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Food and Agriculture  
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Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная организация  
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

**2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on the Proposal of the Establishment of  
the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (WG 2)**

**20 September 2021**

**Draft Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee on Fisheries  
Management**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This document presents draft Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM).

The Sub-committee on Fisheries Management shall provide a forum for consultation and discussion on fisheries management related issues and advise COFI on the work to be performed by FAO, international organizations, individual countries and NGOs on related technical and policy matters.

In particular, the Sub-committee shall:

1. provide a technical forum to discuss measures for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources
2. identify and discuss major issues and trends in global fisheries management and development as well as determine those issues and trends requiring action in the domain of fisheries management;
3. recommend international action to address such issues and trends as well as fisheries management and development needs and, in this regard (1) to advise on mechanisms to prepare, facilitate and implement action programmes identified, as well as on the expected contribution of partners; (2) to advise on the liaison with other relevant groups and organisations with a view to promoting harmonisation and endorsing policies and actions, as appropriate; (3) to advise on the strengthening of international collaboration to assist developing countries in the implementation of such actions and FAO instruments in the domain of fisheries management
4. support and assist individual countries to implement measures for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources within an appropriate policy, legal and institutional framework;
5. promote and review small-scale fisheries related matters, including the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries;
6. collaborate and provide inputs to the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade on issues linking fisheries management and trade<sup>1</sup>;
7. collaborate and provide inputs to the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture on issues linking fisheries management and aquaculture; and
8. address any specific matters relating to fisheries management referred to it by its Members, the Committee on Fisheries or the Director-General of FAO.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Terms of reference of the existing two Sub-Committees are attached in Appendix 1.

<sup>2</sup> Rather than listing all the matters to be covered, it is proposed to keep general Terms of Reference that is flexible and broad and develop a virtual agenda (Appendix 2), which will be elaborated with specific items to be discussed.

**(APPENDIX 1)****TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EXISTING COFI SUBCOMMITTEES****Subcommittee on Fish Trade**

The Sub-Committee shall provide a forum for consultations on technical and economic aspects of international trade in fish and fishery products including pertinent aspects of production and consumption. In particular, the work of the Sub-Committee will include:

- Periodic reviews on the situation and outlook of principal fishery commodity markets covering all factors influencing them;
- on the basis of special studies, discussion of specific fish trade problems and possible solutions;
- discussion of suitable measures to promote international trade in fish and fishery products and formulation of recommendations to improve the participation of developing countries in this trade, including trade-related services;
- in conjunction with the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission, formulation of recommendations for the promotion of international quality standards and the harmonization of quality control and inspection procedures and regulations;
- consultation and formulation of recommendations for economically-viable fishery commodity development, including processing methods, the upgrading of products and production of final products in developing countries.

**Subcommittee on Aquaculture**

The Sub-Committee shall provide a forum for consultation and discussion on aquaculture and advise COFI on technical and policy matters related to aquaculture and on the work to be performed by the Organization in the subject matter field of aquaculture. In particular, the Sub-Committee shall:

- identify and discuss major issues and trends in global aquaculture development;
- determine those issues and trends of international importance requiring action to increase the sustainable contribution of aquaculture to food security, economic development and poverty alleviation;

- recommend international action to address aquaculture development needs and, in this regard (1) to advise on mechanisms to prepare, facilitate and implement action programmes identified, as well as on the expected contribution of partners; (2) to advise on the liaison with other relevant groups and organizations with a view to promoting harmonization and endorsing policies and actions, as appropriate; (3) to advise on the strengthening of international collaboration to assist developing countries in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;
- advise on the preparation of technical reviews and of issues and trends of international significance; and
- address any specific matters relating to aquaculture referred to it by its Members, the Committee on Fisheries or the Director-General of FAO.

**(APPENDIX 2)****Draft Virtual Agenda for the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM)**

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda, arrangements for the Session and designation of the Drafting Committee
3. Overview of status of global fisheries management  
(To identify and discuss major issues and trends in global fisheries management and development as well as determine those issues and trends requiring action in the domain of fisheries management)
4. Challenges in the implementation of Article 7 of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, including mapping the status of implementation of existing FAO's instruments in fisheries.
5. Specific issues in relation to fisheries management
  - 5.1. Supporting small-scale and artisanal fisheries (e.g. the status of implementation of IYAFSA and follow-up, challenges and ways to overcome them in the implementation of the SSF Guidelines)
  - 5.2. Combatting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (e.g. the challenges and ways to overcome them in the implementation of PSMA, the Global Record, and the VG for Flag State Performance, transshipment, safety and labour issues.)
  - 5.3. Global and regional process related to fisheries management (e.g. Enhancing the impact of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats' Network (RSN), CITES (from an aspect of fisheries management))
  - 5.3. Environment-related matters (e.g. MPA and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM), climate change, biodiversity mainstreaming, abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) and VG on the Marking of Fishing Gear, bycatch)
  - 5.5 Others (e.g. Promoting rights-based fisheries (could be addressed as part of 5.1), UNFSA's issue of distinctly reporting catches inside and outside EEZ)
6. Collaboration with other Sub-Committees
7. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons for the next Session
8. Any other matters

9. Date and place of the next Session

10. Adoption of the Report