EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This document contains a revised table on Support to Developing Country Participation by the Host Country of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade with additional information on examples of a mechanism for supporting participation by developing countries in Appendix.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COFI:FT SESSION</th>
<th>HOST COUNTRY</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>SUPPORTED COUNTRIES¹</th>
<th>COST²</th>
<th>COUNTRY DISTRIBUTION (Supported Countries)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XVII</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Total 48</td>
<td>Total 20</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Asia:</strong> 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Developed Countries 14</td>
<td>Directly by the Host Country</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Developing Countries 34</td>
<td>By the Host Country through FAO³</td>
<td>20 USD 25 716</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total 33</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 12</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>South America:</strong> 1</td>
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<td>Developed Countries 9</td>
<td>Directly by the Host Country⁴</td>
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<td>Developing Countries 24</td>
<td>By the Host Country through FAO</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>Total 46</td>
<td>Total 18</td>
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<td><strong>Asia:</strong> 4</td>
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<td>Developed Countries 13</td>
<td>Directly by the Host Country</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Developing Countries 33</td>
<td>By the Host Country through FAO</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moroccan</td>
<td>Total 53</td>
<td>Total 31</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Central America:</strong> 2</td>
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<td>Developed Countries 15</td>
<td>Directly by the Host Country</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Developing Countries 38</td>
<td>By the Host Country through FAO</td>
<td>31 USD 98 658</td>
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<td>Norway</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>LDCs:</strong> 6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

¹ The identification of possible developing countries to be supported is defined in coordination between the Host Country and the FAO COFI:FT Secretariat, considering economic parameters of fish exports and imports, balanced geographic distribution, and minimum participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Islands Developing States (SIDS).
² The indicated cost refers only to countries supported by the Host Country through FAO.
³ Support provided to selected developing countries by the Host Country through FAO. In this case, the supported developing country cost is included in the total contribution received by FAO from the Host Country to conduct the session.
⁴ Support provided directly by the Host Country to selected developing countries with no cost information available.
⁵ LLDC – Landlocked developing country
Examples of a Mechanism for Supporting Participation by Developing Countries

1. The FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund (CTF)\(^6\)

The Codex Trust Fund supports countries to build strong, solid and sustainable national capacity to engage in Codex.

Between 2004 and 2015, the FAO/WHO Project and Fund for Enhanced Participation in Codex (Codex Trust Fund) supported over 2300 participants from developing and transition economy countries to participate in the international standard development process, and provided FAO/WHO Codex training to over 1200 people to boost the effectiveness of their participation in the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Building on the success of the first Codex Trust Fund, FAO and WHO are launching a successor initiative to the Codex Trust Fund (CTF2) in January 2016.

Focus of CTF2:

- CTF2 will require US$ 3.3 million per year to support each eligible country at least once over the 12 years of the fund.
- CTF2 will shift the focus from widening participation in Codex, to building strong, solid and sustainable national capacity to engage in Codex; and
- For more information visit the Codex Trust Fund website (an extract from the website is attached as Annex.)

2. Assistance Fund under Part VII of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement\(^7\)

Background information


Part VII of the Agreement addresses the “Requirements of Developing States.” In particular, article 25 of the Agreement requires States Parties to cooperate in order to enhance the ability of developing States to conserve and manage straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and to develop their own fisheries for such stocks; to enable their participation in high seas fisheries for such stocks and to facilitate their participation in sub-

\(^7\) https://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/fishstocktrustfund/fishstocktrustfund.htm
regional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements. One of the forms of cooperation identified in article 25 is the provision of financial assistance. In this regard, in accordance with article 26 of the Agreement, States shall cooperate to establish special funds to assist developing States in the implementation of the Agreement. The “Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement” ("the Fund") is administered by FAO, as the implementing office for the Fund, in collaboration with the United Nations, in accordance with the terms of reference and appropriate arrangements made between them.

**Purpose of the Assistance Fund**

The purpose of this Fund is to provide financial assistance to developing States Parties to the Agreement in order to assist them in the implementation of the Agreement in accordance with its Part VII.

In particular, paragraph 16 of the Terms of Reference of the Fund provides that financial assistance from the Fund may be sought for the following purposes:

a) Facilitating the participation of representatives from developing States Parties, in particular the least-developed among them and small island developing States Parties to the Agreement, in the meetings and activities of relevant regional and sub-regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements. Such assistance may include such costs as travel costs and, if appropriate, daily subsistence allowances for delegations participating in relevant regional and subregional fisheries management organisations or arrangements, including technical experts.

b) Assisting with travel costs, and if appropriate daily subsistence allowances, associated with the participation of developing States Parties, in particular the least-developed among them and small island developing States Parties to the Agreement, in relevant meetings concerning high seas fisheries of relevant global organizations, such as the United Nations Development Programme, FAO and other specialized agencies, the Global Environment Facility and other appropriate international and regional organisations and bodies. Applications for this purpose will include details of how the meeting in question relates to implementation of the Agreement.

c) Supporting ongoing and future negotiations to establish new regional or subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in areas where such bodies are not currently in place, to renegotiate founding agreements for such organizations and arrangements and to strengthen existing subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with the Agreement. A condition for such support is that reference to implementing the Agreement is made in founding documents and/or work programmes of the regional or subregional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and in the national fisheries policies and/or management plans of States Parties.

d) Enhancing the ability of developing States Parties, in particular the least-developed among them and small island developing States Parties, to develop at the national level a legal basis for the implementation of effective flag State measures, in conformity with the provisions of the Agreement and in accordance with international law.

e) Building capacity for activities in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, enforcement, data collection and scientific research relevant to straddling and highly migratory fish stocks on a national and/or regional level.
f) Facilitating exchange of information and experience on the implementation of the Agreement.
g) Assisting developing States Parties to the Agreement, in particular the least-developed among them and small island developing States, with human resources development, technical training, and technical assistance in relation to conservation and management of straddling and highly migratory fish stocks and development of fisheries for such stocks, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of such stocks.
h) Assisting in meeting the costs involved in proceedings for the settlement of disputes between States Parties to the Agreement concerning the interpretation or application of the Agreement in accordance with Part VIII of the Agreement or proceedings concerning the interpretation or application of a subregional, regional or global fishery agreement relating to straddling fish stocks or highly migratory fish stocks to which they are parties, including any dispute concerning the conservation and management of such stocks and complementary to any assistance provided under the ITLOS Trust Fund established by General Assembly resolution 55/7 or the Trust Fund for the International Court of Justice established by General Assembly resolution 47/444 or the financial assistance fund established by the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

3. COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock

According to the “Call for resources mobilization for the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock”\(^8\), a multi-donor project has been set up to enable interested resource partners to support the implementation of the Sub-Committee’s programme of work developed under the guidance of COAG. The project will support:

- organizing the Sub-Committee sessions as well as regional and global technical consultations aimed at building common positions on the agenda items;
- enabling the participation of high-level technical representatives from least developed countries;
- facilitating the preparation of assessments, guidelines, and other policy and technical documents, including the global assessment of the contribution of livestock to food security, sustainable food systems, nutrition and healthy diets requested by COAG at its 27th Session.

The duration of the project is four years and the budget is 1.9 million. Tangible targets are:

- 2 sessions of the Sub-Committee;
- 5 regions have built common positions on the Sub-Committee agenda items;
- 140 high-level experts representing least developed countries have participated in consultations and sessions;
- 1 global assessment on livestock sector and nutrition; and
- 6 technical documents on key livestock themes.

\(^8\) https://www.fao.org/3/cb2919en/CB2919EN.pdf
Extract from the Codex Trust Fund website

The Codex Trust Fund (CTF) was established as the FAO/WHO Project and Fund for Enhanced Participation in Codex, with the aim of supporting developing and transition economy countries to participate more effectively in the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its related committees.

The CTF is a development partnership located at the heart of the global Codex system and is based on a mandate given directly by all Codex Member Countries, comprising developing and transition economy countries, developed countries as well as FAO and WHO.

The Codex Trust Fund:

- focuses explicitly on supporting more effective engagement of developing and transition economy countries in the Codex system.
- has direct entry into the national Codex systems of developing countries, in particular through national Codex Contact Points and national Codex coordinating structures.
- has access to the internal capacities and external networks of the Codex Secretariat and its parent organizations FAO and WHO.

The CTF is now in its second phase and is frequently referred to as ‘CTF2’.

The CTF governance structure includes a Steering Committee that takes inputs from an Advisory Group. The Steering Committee is comprised of senior staff from FAO, WHO and the Codex Secretariat. It meets once per month, on average, to guide the work of the CTF Secretariat.

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9 https://www.who.int/initiatives/codex-trust-fund
Background information

Codex

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) is the international food standards-setting body, comprised of 189 Members, including 188 Member Countries and 1 Member Organization (EU). It is part of the joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The Codex Secretariat is hosted by FAO. Codex is mandated to protect consumer health and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

A country’s capacity to participate in the international food trade is strengthened by its capacity to contribute to relevant standards. The international trade in food is now worth over US$ 1.6 trillion annually and developing and transition economy countries are increasingly able to take part in this expanding market, thanks – to an extent - to effective participation in CAC and related committees.

A brief history of the Codex Trust Fund

The Codex Trust Fund was established in 2003, with an initial phase (CTF1) aimed at increased participation by developing and transition economy countries in the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its related committees. A second 12-year phase (CTF2), launched in 2016, shifted from a primary focus on supporting physical participation in Codex meetings to helping build a strong, solid and sustainable national capacity to engage in Codex.

The CTF Secretariat

The CTF is administered by a Secretariat, which is based at WHO headquarters, in the Nutrition and Food Safety Department.

CTF Funding

The CTF is funded by donor countries, which currently include:
Projects and Impact

To date, the CTF2 has funded 35 projects in 44 countries, with the 12 projects funded in rounds 1-2 nearing completion.

Reporting on results, successes, and impacts of these projects helps the CTF Secretariat and donors understand where funds can be best placed for the most successful outcomes. As well as the Monitoring and Evaluation framework, which uses specific performance indicators to measure outcomes, the CTF produces case studies where project participants recount their experiences. These provide valuable insight into particular elements of projects from both a personal and a technical or logistical perspective.

As a means by which to improve participation in the Codex system, the CTF also has an impact on countries’ capacity to address the global challenges described in and addressed through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The below document on Codex and the SDGs evaluates the ways in which Codex and the CTF can impact on countries’ ability to work towards the SDGs.