US\$	% Total Auton. Budget
<b>PROFESSIONAL STAFF</b>		
Secretary - D-1	185 152	19
Deputy Secretary - P-5	164 032	17
Bio-Statistician – P-3	91 953	9
Aquaculture Expert - P-4 (frozen)	0	0
<b>SUB-TOTAL-PROF.</b>	<b>441 137</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>ADMIN. SUPPORT</b>		
Programmer/System Analyst G-5	67 100	7
Financial/Administrative Clerk G-3/4	39 821	4
Bilingual Secretary - G-4/5	68 953	7
Overtime	3 000	0
<b>SUB-TOTAL-ADM.SUP</b>	<b>178 874</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>TOTAL STAFF</b>	<b>620 011</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>		
Consultants and contracts	41 015	4
Duty Travel	76 993	8
Chargeback, including interpretation	82 500	8
Training	4 600	0
Equipment	3 407	0
SIPAM Revitalization	67 000	7
Operating & Overhead (incl. meetings SAC/CAQ subsidiaries)	69 240	7
Scientific publications	19 000	2
<b>SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>363 755</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>AUTONOMOUS BUDGET</b>	<b>983 766</b>	<b>100</b>
Miscellaneous	9 838	
FAO Servicing Costs (4.5%)	44 712	
<b>TOTAL AUTONOMOUS BUDGET</b>	<b>1 038 316</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>FAO CONTRIBUTION</b>		
FIPL (Liaison, including statutory meetings)	15 200	
FIPP (Policy and Social Sciences)	29 000	
FIRM (Resources and Environment)	24 400	
FIRI (Aquaculture)	22 500	
FIDI (Statistics and Information)	12 500	
FII (Marketing and Fishing Technology)	6 000	
FI (Coordination, including Legal Office)	4 750	
<b>TOTAL FAO CONTRIBUTION</b>	<b>114 350</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>GFCM GLOBAL BUDGET</b>	<b>1 152 666</b>	<b>100</b>

## GFCM contribution calculations for 2006

Member	Basic Fee	GDP Component		Catch Component		Total	
	US\$	Index	US\$	GFCM tonnes	US\$	US\$	%
Albania	3 311	1	2 674	9 038	919	6 904	0.87
Algeria	3 311	1	2 674	213 830	21 745	27 729	3.49
Bulgaria	3 311	1	2 674	693	71	6 055	0.76
Croatia	3 311	1	2 674	53 543	5 445	11 430	1.44
Cyprus*	3 311	10	26 740	.	.	30 051	3.78
Egypt	3 311	1	2 674	306 929	31 212	37 197	4.68
France	3 311	10	26 740	.	.	30 051	3.78
Greece	3 311	10	26 740	.	.	30 051	3.78
Israel	3 311	10	26 740	24 697	2 511	32 563	4.10
Italy	3 311	10	26 740	.	.	30 051	3.78
Japan	3 311	20	53 481	1 192	121	56 913	7.16
Lebanon	3 311	1	2 674	9 781	995	6 979	0.88
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	3 311	1	2 674	93 000	9 457	15 442	1.94
Malta	3 311	1	2 674	.	.	5 985	0.75
Monaco	3 311	0	0	12	1	3 312	0.42
Morocco	3 311	1	2 674	70 938	7 214	13 199	1.66
Romania	3 311	1	2 674	2 844	289	6 274	0.79
Serbia and Montenegro	3 311	1	2 674	1 476	150	6 135	0.77
Slovenia*	3 311	10	26 740	.	.	30 051	3.78
Spain	3 311	10	26 740	.	.	30 051	3.78
Syrian Arab Republic	3 311	1	2 674	8 470	861	6 846	0.86
Tunisia	3 311	1	2 674	271 187	27 577	33 562	4.22
Turkey	3 311	1	2 674	595 290	60 536	66 521	8.37
EC	3 311	.	.	2 634 539	267 910	271 221	34.13
		104		4 297 460			100
US DOLLARS	79 457		278 101		437 015	794 573	

\* Countries which have changed category from previous year

Total Budget US\$			<b>794 573</b>
Basic fee in percent	<b>10.0</b>	in US\$	79 457
Number of Members			<b>24</b>
Total budget less basic fee			715 116
GDP Component (percent of total budget):			<b>35%</b>
	US\$		278 101
Catch Component (percent of total budget):			<b>55%</b>
	US\$		437 015

The thirtieth session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) was attended by delegates from 18 Members of the Commission. The Commission reviewed the intersessional activities of its Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and its Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ). Based on the advice emanating from SAC and proposals by Members, the GFCM adopted respectively: three binding recommendations on fisheries management measures, including on fishing effort and on the protection of sensitive habitats; two recommendations on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, including on the establishment of a black list of vessels and on data confidentiality procedure. It also endorsed three recommendations from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), including on the establishment of a programme for transshipment by large-scale longliners. The GFCM reiterated its satisfaction with progress made in the implementation of the five regional projects executed by FAO in support of the Commission. The Commission ascertained its financial situation and agreed to use arrears to build a Working Capital Fund. In the Secretariat, it established a post of Statistician and a post of Programmer/System Analyst. Work progress related to the new headquarters of the Commission was reviewed. The Commission decided to postpone the adjustments to its Rules of Procedure to its next plenary. The Commission established a Compliance Committee. It formalized the Environment Aquaculture Mediterranean Network (EAM) and the Statistical Information System on Aquaculture (SIPAM) as subsidiary bodies of CAQ, and endorsed the guidelines prepared by the Joint GFCM/ICCAT Working Group on Sustainable Tuna Farming. The Commission agreed on its programme of work and adopted its autonomous budget for the year 2006. The GFCM elected its new Bureau.

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