



## **TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ADVISORY WORKING GROUP**

1. FAO will establish the Advisory Working Group on Aquatic Genetic Resources and Technologies to advise FAO on matters concerning aquatic genetic resources and technologies, and to enhance international cooperation on aquatic genetic resource management.
2. The Advisory Working Group shall be established according to FAO's rules.
3. The Advisory Working Group shall consist of no more than 10 recognized experts in genetic resource use and conservation in fisheries and aquaculture.
4. Advisory Working Group members shall be appointed by the Director-General for a period of two years but may be renewable. In appointing experts, in addition to scientific and technical excellence, FAO will consider diversity and complementarity of scientific backgrounds and observe, as appropriate, the principle of equitable geographical representation and gender representation. Experts will be invited to participate in the Advisory Working Group in their personal capacity, as experts, and shall not represent the position of the government of which s/he is an official, or of the organization with which s/he is associated.
5. The working language of the Advisory Working Group will be English.
6. The scope of the Advisory Working Group shall include the conservation, sustainable use and development of all aquatic genetic resources relevant for fisheries and aquaculture.
7. Specific tasks of the Advisory Working Group shall be assigned by FAO with due consideration of the advice from COFI.
8. The membership of the Advisory Working Group may be changed by FAO depending on the specific advice being requested by FAO and/or COFI.
9. The Secretariat of the Advisory Working Group will be based in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department of FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy.
10. The plan of work of the Advisory Working Group will be prepared and approved by the Advisory Working Group in consultation with the secretariat taking into account tasks assigned to it in accordance with paragraph 7 above and available financial resources.
11. The Advisory Working Group shall prepare a report to the FAO secretariat providing information on its activities and recommendations.
12. The Advisory Working Group may propose amendments to these terms of reference which shall be transmitted to COFI for consideration.

