4th Meeting of the Working Group on the Proposal of the Establishment of the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (WG 4)

14 February 2022

Comments on draft Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

➢ This document presents comments made during WG 3 and submitted after WG 3 on draft Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM).

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1 Argentina, Canada, European Union (EU), Islamic Republic of Iran, South Africa, United Kingdom (UK), United States of America (USA) submitted comments by the deadline agreed in WG 3.

Documents can be consulted at www.fao.org
1. The Sub-committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM) shall provide a forum for consultation and discussion on fisheries management and advise COFI on the work to be performed by FAO. [on technical and policy issues related thereto to fisheries management and policy issues as well as on the work to be performed by FAO.]

[on fisheries management and technical and policy issues related to the work performed by FAO] [on technical and policy issues related to fisheries management and on the work to be performed by FAO COFI]

[Taking into account the work of relevant international organizations, individual countries, stakeholders groups and NGOs, (and relevant stakeholders) and in cooperation with them, as appropriate.]

2. In this context, the Sub-Committee shall:

(1) provide a technical advisory forum to discuss issues and explore solutions for the long term conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources and advance the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries based on the best available science as well as the ecosystem and precautionary approaches;

(2) identify and discuss major issues and trends in global fisheries management and sustainable development as well as determine those issues and trends requiring action in the domain of fisheries management, such as issues related to the management of small-scale fisheries, effects of climate change on fishery management and eradication of IUU fishing;

(3) recommend international action to address such issues and trends as well as fisheries development needs and, in this regard: (i) to advise on the process to prepare, facilitate and implementing actions identified; (ii) to advise on possible cooperation with other relevant groups and international organizations, including such as Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, as appropriate, with a view to promoting harmonization, as appropriate, and supporting best practices and avoiding...
discrepancy in] policies and actions; (iii) to advise on promotion of information sharing on regional policies and technical measures on fisheries management, as appropriate; (iv) to advise on the strengthening of international collaboration to assist FAO Members, in particular developing Members and small island developing states (SIDS), in the implementation of such actions and FAO instruments in the domain of fisheries management;

((3) recommend international action to address such issues and trends as well as fisheries development needs and, in this regard:
   (i) to advise on preparing, facilitating and implementing actions identified;
   (ii) to advice on promotion of information sharing on regional policies and technical measures on fisheries management, as appropriate;
   (iii) to advise on the strengthening of international collaboration to assist FAO Members, in particular developing Members, in the implementation of such actions and FAO instruments in the domain of fisheries management;
   (iv) to advise on possible cooperation with other relevant groups and international organizations, including Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, as appropriate, with a view to supporting policies and actions.

(4) advise on ways to promote responsible fisheries and sustainable development of small-scale fisheries, including through establishment of a non-binding instrument such as guidelines and advice on ways to enhance global awareness, understanding and action as well as to promote dialogue and collaboration among all stakeholders.

((4) address any specific (technical or policy) matters relating to fisheries management referred to it by its Members, the Committee on Fisheries or the Director-General of FAO.)

(5) collaborate with and provide inputs to the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade on fishery management issues related to trade in fish and fisheries products;

(6) collaborate with and provide inputs to the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture on fishery management issues related to aquaculture;

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, which will be elaborated with specific items to be discussed.
[7] address any specific (technical or policy) matters relating to fisheries management referred to it by its Members, the Committee on Fisheries or the Director-General of FAO.\footnote{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, which will be elaborated with specific items to be discussed.}