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# COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

**Thirty-fifth Session**

**5–9 September 2022**

**FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
THE 34TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, 1-5  
FEBRUARY 2021**

No	Para[1]	Matters need to be followed up	Status[2]			Action Taken/Delivered Outcomes
			C	O	N	
Agenda Item 4: STATUS, TRENDS, EMERGING ISSUES AND INNOVATIVE RESPONSES TO ENSURE RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE: BUILDING BACK BETTER						
1	9 c)	requested FAO to consider, in future SOFIA reports, additional information and methodological improvements to better reflect the regional status of fish stocks, recognizing efforts to rebuild stocks and increasing the number of stocks with assessments, while ensuring the integrity of the time series. Furthermore, the Committee also recommended a more robust and participatory peer review process, and to share the report with Members well in advance of publishing;		X		For SOFIA, a participatory review by Members during the production process is not deemed suitable because of the requirement to maintain neutrality, confidentiality of the report content, as well as cope with tight timelines. Instead, a review of SOFIA 2020 by the COFI Bureau will be organized in order to gather feedback on areas where the publication can be improved. Regarding the regional status of fish stocks, a revised methodology for the SOFIA stock status indicator, which will take into account the broader range of fish stocks and assessments in each region and will engage stakeholders, is being implemented with results planned to be published in SOFIA 2024.
2	9 d)	called on FAO to engage more actively in international processes, offering its fisheries management and aquaculture expertise, including through the development of technical guidance, to support climate change mitigation and adaptation, marine conservation, and sustainable and inclusive ocean economies;		X		(1) FAO has been participating in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Marrakech Partnership processes in support of preparations for the 26th UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP26) and contributed to the oceans and coastal zones climate action pathways. FAO is also providing input to the seafood science-based targets guide joining forces with the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). FAO has published a Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular on climate change vulnerability and risk assessment ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/cb4585en/cb4585en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/cb4585en/cb4585en.pdf</a> ) and updated a booklet on NFI's work on climate change ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/cb3414en/cb3414en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/cb3414en/cb3414en.pdf</a> ) to strengthen knowledge base and guidance for policy development. Contributions were also given to a webinar hosted by Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) in Indonesia (9 February 2021) and the 7th Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Knowledge Day (26 May 2021) to present FAO's ongoing climate work on aquatic food production systems. (2) FAO participates, on behalf of Members, in processes of International Multilateral Agreements (MEAs) to promote visibility of fisheries and aquacultures work in marine conservation, and sustainable and inclusive ocean economies. This includes the setting of focus for conventions like the Convention on Biological Diversity Global Biodiversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). FAO also participates in processes to support cross-cutting fisheries and conservation processes (e.g. Sustainable Ocean Initiative otherwise known as SOI; IUCN processes considering management of natural resource use) or international workgroups looking at various fisheries species (e.g. EU Shark and Rays expert working Groups; Lenfest crustacean fisheries working group).
3	9 h)	called on FAO and COFI Members, consistent with the COFI Declaration for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture, to bring fisheries and aquaculture fully into the discussions during the preparation of the United Nations Food Systems Summit;		X		Submission of game changer solution, parallel event at pre-summit focusing on small-scale fisheries, moderation of informal dialogue organized by Norway and WorldFish focusing on small-scale fisheries

4	9 l)	called on FAO to continue supporting Members to overcome challenges in implementing the Code, especially in view of the added complexities posed by the COVID 19 pandemic;		X	<p>(1) FAO NFI maintains a webpage on COVID-19 and fisheries/aquaculture (<a href="http://www.fao.org/fishery/covid19/en">http://www.fao.org/fishery/covid19/en</a>);</p> <p>(2) FAO has produced a policy brief on COVID-19 one year into the pandemic (currently in PWS);</p> <p>(3) FAO is developing a monitoring scheme (to monitor impacts, innovation, and responses) at global and regional levels to be implemented in view of COFI-35;</p> <p>(4) FAO is working with RFBs through the Regional Secretariats Network (RSN) to assess the impacts of COVID-19 on regional management and identify their needs and collate recommendations how FAO may assist to build back better (draft publication);</p> <p>(5) FAO is supporting member countries in responding to COVID-19 and building resilience to similar shocks through the implementation of TCP(s) and emergency projects;</p> <p>(6) FAO organises webinars on building resilience of small scale fisheries to shocks like COVID-19 (<a href="https://youtu.be/d4wcrmRJ54U">https://youtu.be/d4wcrmRJ54U</a>);</p> <p>(7) Release of three briefs on COVID and small-scale fisheries, focusing on fishing activities; post-harvest and markets and on social development</p>
5	9 m)	called on FAO to cooperate with relevant regional and international organizations working in areas related to fisheries and aquaculture for increased coordination, consistency and harmonization of information requests to limit the reporting burden placed upon Members;		X	<p>(1) FAO has worked to bring globally collated signal from the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Questionnaire to the Convention on Biological Diversity Global Biodiversity Outlook Report 5. The evidence provided was published here <a href="https://www.cbd.int/gbo5">https://www.cbd.int/gbo5</a>.</p> <p>(2) FAO also collaborated with IUCN in a FAO-IUCN SDG 14.4 Ad Hoc Technical Working Group to produce guidance on how signal of risk to fish species was collated and communicated. This outcomes of this WG was presented to COFI 34 as document COFI/2020/SBD.18 (<a href="http://www.fao.org/3/cb1489en/cb1489en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/cb1489en/cb1489en.pdf</a>).</p>
6	9 n)	called on FAO to continue to preserve the core purpose of the questionnaire in monitoring the implementation of the Code, while noting that it can also be used to support Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator reporting;		X	<p>FAO Secretary observed members comments and suggestions within the CCRF questionnaire and provided some adjustments and improvements towards the 2021 CCRF questionnaire edition.</p>

Agenda Item 5: DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COFI SUB-COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE, TRONDHEIM, NORWAY, 23–27 AUGUST 2019

7	10 b)	recommended further development of the Global Integrated Sustainable Aquaculture Programme (GISAP), including an implementation plan, considering middle-income countries;		X		The FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division was restructured in late 2020. Built around three thematic pillars complimented by several cross-cutting teams, the new Divisional structure highlights the role of sustainable aquaculture as one of these pillars. The strategy within the Thematic Area on Sustainable Aquaculture has been designed in consideration of the priorities outlined by Members and discussions on GISAP, incorporating important themes and cross-cutting issues, and adapted to reflect current and ongoing activities. Furthermore, the Blue Transformation Roadmap has been outlined for the transformation of aquatic food systems - 'Blue Transformation', providing a compass for the FAO's work on aquatic food systems for the period 2022–2030. This roadmap for Blue Transformation aligns with the 2021 Declaration for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and FAO's Strategic Framework 2022–2031. It focuses on the elements that would maximize the contribution of aquatic food systems to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In light of the restructure and the ongoing strategy development, the need for and focus of GISAP will be reviewed to ensure that the needs outlined by Members are fully addressed.
8	10 d)	encouraged continued collaboration between FAO, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). The Committee supported the need for a FAO Action Plan on AMR for 2021–2025, based on robust scientific evidence and risk analysis, including training and the capacity building needs of Members;		X		Collaboration between FAO and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, new acronym) has been strengthened during the last few years. A representative of the WOAH is a member of the FAO Technical Working Group of the Progressive Management Pathway for Improving Aquaculture Biosecurity (PMP/AB TWG); the TWG was recommended by COFI/SCA 10th session. Other significant collaboration include the following: (1) as coorganizer of the virtual event Fish-Vet Dialogue ( <a href="http://infofish.org/Fish-VetDialogue/">http://infofish.org/Fish-VetDialogue/</a> ) held from 7-9 June 2021; (2) collaboration on Global Burden of Animal Disease programme lead by the University of Liverpool, where the WOAH serves as Secretariat and FAO as focal point on aquatics; (4) participation in a series of webinars on Understanding Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in Aquaculture (April 2021), and AMR and Aquaculture Biosecurity (June 2021). The FAO AMR Action Plan on AMR 2021-2025 was endorsed by the 130th Session of the Programme Committee, until the final version was approved during the 166th Session of the Council in April 2021. This will now served as guidance for FAO's future work on AMR and to support capacity building needs of Members.
9	10 e)	encouraged the development of a multi-donor assisted long-term component of GISAP on aquaculture biosecurity including collaboration with OIE;		X		The development of GISAP was overtaken by the reorganisation of NFI and the subsequent development of a Blue Transformation Road Map published in July 2022 and the initiation of the Global Sustainable Aquaculture Advancement Partnership (GSAAP). Information will be provided to COFI:AQ Session 12 identifying how the objectives and actions under the Road Map, GSAAP and other initiatives map to the priorities of the COFI:AQ and the Concept note.

10	10 g)	recommended the further development of a draft Global Plan of Action for Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and continuation of the development of a global information system, including a registry of farmed types;		X	<p>(1) A draft Global Plan of Action was prepared based on: feedback received during the regional consultation workshops; feedback received from the COFI Advisory Working Group on Aquatic Genetic Resources and Technologies (COFI Working Group); and through written submissions by Members. The Global Plan of Action identifies 21 strategic priorities under four priority areas, with associated goals, indicators and recommended actions. The draft Global Plan of Action was presented to the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission Working Group) which held its Third Session from 1 to 3 June 2021.31 The Commission Working Group revised the draft Global Plan of Action which was later presented to the Eighteenth Regular Session of the Commission (27 September–1 October 2021). At its Eighteen Regular Session the Commission welcomed the draft Global Plan of Action, noting the inclusive preparation process, and invited the Director-General to bring it to the attention of the 168th Session of the Council with a view to its being adopted. The Global Plan of Action was adopted by the FAO Council at its One Hundred Sixty Eighth Session on 3 December 2021</p> <p>(2) Following review and endorsement by the CGRFA and adoption by the 168th Session of the FAO Council the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture was published in July 2022. The prototype information system now known as AquaGRIS was published online in May 2022 and funding has been secured from the government of Germany to develop the prototype into a fully fledged global information system by 2023.</p>
11	10 j)	welcomed the further development of the voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture in 2021 as a tool towards further development of national policies for the aquaculture sector, including through the organization of regional consultations towards their development. In that context, the Committee requested FAO to consider guidance for concrete actions for the sector – according to national contexts, capacities and priorities – on the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and on climate change adaptation and mitigation.		X	<p>(1) The Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture (GSA), first requested by the Sub-Committee at its Ninth Session, will target policymakers to support the visibility, recognition, and enhancement of the important role of the aquaculture sector in contributing to the implementation of the CCRF and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Seven regional consultations were held for Africa, Asia, Latin America, Pacific and Caribbean, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Near East and North Africa, and Europe and North America. Each regional consultation brought together government appointed representatives, international organizations, research institutions, academia, civil society as well as fishery and aquaculture regional bodies. The Secretariat organized, virtually, a Second Expert Consultation, which reviewed the first draft of the GSA. The subsequently revised draft GSA was presented to Sub-Committee at its Eleventh Session where Members provided detailed feedback on the draft GSA and recommended a way forward.</p> <p>(2) The Sub-Committee recommended FAO to work further on the structure of the GSA, providing a clear vision of global aquaculture development, and clearly and concisely describing the pathways to achieve that vision. The Sub-Committee also requested that the GSA become more concrete and practical, taking into consideration the great diversity of the sector and that they provide recommended actions and good practices, with a view to developing them into a specific, single, user-friendly and operational document. The Sub-Committee recalled the critical importance of the GSA, and the expectation to have a clear roadmap to define the process leading up to their adoption by the Sub-Committee's twelfth session. In this regard, it recommended a three-step process: FAO revises the draft GSA based on the recommendations of this Session; FAO shares the revised draft with all Members for their written inputs; FAO, together with the Sub-Committee Bureau, establishes a dedicated Task Force comprised of interested Members including representatives from each region, to finalize the draft GSA prior to the next session of the Sub-Committee.</p>

				<p>(3) A GSA website has been created; it is available at <a href="http://www.fao.org/in-action/gsa">http://www.fao.org/in-action/gsa</a>. Two expert consultations and seven regional consultations were organized since 2019 to advise the FAO Secretariat on the preparation of the GSA. The first regional consultation was for Africa and was held in person. The others (Asia, Latin America, Pacific &amp; Caribbean, Eastern Europe &amp; Central Asia, Near East &amp; North Africa, Europe &amp; North America) were conducted virtually. A draft GSA produced by the FAO Secretariat and technically cleared by the second expert consultation was submitted to the 11th session of COFI: AQ to seek Members' guidance and advice. The Sub-Committee requested FAO to review the draft GSA and make it more user friendly. FAO Secretariat is addressing this request to produce a revised draft, which will be shared with Members for further guidance. Upon GSA approval by COFI, FAO will launch its implementation.</p> <p>(4) FAO organized seven regional consultations for Africa, Asia, Latin America, Pacific and Caribbean, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Near East and North Africa, and Europe and North America. Each consultation brought together government appointed representatives, international organizations, research institutions, academia, civil society as well as fishery and aquaculture regional bodies. (<a href="http://www.fao.org/in-action/gsa/en/">www.fao.org/in-action/gsa/en/</a>).</p>
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Agenda Item 6: DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE COFI SUB-COMMITTEE ON FISH TRADE, VIGO, SPAIN, 25–29 NOVEMBER 2019

12	11 f)	called on FAO to continue the work to develop fisheries and aquaculture-specific, voluntary, non-binding practical guidance on social responsibility in the fisheries value chains, based on existing international instruments and guidelines, in cooperation with relevant specialized agencies and stakeholders;		X		(1) The inputs provided by Members in the last COFI-FT Session are being taking into consideration in the preparation of the scoping paper and re-drafting of the first draft text of the Guidance; (2) A series of regional informal meetings are being carried out with countries to discuss the current stage of FAO work and to get inputs for its continuation
13	11 g)	supported the continuation of trade-related fisheries and aquaculture services work using a value chain perspective;		X		Additional work is being developed focusing on value chains and how to enhance the provision of fisheries and aquaculture services by countries, in particular developing countries, and the analysis of other service-related areas in the industry.
14	11 i)	requested FAO to continue providing technical support in the framework of negotiations on fisheries subsidies carried out in the WTO;		X		(1) FAO continue to provide technical support to WTO when requested on the "fisheries topics" associated with the current negotiations on fisheries subsidies; (2) FAO participated in many events focusing on the fisheries subsidies negotiations to better explain the main "fisheries concepts" associated with the negotiation process; (3) FAO is in close contact with WTO to increase the cooperation pattern to support countries in the implementation phase of a new agreement on fisheries subsidies; (4) the FAO and WTO DGs met at the end of May to discuss, among other topics, the increased need for technical support and joint efforts between the two organization in supporting countries, particularly in the implementation phase of any upcoming new rules on fisheries subsidies
15	11 k)	expressed strong support for FAO's scientific advice to the Codex Alimentarius Commission, reiterating the need for appropriate funding, including through multi-year voluntary contributions, as well as for continued collaboration with the OIE;		X		(1) Current funding for most of the work is through CODEX and external partners. Efforts are also underway to reach out to donors. However, dedicated internal funds need to be allocated for such an important work of the organization on aquatic food safety. (2) FAO had developed and/or is developing the following background, review and/or guidance documents, many of which are intended to be published during 2021-2022-2023: • food safety hazards (chemicals, pathogens and toxins) linked to the consumption of seaweed and aquatic plants • microplastics in all commodities, microplastics contamination along food value chains, and plastic migration from food contact materials and packaging • biotoxins monitoring for the development of bivalve molluscs sanitation programmes • second edition of the Joint FAO-WHO Technical guidance for the development of the growing area aspects of Bivalve Mollusc Sanitation Programmes and the last module of Joint the FAO-Cefas e-learning Course on Bivalve Sanitation • Joint FAO-IAEA-IOC Technical Guidance for the Implementation of Early Warning Systems for Harmful algal blooms (HABs). (3) Risk assessment work include: (i) risk assessment of marine toxins in drinking water from desalination plants., (ii) Risk Profile for Group B Streptococcus (GBS) Streptococcus agalactiae sequence type (ST) 283 in freshwater fish. The latter will be presented for consideration to the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP), this year; (iii) background document on toxicity of the most common plastic monomers, polymers, and additives (plasticizers, flame retardants, pigments and dyes, stabilizers, etc.) (4) FAO jointly with WHO are initiating the work for the update the Report of the Expert Consultation on the Risks and Benefits of Fish Consumption.

16	11 l)	called for FAO to continue cooperating with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), including the provision of scientific and technical advice on proposals and issues relating to the listing and implementation of such listing of commercially exploited aquatic species.		X	FAO ran the FAO CITES Expert Panel ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/fishery/cites-fisheries/ExpertAdvisoryPanel/en">http://www.fao.org/fishery/cites-fisheries/ExpertAdvisoryPanel/en</a> ) to inform CITES Parties and FAO Members on the status of species proposed for listing in CITES 18 Conference of Parties ( <a href="https://cites.org/eng/meetings/cop">https://cites.org/eng/meetings/cop</a> ). Ongoing CITES work has included a range of studies in Mexico, Indonesia, Peru and India on shark and ray non fin commodities, consideration of tropical eels, precious corals and ornamental fisheries which CITES Parties are considering for further protections. FAO also published a range of reports on the implementation of CITES provisions that assist fisheries authorities comply with the Conventions requirements, including communication of information here ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/ipoa-sharks/database-of-measures/en/">http://www.fao.org/ipoa-sharks/database-of-measures/en/</a> ) and related to species ID.
Agenda Item 7: CONTRIBUTION OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT					
17	12 b)	requested FAO to continue to assist Members in strengthening statistical capacity and delivery of data, especially in data-poor situations, as well as in integrating innovative technologies;		X	(1) Progress with IHH data clearance and analysis (2) FAO has an upcoming Artificial Intelligence for a Digital Blue Planet (AI4DBP) forum ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4569en">http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4569en</a> ), 28th to the 30th of June 2021 to bring experts together with fisheries and aquaculture community and the general public to showcase advances and a future visions of digital innovation for aquatic species identification using machine learning. (3) FAO continues to respond to its Members' request for capacity building in data and statistics, assisting in the deployment of various tools tailored to countries capacities including OpenArtFish in low capacity context and Calipseo for more advanced capacities. In addition, training courses in fisheries statistics were carried out online for selected countries and regions.
18	12 j)	emphasized the need to improve data and scientific evidence on the role of aquatic products in healthy diets to support policy and action, including advocacy. The Committee requested FAO's support in capacity development, and stressed the need to strengthen gender equality, and gender and youth empowerment issues within the strategy;		X	(1) A prototype of a web -based data platform named "uFish" aimed at collecting food composition/nutritional data on fish species and their preparation, linking with Open AFSA for literature source, has been developed under the EU H2020 BlueCloud and BlueFood project and is currently being tested for data capture. (2) FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division is collaborating with FAO Nutrition Division and FAO Statistics Division to collect and analyze a series of additional nutritional values. This will allow in the next few years the calculation of more nutritional values through the FAO Food Balance Sheets of fish and fishery products in addition to the standard proteins. (3) FAO has worked to further improve gender disaggregated data for employment in fisheries and aquaculture. In addition to data on primary employment, specific analysis was done to expand the collection on secondary employment as well for a series of countries with gender disaggregated data. (4) 58 country case studies conducted on the contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development, and related method is being finalized for publication, as well as the release of the Illuminating Hidden Harvests study.

19	12 k)	<p>noted the importance of sustainable and inclusive ocean economies, and the further implementation of the FAO Blue Growth Initiative, in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It took note and requested additional information on the proposal for a voluntary Blue Ports Network for the development of coastal areas in collaboration with Members and relevant organizations.</p>		X	<p>(1) A formulation document on the Blue Ports Initiative has been elaborated and a multidonor trust fund has been opened for actions on networking, capacity building, technical assistance projects and tool kits elaboration.</p> <p>(2) Strategic partnership FAO has agreed with the Government of Spain on the co funding of the BPI related to capacity building. The Government of Spain is to contribute 120,000 Euros. Several meeting have been hold with AFDB, World Bank, AIVPE, IAPH, SALT to implement specific collaboration through technical assistance projects and capacity building actions.</p> <p>(3) BPI Workshops: Four Blue Ports Initiative Workshops have been hold since 2019. The Third workshop was hold virtually in June 2021 and the Fourth Workshop was hold in Vigo, Spain, presentially, last July 2022. More than 15 countries participated in both events. Main conclusion is on the general interest to strength the BPI.</p> <p>(4)Capacity building actions: - A training program has been designed with the inputs received from the BPI workshops. In October 2021 three virtual workshops were held in collaboration with COI Unesco on "strengthening the role of Blue Fishing Ports in Marine Spatial Planning". About 20 countries participated in the three virtual workshops. -A training course on the environmental dimension of fishing port "Greening a blue Port" was hold on 12 - 14 July in Vigo, Spain. It was co funded by the Government of Spain. The course consisted of 22 hours on theoretical and practical contents. As a final output a guidance on "greening a blue fishing port" will be published from the main conclusions and contributions achieved. Three additional virtual regional training courses will be hold in November 2022 on issues related to the roll of fishing ports in the food value chain. A new training program for 2023 is currently under design in consultation with member countries.</p> <p>(5) Guidance -The first draft of a Guidance to become a blue fishing port has been elaborated. The validation process will start in September with the participation of fishing ports and international organizations, including multilaterals, related to fishing ports and fishing value chain. - A guidance on "Engaging blue fishing ports in marine spatial planning" was developed as compilation of conclusions and good practices shared during the workshops. It was published in April 2022. - A good practice publication is under preparation with the contributions of several fishing ports.</p> <p>(6) Communication. The design of a website has started and it is expected to be finalised by 2022.</p>
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Agenda Item 8: SUPPORTING SMALL-SCALE AND ARTISANAL FISHERIES

20	13 d)	<p>requested increased work in relation to support for small-scale and artisanal fisheries with: i) better access to markets; ii) fair access to fishing rights, considering potential impacts of competing sectors and activities; iii) improved legal frameworks; iv) strengthened small-scale and artisanal fisheries organizations; v) improved gender equality and gender and youth empowerment; vi) use of information and communication technology; and vii) reduction of food loss and waste;</p>		X	<p>(1) i) and v) Finalization of Norad-funded project on Empowering women in small-scale fisheries for sustainable food systems - see here for information <a href="http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/implementation/norad-project/en/">http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/implementation/norad-project/en/</a>;</p> <p>(2) New Norway-funded project under FMM on Implementing the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines for gender equitable and climate resilient food systems and livelihoods initiated, <a href="https://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/implementation/fmm-project/en/">https://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/implementation/fmm-project/en/</a>, expanding the work of the previous project.</p> <p>(3) New publication on Characteristics and performance of fisheries co-management in Asia - <a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb3840en/">http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb3840en/</a> and related webinar <a href="http://www.fao.org/asiapacific/events/detail-events/zh/c/1724/">http://www.fao.org/asiapacific/events/detail-events/zh/c/1724/</a> - and another webinar on Chapter 5 in SSF Open House <a href="http://www.fao.org/in-action/kofap/news-events/news-details/en/c/1403769/">http://www.fao.org/in-action/kofap/news-events/news-details/en/c/1403769/</a>.</p> <p>(4) New project on Resilient Rivers: Counting Fish from Forests for Food Security in Zambia started with FAO Forestry Division.</p> <p>(5) A legal guide has been published - <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/cb0885en/CB0885EN.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/cb0885en/CB0885EN.pdf</a> and related training have been delivered - <a href="http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/news-and-events/detail/en/c/1380992/">http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/news-and-events/detail/en/c/1380992/</a></p> <p>(6) Webinar on ICT4SSF in Asia - Information and communication technologies for small-scale fisheries (ICT4SSF) - A handbook for fisheries stakeholders <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ciUxaCV1We4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ciUxaCV1We4</a> and related guidance document <a href="http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/resources/detail/en/c/1373212/">http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/resources/detail/en/c/1373212/</a>.</p> <p>More comprehensive information of SSF Guidelines related activities since February 2021 are available in the monthly newsletter SSF Update - <a href="http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/news-and-events/updates/en/">http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/news-and-events/updates/en/</a> and in the COFI documents - COFI/2022/4 - Supporting small-scale and artisanal fisheries; COFI/2022/INF/9 and COFI/2020/SBD.13 - Resources in support of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines</p> <p>(7) Trade and markets - GLOBEFISH is analyzing how to incorporate more useful information to small-scale fisheries, in particular focusing in accessing markets under SDG 14.b</p>
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					(8) Reduction of food loss and waste- the study on gender and food loss in sustainable fish value chains in Africa is being organized. The renewable energy in post harvest fisheries for SSF is ongoing. The website of fish loss and waste in fish value chains has been maintained well functioning as an information hub. <a href="http://www.fao.org/flw-in-fish-value-chains/overview/food-loss-and-waste-in-fish-value-chains/en/">http://www.fao.org/flw-in-fish-value-chains/overview/food-loss-and-waste-in-fish-value-chains/en/</a>
21	13 f)	requested FAO to intensify support to Members by building on the IHH study, using its findings and conducting further analyses, and to develop capacity on small-scale and artisanal fisheries' data and information, in particular at the national and regional level;		X	Update on IHH study here <a href="http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/resources/detail/en/c/1374629/">http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/resources/detail/en/c/1374629/</a> . First call held with African regional organizations to prepare a regional roll-out of IHH. In addition, two new publications on inland fisheries were released Sirén, A. 2021a. Una aproximación al volumen de la pesca en la Amazonía peruana utilizando datos de consumo y de desembarque. COPESCAALC Documento Ocasional No. 17. Roma, FAO. <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cb5039es">https://doi.org/10.4060/cb5039es</a> The IHH method is being finalized for publication, also as e-learning, and initial agreement has been reached with Tanzania and Indonesia to conduct in-country follow-up work. Main findings of the IHH study have been shared widely in a number of webinars and conferences. Sirén, A. 2021b. La pesca y el consumo de pescado en la Amazonía colombiana. COPESCAALC Documento Ocasional No. 16. Roma, FAO. <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cb5038es">https://doi.org/10.4060/cb5038es</a>
22	13 g)	reiterated its support for the Global Strategic Framework in Support of the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines and for FAO to further develop the knowledge-sharing platform and monitoring system for the implementation of the SSF Guidelines;		X	Two webinars held with WorldFish, GSF-SSF Advisory Group and NGOs on key topics; development of guidance on monitoring the implementation of the SSF Guidelines under way with WorldFish, virtual expert workshop envisaged for September 2021.
23	13 h)	expressed its commitment to the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYafa) in 2022, welcomed the proposed planning roadmap and invited countries and partners to be part of the activities; emphasized the opportunity to focus attention on the role of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture in poverty eradication, ending hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition; also emphasized the need for IYafa to increase awareness and understanding of this sector for the social and economic development of coastal communities and the provision of food of high nutritional value, sustainable use of natural resources, and COVID-19 response and recovery; recognized that IYafa will also create a positive narrative through promoting partnerships, effective participation of small-scale and artisanal producers and exchange best practices, technical assistance and capacity building, taking into account the diverse nature of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture		X	14 meetings of the IYafa International Steering Committee held; new website <a href="http://www.fao.org/artisanal-fisheries-aquaculture-2022/en/">http://www.fao.org/artisanal-fisheries-aquaculture-2022/en/</a> and Global Action Plan released <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/cb4875en/cb4875en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/cb4875en/cb4875en.pdf</a> during a webinar in World Oceans Week. Funding and in-kind support for IYafa is still required, and the formation of additional regional committees is encouraged (already exist for Caribbean, Central America and South America). The Year was launched on 18 November 2021 (virtual). A IYafa side event took place at the UN Oceans conference and celebrations are happening all around the world, supported by a growing number of communication tools and materials on the IYafa website. For more information also see COFI/2022/4.1.
24	13 i)	recommended promoting the importance of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture in relevant events, such as: the United Nations Ocean Conference, United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, United Nations Food Systems Summit, Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity, Our Ocean Conference and the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021, among others, and encouraged collaboration with the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Decade of Family Farming.		X	(1) A game change solution for the UNFSS has been submitted together with WorldFish; a parallel event was held in the Food Systems pre-summit with support from selected members of the IYafa ISC. (2) IYafa is regularly being promoted in relevant events, such as the UN Ocean Decade Virtual Series on Blue Food, the PGA high-level debate on SDG 14, World Ocean Day, and in various other meetings and webinars. IYafa is mentioned both in speaking points of FAO staff and reflected in meeting reports as appropriate. A IYafa side event took place at the UN Ocean Conference, and closer collaboration with the UN Decade of Family Farming is being developed.
Agenda Item 9: COMBATTING ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING					

25	14 c)	expressed appreciation for the technical assistance provided by FAO to developing states and Small Island Developing States to effectively implement the PSMA and complementary international instruments and regional mechanisms, as appropriate, to combat IUU fishing through the Global PSMA Capacity Development Programme and encouraged FAO to continue reinforcing the Programme;		X	FAO continues to deliver capacity development under the framework of its Global Programme to support the implementation of the PSMA and complementary international instruments to combat IUU fishing, which constitutes: 1) assistance to recipient countries in assessing needs to strengthen national legislation, institutional set up, and MCS systems and operations with respect to port, flag, coastal, and market states responsibilities, including the drafting of national strategies and action plans to implement necessary measures (34 delivered between 2016-2021); 2) support to recipient countries in formulating or reviewing fisheries policies and legislation (21 delivered or ongoing between 2016-2021); 3) support to recipient countries in strengthening MCS institutions, systems and operations, including through mechanisms for regional coordination and cooperation (11 delivered or ongoing between 2016-2021); 4) assistance to recipient countries in improving flag State performance (3 delivered in 2020) and implementing market access measures, such as catch documentation and traceability schemes (3 delivered in 2021); 5) development of knowledge products and operational materials (2 published, 4 in progress), and delivery of training and capacity building programmes; 6) implementation and further development of global information systems in support of the implementation of the PSMA, including the PSMA Global Information Exchange System (GIES) and the FAO Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels (FAO Global Record), and; 7) support for the organization and conduction of relevant PSMA meetings, including logistical support for the participation of concerned countries. The Programme currently comprises 14 projects with funding in excess of USD 20 million, including from the EU, Germany, Iceland, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the USA.
26	14 e)	reiterated the key role of information exchange in combatting IUU fishing and welcomed the continuation of the work on the development of the PSMA Global Information Exchange System by FAO;		X	1) GIES Prototype launched at a series of regional workshops held between 17-19 May. The GIES prototype was developed as an integrated system using a modular and phased implementation approach, including inspection results, information on denial of port entry and denial of the use of the port, and flag State actions. 2) GIES Prototype presented at the third meeting of the Parties to the PSMA, 31 May - 4 June, The Parties welcomed the prototype and agreed on entering a pilot phase; 3) GIES Pilot system refinement on-going, launch expected by the end of September 2021
27	14 f)	recognized the role that the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels, and Supply Vessels plays in the implementation of the PSMA and other international instruments and initiatives, and called for the further development of the Global Record and increased submission of information by Members on their fleets, including periodic updates, as required;		X	1) to support the implementation of the PSMA, both FAO Global Record Information System and GIES are interlinked, to prefill the GIES forms with information on the details of the vessel, and to highlight any discrepancies between the information provided by the vessel representatives and the information contained within the FAO Global Record 2) The development of the new version of the FAO Global Record Information System is ongoing. Particular attention is being given to the system's usability and user-friendliness, data statistics and new mechanisms for data exchange such as automatic data exchange mechanisms based on APIs to connect the FAO Global Record with national and regional relevant systems. 3) Participation in the initiative is increasing steadily. As of today, 66 FAO Members are participating in the FAO Global Record, including a total of 11,846 vessels of all types and sizes, and from all regions, accounting for almost half of the total eligible fleet (fleet possessing the International Maritime Organization (IMO) number).

28	14 h)	called upon FAO to proceed with developing draft voluntary guidelines for the regulation, monitoring and control of transshipment, and to convene an expert consultation to review the draft, followed by a member-led negotiation process through the convening of a technical consultation, with a view to forwarding these voluntary guidelines to the Thirty-fifth Session of COFI for endorsement;		X	An in-depth study by FAO published in 2020 contained an outline of possible key elements for guidelines, which has been used by the secretariat at a starting point for developing a preliminary draft. Inputs to the draft have also been provided by a selection of compliance officers of RFMOs and some national experts. That draft will be the basis for the expert consultation to be convened virtually 11-17 October, followed by a member-led technical consultation 7-11 March 2022.
29	14 j)	commended FAO for the work in developing the FAO Technical Guidelines on Methodologies and Indicators for the Estimation of the Magnitude and Impact of IUU fishing, and encouraged their use. The Committee called for FAO to keep progressing on the development of these technical guidelines;		X	FAO is developing two further volumes of the FAO Technical Guidelines, to augment the three technical guidance documents on estimating and assessing IUU fishing produced thus far. The first volume will provide guidance for developing and using indicators of IUU fishing. Simple to calculate, easy to track and more accessible to a wide range of fishery management systems, indicators can provide a useful complementary tool to quantitative IUU estimates. The second volume will present a retrospective analysis of IUU estimation scenarios designed to document obstacles encountered and overcome in previous estimation studies. The analysis will be indexed to assist the reader in problem-solving for future estimation exercises.
30	14 k)	recognized the important role that FAO, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Joint Working Group (JWG) on IUU Fishing and Related Matters, including on measures to attain safe, healthy and fair working conditions and improve safety at sea, plays in engaging multiple agencies and stakeholders, and supported the JWG's recommendation to review the terms of reference and develop rules of procedure for the JWG in cooperation with Members through COFI Bureau; called on FAO to facilitate discussions with the Secretariats of ILO and IMO, with a view to presenting them in a timely manner at the Thirty-fifth Session of COFI and the relevant IMO and ILO governing bodies for adoption, and encouraged FAO to develop a process for COFI to consider the recommendations of the JWG;		X	The secretariats of FAO, IMO and ILO met virtually on several occasions between mid-March and late May when revised draft terms of reference (TOR) for the JWG, which also includes required procedures, was agreed. The TOR were approved by IMO in July, will be presented to the ILO Conference later this year and to COFI 35. In essence FAO, ILO and IMO will coordinate efforts to address IUU fishing and related matters in the context of each organization's mandate: FAO in general, ILO on decent work in the fishing sector, and IMO on maritime safety and security, and the protection of the marine environment. The draft comprises objective, establishment of a joint secretariat, composition of the JWG, its functions, role of the chairperson, role of observers, adoption of recommendations, reporting, follow-up actions, conduction of meetings, preparation of documents, expenses and cooperation with United Nations.
31	14 m)	reiterated the importance of traceability schemes to combat IUU fishing, in line with the Voluntary Guidelines on Catch Documentation Schemes and encouraged information exchange on catch documentation;		X	The development of both critical documents goes well, which are "Advancing end-to-end traceability: Critical Tracking Events (CTEs) and Key Data Elements (KDEs) along with capture fisheries and aquaculture value chains", and "Understanding and Implementing Catch Documentation Schemes for Detecting and Deterring IUU Fishing". One online consultation and three regional consultation of the ahead has either been finished, or been ongoing. Three national consultation workshops have been organized for the latter.
32	14 n)	considered the latest developments on the negotiations related to the regulation of fisheries subsidies at the WTO and encouraged FAO to continue providing technical advice to the process;		X	See also Item 14 (Paragraph 11 i))
33	14 o)	encouraged further FAO efforts to support Member's achievement of SDG 14.6 through the promotion of FAO related instruments and national plans of action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing, where appropriate;		X	See efforts to support Members' achievement of SDG 14.6 under FAO's Global Programme to support the implementation of the Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) described in Paragraph 26 above

Agenda Item 10: DEVELOPMENTS IN GLOBAL AND REGIONAL PROCESSES RELATED TO FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

34	15 d)	<p>commended FAO on its work on achieving sustainable fisheries and aquaculture through collaborative approaches with relevant global and regional organizations, bodies and initiatives, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Environment Programme, CITES, WTO and IUCN, including the support to the United Nations General Assembly related work on oceans and fisheries, the United Nations Ocean Conference, the United Nations Decade on Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, and requested FAO to continue strengthening such work;</p>		X	<p>(1) With WTO, we continue to collaborate on joint capacity building actions promoting sustainable trade of fisheries and aquaculture products. The next joint event is planned for the last quarter of 2021.                  (2) FAO collaborates with CBD, CITES, CMS and IUCN to ensure that biodiversity mainstreaming by the fisheries and aquaculture sector is well recognized by these MEAs, and that new requirements placed on fisheries are well crafted to reflect need for the stocks and species impacted, and linked to support for capacity where their is a need.                  (3) FAO and UNEP are jointly working on shaping the United Nations Decade of Ecosystem Restoration so that it encapsulates productive as well as protected environments, and recognises that actions to recovery over-fished stocks is part of the Decades work, as fish are a major component of biodiversity of the ocean.</p>
35	15 k)	<p>emphasized the importance of safety at sea and working conditions in the fisheries sector and welcomed the close cooperation between FAO, ILO and IMO, including through the JWG on IUU fishing and related matters; requested FAO to further strengthen international cooperation on occupational health and safety issues in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors and to promote decent work for fishers and fish workers;</p>		X	<p>(1) Publication of the FAO/IMO/ILO brochure on "Joining forces to shape the Fishery sector of tomorrow" in various languages, available at: <a href="http://www.fao.org/fishing-safety/news-events/news/detail/en/c/1401668/">http://www.fao.org/fishing-safety/news-events/news/detail/en/c/1401668/</a>                  (2) Joint activities to collect accident and fatality information from Member States, to produce updated statistics and work jointly on targeted training sessions.                  (3) New FAO website on Fishing Safety launched in April 2021, which received inputs from IMO and ILO and promotes the international standards and conventions. <a href="http://www.fao.org/fishing-safety/en/">http://www.fao.org/fishing-safety/en/</a>                  (4) Training on decent work in the GFCM SSF Forum planned for 2021                  (5) ILO-ITC training on decent work in fisheries supported through mentoring of attendees                  (6) Finalization of study of diving working conditions in the Caribbean under way                  (7) Review of child labour in fisheries and aquaculture in the Philippines and Indonesia started                  (8) Regional virtual event on decent work in fisheries and aquaculture being organized with OSPESCA for central America.                  (9) Drafting of new Terms of Reference for the JWG FAO/ILO/IMO, circulated to COFI Bureau and to IMO III.                  (10) The "Rules of the road at sea for small-scale fishers" elearning course on maritime traffic rules was prepared and is now available in English, French, Spanish and Chinese languages <a href="https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=704">https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=704</a> .                  (11) Virtual safety at sea training of trainers sessions have been held virtually for safety trainers of fishers in the Caribbean, Near East and Northern Africa, and the Pacific.                  (12) A World review of capture fisheries and aquaculture insurance 2022 was prepared and published <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cb9491en">https://doi.org/10.4060/cb9491en</a>                  (13) A full-time Fishing safety officer was recruited to address all safety related requests in fisheries. The officer started working in May 2022.</p>

36	15 l)	noted the developments in Latin America and the Caribbean of sport fisheries to generate new opportunities for small-scale and artisanal fisheries, and highlighted the importance for FAO to continue providing follow-up and support to work on this topic.		X		On September the 30th, the Mesoamerican Regional Seminar on the Contribution of Sports and Recreational Fisheries to Territorial Economies, is being held in coordination with the National Aquaculture and Fisheries Commission of Mexico. All of the Central American countries and Dominican Republic will participate. The objective is to share experiences and to generate policy recommendations to governments and intergovernmental organizations.
<b>Agenda Item 11: ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND OTHER ENVIRONMENT-RELATED MATTERS IN FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE</b>						
37	16 c)	requested FAO to enhance technical guidance on mainstreaming climate adaptation and mitigation in fisheries management and aquaculture development, encouraged Members to support the development of technical guidelines, and welcomed the offer of the Government of Canada in this regard;		X		Progress is made in developing a technical guidelines to climate resilient tilapia farming. Discussions initiated with the Government of Canada, but no formalized agreement yet.
38	16 e)	called on FAO to continue assisting Members, subject to their request, on the implementation and updating of national determined contributions in accordance with the Paris Agreement and national adaptation plans, and encouraged all Members to ensure the fisheries and aquaculture sector is included in these instruments, as appropriate;		X		Progress is made in supporting Non-Fed aquaculture and seaweeds/mollusk culture through consultation, technical documentation and capacity building, etc.
39	16 f)	reiterated its concern over the possible negative effects of marine plastic litter (MPL), anthropogenic underwater noise, harmful algal blooms and invasive species, and encouraged FAO to continue supporting Members with evidence and science-based approaches;		X		(1) Discussions initiated with GFCM on possibility to expand the work currently carried out in the Mediterranean Sea on underwater noise so as it has a global relevance. (2) The IMO-FAO GloLitter Partnerships Project is supporting 3 countries (Indonesia, Kenya, Costa Rica) with reducing pollution from fishing operations. Various knowledge products have been prepared in 2021-2022 by the project. <a href="https://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/PartnershipsProjects/Pages/GloLitter-Partnerships-Project-.aspx">https://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/PartnershipsProjects/Pages/GloLitter-Partnerships-Project-.aspx</a> and <a href="https://www.fao.org/responsible-fishing/resources/en/">https://www.fao.org/responsible-fishing/resources/en/</a> (3) GESAMP Working Group 43 on Seabased sources of Marine Litter, which is jointly coordinated by FAO and IMO, has completed its first TORs and the report has been published <a href="http://www.gesamp.org/site/assets/files/2213/rs108e.pdf">http://www.gesamp.org/site/assets/files/2213/rs108e.pdf</a>
40	16 g)	in relation to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, encouraged FAO to continue promoting the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear and its provision of capacity development at regional and national levels;		X		NFIFO is promoting the VGMFG through a number of activities including the following: (i) Development of a gear marking manual to supplement the VGMFG and assist countries to implement gear marking at national level, providing technologies suitable for developing countries through the EC DG Mare funded Post COFI activities project GCP/GLO/432/EC. (ii) Development of a scheme for IOTC to operationalise the FAO VGMFG at regional level. (iii) Developing a framework for a Risk Assessment on gear marking and pilot test it in Grenada. (iv) Technical support provision to Senegal to develop a National Plan of Action to address ALDFG in Senegalese waters building upon the VGMFG. (v) FAO continues to promote the VGMFG through the webpage on Responsible Fishing Practices for Sustainable Fisheries: <a href="http://www.fao.org/responsible-fishing/en/">http://www.fao.org/responsible-fishing/en/</a> . (vi) FAO is developing a global questionnaire on ALDFG, an associated database and a methodology to estimate ALDFG rates per gear type, filling data gaps as identified by GESAMP WG 43 co-chaired by FAO & IMO
41	16 h)	welcomed efforts to prevent and reduce MPL through the GloLitter Partnerships project and the Global Ghost Gear Initiative, and encouraged FAO to continue its collaboration with Members, IMO and other United Nations' agencies, RFMOs, the private sector, civil society and relevant international organizations;		X		1) Knowledge products have been developed under the GloLitter partnerships project in 2021 include: (i) Report on legal aspects of abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear. (ii) Reporting and retrieval of lost fishing gear: recommendations for developing effective programs. (iii) Report on good practices to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from fishing activities. The latter in collaboration with GGGI, a GloLitter strategic partner). <a href="https://www.fao.org/responsible-fishing/resources/en/">https://www.fao.org/responsible-fishing/resources/en/</a> (2) The Joanna Toole GloLitter Grant to support women addressing MPL from the fishing sector was launched on 8 June 2021. The grant is being managed by GGGI on behalf of FAO/IMO.
42	16 i)	recognized the increased science-based knowledge on underwater anthropogenic noise and encouraged FAO to assess its possible impacts, including its socio-economic consequences, on marine resources in collaboration with relevant international organizations such as IMO.		X		FAO participates in the ICES WGShip where scientific findings related to underwater noise issues are discussed. NFIFO recently (May 2022) recruited a Fishing Pollution Officer, who will work on all aspects of pollution from fishing vessels and fishing operations, including also ALDFG.
<b>Agenda Item 11.1: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAO STRATEGY ON BIODIVERSITY MAINSTREAMING ACROSS FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE</b>						

43	17 b)	welcomed the Action Plan for the Implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors (2021–2023), noting that revisions will be needed to incorporate new global goals and targets for biodiversity, and address concerns over actions included in geographical indications and market-oriented biosecurity;		X	The review of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors (2021–2023) has been completed with inputs from a range of FAO Departments. This work is now compliant with Members wishes and complete.
44	17 e)	noted the relevance of OECMs to achieving a number of the SDGs and global biodiversity targets, and requested that FAO produce and disseminate practical guidelines to support Members in their identification and implementation;		X	FAO's Fisheries Division has initiated a process to develop such guidelines through an iterative process. FAO has begun to develop a first draft of the guidelines based on current experience and knowledge. In parallel, FAO is organizing a series of regional workshops to ensure that the guidelines are practical and respond to the challenges, opportunities and needs that countries and Regional Fisheries Bodies encounter when identifying fishery-related OECMs. For each region, a webinar and expert meeting on OECM will be organised for regional experts and administrations. It will serve to provide up-to-date information on the OECM concept and discuss on the way forward for identifying and reporting fisheries-related OECMs in the region. The main points to be covered will include: Discussion and review the concept of OECMs, particularly in the fisheries sector, and their relevance in the region; Identify the types of area-based fisheries management measures existing in the region that could qualify as a potential OECM; Test the application of the CBD criteria for identifying fisheries-related OECMs in the region, on specifically-identified case studies; Synthesize the challenges, opportunities and recommendations that arise from identifying fishery-related OECMs in the region; and Outline next steps in advancing fisheries-related OECMs in the region to contribute to SDGs and other global and regional targets. To date, planning has begun for regional workshops in the Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.
45	17 f)	requested that FAO continue to work with CITES and related fora, to help ensure that decisions made in these fora and their implementation are based on the best scientific information available and relevant technical information;		X	(1) FAO attended the CITES Animal Committee and Standing Committee meetings to highlight the need for the best scientific information available and relevant technical information to be available to CITES Parties in the listing of species and the implementation of the Convention. Two outputs FAO prepared i) A scientific paper on the evidence provided by CITES Parties when considering aquatic species for CITES listing ( <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/faf.12411">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/faf.12411</a> ) and ii) Describing the challenges for improving CITES listed trade data described in the FAO CITES and sea report: <a href="http://fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb2971en">http://fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb2971en</a> ; <a href="http://fao.org/fao-stories/article/en/c/1371399/">http://fao.org/fao-stories/article/en/c/1371399/</a> . (2) See also Item 16 (Paragraph 11 l))
46	17 h)	encouraged FAO to continue to actively engage with relevant international organizations and processes, and to highlight the important and positive contribution of sustainable use to biodiversity conservation;		X	(1) FAO attended the Convention on Biological Diversity SBSTTA Meetings and Open Ended Working Group Meetings to influence the evolution of the CBDs Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, so that it better recognises sectoral delivery of the ecosystem approach to fisheries and aquaculture as a benefit to biodiversity conservation. (2) Similarly FAO attended CITES committees to highlight the voices of fishery groups, that sometimes consider they are sidelined in CITES processes that concentrate on their areas of expertise (e.g. for ornamental fish see <a href="https://ornamentalfish.org/wp-content/uploads/Statement-on-the-implementation-of-CITES-decision-18.298-on-marine-ornamental-fishes-Oct-20202.pdf">https://ornamentalfish.org/wp-content/uploads/Statement-on-the-implementation-of-CITES-decision-18.298-on-marine-ornamental-fishes-Oct-20202.pdf</a> ).
47	17 i)	noted the important role that RFABs, RFMOs and other regional initiatives play in mainstreaming biodiversity in the conservation and sustainable use of aquatic resources, and requested FAO to strengthen its support to them in this arena.		X	At the 31st session of EIFAAC (22-24 June 2022, Ireland) the Commission adopted two resolutions that contribute to protecting aquatic biodiversity. Resolution EIFAAC/2022/2 "On the Code of Conduct for Recreational Fisheries and Invasive Alien Species" and Resolution EIFAAC/2022/3 On the protection of vulnerable and endangered fish species from unsustainable predation from cormorants. Invasive species and cormorants are a treat to inland fish stocks and fisheries throughout Europe.

Agenda Item 12: ENHANCING COFI DISCUSSIONS ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT: PROPOSAL FOR A NEW COFI SUB-COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

48	18 c)	agreed to continue a transparent and inclusive consultation process on the proposal of the establishment of a new sub-committee on fisheries management, under the leadership of the Chairperson of COFI, and looked forward to a proposal being submitted at COFI 35.	X		The Chairperson of COFI 35 organized six meetings of the Working Group on the Proposal of the Establishment of the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (WG). Based on the discussion in WG, the proposal was prepared and submitted to COFI 35 in COFI/2022/6.
Agenda Item 13: FAO'S PROGRAMME OF WORK IN FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE UNDER THE FAO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK					
49	19 c)	encouraged FAO to also reflect on the importance of SDG 14 in the new Strategic Framework and the significant role of FAO in achieving this goal, as part of the indivisible 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;		X	Workshop on SDG 1.b for Asia on 6-8 July 2021.
50	19 d)	welcomed the proposed Blue Transformation Programme under the new FAO Strategic Framework and looked forward to additional information;		X	the Blue Transformation Priority Programme outline was presented to the 166th FAO Council for consideration. It will be introduced to the 42nd FAO Conference on June 14-18 alongside the revised strategic framework for approval.
51	19 e)	endorsed the identified fisheries and aquaculture priority areas of work for the biennium 2020–2021, and looked forward to considering them in the new FAO planning cycle, noting the importance of the fisheries and aquaculture sector for livelihood improvement, poverty alleviation, food security, nutrition and human health, and its interlinkages with biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, among others, and the importance of an integrated approach that balances trade-offs;		X	The Illuminating Hidden Harvest study on the contributions of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development considers livelihoods, nutrition, sustainable resource use in particular.
52	19 f)	recommended the relevant FAO Governing Bodies duly consider integrating actions identified in the 2021 COFI Declaration for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture, as well as additional actions concerning post-COVID-19 response		X	(1) COFI-FT - In the preparation of the upcoming Session of COFI-FT, the Declaration will be duly taken into consideration, particularly in setting its provisional agenda. In addition, Bureau Members
53	19 g)	reaffirmed the importance of FAO's role in collecting, analysing and disseminating statistics on fisheries and aquaculture, including gender disaggregated data when possible, and requested FAO to inform Members on additional needs to improve data collection systems, in particular for small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture;		X	(1) FAO has developed a new software platform 'Calipseo' for integrated fisheries statistics and management information (FISMIS), for deployment in countries requesting assistance. This platform has already been deployed in four countries and more are following. FAO is revamping its website and as part of this is improving the dissemination of its Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics with new query panels, graphics and data services through APIs. (2) In 2022 FAO reached a major milestone as it marks the coverage of its fisheries and aquaculture statistics for the years 1950–2020 for the majority of its datasets – the longest time series of any statistical dataset published by FAO. A series of initiatives, including regional workshops to better assess countries' needs in fisheries statistics (in July and September 2022) and dedicated publications and a revised Yearbook, will celebrate this major event, with the aim of improving interaction and engagement with Members and users in order to meet their needs. FAO is also revamping its website and as part of this is improving the dissemination of its Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics with new query panels, graphics and data services. (3) FAO has carried out a series of dedicated online trainings in fisheries statistics and it has developed a new software platform 'Calipseo' for integrated fisheries statistics and management information (FISMIS), for deployment in countries requesting assistance. This platform has already been deployed in four countries and more are following. (4) Additional needs include to expand the Illuminating Hidden Harvests through further analysis, sharing of the IHH country case studies data as a global public good and the advancement of multi-disciplinary, multi-source and participatory capacity development at country and regional level. It is suggested to include subsector disaggregated data in future FAO data collection, analysis and dissemination.
54	19 h)	encouraged FAO to continue to strengthen its collaboration with relevant international organizations, RFABs and RFMOs, to advocate the positive contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to sustainable development, and avoid the duplication of efforts;		X	The FIRMS partnership pursued its efforts to support the indicator SDG14.4.1 in particular through the implementation of the Global Record of Stocks and Fisheries, which provides a critical mass of stock status information worldwide with about 2000 stocks uniquely identified.

55	19 i)	urged FAO, in collaboration with its partners to promote the importance of fisheries and aquaculture in relevant events and initiatives such as: the United Nations Ocean Conference, United Nations Food Systems Summit, United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, United Nations Decade of Family Farming, United Nations Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, Our Ocean Conference and the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit, and encouraged FAO and its Members to highlight the 2021 Declaration for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture, in that regard, and in particular in the framework of the activities and celebrations of the IY AFA 2022;		X		NFI is actively and regularly promoting fisheries and aquaculture, in collaboration with partners, in relevant UN processes and events, such as the UN Ocean Decade, the PGA high-level debate on SDG 14, World Ocean Day, and in various other meetings and webinars.
56	19 j)	urged FAO to promote good experiences and practices, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, in order to enhance food security and nutrition.		X		(1) FAO is active in providing technical support in SSTC, such as aquaculture development in Balkan, Ethiopia, Cabo Verde, etc.; (2) NFI is undertaking the Yanbao Fund project on capacity building on Aquaparks: from planning to industry cluster; (3) NFI is enhancing partnership on sustainable aquaculture, such as the FAO reference center, Global Sustainable Aquaculture Advancement Partnership (GSAAP), and partners with academies, universities, etc. (4) FAO is in collection and documentation of GAP and successful stories on Seaweeds, blood cockles, aquaparks, rice fish farming, Artemia, Aquafeed solution, etc. (5) In the area of fish trade and markets, capacity building activities are planned for the 4th quarter of 2021 focusing on South-South cooperation with a regional emphasis in Asia.
<b>Agenda Item 13.1: TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM FOR DIGITAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE</b>						
57	20 a)	expressed its support for the International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture, and requested FAO to ensure that the activities of the International Platform include issues related to digital technology applications on fisheries and aquaculture, and create synergies between International Organizations and stakeholders, while avoiding duplication of efforts and activities;		X		(1) Information on AqGR being incorporated in a new information system (AquaGRIS) which is being integrated with related information system such as FishstatJ. RAP with support from HQ is developing an RTP for Aquaculture which includes a number of digital platforms including on line training resources. (2) The NFI geospatial knowledge base has been upgraded and full interoperability with the Digital Food and Agriculture platform is being worked out. Support is provided to Hands in Hands projects in few countries (Nigeria, Cabo Verde, ...) and regions (Aquaculture in Lake Tanganyika).
58	20 b)	further requested FAO to develop a solid funding concept for the International Platform based on voluntary contributions, and continue developing and refining its terms of reference for further review by the Programme Committee and the FAO Council.		X		The 166th Session of the FAO Council approved the Terms of Reference of the International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture and we are currently working on the implementation, including the development of a plan for funding.
<b>Agenda item 14: MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPow) OF THE COMMITTEE</b>						
59	21 b)	underlined the importance of the timely preparation of the documents and requested to keep the indicator "All COFI documents including SOFIA are made available in all FAO languages at least four weeks before the session commences" in Paragraph 18(b) of the draft MYPow 2020–2023, including the annotated agenda, clarifying items for discussion and decision;		X		All recommendations made during COFI 34 have been incorporated into the revised MYPow 2020-2023, attached to C 2021/23 as Appendix E ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/3/ne907en/ne907en.pdf">http://www.fao.org/3/ne907en/ne907en.pdf</a> ).
60	21 c)	recommended to utilize MYPow to streamline agendas for COFI and its sub-committees in consultation with the Bureau;		X		(1) The Chairperson has organized the 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of COFI 35 Bureau (BM 1) on 18 February 2021 and the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting (BM 2) on 25 May 2021. (2) COFI:FT - The first Bureau Meeting occurred on 8 June 2021 and a complete schedule of meetings is planned in preparation for the upcoming Session.
61	21 d)	recommended to avoid duplication of work with other Governing Bodies and further strengthen coordination with the respective Secretariats;		X		(1) COFI:FT - Bureau Members suggested that COFI:FT streamline coordination with other governing bodies, particularly exploring collaboration possibilities. COFI:FT Secretariat will explore a suitable format in consultation with the other two governing bodies.

62	21 e)	recommended, for follow up purposes, to monitor the implementation of MYPOW 2020–2023 intersessional and report, through a reporting matrix, on the progress to the Bureau;			X	The Secretary of COFI failed to provide the monitoring report on implementation of MYPOW to the Bureau, but the progress report has been prepared in COFI/2022/13.
63	21 f)	recommended to add "...and the elaboration of new intersessional working methods and/or the development of the proposed fisheries management sub-committee" at the end of Paragraph 20(c) of the draft MYPOW 2020–2023. The revised MYPOW 2020-2023 is attached as Appendix E.			X	The recently created Working Group to discuss the possible creation of the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management will address a wide range of options, including working methods or the creation of a specific body
Agenda Item 17.2: REPUBLIC OF KOREA PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PILOT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORLD FISHERIES UNIVERSITY						
64	25	The Committee welcomed and appreciated the update provided by the Republic of Korea on the Pilot Partnership Programme for the establishment of the World Fisheries University and looked forward to receiving further information at the Thirty-fifth Session of COFI.			X	Project progress report submitted to donor April 2021. Further updates will be available after the FAO Conference in June 2021. The Republic of Korea is expected to provide further information at the Thirty-fifth Session of COFI.

[\[1\] Paragraph numbers of the report of COFI 34 \(C 2021/23\)](#)

[\[2\] C: Completed; O: On-going; N: Not yet started](#)