



联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Organisation des Nations  
Unies pour l'alimentation  
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная организация  
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

E

**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**

**Minutes of WG 2**

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

12:00-15:00 (CEST), Monday, 20 September 2021  
On Zoom

### **Registered Participants: Appendix 1**

#### **Discussion:**

#### **1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The draft Provisional Agenda was adopted without any change as attached in **Appendix 2**.

#### **2. Review of draft terms of reference of the new Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM)**

The Secretary of COFI introduced WG 2/1<sup>1</sup> as follows:

- (1) Following the guidance given in WG 1 in May, this document was prepared based on Appendix 1 of the non-paper, circulate in JTF 3 on 23 September 2019, and in consultation with the Chairperson;
- (2) In order to make comparison with the existing Sub-Committees, Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade and the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture are also attached;
- (3) A basic idea is to keep the terms of reference general and more specific issues to be addressed in SCFM could be elaborated in the draft Virtual Agenda. The draft Virtual Agenda is prepared based on consideration of the agenda items of COFI and the existing Sub-Committees, as well as the non-paper provided by Japan for JTF 4 on 14 January 2021; and
- (4) Attention should be given to “Promoting rights-based fisheries” listed under Agenda item 5.5 in the draft Virtual Agenda. While it is proposed that it could be addressed as part of 5.1, in relation to small-scale and artisanal fisheries, the officer in charge of right-based fisheries advised me that this matter should be separately addressed from small-scale and artisanal fisheries and possibly as a stand-alone item because right-based approaches can be applied in both commercial and small-scale/artisanal fisheries and the systems are very diverse in their design and differ between large and small-scale/artisanal situation, as well as inland and marine fisheries.

The Representative of European Union (EU) expressed that the mandate should focus on both policy and technical fisheries management related issues to prepare adequately the work of

---

<sup>1</sup> Available on the relevant webpage: <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/cofi/sub-committee-on-fisheries-management-wg/en/>

COFI. The future sub-committee should not be tasked with programme implementation and management. In this respect, he also questioned the references to “programme implementation” and “assistance to individual countries to implement measures”. The Representative of Japan expressed that the proposed Terms of Reference (ToR) cover every concern and are sufficient. The Representative of the United States of America (USA) expressed that the reference to the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries should be necessary and questioned if Paragraphs 6 and 7, referring to the collaboration with other Sub-Committees, are necessary. The Representative of Brazil expressed that the current Virtual Agenda includes almost all items other than the reports of the existing Sub-Committees, but more streamlining of it is necessary. The Representative of Indonesia expressed that the draft ToR has elaborated on all relevant aspects, including identifying ways to achieve efficiency, avoid duplication with other COFI-subcommittee, and proposed specific issues to be addressed by the new sub-committee. The Representative of Spain expressed that ToR should include a social dimension due to the pandemic of COVID-19. The Representative of New Zealand expressed that (1) with regard to Paragraph 3, the terms such as “harmonization” and “endorsing” are confusing and could undermine the function of the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) and (2) Paragraph 4 could overlap with the role of RFMOs. The Representative of Cook Islands expressed some concern about the general mandate of the new Sub-Committee while the establishment of the new Sub-Committee has not yet been decided, and supported the comments from New Zealand about the need to ensure that RFMOs are not undermined.

After the general statements by the participants, the meeting started editing the draft terms of reference paragraph by paragraph, but due to its time-consuming nature, the Chairperson decided to do it in correspondence and requested the participants to submit their written comments by 20 October, and then the revised draft with the proposed changes is to be distributed by the end of November.

### **3. Review of the options with further analysis**

The Secretary of COFI introduced WG 2/2 and WG 2/2/Sup.1<sup>2</sup> as follows:

- (1) As indicated in the Executive Summary, following the guidance given in WG 1, WG 2/2 intends to present pros and cons of each option proposed so far. The options are in principle same as listed in WG 1/1, but some options are divided into sub-options and the former Option D on the virtual trial sessions has been integrated into Option A, as Sub-Option A-4. Sub-Option A-5, namely “One of the three sub-committees to be held virtually on a rotational basis”, has been newly added.
- (2) Again, following the guidance given in WG 1, WG/2/2/Sup. 1 intends to show the cost estimation for each Option, based on the table A2.5 on Budget for SCFT of the non-paper circulated in JTF 3. These costs are so-called “non-staff costs” which consist of the cost for arranging the meetings (meeting cost) and travels, if necessary, (travel cost).

The Representative of EU questioned the feasibility and the implications of Option C. To assess them, he asked for the opinion of the Chairs of the existing two sub-committees on whether one

---

<sup>2</sup> Both documents are also available on the relevant webpage: <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/cofi/sub-committee-on-fisheries-management-wg/en/>

of these sub-committees could easily and adequately manage the new tasks on fisheries management outlined in the draft terms of reference, in addition to their current workload and within the same time frame (i.e. without modifying the frequency and/or length of its meetings). The Secretary of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade (SCFT) responded that in case of SCFT the additional ToR could cause time and resources constraints. The Representative of EU also questioned the difference between a sub-committee and a working group as suggested in Option D. The Secretary of COFI explained that the working groups could be more informal than the sub-committees. The Chairperson explained that the working groups are established only for specific issues on an ad-hoc basis. The Representative of New Zealand echoed the Chairperson and mentioned that the working groups could discuss specific issues more flexibly without establishing the standing sub-committees. The Representative of Cook Islands expressed a concern about the cost imposed on each Member and its favour to Option D, which provides more flexibility, and also considered Option D and Option B could be merged, where the Working Groups could meet in conjunction with COFI or the existing Sub-Committees. The Representative of Chile expressed her preference of Option A because she preferred a sub-committee to a working group. The Representative of Norway also expressed his preference of Option A. The Representative of Japan recalled the discussion in JTF before COFI 34, where Japan had proposed Option C, and mentioned that Option D could be considered as an experimental option. The Representative of Argentine expressed her preference of Option A or Option B because she preferred to keep the existing two Sub-Committees. The Representative of USA expressed her preference of Option A, in particular Option A-5. The Representative of Vietnam expressed a preference of Option A-3. The Representative of Peru also expressed a preference of Option A-3. The Representative of Indonesia expressed a concern about the high cost and time required to attend the third sub-committee and the risk of a resulting lack of representation of the new sub-committee. The Representative of EU mentioned that, together with the EU Member States, it would refine its reflection in the coming weeks, taking into account the following three elements: (1) to avoid options that could hamper the quality of the work of COFI and/or of the existing two Sub-Committees; (2) Video conferencing can help to overcome the difficulties to attend physical meetings. However, be it in full virtual mode or in hybrid mode, video conferencing also has a cost and can negatively affect the participation and the quality of discussion and outcomes, particularly when sensitive negotiation is involved; and (3) One should remain open to testing a formula and adjusting it according to the evolution of the situation or the content of the future sub-committee agendas. The Representative of New Zealand supported EU and mentioned that the Option to be chosen should not undermine the existing Sub-Committees.

In response to a question by the Representative of Brazil on FAO's support for participation from developing Member states as well as a clarification requested by the Representative of New Zealand and the Representative of Chile about the sources of funding, the Secretary of COFI explained that (1) FAO cannot guarantee the support for the participation of the developing Member states unless any specific funding mechanism is established for the purpose, and (2) the costs expected to be covered by FAO in WG 2/2/Sup.1 does not mean that FAO has been already committed to do so with the regular budget, and even though the meeting is to be held in Rome by FAO, the extra-budgetary fund must be secured.

#### **4. Identification of any further work**

The meeting identified the following further work and requested the Secretariat to circulate revised/additional documents at least three week prior to the next meeting (by 26 November 2021):

- (1) According to the request by the Representative of Cook Island, the Secretariat will prepare another table to show the following three points on each Option: 1) Availability of advice by COFI, 2) participation is open or limited, and 3) availability of interpretation/translation;
- (2) According to the request by the Representative of EU, the Secretariat will further analyze Option C and show if the existing Sub-Committees can afford to accept the additional task on fisheries management and what this would imply in terms of time and resources;
- (3) With regard to WG 2/2/Sup.1, the Secretariat will further clarify 1) availability of fund from FAO, 2) new/additional cost for Option C, and 3) potential funding sources in FAO including those for supporting participation from developing Member states.
- (4) According to the requests by the Representative of USA and the EU, the Secretariat will show the difference between a working group of Option D and a sub-committee in terms of the process of approval by the governing bodies in FAO.

#### **5. Any other matters**

No other matter was proposed to be discussed.

#### **6. Next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of WG (WG 3) would be held on 17 December 2021 on zoom to continue discussing the revised Terms of Reference of SCFM as well as Options with the additional information. It is also expected that the meeting will start narrowing down the number of options for further consideration.

(APPENDIX 1)

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

12:00-15:00 (CEST), Monday, 20 September 2021  
On Zoom

Names of countries	Registered Participants
Angola	Ms Maria de Fátima Jardim
Argentina	Mr Guillermo Rodolico, Mr Gustavo Wicki, Mr Juan Manuel Alderete, Mr Santiago Panné Huidobro, Ms Gabriela Navaro, Ms Laura Prosdocimi
Brazil	Mr Rodrigo Estrela, Ms Luciana Fonseca, Mr Carlos Olyntho de Arruda Villaca, Mr Rivetla Edipo Araujo Cruz, Mr Diogenes Lemainski
Canada	Ms Renée Sauv�, Mr Benny Guttman, Ms Julie Edmond, Ms Rose Labreche
Chile	Ms Tamara Villanueva, Ms Katherine Bernal, Mr Salvador Vega, Ms Vanessa Pohl, Mr Julio Jorquera, Ms Monica Rojas
Colombia	Ms Sara Liliana Zafra Murcia, Mr Juan Carlos Gutierrez Mejia
Cook Islands	Ms Kerrie Robertson, Ms Alexis Wolfgramm
Czechia	Mr Jakub Moricky,
Egypt	Mr Doaa Abdu Hammam, Mr Atef Salah Megaed, Mr Abdel Razek Mohamed Abdelrazek, Ms Fatima El Zahra Mohamed
European Union	Mr Marc Richir, Mr Jorg Roos, Mr Pierre Rabourdin
Indonesia	Ms Sitti Hamdiyah, Ms Anindita Laksmiwati, Mr/Ms Djoko Arye Prasetyo, Mr/Ms Sofyan Rahman, Mr Muhammad Febrianoer, Mr Andreas Mahardika, Ms Novi Dwi Ratnasari, Ms Fathia Maryam Perdata, Mr Caka A. Awal, Ms Nona Gae Luna, Ms Ida Ayu Ratih, Ms Agnes Rosari Dewi
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Mr Morteza Azadi
Italy	Mr Mauro Bertelletti, Mr Massimo Ruggiero, Ms Ilaria Ferraro
Japan	Mr Shingo Ota, Mr Hideki Moronuki, Mr Naohito Okazoe, Mr Kento Otsuyama, Ms Sayako Takeda
Kuwait	Mr Sultan Alotaibi, Mr Salah Al Bazzaz
Malta	Mr Angelico Baldacchino
Mexico	Mr Giovanni Fiore-Amaral, Ms Isabel Cristina REYES ROBLES, Mr Jos� Luis DELGADO CRESPO
New Zealand	Mr Don Syme
Nigeria	Mr Yaya Adisa Olaitan Olaniran
Norway	Mr Krisoffer Bjoiklund, Mr Alf Hakon Hoel, Ms Ann Kristin Westberg
Peru	Mr Carlos Alberto Mendoza Mendoza, Mr Miguel Angel Llellish Juscamayta, Mr Ever Arboleda Ludena, Mr Omar Ricardo Rios Bravo

	de Rueda, Mr Eduardo Andres Lopes Tolentino, Mr Santiago Cesar Augusto Mendez Yche, Mr Alejandro José Velásquez Barrionuevo, Ms Rosa Francisca Zavala Correa, Ms Sharon Dale Gonzales, Ms Patricia Iliushka Villasante Meza, Mr José Edgardo Allemant Sayán, Ms Silvana Quinteros Malpartida, Ms Maria de Fátima Do Nascimento Berrospi, Ms Rosa Ramírez Ontaneda, Mr Johnny Gonzales Carmen, Ms Pemela Isabel Carrillo Aguilar, Mr Walter Hiram Barrera Lozada, Mr María Antonieta Paliza Huerta, Ms Carolina Carranza, Mr Luis Alfredo Garcia Mesinas
Poland	Mr Leszek Dybiec
Republic of Korea	Ms Sohyoung Ha, Ms Minju Jang, Mr/Ms Jegeol Yang
Russian Federation	Mr Vyacheslav V. Nikulin, Ms Dilyara Ravilova-Borovik
Senegal	Mr Diéne Ndiaye
Singapore	Mr Kevin Khng, Ms Tan-low Lai Kim, Ms Cherin Hoon, Ms Felicia Loh
South Africa	Mr Belemane Semoli
Spain	Ms Carmen Paz Martí, Mr Juan Prieto, Mr Gonzalo Eiriz
Thailand	Mr Thanawat Tiensin, Mr Pholphisin Suvanachai, Ms Supajit Sriariyawat
Turkey	Mr Gokhan Kurtar, Mr Burcu Bilgin Topcu, Mr Erdinc Gunes
United Kingdom	Ms Kathryn Holdsworth, Ms Catherine McMullan
United States of America	Ms Rebecca Wintering, Ms Silvia Givanazzi
Vietnam	Mr Tran Dinh Luan, Ms Nguyen Thi Phuong Dung, Mr Le Tran Nguyen Hung, Mr Vu Duyen Hai, Ms, Nguyen Mai Huong, Ms Chau Thi Tuyet Hanh
Zambia	Mr Benson Mwenya, Mr Alexander Shula Kefi, Mr Harris Phiri, Mr Mbamwai Mbewe, Mr Evans Mutanuka, Mr Danny Sinyinza, Mr Lumbwe Kalumba, Mr Martin Mukosha Mwaale

**(APPENDIX 2)**

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

12:00-15:00 (CEST), Monday, 20 September 2021  
On Zoom

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Review of draft terms of reference of the new Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM) (Relevant document: WG 2/1)
3. Review of the options with further analysis (Relevant document: WG 2/2, WG 2/2/Sup.1)
4. Identification of any further work
5. Any other matters
6. Next meeting