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**TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COORDINATING WORKING
PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS**

Rome, 20–24 June 2022

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PREPARATION OF THE DOCUMENT

This document is the report of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) held in hybrid form in Rome, Italy and online on 20–24 June 2022.

ABSTRACT

This document is the report of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) which was held from 20 to 24 June 2022 in conjunction with an intersessional meeting of the CWP's Aquaculture and Fisheries Subject Groups. Sixteen CWP member organizations participated in the meetings with another regional organization participating as observer.

The Twenty-Seventh Session (CWP-27) reviewed progress and advised on work conducted during the intersession period 2019–2022 including revisions to the CWP Handbook of Fishery Statistics and website and the work of five ad hoc Task Groups (TGs). The TGs developed key areas of work on statistical concepts and associated measures for catch and fishing effort, guidelines for implementing the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization, development of best practices for streamlining statistical data workflows and data confidentiality issues, and development of a new aquaculture section of the Handbook. CWP-27 also considered recent activities of CWP parties relevant to its work and statistical activities in support of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SDGs under FAO custodianship, work towards a statistical definition of small-scale fisheries, emerging needs for international statistical standards, and progress in online data reporting platforms for fisheries statistics.

CWP-27 agreed on actions and revised workplans for the TGs and established new TGs to develop 1) geospatial matters including a proposed geo-coding system for water jurisdiction areas and 2) a statistical definition of small-scale fisheries.

CWP is an international forum of intergovernmental organizations with a remit for fishery statistics, including regional fishery bodies, which develops and agrees common definitions, classifications and standards for the collection of fishery and aquaculture statistics. Technical advice on capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics and related matters is disseminated on the [CWP website](#) and [CWP Handbook of Fishery Statistics](#).

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) is an international forum of intergovernmental organizations with a remit for fishery statistics, including regional fishery bodies, which develops and agrees common definitions, classifications and standards for the collection of fishery and aquaculture statistics. CWP provides a mechanism to coordinate the statistical programmes and technical advice on capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics and related matters and technical advice is disseminated on the [CWP website](#) and [CWP Handbook of Fishery Statistics](#). This includes common procedures for statistics collation which have streamlined processes and reduced the reporting burden on statistical agencies.

The Twenty-Seventh Session of the CWP (CWP-27) was held in a hybrid form (in person at the FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy and online) on 20-24 June 2022 in conjunction with an intersessional meeting of the CWP's Aquaculture Subject Group (CWP-AS) and Fisheries Subject Group (CWP-FS). Sixteen CWP member organizations participated in these meetings along with another regional organization participating as observer. The meetings were chaired by Mr Fabio Fiorellato (IOTC and CWP-FS coordinator) for CWP-FS and CWP-27 and Mr Fabio Massa (CWP-AS coordinator) for CWP-AS with support from Ms Stefania Vannuccini (CWP Secretary).

CWP-27 reviewed progress and provided feedback and guidance on work conducted during the intersession period 2019-2022 including a revision of the Handbook and website and the work of five ad hoc Task Groups (TGs). The revised Handbook contains new sections on date and time, spatial reference systems, geographic coordinates, geographic systems and the socioeconomic dimension, as well as extensive updates to existing chapters. New website sections on sharing practices and regional references are also being developed. The TGs developed key areas of work as follows.

- TG-catch: catch concepts and definitions and further development in the broader context of recreational, small-scale, artisanal, commercial, semi-industrial and industrial fisheries;
- TG-effort: fishing effort concepts, standard measures of effort and associated definitions, including their use in informing STATLANT questionnaires, and incorporating considerations on emerging remote-sensing technologies and opportunities to develop new measures of effort;
- TG-RH2: reference harmonization for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics, including implementation guidelines for the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization, and development of logbook guidelines and a coding system for water jurisdiction areas;
- TG-workflow: best practice guidelines for streamlining the reporting mechanisms and workflow for capture fishery and aquaculture statistics to reduce the data reporting burden on member countries, and guidelines for the implementation of statistical data confidentiality requirements;
- TG-aquaculture: aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook including the farming systems classification.

CWP-27 also considered:

- developments and activities of member organizations and observers relevant to the work of CWP and statistical activities in support of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and in particular SDG 14 (to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources);
- further development of a statistical definition of small-scale fisheries through a matrix scoring approach to characterize the scale of fishing units;
- monitoring and reporting of SDGs relevant to fisheries and aquaculture statistics and under FAO custodianship;

- the emerging needs for international standards to increase knowledge on fishing and fishery sectors including stock assessment, socioeconomic statistics, monitoring the impact of fisheries on biodiversity, fighting against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and gender-disaggregated statistics;
- development of standards supporting online data reporting platforms for fisheries statistics.

Achievements reported to CWP-27 will *inter alia* further develop the Handbook and website including a new chapter on aquaculture, sections on statistical concepts and associated measures for capture fisheries, and guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization.

CWP-27 endorsed the outcomes of the five ad hoc TGs above and agreed on activities to be performed in the short term and during the upcoming intersession period including the following:

TG-catch

- approach and methodology adopted for the design of the new catch concepts diagram;
- logical separation between nominal catch and nominal landings;
- new catch concept diagram and associated glossary and their inclusion in the CWP Handbook.

TG-effort

- revised concepts and definitions (*in principle*, for some of these);
- new fishing effort concept diagram and its inclusion in the CWP Handbook;
- revised effort measures and definitions, and the implementation of standard effort measures by gear category (*in principle*, with the recommendation of further refinements).

TG-RH2

- adoption of the term *logbook* in the context of CWP core statistics;
- a new *capture fisheries* diagram for logbook and its underlying definitions;
- revised definition of *fishing fleet*.

TG-aquaculture

- endorsement of the revised aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook.

CWP 27 also endorsed the establishment of two new ad hoc TGs to develop (1) geospatial matters including a proposed geo-coding system for water jurisdiction areas and (2) a statistical definition of small-scale fisheries. Work was also agreed to collect information on the best practices, streamlined workflows and lessons learnt from online data reporting platforms for fisheries statistics. Participation in TGs is open to all CWP parties and work will be conducted primarily through online discussions during the intersessional period to CWP-28 (scheduled in 2025). The CWP Secretary also called on all parties to continue their active participation in CWP activities and meetings and their efforts to augment the visibility of CWP and awareness of its work.

OPENING OF THE SESSION AND WELCOME

(Agenda item 1)

1. The Twenty-Seventh Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP-27) was held in a hybrid form (in person in Rome, Italy and online) from 20 to 24 June 2022 in conjunction with an intersessional meeting (CWP-IS) of the Aquaculture Subject Group (CWP-AS) and Fisheries Subject Group (CWP-FS).
2. Ms Stefania Vannuccini (CWP Secretary) welcomed participants to the CWP-27 meeting which was held immediately following the close of the CWP-IS meeting on 24 June. The purpose of the CWP-27 meeting was to review work conducted during the intersessional period since CWP-26 in 2019, including the work of the five ad hoc Task Groups (TGs) and agree tasks and workplans for the forthcoming intersessional period to CWP-28 (2022-2025). The Secretariat acknowledged the challenges arising from the schedule of the online sessions which were held across the multiple time zones of Members and other participating organizations. The list of participants is in Appendix 1 and the meeting agenda is in Appendix 2.
3. Representatives from the following CWP member organizations participated in the meeting:
 - Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)
 - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
 - General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)
 - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
 - Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)
 - International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
 - International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
 - Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
 - North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
 - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
 - South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)
 - Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC).
4. Four CWP members were not present at CWP-27 (but attended the CWP-IS meeting):
 - Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)
 - Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA)
 - Pacific Community (SPC)
 - Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
5. SPC gave its proxy for voting to IATTC where required for decision-making. Endorsement of CWP decisions requires a quorum consisting of the majority of participating organizations (i.e. currently 10 out of 19 participating organizations) (Rules of Procedure, paragraph 9).
6. The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) attended the meeting as an observer.
7. On the first day of the CWP-IS meeting, Mr Audun Lem (Deputy Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO) opened CWP-27 and welcomed CWP participants. In his welcome address (Appendix 3), Mr Lem noted the progress made during the intersessional period since CWP-26 in 2019 including the development of catch and fishing effort concepts, harmonization of data structures, coordination and streamlining of statistical activities among organizations and the drafting of a new section on aquaculture for the CWP Handbook of Fishery Statistics. He noted that the work is also relevant to countries and other organizations that look at the standards and classifications endorsed by

CWP for their collection of fisheries and aquaculture statistics. The demand for detailed and timely statistics by fisheries and aquaculture sectors and at national and sub-national levels has increased dramatically in recent years. Knowledge of the status and trends in these sectors is essential to both sound policy-making and the assessment of the performance of responsible fisheries and aquaculture management systems. Timely, solid and trustworthy data are crucial for demonstrating progress towards achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Mr Lem noted that the fisheries and aquaculture sectors contribute significantly to food security and nutrition, especially in some of the world's most food-limited regions, while simultaneously supporting the livelihood of hundreds of millions of people around the world. He also referred to FAO's Blue Transformation strategic programme which is part of the Strategic Framework 2022–2031 and which seeks to maximize the contribution of aquatic food systems to food and nutrition security through socially, environmentally and economically sustainable production and value chains.

APPOINTMENT OF MEETING CHAIR

(Agenda item 2)

8. Mr Fabio Fiorellato (IOTC and CWP-FS coordinator) was elected as the chairperson for CWP-27.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

(Agenda item 3)

9. CWP-27 discussed the meeting agenda and agreed to include a review of CWP membership following Agenda item 3. With these changes, CWP-27 adopted the Agenda (Appendix 2).

REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

(Agenda item 4)

10. Ms Vannuccini advised that there were currently 19 Members of the CWP, the majority of which were active during the past intersessional period and at CWP-27. Two Members, the International Whaling Commission (IWC) and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), have not been active at two or more consecutive meetings (refer to Rules of Procedure) and of the two only one Member (IWC) provided some minimum input during the intersessional period (voting for the revision of the rules of procedures).

11. The CWP Secretariat indicated that the current situation can potentially impact on the CWP's decision making process during meetings (Rules of Procedure, paragraph 4). If a quorum cannot be reached during a meeting, CWP Members are required to vote by correspondence, delaying decision-making by up to three months.

12. CWP-27 requested that the Secretariat contact the two Members (Rules of Procedure, paragraph 10) for further information and indicate that inactivity during the forthcoming intersessional period may lead to the withdrawal of their membership.

13. CWP-27 considered potential new members and recognized that the following organizations, including inland fishery regional bodies, may contribute to expanding the geographic coverage of statistics provided through the CWP membership: North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), Commission for Small-Scale, Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture of Latin America and the Caribbean (COPPESAALC), Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), Lake Victoria Fishery Organization (LVFO) and South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO). In addition, CWP-26 had also

identified the following organizations as potential members: Mekong River Commission, Committee on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa, European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) and Comisión Técnica Mixta del Frente Marítimo (CTMFM).

14. CWP-27 encouraged Members to consider other potential new members which may contribute to the development of aquaculture statistics.

15. CWP-27 requested that the Secretariat extend an invitation to the organizations listed in paragraph 13 to participate as observers to forthcoming CWP meetings or to join the CWP membership.

REVIEW OF THE FISHERY GROUP INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 5)

16. Mr Fiorellato (as CWP-FS coordinator) reported on the activities and achievements of CWP-FS since CWP-26. Work conducted during the intersessional period 2019–2022 had been discussed at the CWP-IS meeting immediately prior to CWP-27 (Appendix 4) and also at the CWP-IS meeting in November 2021 (Appendix 5).

Intersessional activities

17. CWP-27 recalled that the intersessional work of CWP-FS included activities of four Tasks Groups, of which one also considered topics of interest to CWP-AS, that had been agreed at CWP-26:

Task Group on catch concepts (TG-catch) which was tasked to:

- review, revise and where necessary further develop CWP catch concepts and associated diagram(s) and definitions, including the components *retained catch*, *bycatch* and *intended catch*;
- review and develop the application of catch concepts to the broader context of recreational, small-scale, artisanal, commercial, semi-industrial and industrial fisheries.

Task Group on fishing effort concepts (TG-effort) which was tasked to:

- review, revise and where necessary further develop CWP fishing effort concepts and associated diagram(s) and definitions, including measures of *nominal effort* and *standard effort*, and elaborate their use in informing STATLANT questionnaires;
- review, further develop and define standard measures of effort for all categories of fishing gear in ISSCFG, taking account of emerging remote-sensing technologies and opportunities to develop new measures of effort.

Task Group on reference harmonization (TG-RH2) which was tasked to:

- develop implementation guidelines of the three endorsed global data structures and their disaggregation;
- further revise and finalize the fishing activity information (or logbook) guidelines;
- develop a geo-coding system for water jurisdiction areas (WJA) including territorial seas and inland waters.

Task Group on best practices for streamlining statistical data workflow and confidentiality issues (TG-workflow) which also involved CWP-AS and the TG was tasked to:

- review the statistical data workflow of CWP parties and observers and other relevant cases involved in capture fisheries and aquaculture, and identify general issues and constraints which may lead to discrepancies and replications in statistical data and undue data reporting burden on member countries;

- review statistical data confidentiality requirements and rules of CWP parties and other relevant organizations;
- develop best practice guidelines for streamlining the reporting mechanisms and workflow for capture fishery and aquaculture statistics and for reducing the overall data reporting burden on member countries;
- develop best practice guidelines for the implementation of statistical data confidentiality requirements, which protect data confidentiality and promote comprehensive, transparent and timely dissemination and exchange of statistical data.

Points endorsed by CWP-27

18. CWP-27 noted the detailed discussions and advice of CWP-IS (Appendix 4) and endorsed the following items:

TG-catch (refer Appendix 4, paragraphs 35–45)

- approach and methodology adopted for the design of the new catch concepts diagram;
- logical separation between *nominal catch* and *nominal landings*;
- inclusion in the glossary of definitions regarding concepts currently not in the catch diagram;
- use of the term *aquatic organisms* (and its definition) in lieu of *fish*;
- new catch concept diagram and associated glossary and their inclusion in the CWP Handbook.

TG-effort (refer Appendix 4, paragraphs 46–59)

- concepts and definitions in the new fishing effort diagram (endorsed in principle with the recommendation of further refinements provided by CWP-IS);
- new fishing effort concepts diagram (Fig. 1, CWP-IS/2022/2) and its inclusion in the CWP Handbook;
- revised standard measures of fishing effort and definitions and the implementation of standard effort measures by gear category and fishing mode (endorsed in principle with the recommendation of further refinements as indicated by CWP-IS).

TG-RH2 (refer Appendix 4, paragraphs 78–99)

- use of the term *logbook* in the context of CWP core statistics;
- new capture fisheries diagram for logbook and its underlying definitions;
- revised definition of *fishing fleet*;
- establishment of a dedicated ad hoc Task Group on geospatial matters.

Small-scale fisheries (refer Appendix 4, paragraphs 117–122)

- establishment of a dedicated ad hoc Task Group on small-scale fisheries.

Emerging needs for statistical standards (refer Appendix 4, paragraphs 126–130)

- inclusion of this topic in the workplan of TG-RH2 and TG-workflow.

Workplan for the next intersessional period

19. CWP-27 considered the proposed work developed by CWP-IS (Appendix 4, refer also to paragraph 18 above for links to detailed consideration by CWP-IS) and endorsed the following workplan for the forthcoming intersessional period to CWP-28 for CWP-FS:

Activities to be performed as-soon-as-possible/short-term for each TG

TG-catch

- revise the catch concept glossary to incorporate feedback received during CWP-IS, update related definitions (e.g., removal of *primary* and *secondary* target species) and include new definitions or components of the related catch concepts (e.g. *transhipments*, *aquatic organisms*);
- publish the revised catch diagram and accompanying glossary in the CWP Handbook.

TG-effort

- publish the effort diagram and accompanying definitions (CWP-IS/2022/2, Fig. 1) in the CWP Handbook.

TG-RH2

- publish the capture fisheries concept diagram in the CWP Handbook;
- publish the logbook data structure in the section on sharing practices of the CWP website;
- publish the revised definition of *fishing fleet* in the CWP Handbook.

TG-workflow

- CWP members who have not yet filled in the questionnaire on data workflow and confidentiality to submit responses for inclusion in the analysis.

CWP Secretariat

- develop the ToRs and initiate arrangements to establish an ad hoc Task Group on geospatial matters with the objectives to 1) develop a complete coding system for WJA and 2) address other geospatial issues of relevance to CWP and its members;
- develop the ToRs and initiate arrangements to establish an ad hoc Task Group on small-scale fisheries with the objective to develop a statistical definition of small-scale fisheries;
- revise the ToRs of the other TGs, where appropriate, to include the agreed activities for the intersessional period to CWP-28.

Activities for the intersessional period

TG-catch

- further elaborate on the concepts of *official catches* (e.g. catches reported in national and regional statistics), *estimated catches* and *IUU catches* by producing dedicated schematic presentations of their components.

TG-effort

- further elaborate on the effort concepts to produce a revised and more comprehensive version of the reference tables (e.g. Table 2 in CWP-IS/2022/2) that also includes a categorization of the level at which the measures are reported;
- Continue evaluating emerging technologies as potential sources of new measures of fishing effort.

TG-RH2

- consider how to further modularize the structure of the capture fisheries concept diagram, in particular by including the newly developed catch concept diagram (TG-catch) as an independent sub-component;
- include the logbook data structure in the guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization;

- prepare a workplan for the further development of the logbook guidelines;
- further refine the capture fisheries diagram for logbook in close collaboration with the TG-catch and TG-effort;
- publish Version 1.0 of the CWP guidelines for reference harmonization for the agreed data structures in the section on sharing practices of the CWP website;
- update the guidelines for reference harmonization based on the implementation of use cases and the outcomes of TG-effort and TG-catch for the concepts of *catch type*, *fishing effort type* and *fishing mode*;
- further elaborate the metadata section in the guidelines for reference harmonization to describe data sets, classifications and code lists as a basis for the CWP catalogue;
- adapt the CWP Handbook pages to reflect the updated understanding of WJA.

TG on geospatial matter

- further engage in UN initiatives and working groups relevance to WJA (UN-GGIM and UNCLOS) (paragraph 32);
- provide feedback to the marine geospatial experts' community about CWP's interest and work on WJA (paragraph 32).

TG-workflow

- further investigate options to develop best practice guidelines, in particular for confidentiality standards;
- further discuss and identify potential ways to facilitate and encourage the dissemination of confidential data and establish a common confidentiality approach for use in capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics, initially by collecting information on confidentiality rules and standards used by CWP Members.

TG on small-scale fisheries:

- agencies to voluntarily test the matrix approach for use in characterizing small-scale fisheries and report results at the next CWP-IS meeting (paragraph 32).

REVIEW OF THE AQUACULTURE GROUP INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 6)

20. Mr Massa (CWP-AS coordinator) reported on the activities and achievements of CWP-AS since CWP-26. Work conducted during the intersessional period 2019–2022 had been reviewed and guided by the CWP-IS meeting immediately prior to CWP-27 (Appendix 4) and also the CWP-IS meeting in November 2021 (Appendix 5).

Intersessional activities

21. The intersessional work of CWP-AS focused on the work of the ad hoc Task Group on Aquaculture (TG- aquaculture). TG-aquaculture was tasked to:

- further develop the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook including the farming systems classification;
- review, revise and where necessary further develop the Handbook's other sections which relate to aquaculture including the introduction, general concepts (including conversion factors), capture fisheries statistics (with focus on fishers) and socioeconomic dimension;
- review and further develop the Handbook's tools and resources;

- review and further develop the Handbook's keywords and search terms applicable to the aquaculture-related sections.

22. TG-aquaculture completed its work on the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook through consultation with members by email and various bilateral meetings. The work included further development of the classification of farming systems.

Points endorsed by CWP-27

23. CWP-27 thanked TG-aquaculture for the comprehensive work conducted to complete the Handbook development. CWP-27 noted the detailed discussions and advice of CWP-IS (Appendix 4, paragraphs 60–77) and endorsed the proposed aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook.

Workplan for the next intersessional period

24. CWP-27 considered the proposed workplan developed by CWP-IS and endorsed the following plan for the forthcoming intersessional period to CWP-28 for CWP-AS:

Activities to be performed as-soon-as-possible/short-term

- publish the new content prepared for the aquaculture section into the CWP Handbook.

Activities for the intersessional period

- develop the coding for the classification of farming systems including the sub-categories
- further develop the aquaculture section to address the production of aquaculture products such as fry and fingerlings or other farmed aquatic organisms, sturgeon caviar eggs and aquatic products from aquaponic and consider the statistical approach to the data collection for both quantities and values;
- develop tools and manuals to support the implementation of the aquaculture section of the Handbook such as (i) managing and interpreting the collected data, (ii) data analysis and (iii) describing trends in aquaculture;
- develop suitable indicators to monitor aquaculture development and its sustainability with focus on small-scale aquaculture;
- continue revising the International Standard Statistical Classification for Aquatic Animals and Plants (ISSCAAP) as proposed during CWP-26 in order to assess the impact of the revisions including use of a revised coding system;
- identify targeted case studies to support the implementation of the aquaculture section on the Handbook including for example: (i) periodic surveys of production losses and practices/causes in different sectors and (ii) socioeconomic and nutritional impact of small-scale/artisanal production.

25. CWP-27 noted that the reference to aquatic plants in ISSCAAP may need further consideration in light of current discussion about aquatic plants and algae which are reported in SOFIA. This discussion included identifying a taxonomic boundary between aquatic plants and algae.

OVERARCHING MATTERS AND OTHER JOINT ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 7)

Establishment of ad hoc task groups

(Agenda item 7.1)

26. CWP-27 considered the ToRs, the proposed workplan and CWP parties' interest in engaging in the work of each TG. CWP-27 agreed that the following TGs would continue work during the forthcoming intersessional period to CWP-28:

- TG-catch (lead: Mr James Geehan FAO) (interested parties: FAO, ICCAT, ICES, IOTC, NAFO, OECD, SEAFDEC). The 2019–22 TORs were deemed complete and new work was identified to develop other catch concepts. This TG will continue as TG-catch2.
- TG-effort (co-leads: Ms Nancie Cummings WECAFC and Mr David Ramm) (interested parties: FAO, ICCAT, ICES, IOTC, NAFO, WECAFC). The 2019-22 TORs were deemed complete and new work was identified to update selected definitions and diagrams, and continue work on developing standard measures for use with emerging technologies. This TG will continue as TG-effort2.
- TG-RH2 (lead: Mr Aymen Charef TBC, FAO) (interested parties: FAO, IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC). The 2019-22 TORs were deemed complete and new work was identified to finalize the reference harmonization and identify emerging needs for statistical standards (in collaboration with TG-workflow). This TG will continue as TG-RH.
- TG-workflow (co-leads: Ms Stefania Savore FAO and Ms Adrienne Egger FAO) (interested parties: FAO, IOTC). Additional activities were proposed to finalize the work including confidentiality aspects and identify emerging needs for statistical standards (in collaboration with TG-RH). This TG will continue as TG-workflow2.
- TG-aquaculture (lead: GFCM, TBD) (interested parties: FAO, GFCM, SEAFDEC). Different additional activities were proposed including to further develop the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook; develop the coding for the classification of farming system and to continue revising the ISSCAAP classification.

27. CWP-27 endorsed the establishment of two additional ad hoc Task Groups as follows:

- ad hoc TG on geospatial matters (lead: Mr Emmanuel Blondel FAO) (interested parties: FAO, IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC).
- ad hoc TG on small-scale fisheries (lead: FAO) (interested parties: FAO, ICCAT, ICES, IOTC, SEAFDEC, WECAFC).

28. CWP-27 requested that each lead organization draft ToRs of their TG in consultation with the interested parties and the Secretariat. Draft ToRs would be circulated intersessionally through the Secretariat to all CWP parties for review and for identification or confirmation of interest in participating in the work of each TG. CWP-27 noted that the membership of each TG is open to all CWP parties and is not limited to those parties which expressed interest in the work during the meeting.

CWP website

(Agenda item 7.2)

29. Mr Fiorellato (CWP chair) reported on the revision and further development of the CWP Handbook and CWP webpages which was conducted during the intersessional period 2019–2022. That revision was endorsed at CWP-26 and aimed to further improve the content of the Handbook and

webpages. The work had been reviewed and guided at the CWP-IS meeting immediately prior to CWP-27 (Appendix 4) and also at the CWP-IS meeting in 2021 (Appendix 5).

30. CWP-27 considered the advice of CWP-IS on this matter (Appendix 4, paragraphs 24–34) and agreed the following points:

- further improve the Handbook by streamlining the information flow, rationalizing the presentation of material, updating the search function and the access to all definitions, while considering the involvement of a communication specialist in the process;
- encourage all CWP parties to contribute to the new webpages on sharing practices and regional references, including through the development of reference material for capture fisheries and aquaculture;
- encourage all CWP parties to submit short news items and updates of interest to the CWP community for publication in the “Highlights” and “Did you know” sections of the CWP [homepage](#).

31. CWP-27 noted that contributions to the “Highlights” and “Did you know” on the CWP homepage may be made at any time by email to the CWP Secretariat.

32. CWP-27 agreed that matters related to the definition and purpose of *calendar year vs fishing year* (Appendix 4, paragraph 27) be referred to TG-workflow for further consideration.

33. CWP-27 also considered the proposed workplan developed by CWP-IS and endorsed the following plan for the forthcoming intersessional period to CWP-28:

Activities to be performed as-soon-as-possible/short-term

- publish the new content for the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook.

Activities for the intersessional period

- update the ‘Highlights’ and ‘Did you know’ sections of the CWP homepage on the basis of the information received from the CWP community;
- identify aspects of the Handbook for further development by a communication specialist.

Visibility of CWP and progress on past CWP recommendations

(Agenda item 7.3)

34. CWP-27 encouraged all CWP parties to continue their efforts to augment the visibility of CWP through broadcasting, social media, posters, collaborations and other communication mechanisms. This could be achieved *inter alia* by:

- promoting CWP standards at meetings;
- referencing CWP material such as the Handbook;
- contributing news items to the CWP website (refer paragraph 31);
- collaborating in global initiatives (e.g. the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Research Data Alliance, UN/FLUX).

35. The Secretariat encouraged all CWP parties to actively use the CWP website and Handbook. The Secretariat would also contribute updates to these sections including on recent CWP-related activities and outcomes of the CWP-27 meeting.

36. CWP-27 noted that the revised CWP Handbook, the soon-to-be-published section on aquaculture and the revised diagrams on capture fisheries, catch concepts and fishing effort concepts provided new material which could be used to highlight CWP activities.

37. CWP-27 also recalled that the meetings of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats' Network (RSN), which are usually held in association with the COFI meetings, provide good opportunities for CWP parties to discuss and promote the work of CWP amongst regional organizations.

OTHER RELEVANT OVERARCHING ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 8)

38. No item was discussed under this Agenda item.

ARRANGEMENT FOR CWP-28 AND INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 9)

39. CWP-27 discussed tentative arrangements for CWP-28 and the intersessional meetings. It noted that the CWP-28 meeting may be held in the northern spring/summer of 2025 with one or two intersessional meetings tentatively scheduled in the spring/summer of 2023 and possibly 2024. The Secretariat would be pleased to hear from any CWP Member willing to host the session or intersessional meetings and noted that CWP meetings may also be held back-to-back with other meetings of interest to CWP members.

40. CWP-27 thanked ICES for its interest in hosting a meeting of CWP during the period 2023–2025.

ADOPTION OF REPORT AND CLOSE OF MEETING

(Agenda item 10)

41. In closing the meeting, Mr Fiorellato and Ms Vannuccini thanked all participants for their detailed contributions to the work of CWP, the TGs and the meetings of CWP-27 and CWP-IS. Mr Fiorellato also thanked the CWP Secretariat for their support during the intersessional period and at the meetings. He expressed hope that the current global situation will soon relax and that the next meeting of CWP would be held in person.

42. The meeting was closed on 24 June 2022 at 16.56 CEST.

APPENDIX 1

List of participants

CWP Members	Intersessional Meeting	Session Meeting
CCAMLR - Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources Mr Gary DEWHURST Data and Information Systems Manager 181 Macquarie Street, Hobart, 7000 Tasmania, Australia (CCAMLR Nominee)	✓	✓
EUROSTAT - Statistical Office of the European Communities Mr Alessio SCIAN Fisheries Statistics European Commission-Eurostat E1 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy (EUROSTAT Nominee)	✓	
EUROSTAT - Statistical Office of the European Communities Mr Alois HOENIG Aquaculture Statistics European Commission-Eurostat E1 BECH-C3/616, 5, A. Wiecker, L-2721, Luxembourg, Grand Duchy	✓	
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Ms Stefania VANNUCCINI Senior Fishery Officer Team Leader - Statistics team (NFISS) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy (CWP secretary and FAO Nominee)	✓	✓
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Mr Marc TACONET Senior Fishery Officer Team Leader - Information and Knowledge Management Team (NFISI)/ FIRMS Secretary Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy	✓	✓

CWP Members	Intersessiona l Meeting	Session Meeting
GFCM - General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean Mr Houssam HAMZA Aquaculture Officer Palazzo Blumenstihl, Via Vittoria Colonna 1, 00193, Rome, Italy	✓	✓
GFCM - General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean Ms Linda FOURDAIN Marine aquaculture expert Palazzo Blumenstihl, Via Vittoria Colonna 1, 00193, Rome, Italy	✓	
IATTC - Inter-American-Tropical-Tuna-Commission Mr Sylvain CAILLOT Data Collection and Database Program, IT Expert 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive La Jolla CA 92037-1509, United States of America (IATTC Nominee)	✓	✓
ICCAT - International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Mr Carlos PALMA Biostatistician Corazón de María, 8, 28002 Madrid, Spain (ICCAT Nominee)	✓	✓
ICCAT - International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Mr Carlos MAYOR Data Programmer Corazón de María, 8, 28002 Madrid, Spain (ICCAT Nominee)	✓	✓
ICES - International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Ms Ruth FERNANDEZ Professional Officer in the Advisory Department H. C. Andersens Boulevard 44- 46 Copenhagen V DK-1553, Denmark (ICES Nominee)	✓	✓

CWP Members	Intersessiona l Meeting	Session Meeting
IOTC - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Mr Fabio FIORELLATO Data Coordinator IOTC Secretariat, Le Chantier Mall (2nd floor) PO Box 1011 Victoria Mahé – Seychelles (IOTC Nominee – CWP-FS Coordinator)	✓	✓
IOTC - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Mr Emmanuel Chassot Statistician IOTC Secretariat, Le Chantier Mall (2nd floor) PO Box 1011 Victoria Mahé – Seychelles	✓	✓
NACA - Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific Mr Simon WILKINSON Coordinator Communications Programme PO Box 1040, Kasetsart Post Office Bangkok 10903, Thailand (NACA Nominee)	✓	
NAFO - Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Mr Ricardo FEDERIZON Senior Fisheries Management Coordinator 1601 Lower Water Street, Suite 401 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3P6 Canada (NAFO Nominee)	✓	✓
NEAFC - North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission Mr Hrannar Már ÁSGEIRSSON MCS Officer 44 Baker Street London, W1U 7AL, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (NEAFC Nominee)	✓	✓
OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Ms Fabiana CERASA Statistician Trade and Agriculture Directorate, Natural Resources Policy Division, Fisheries 2, rue André Pascal 75775 Paris Cedex 16, France (OECD Nominee)	✓	✓

CWP Members	Inter-session Meeting	Session Meeting
SEAFDEC - Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center Ms Saivason KLINSUKHON Senior Information Officer SEAFDEC Secretariat 50 Ladyao, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand (SEAFDEC Nominee)	✓	✓
SEAFDEC - Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center Ms Nualanong TONGDEE Information Program Coordinator SEAFDEC Secretariat 50 Ladyao, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand	✓	✓
SEAFO - South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation Ms Lizette VOGES Executive Secretary NATMIRC, Strand Street No. 1, Swakopmund, Namibia	✓	✓
SPC – Pacific Community Mr Peter WILLIAMS Principal Fisheries Scientist BP D5 Noumea, New Caledonia (SPC nominee)	✓	
WCPFC - Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Mr Tim JONES Information Communication Technology Manager Kaselehlle Street PO Box 2356, Kolonia, Pohnpei State, 96941, Federated States of Micronesia (WCPFC nominee)	✓	

Guests and other attendees
<p>WECAFC - Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission</p> <p>Ms Nancie CUMMINGS National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) U.S. Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Fisheries Science Center 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149, United States of America (TG-effort co-lead)</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Audun Lem Deputy Director Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr James GEEHAN Fisheries Statistician Statistics team (NFISS) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy (TG-catch lead)</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Ms Stefania SAVORE Fisheries Information Officer Information and Knowledge Management Team (NFISI) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy (TG-workflow co-lead)</p>

<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Ms Adrienne EGGER Fisheries Officer Statistics team (NFISS) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy (TG-workflow co-lead)</p>
<p>FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Xiaowei ZHOU Fishery Officer Statistics team (NFISS) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Fabio MASSA Aquaculture expert Fisheries and Aquaculture Division (NFI) Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy (TG-aquaculture lead - CWP-AS Coordinator)</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Davide FEZZARDI Aquaculture expert Fisheries and Aquaculture Division (NFI) Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153, Rome, Italy</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Fabrizio CARUSO Aquaculture expert Fisheries and Aquaculture Division (NFI) Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>

<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Emmanuel BLONDEL Geographic Information Systems and R Expert Information and Knowledge Management Team (NFISI) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>	<p>IOTC - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission</p> <p>Mr Olivier Roux Data expert IOTC Secretariat, Seychelles</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Aureliano GENTILE Information Manager Officer Information and Knowledge Management Team (NFISI) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>	<p>Observers</p> <p>Mersin University</p> <p>Mr Ferit RAD Professor and Head of Dept. of Aquaculture, Faculty of Fisheries Yenişehir Campus, Yenişehir, Mersin, Türkiye</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Pierre MAUDOUX Economist/Statistician - Expert Statistics team (NFISS) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</p> <p>Mr Ilhan AYDIN Deputy General Manager General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies TAGEM Universiteler Mah. Dumlupinar Boulevard 161, 06800, Ankara, Türkiye</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Yann LAURENT Statistics and Information Systems expert Information and Knowledge Management Team (NFISI) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>	<p>CREA – Council for Agricultural Research and Economics – Research Centre for Animal Production and Aquaculture</p> <p>Mr Fabrizio CAPOCCIONI Biologist – Confirmed researcher Via Salaria, 31 - 00015 Monterotondo, Rome, Italy</p>
<p>FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Ms Sara Montanaro Statistical clerk Statistics Team (NFISS) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>	<p>NISEA Soc. Coop.</p> <p>Ms Maria COZZOLINO Fishery Economist Via Irno, 11, 84135, Salerno, Italy</p> <p>Fondazione IMC Mr Stefano CARBONI Senior researcher Torre Grande, Oristano, Italy</p>

CWP Secretariat
<p>FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Ms Stefania VANNUCCINI CWP Secretary Senior Fishery Officer Team Leader - Statistics team (NFISS) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy</p>
<p>FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr Aymen CHAREF Fisheries statistician expert Fisheries and Aquaculture Division Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy (TG-RH2 lead)</p>
<p>FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr David RAMM Fisheries data expert P.O. Box 39, Battery Point, Tasmania 7004, Australia (TG-effort co-lead)</p>

APPENDIX 2

Annotated Agenda

CWP Twenty-Seventh Session

Intersessional Meeting of Aquaculture and Fisheries Subject Groups

(Eight Meeting of the Aquaculture Subject Group and Twenty-Ninth meeting of the Fisheries Subject Group)

20–23 June 2022

Meeting schedule: 13.00 to 16.30 (CEST)

Breaks: 14.45 to 15.00

Day 1: Monday 20-06-2022

13.00–13.30	1	Opening of the meeting and welcome message (FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, Audun Lem, Deputy Director)
	2	Appointment of the meeting chair
	3	Adoption of the agenda
13.30–14.45	4	Report of activities progress relevant to CWP by participating organizations since CWP 26 Agencies will present their report, in particular flagging those statistical activities of relevance to CWP. For parties having already presented their report at the CWP intersessional meeting in November 2021, they can provide an update since then, if any (<i>CWP parties</i>)
	5	Review of progress on workplan agreed since CWP-26 in 2019 Overview and overall presentation about CWP ad hoc Task groups. (<i>CWP Secretary - Stefania Vannuccini</i>)
Break		
15.00–16.30	5.1	The revised Handbook and the CWP web pages Presentation of the updates carried out on CWP website and the available handbook sections. Expected feedback from the group on the structure and organization of the contents. (<i>FAO - David Ramm</i>)
	5.2	Progress report of the CWP ad hoc Task Group on “catch concepts” (TG-catch) The Task Group endeavours will be presented and a detailed discussion will take place to receive feedback and inputs on definitions of catch and conceptual diagram expected to be submitted for endorsement at CWP 27 session. (<i>FAO - James Geehan</i>)

Day 2: Tuesday 21-06-2022

13.00–14.45	5.3	Progress report of the CWP ad hoc Task Group on “fishing effort concepts” (TG-effort) An overview of the Task Group endeavours will be presented and a detailed discussion will take place to receive feedback. A final consolidated list of effort concepts and measures is expected to be submitted for endorsement at CWP 27 (<i>FAO - Nancie Cummings and David Ramm</i>)
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Break

- 15.00–16.30 **5.4 Progress report of the CWP ad hoc Task Group on Aquaculture (TG-aquaculture)**
 Review of progress of CWP-AS activities since CWP-26 and presentation of the aquaculture section in the revised handbook.
(FAO - Fabio Massa, Davide Fezzardi and Fabrizio Caruso)
- 5.4.1** Report on the review and improvements made by the ad hoc TG on the document drafted by CWP-AS in 2013 and including the further suggestions made by previous CWP intersessional meetings.
- 5.4.2** **Final draft of the Aquaculture Section of the CWP Handbook.** The Final draft of the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook, based on the review made and inputs received by the parties, is presented for final review and submission to CWP 27 session for endorsement.
- 5.4.3** **Progress on other activities**

Day 3: Wednesday 22-06-2022

- 13.00–14.30 **5.5 Progress report of the CWP ad hoc Task Group on “Reference harmonization for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics” (TG-RH2)**
- 5.5.1** Guidelines for the implementation of logbook data for statistical purposes.
(FAO - David Ramm)
- 5.5.2** The Reference harmonization framework and the structures of logbook will be presented for endorsement.
(FAO - Aymen Charef)
- 5.5.2** An overview of the Task Group endeavours, including the proposal on data structure on logbook will be presented. Feedback is sought from CWP parties on the final draft of the implementation guidelines. *(FAO - Aymen Charef)*
- 5.5.3** Towards a coding system for water jurisdiction areas and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction.
(FAO - Emmanuel Blondel)

Break

- 14.45–15.45 **5.6 Progress report of the CWP ad hoc Task Group on best practices for streamlining statistical data workflow and confidentiality issues (TG-workflow)** *(FAO - Stefania Savoré, Adrienne Egger and Pierre Maudoux)*
- 5.6.1** **Report on the outcomes of the ad hoc questionnaire on ‘Approach to data workflow/confidentiality issues’ and discussion of results** (updated results) Identification of issues and constraints in the reporting mechanism.
- 5.6.2** **Discussion on next steps to be undertaken**
 Towards an agreement on next steps to develop best practice guidelines for the implementation of statistical data confidentiality requirements. Results of ad hoc discussions with group members presented to form the basis of the discussion.
- 15.45–16.30 **6 For information**
- 6.1 SDG indicators relevant to fisheries and aquaculture**
 Overview of monitoring and reporting on SDG indicators relevant to fisheries and aquaculture. *(FAO - Aymen Charef)*
- 6.2 Online data reporting platform for fisheries statistics**
 Electronic Monitoring and Reporting Information System (e-MARIS) - A comprehensive reporting system for IOTC *(IOTC secretariat - eMARIS dev team)*

Day 4: Thursday 23-06-2022

13.00–14.00	6.3	Towards statistical definition of Small-Scale Fisheries
		Overview of the matrix scoring approach to characterization of the scale of fishing units. (<i>FAO - Simon Funge-Smith / Stefania Savoré</i>)
	6.4	Regional workshops and global conference on fisheries data collection and fisheries statistics
		Overview of forthcoming regional and global workshops organized by FAO. (<i>FAO - Stefania Vannuccini / Yann Laurent</i>)
	6.5	Emerging needs
		Overview of emerging needs for statistical standards, and discussion on topics and new potential areas of work of interest to CWP members (<i>FAO - CWP secretariat</i>)
14.00–14.15	7	Any other business
14.15–16.30	8	Draft and adoption of the report
		The report to be presented to the CWP 27 session will highlight the recommendations and include a workplan including TORs for any Task Group for the upcoming period until CWP 28 session meeting.
	9	Closure of the meeting

Twenty-Seventh Session Annotated Agenda 24 June 2022

- 1. Opening of the session and welcome**
- 2. Appointment of the meeting chair**
- 3. Adoption of the agenda**
- 4. Review of membership**
- 5. Review of the Fishery Group intersessional activities**
The Fishery Group coordinator will report the activities and achievement made since the CWP-26, together with the issues which require endorsement by the CWP session and workplan for the next intersessional periods. The meeting should also review and discuss the workplan proposed.
 - 5.1 Report of intersessional activities
 - 5.2 Points required endorsement by the CWP Session
 - 5.3 Draft workplan until the next CWP 28 session
- 6. Review of the Aquaculture Group intersessional activities**
The Aquaculture Group coordinator will report the activities and achievement made since the CWP-26, together with the issues required endorsement by the CWP session and workplan for the next intersessional periods.
 - 6.1 Report of intersessional activities
 - 6.2 Points required endorsement by the CWP Session
 - 6.3 Draft workplan until the next CWP 28 session, including potential establishment of ad hoc Task Groups
- 7. Overarching matters and other joint activities**
 - 7.1 Establishment of ad hoc Task Groups
 - 7.2 CWP website
 - 7.3 Visibility of CWP and progress on past CWP recommendations
- 8. Other relevant overarching issues and activities (TBD)**
- 9. Arrangement for CWP-28 and intersessional meetings and activities: Time and venue**
- 10. Adoption of the report and close of meeting**

APPENDIX 3

**Welcome address by Mr Audun Lem
Deputy Director of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO**

On behalf of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division of FAO I welcome you to the Twenty-Seventh Session of CWP.

The intersessional work you carried out since CWP 26 in 2019 and this meeting in particular are expected to mark good progress on many relevant activities such as analysis of definitions such as catch concept, catch effort, harmonization of data structure, coordination and streamlining of statistical activities among organizations and very importantly the development of the CWP Handbook on aquaculture, which fill an important gap due to the growing expansion of aquaculture. The work of all of you is clearly very relevant for the member parties of CWP, but even more for countries and other organizations that look at the standards and classifications endorsed by CWP for their collection of fisheries and aquaculture statistics.

Definitions and standards are crucial. For example last week, after more than ten years of negotiations, members of the World Trade Organization finally reached an agreement aimed at curbing harmful subsidies for fisheries. This fisheries agreement is expected to help ensure ocean resources are used in a sustainable way and can drive economic growth and development while maintaining a healthy ocean for the benefit of biodiversity, nature, and people. The agreement was also reached as based on a series of clear definitions of different elements of the fisheries sector.

The work of CWP is also relevant to support the work of the countries and international organization in their collection of data. The demand for more detailed and timely statistics by sector and at national and sub-national level has increased dramatically. Knowledge of the status and trends of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors is key to both sound policy-making and to assess the performance of responsible fisheries and aquaculture management systems. Furthermore, timely, solid and trustworthy data are crucial for demonstrating progress towards achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As you all know, the fisheries and aquaculture sectors contribute significantly to food security and nutrition, especially in some of the world's most food-limited regions, while simultaneously supporting the livelihood of hundreds of millions of people around the world. To secure and maximize these benefits for present and future generations, FAO had developed a Blue Transformation strategic programme within its Strategic Framework 2022-2031. The Blue Transformation programme aims to maximize the contribution of aquatic food systems to food and nutrition security through socially, environmentally and economically sustainable production and value chains.

Blue Transformation actions also highlight the key role of data and focus on building capacity through developing and supporting the implementation of internationally agreed standards, transferring knowledge and direct training so that innovative and viable policies, programmes, technologies and innovations that enhance fisheries management, expand aquaculture and upgrade value chains travel across regions and countries.

In a context where information and data resources, expertise and tools are scattered among multiple organizations, mechanisms enabling efficient data and information networking are vital. Definitely CWP plays a key role in this regard.

I wish you all on behalf of the Division a successful meeting and I am looking forward to see its outcome and planned work for the new intersessional period.

Audun Lem
Deputy Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO

APPENDIX 4**Report of the Interessional Meeting of the Aquaculture and Fisheries Subject Groups
of the Coordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics****Twenty-ninth meeting of the Fisheries Subject Group and
Eighth Meeting of the Aquaculture Subject Group****20–23 June 2022****OPENING OF THE MEETING AND WELCOME MESSAGE**

(Agenda item 1)

1. In advance of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP-27) on 24 June 2022, the CWP Aquaculture Subject Group (CWP-AS) and the Fisheries Subject Group (CWP-FS) held a joint interessional meeting (CWP-IS) on 20–24 June 2022. Both meetings (CWP-27 and CWP-IS) were in hybrid form (in person in Rome, Italy and online).
2. Representatives from the following organizations participated in the CWP-IS meeting including CWP members, observers and agencies invited by FAO, and the list of participants is in Appendix 1:
 - Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR, Member)
 - Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT, Member)
 - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO, Member)
 - General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM, Member)
 - Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC, Member)
 - International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT, Member)
 - International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES, Member)
 - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC, Member)
 - Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific (NACA, Member)
 - Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO, Member)
 - North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC, Member)
 - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, Member)
 - Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC, Member)
 - South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO, Member)
 - Pacific Community (SPC, Member)
 - Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC, Member)
 - Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC, Observer).
3. Mr Audun Lem (Deputy Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO) opened the meetings of CWP-27 and CWP-IS and welcomed participants. In his welcome address (Appendix 3), Mr Lem noted the progress made since CWP-26 in 2019 and the contribution of the CWP to the knowledge of the status and trends of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Detailed and timely statistics are key to both sound policy-making and to assess the performance of responsible fisheries and aquaculture management systems. This information is also crucial for demonstrating progress towards achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
4. Ms Stefania Vannuccini, CWP Secretary, thanked Mr Lem and welcomed participants to the CWP-IS meeting. She reflected on the role of the CWP and Mr Lem's opening remarks. She also noted that the CWP-IS meeting was held in hybrid form with participation facilitated both online and in-person

at the FAO headquarters. The Secretariat acknowledged the challenges arising from the schedule of the online sessions which were held across the multiple time zones of Members and other participating organizations.

APPOINTMENT OF THE MEETING CHAIR

(Agenda item 2)

5. Mr Fabio Fiorellato (IOTC and CWP-FS coordinator) was elected chairperson for the CWP-IS meeting and Mr. Fabio Massa (CWP-AS coordinator) was elected vice-chairperson. CWP-IS thanked Mr Fiorellato and Mr Massa for accepting these roles.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

(Agenda item 3)

6. CWP-IS reviewed the agenda which was adopted without change (Appendix 2).

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES PROGRESS RELEVANT TO CWP BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS SINCE CWP-26

(Agenda item 4)

7. CWP-IS recalled that participating organizations had reported to CWP-IS/2021 in November 2021 on activities relevant to CWP including information and statistical activities that support SDG 14 (CWP-IS/2021 report, paragraphs 12 to 32). Participants provided updates to those reports and these are summarized below.

8. Ms Vannuccini reported on FAO's activities (CWP-IS/2022/FAO) which included the publication of global and regional capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics, improvements in the quality of FAO statistics, inter-agency collaboration in statistics reporting, collaboration in the revision of international classifications and manuals, capacity building in fisheries and aquaculture statistics, continued developments of the FIRMS Global Atlas of Tuna and Tuna-like species and the Global Record of Stocks and Fisheries (GRSF), development of the FAO Fishing Vessel Design Database (FVDD) and revision of the CWP Handbook and webpages. Ms Vannuccini also highlighted that 2022 represents a major milestone for FAO as its fisheries and aquaculture statistics now span more than seven decades (1950–2020), the longest time-series of any statistical dataset published by FAO.

9. Ms Fabiana Cerasa (OECD) reported on OECD's activities (CWP-IS/2022/OECD). The latest OECD data call was launched in the summer 2021 and it was aimed at collecting information in the following domains: marine landings, fishing fleet (for OECD/non-EU countries), FSE (Fisheries Support Estimate), key management tools and fish stock status, and employment (jointly collected with FAO). In order to reduce the reporting burden in countries and avoid duplication of work across organizations, external data sources are used to cover the following domains: aquaculture production (FAO FishStatJ), inland fisheries (FAO FishStatJ), international trade of fisheries commodities (FAO FishStatJ), and fishing fleet (Eurostat for OECD/EU countries). Additionally, in 2019 the OECD launched a data call to gather information on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. Data are released every year on the OECD data platform ([OECD.Stat](#)) and every two years in the flagship publication [OECD Review of Fisheries](#). The latest edition of the publication was released in 2020 and it is available also as a [web-book](#). Country notes providing additional country level information are available in the section *Review of fisheries: Country notes* of the [OECD Fisheries and Aquaculture webpage](#).

10. Mr Emmanuel Chassot (IOTC) reported on IOTC's activities (CWP-IS/2022/IOTC) which included improvement in the quality and timeliness of statistical data submitted by CPCs, support to the implementation of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme, capacity building activities, improvements in the dissemination of datasets and related assets, and science and compliance-related activities in support of SDG 14. IOTC is seeking collaborative opportunities to develop its work in areas such as country profile and indicators, FishStatJ and trade statistics and conversion factors.

11. Ms Stefania Savoré (FAO) and Mr Fiorellato discussed opportunities for the exchange of information on species of shared interest, participation in the upcoming FAO/RECOFI workshop and IOTC Working Party on Neritic Tunas, as well as development of feedback reports and metadata to be sent to data providers.

12. Mr Peter Williams (SPC) discussed opportunities for developing metadata and public domain products. He also expressed interest in developing analyses of morphometrics and conversion factors which could be used to impute values where information is missing.

13. CWP-IS noted these opportunities and agreed that the development of general issues related to conversion factors would be of interest to most CWP parties and could lead to the further development of the CWP Handbook and expansion of the section on conversion factors.

14. Mr Peter Williams (SPC) reported on SPC activities and the science services SPC provides to WCPFC (CWP-IS/2022/SPC&WCPFC). Activities included enhancement of WCPFC public domain catch and effort data products which now comply with the latest CWP standards. These products are available from the WCPFC website (<https://www.wcpfc.int/public-domain>) and include bycatch data and estimates. A proposal to publish size-frequency data into the public domain was agreed at the annual meeting in 2021. WCPFC also recently agreed a proposal for the voluntary submission of cannery and processor data intended to validate purse seine tuna catch estimates. WCPFC, SPC and other Pacific regional organizations continue to progress the development of electronic reporting and monitoring through a range of policies, standards and systems, and work is also proposed to develop an implementation plan for a FLUX node for the exchange of fishing vessel data and supplement the WCPFC fishing vessel database API.

15. Ms Nancie Cummings (WECAFC) reported on WECAFC activities (CWP-IS/2022/WECAFC). The main activities included: convening the second meeting of the Fisheries Data and Statistics Working Group, progressing operationalization of the interim Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF), informing statistical delineations for operationalization of the DCRF, advancing the work of WECAF-FIRMS further to increase the number of new FIRMS inventories of fisheries and to update previously submitted inventories, and conducting training in Member countries in preparation for countries to upload data according to DCRF task by species and subarea. Planned activities in the coming intersession were noted as: 1) DCRF subareas 1- hold further intersessional discussions towards finalizing short term option in southern region, 2) DCRF subareas 2- considerations of short to long term objectives to revise boundaries of WECAFC- will require CWP members, 3) DCRF- Progress work on informing Appendix 6 (DCRF)- biological measures through consultation with WECAFC working groups, 4) RDB/FIRMS- Continuing training sessions for populating the Regional Database (WECAFIS).

16. Mr Hrannar Asgeirsson (NEAFC) reported on NEAFC's activities (CWP-IS/2022/NEAFC) which included implementation of the UN/CEFACT FLUX Standard, ongoing work by the Working Group on Fisheries Statistics and collection of statistical information, publication of annual catch data and the development of an automated web-based application to allow an automatic update on the status of quota and uptake of catches from the NEAFC Conventional Area, or so called one-stop shop. In

February 2022, the Quota Uptake Reports (one-stop shop) were launched on the restricted NEAFC website. In short, this is a reporting system for uptake of quotas and for the collection of statistical information relating to fisheries under the jurisdiction of NEAFC and its Contracting Parties. However, the reporting is currently being done in a manual way, but it is hoped that in the near future the Quota Uptake Reports will be built into an automated web-based application to allow an automatic and real-time update on the status of quota and uptake of catches.

17. Mr Fiorellato noted that IOTC would be interested to learn more about the real-time implementation of NEAFC's quota uptake reporting system in light of a potential future introduction of quotas for some of the species managed by IOTC.

18. Ms Saivason Klinsukhon (SEAFDEC) reported on SEAFDEC's activities (CWP-IS/2022/SEAFDEC) which included continued coordination with ASEAN Member States (AMSs) to support the submission of national statistics for regional/international compilation, and participation in the work of CWP ad hoc Task Groups, FIRMS Technical Working Group and Steering Committee. She also informed about the results of the First Regional Technical Consultation on Fishery Statistics and Information in Southeast Asia (21-22 September 2021) which included the matter of future collaboration with the FAO including sharing FAO questionnaires as requested by AMSs, as well as ongoing programmes and activities in line with targets under the SDGs and in particular SDG 14.

19. Mr Sylvain Caillot (IATTC) reported on IATTC's activities (CWP-IS/2022/IATTC) which included additional data quality controls, collation and reconciliation workflows to ensure data received from CPCs, observers, canneries, vessels and other partners are of best quality, standardization and harmonization of reference lists (<https://iattc.org/CatchReportsDataENG.htm>), participation to the FIRMS Global Atlas of Tuna and Tuna-like species and enhancements of public domain data to adhere to CWP standards (<https://iattc.org/PublicDomainData/IATTC-Catch-by-species1.htm>). Various new projects were initiated in support of management strategy evaluation, individual vessel limit scheme, electronic management system, Phase 2 of a multi-year regional tuna tagging programme, new data collection for the sampling programme for shark catches, new workflow to collect standardized data related to FADs, data collection programme to collect transshipment harmonized information in collaboration with MRAG, and a data collection strategy for collecting port access information to fight against IUU fishing. A major development during the intersessional period was the launching of the new website for the Commission at the end of 2021.

20. CWP-IS noted the features on the new IATTC website and congratulated the organization for the extensive redesign work which would provide the CWP with inspiration for new web-based features.

21. Mr Ricardo Federizon (NAFO) reported on NAFO's activities (CWP-IS/2022/NAFO) including: 1) the provision of the annual catch estimates in the NAFO Regulatory Area, derived from daily catch reports, observer reports, and port landings reports, to the Scientific Council in its task of conducting fish stock assessment, 2) the development of the Observer Smartphone App for use by at-sea observers, 3) the enhancement of the observer reporting template to include collection of biological data for Greenland shark (*Somniosus microcephalus*), 4) the expansion of VME Indicator Species list and associated ASFIS codes, 5) the expansion of the VME and Seamount Areas closed to bottom fishing for the protection from Significant Adverse Impact, and 5) Management Strategy Evaluation for Greenland halibut and redfish. CWP-IS noted the timely response to NAFO's request to include new VME indicator species in ASFIS List of Species for Fishery Statistics Purposes which had enabled a quick turn-around in the use of new 3-alpha species codes.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON WORKPLAN AGREED SINCE CWP-26 IN 2019

(Agenda item 5)

22. Ms Vannuccini presented an overview of the intersessional work agreed by CWP-26 in 2019. This included endorsement of CWP rules of procedure (paragraph below), revision of the CWP Handbook and CWP webpages (Agenda item 5.1) and the work of the five ad hoc Task Groups (TG) on catch concepts (Agenda item 5.2), fishing effort concepts and definitions (Agenda item 5.3), revision of the aquaculture section of the Handbook (Agenda item 5.4), reference harmonization (Agenda item 5.5) and workflow and data confidentiality (Agenda item 5.6).

23. CWP-26 approved the revised Rules of Procedure to reflect recent procedures in the way the CWP conducted its work (CWP-IS/2021/Inf.1). Revisions were made on decision stages (new paragraph 8), regional or subject group (revised paragraph 12), *ad hoc* task group (new paragraph 13) and additional supporting activities (new paragraph 14). The revised Rules of Procedure were submitted for approval by correspondence during the intersession period. During the approval process, Eurostat proposed two changes in paragraphs 12 and 14 of the rules which were submitted to CWP for consideration and approval. No objections were received on the changes proposed by Eurostat and the [revised Rules of Procedure](#) were approved by 17 of 19 CWP members and are now available on the CWP website.

REVISED CWP HANDBOOK AND CWP WEBPAGES

(Agenda item 5.1)

24. Mr David Ramm, for the CWP Secretariat, reported on the intersessional revisions carried out to continue to improve the content and coverage of the [CWP webpages](#) with the main focus on the CWP Handbook (CWP-IS/2022/FAO, CWP-IS/2022/Pr1). Most revisions were published in October 2021 immediately prior to the CWP-IS/2021 meeting. Further revisions will be published in 2022. The revisions, which had been discussed and endorsed at CWP-26 and reviewed at the CWP-IS meeting in November 2021, included the following:

- new sections on date and time, spatial reference systems, geographic coordinates, geographic systems and socioeconomic dimension, further development of existing sections and restructuring of the contents;
- new versioning and reformatting of the international standard classifications referenced in the Handbook such as the International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) and International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG);
- new CWP catalogue and content including the international standard classifications which are available in various formats including CSV;
- new webpages on [sharing practices](#) and [regional references](#) which will contain recommendations and best practices related to the CWP and the topics covered in the Handbook including guidance on data exchange formats and data transmission matters relevant to the CWP, members, statistical agencies and other users. The content of these pages will continue to be developed in line with the requirements of CWP and contributions of CWP parties;
- implementing recommendations and improvements discussed at CWP-IS/2021.

25. Further revisions are anticipated during the forthcoming intersessional period including:

- publication of the revised section on aquaculture;
- revision of the sections on capture fisheries catch and fishing effort;
- further development of the sharing practices for reference harmonization;
- improvements to the Handbook's search engine.

26. CWP-IS thanked the Secretariat for implementing the revisions to the Handbook and encouraged CWP parties to review the revised Handbook. CWP-IS also encouraged parties to contribute to the new webpages on sharing practices and regional references, including developing reference material for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics. CWP parties may also contribute short news items and updates of interest to the CWP community at any time for publication in the 'Highlights' and 'Did you know' sections on the [CWP homepage](#).

27. Mr Carlos Palma (ICCAT) noted the various annual periods used by ICCAT and other CWP parties to compile and report statistics. While the CWP recommends the use of the calendar year, many fisheries report data and/or are assessed and managed according to a specific annual period (i.e. a fishery year) which does not always correspond to the calendar year. He proposed that the CWP develop an approach for reconciling these different annual periods and that this approach be included in the Handbook.

28. CWP-IS agreed to refer this proposal to TG-workflow for further consideration.

29. CWP-IS thanked the Secretariat for implementing the revised content and structure which had been agreed at CWP-26. CWP-IS agreed that the CWP website could be further improved by developing the information flow and presentation of material in order to improve the effectiveness of the website. CWP-IS proposed that a communications specialist be involved in such work and asked interested parties to provide feedback on areas of the Handbook that could be further improved.

30. Ms Cerasa provided an example of how information on employment was currently spread across various sections of the Handbook. She proposed that the user experience and accessibility to that information could be improved by consolidating the information under a single tab on employment.

31. CWP-IS agreed that the work of a communications specialist would need to be carefully managed as much of the content of the website represents methodologies, concepts and terms with specific meanings which have been endorsed by CWP. CWP-IS agreed that the focus of the specialist work would be on the improvement of accessibility of information and user experience, and the specialist should not be editing content endorsed by CWP.

32. Ms Ruth Fernandez (ICES) sought clarity of the current content of the section of regional references which seemed focused only on the socioeconomic dimension.

33. CWP-IS noted that the section on regional references will cover best practices in relation to the CWP Handbook and is currently being developed. The section on 'Members' frameworks for the acquisition of socioeconomic data' is the first contribution which has been published and parties are encouraged to submit material on best practices related to other Handbook topics including capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics.

34. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the development of the CWP Handbook and webpages:

Agreements and actions required

- encouraged all CWP parties to contribute to the new webpages on sharing practices and regional references, including through the development of reference material for capture fisheries and aquaculture;
- encouraged CWP parties to submit short news items and updates of interest to the CWP community for publication in the 'Highlights' and 'Did you know' sections of the CWP homepage;

- refer matters related to the definition and purpose of *calendar year* vs *fishing year* to TG-workflow for further consideration;
- further improve the CWP website by developing the information flow, presentation of material, search function and general access to definitions, with the involvement of a communications specialist.

Workplan

- if endorsed by CWP-27, incorporate the new content prepared for the aquaculture section of the Handbook (as soon as possible);
- update the 'Highlights' and 'Did you know' sections on the basis of the information received from the CWP community (upon receipt of content and/or at regular intervals);
- if agreed by CWP-27, identify aspects of the CWP Handbook and website to be reviewed by a communications specialist (intersessionally).

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE AD HOC TASK GROUP ON “CATCH CONCEPTS” (TG-CATCH)

(Agenda item 5.2)

35. Mr James Geehan (FAO), TG-catch lead, reported on the work of TG-catch (CWP-IS/2022/1, CWP-IS/2022/Inf.1, CWP-IS/2022/Pr5.2). The main objectives of the TG are to:

- review, revise and where necessary further develop CWP catch concepts and associated definitions including the components *retained catch*, *bycatch* and *intended catch*;
- review and develop the application of catch concepts to the broader context of recreational, small-scale, artisanal, commercial, semi-industrial and industrial fisheries.

36. CWP-IS thanked TG-catch for providing an update of the status of discussions and conducting extensive revisions to the CWP catch concepts diagram and related catch concepts.

37. Several versions of the catch concepts diagram were presented and further discussed during the meeting, including Figure 1 in CWP-IS/2022/2 and diagrams which included additional elements showing the proportion of live discards released back into the living environment, post-release mortality of discards-alive and the unrecorded components as IUU estimates.

38. CWP-IS noted participants' comments on the suitability of the different versions of the diagram. While views diverged, CWP-IS agreed that – as a general principle – the catch concepts diagram should be kept as simple as possible, and that a balance was needed between comprehensiveness and complexity in representing the various catch concepts.

39. The CWP-IS agreed on the importance of acknowledging in the diagram the component of unrecorded or missing catches associated with IUU fishing, noting that this element may be elaborated based on further intersessional discussions.

40. Similarly, the status of catches retained alive (e.g. tuna farming), which are currently accounted for under nominal catches and not nominal landings, as well as potential losses (or gains) of catches alive, may need further discussion and elaboration as part of future intersessional activities.

41. CWP-IS agreed that certain information could be conveyed in the glossary accompanying the diagram or, alternatively, elements of the diagram could be further expanded upon in a separate, dedicated diagram such as the different components of catch statistics (e.g. including official declarations of catches/landings, catches associated with IUU fishing, or estimated or reconstructed catches).

42. CWP-IS noted the discussion on the status of transshipments in the diagram; notably, in relation to the concepts of nominal landings and nominal catches, and proposed that information on transshipments be included in the glossary as a first step, pending further consideration during the intersessional period to ensure the concept is fully aligned with the voluntary guidelines on transshipments.

43. Taking into consideration the issues raised above, and revisions to the catch concept diagram drafted during the meeting, CWP-IS agreed that the latest iteration of the diagram (reported in Appendix 5) be proposed for endorsement by CWP-27, while noting that a number of elements of the diagram (notably *unreported catches*, *discards* and *landings* and *total estimated catch*) may need further consideration as part of the intersessional activities.

44. CWP-IS also reviewed the revised definitions of the various catch components and generally agreed with the revisions proposed by TG-catch, while highlighting the following points for note or further consideration:

- the importance of separating, and clearly distinguishing, the different concepts of *nominal landings* and *nominal catches*;
- use of the terms *nominal landings* (to approximate total recorded landings, including transshipments) and *nominal catch* (to approximate the total catch i.e. landings + discards);
- the definition of *bycatch* is intended to apply to the full range of possible bycatch, including species/individuals associated with the target catch as well as aquatic organisms ‘affected incidentally’ (e.g., turtles, marine mammals, seabirds) during fishing which may be returned alive or dead;
- removal of the reference to *primary* and *secondary* target species in the definition of *intended catches/target species* in order to avoid ambiguity;
- the proposed use of the term *aquatic organisms* in lieu of *fish*, noting that the proposed term includes all aquatic animals (fish, crustaceans, molluscs and other associated aquatic animals, including seabirds, mammals, reptiles, invertebrates), algae (macroalgae, microalgae, and cyanobacteria), as well as plants and microorganisms harvested through fisheries and aquaculture activities, whether occurring in marine, inland or brackish waters.

45. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the work of TG-catch:

Agreements and actions required

- agreed on the proposed approach for a schematic presentation of the catch components and their interactions (catch diagram) that favours comprehensiveness over complexity;
- agreed to separate the concepts of (nominal) catches from (nominal) landings;
- agreed on an updated version of the catch diagram that retains a component showing the fate of live discards while including a separate IUU component (including unrecorded, unreported and confidential catches, to be further developed) and recommended its adoption;
- agreed that certain information (e.g. transhipped catches and their relationships with other components) could be better conveyed in the glossary accompanying the diagram;
- recommended the adoption of the proposed definitions of catch components (glossary);
- agreed to adopt the term *aquatic organisms* in lieu of *fish*, noting how aquatic organisms includes aquatic animals, algae and other microorganisms;
- agreed to refer to CWP-27 the concepts and definition (bullet points above) for endorsement.

Workplan

- revise the glossary to incorporate feedback received during CWP-IS and update some of the existing definitions (e.g. removal of *primary* and *secondary* target species) as well as include new ones (e.g., transshipments, aquatic organisms etc.) (as soon as possible);
- if endorsed by CWP-27, publish the revised catch diagram on the CWP Handbook, together with the accompanying revised glossary (as soon as possible);
- further elaborate on the concepts of official catches, estimated catches, and IUU catches by producing dedicated schematic presentations of their components (intersessionally).

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE AD HOC TASK GROUP ON “FISHING EFFORT CONCEPTS” (TG-EFFORT)

(Agenda item 5.3)

46. Ms Cummings (WECAFC) and Mr Ramm, TG-effort co-leads, reported on the work of TG-effort (CWP-IS/2022/2, CWP-IS/2022/Inf.2, CWP-IS/2022/Pr5.2). The main objectives of the TG are to:

- review, revise and where necessary further develop CWP fishing effort concepts and associated diagram(s) and definitions including measures of nominal and standard effort, and elaborate their use in informing STATLANT questionnaires;
- review, further develop and define standard measures of effort for the categories of fishing gear in ISSCFG, taking account of emerging remote-sensing technologies and opportunities to develop new measures of effort.

47. Progress on this work ([CWP-IS/2021/2](#)) was reported at the CWP-IS meeting in November 2021. That meeting provided further guidance to TG-effort ([CWP-IS report, 2021](#)) including *inter alia* to further consider: the overall objective of the work, fishing effort concepts and applications across all fishery sectors, effort measures in the context of their intended use, the proposals from the 2018 t-RFMO workshop, and new measures of fishing effort arising from emerging technologies and which are feasible/practical to implement with available tools.

48. TG-effort reviewed and further developed fishing effort concepts for a *fisher*, *fishing vessel* and *fishery-support vessel*, *fishing ground*, *fishing trip*, *fishing gear*, *searching* (for fish), *fishing operation* and *fishing mode*, the overarching concept of *métier* and a fishing effort concept diagram (CWP-is/2022/2 Figure 1). TG-effort also reviewed the three main levels of precision/granularity used in reporting fishery statistics in the STATLANT system of questionnaires (categories A, B and C) and re-cast these at the levels of three effort concepts: fishing operation (A), métier (B) and fishing trip (C). TG-effort also reviewed and developed standard measures of fishing effort (CWP-IS/2022/2 Table 1): Measures A - number of fishing operations, number of gear sub-units deployed, number of gear.hours fished, number of gear.days fished, number of hours searching, Measures B - number of days on a fishing ground, and Measures C - number of fishing trips, number of days absent from base, number of days fished, number of fishers and number of fishing vessels. TG-effort also developed the proposal of the t-RFMO workshop to use combined measures for all gear categories in ISSCFG and all fishing modes (CWP-IS/2022/2 Table 2).

49. TG-effort also considered the use of emerging technologies such as satellite-based Automatic Identification System (AIS), Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) and Synthetic Aperture Radar systems (SAR) in developing measures of fishing effort. TG-effort concluded that such technologies can provide opportunities *inter alia* to validate existing measures or provide improved estimates of these measures, provide new technologies in addition to AIS and VMS such as VIIRS for use in monitoring fishing as well as IUU fishing activities, and support the development and application

of new measures of effort which may be integrated with existing measures defined by CWP. New measures for use by CWP will need to be derived from readily available, low-cost data and TG-effort noted that the accessibility of emerging technologies is evolving rapidly and data which may have limited or restricted availability today may become readily available/public domain in the near future.

50. CWP-IS thanked TG-effort for reporting on its work and further developing the CWP fishing effort concepts and associated components. CWP-IS considered this work and the following points were noted in the ensuing discussion.

- *Métier* is an overarching concept characterized by *fishing ground*, *fishing gear*, *fishing mode* and *target species* which are in the grey box in Figure 1 (CWP-IS/2022/2). Although there were no inter-connecting relationships shown between some of these concepts, relationships exist and are not depicted in Figure 1 in order to simplify the diagram (discussion point initiated by Mr Federizon).
- The term *target species* in Figure 1 is an interim term, pending completion of the work of TG-catch. Depending on the outcome of that work, target species may, or may not include associated species (discussion point initiated by Mr Aureliano Gentile, FAO).
- The revised categories of standard measures of effort A, B and C which are primarily associated with a *fishing operation*, *métier* and *fishing trip*, respectively, relate to the levels of detail/granularity at which the measures are reported. These levels do not necessarily reflect the level at which a measure is observed and recorded (discussion point initiated by Mr Federizon and Mr Taconet).
- The proposed definition for a *fishing vessel* is limited to those vessels which are used for, equipped to be used for, or intended to be used for, fishing operations. Other vessels such as transport and cargo vessels which are not equipped for fishing operations but are involved in transshipments and landings are considered to be fishery-support vessels. It was noted that transport and cargo vessels which are involved in transshipments and landings are considered by NEAFC to be fishing vessels (discussion point initiated by Mr Asgeirsson).
- TG-effort has considered the development of new fishing effort measures using emerging technologies including the use of AIS, however no new measures had been proposed. The TG had indicated that at a minimum these technologies and tools could serve to validate existing measures and further progress further would require additional discussions. The revised concepts and measures of effort could provide ways to map AIS data to effort measures such as hours fished and the number of active fishing vessels, however the utility of AIS data was limited by varying data quality, reliance on vessels equipped with AIS and interpretation of vessel movement patterns (discussion point initiated by Ms Voges and Mr Taconet).
- The proposed combined standard measures of effort for the sport and recreational fishing mode (mode *REC* in Table 2 CWP-IS/2022/2) contained fewer measures than the combined measures of other modes. The combined standard measures for the sport and recreational fishing mode reflected the practicalities of recording data in that sector. CWP-IS agreed that further consideration should be given to this matter, noting that some sport or recreational fishing trips occur over extended periods and may involve commercial operators (e.g. charter vessels and headboats) (discussion point initiated by Mr Fiorellato).

51. CWP-IS noted that the proposed, overarching concept of *métier* was defined as a sub-unit within a fishery (e.g. sub-fishery) characterized by a combined set of fishing effort and catch concepts including fishing gear, fishing ground, fishing mode and target species. However this definition differed from that used by ICES which uses a list of *métier* (gear x target species) which is applied to each ICES fishing ground. The definition proposed by TG-effort represented a combination of the *métier* list used by ICES and a separate list of fishing grounds.

52. CWP-IS considered three alternative definitions of *métier* and whether a *métier* represented a unit or sub-unit of a fishery. CWP-IS agreed to forward two proposals to CWP-27 for further consideration:

- Proposal 1: For a given fishing ground, a sub-unit within a fishery (e.g. sub-fishery) characterizing a fishing practice and identified by a combined set of fishing gear, fishing mode and target species.
- Proposal 2: For a given fishing ground, a sub-unit within a fishery (e.g. sub-fishery) characterized by a fishing practice identified by a specific set of fishing gear, fishing mode and target species.

53. Ms Vannuccini noted that TG-effort proposed a revised definition of a *fisher* in order to include individuals involved in the sport or recreational fishery sectors. This proposed definition differs from the existing definition of fisher used in the Handbook and is not fully aligned with the overall concepts of the International Labour Organization (ILO). While the TG-effort definition of fisher is inclusive of individuals in all fishery sectors, she suggested that additional work was required from the CWP Secretariat to better align the definitions within the Handbook. Ms Vannuccini offered to consult with the ILO on the best way to include sport and recreational fishers in a general definition.

54. CWP-IS also noted the following points raised via email by Mr Palma and Mr Carlos Mayor (ICCAT) who were unable to participate in the discussion of this agenda item:

- Further consideration is needed on the definitions and uses of nominal and effective fishing effort, noting that the term nominal is generally used to indicate a measure which has been recorded/measured/observed (including statistical inference/extrapolation to the entire fleet which is a raising process based on observed values). Nominal effort is usually a direct estimation of effort such as a catch rate, while effective effort is a statistical estimation obtained from standardized CPUEs (e.g. yield/CPUE ~ effective effort (\pm error)).
- Table 1 which lists standard measures of effort under categories A, B and C could include a column to classify each measure as being gear-dependent or gear-independent.
- Figure 1 could indicate fishing effort types (i.e. fishing trip, fishing operation) and the relevant standard measure of effort (e.g. duration, hooks, fishing sets/days).
- Further consideration should be given to the standard measures of effort coded *C4* in Table 2 (i.e. number of fishers or number of fishing vessels). The number of fishing vessels could be further subdivided in order to capture more detail on the fleet structure e.g. (number of vessels per LOA/GT class). In addition, the number of fishers is correlated to the size/type of vessels.

55. Ms Cummings and Mr Ramm indicated that at their initial reading of the email, the points listed above were logical and would not be difficult to incorporate into the next version of the document. Mr Taconet also noted that further consideration should be given to the number of fishing vessels and the number of active fishing vessels.

56. Mr Fiorellato presented a proposal for an alternative version of the fishing effort concept diagram which had been developed immediately prior to the CWP-IS meeting. Mr Fiorellato noted that TG-effort did not have the opportunity to consider this revised version of the diagram, however the TG co-leads had welcomed the alternative diagram which would be further considered intersessionally.

57. CWP-IS noted that TG-effort and TG-catch have both developed conceptual diagrams which could form part of a future diagram library in the Handbook. However, further consideration needs to be given to the presentation of these diagrams to ensure consistent use of formats and symbology.

58. CWP-IS agreed to forward all of the revised concepts and standard measures, including the diagrammatic representation of effort (Fig. 1), the matrix of combined standard measures (Table 2), proposed revisions to the Handbook and implementation of the revisions in the STATLANT questionnaires, to CWP-27 for in principle endorsement. In doing so, CWP-IS agreed that the revised definition of fisher required further consideration (paragraph 53) and that the points discussed above (paragraphs 54 to 57) would be reflected in the final outputs from TG-effort.

59. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the work of TG-effort:

Agreements and actions required

- agreed on the proposed concepts and definitions developed by the group and generally recommended their adoption (in principle, noting that some definitions, e.g. *fisher* and *métier*, that might require future elaborations);
- agreed on the proposed fishing effort concept diagram (Fig. 1, CWP-IS/2022/2) and recommended its inclusion in the CWP Handbook, while considering further enhancements and alternative versions to bring the diagram in line with other similar CWP products (e.g. catch concept diagram);
- generally recommended the adoption of the revised effort measures and definitions (Table 1) and the implementation of standard effort measures by fishing gear category (Table 2) while considering and discussing further refinements;
- agreed that emerging technologies (e.g. AIS, VMS, VIIRS, SARS) might be considered to support the definition of new measures of fishing effort in the future, as well as validate existing effort measures;
- agreed to refer to CWP-27 the concepts, definitions and matters in the bullet points above.

Workplan

- if endorsed by CWP-27, publish the new effort concept diagram (Fig. 1, CWP-IS/2022/2) on the CWP Handbook, together with its accompanying definitions (as soon as possible);
- further elaborate on the adopted concepts to produce revised, more comprehensive versions of the reference tables that also includes a categorization of the level at which the measures of fishing effort are reported (intersessionally);
- continue evaluating emerging technology as potential sources of new measures of fishing effort (intersessionally).

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE AD HOC TASK GROUP ON AQUACULTURE (TG-AQUACULTURE)

(Agenda item 5.4)

60. Mr Massa, Vice Chair and TG-aquaculture lead reported on the work carried out by the TG-aquaculture (CWP-IS/2022/7, CWP-IS/2022/8, CWP-IS/2022/Inf.5, CWP-IS/2022/Pr8-9). The main objectives of the TG are to:

- further develop the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook including the farming systems classification;
- review, revise and where necessary further develop the Handbook's other sections which relate to aquaculture including the introduction, general concepts (including conversion factors), capture fisheries statistics (with focus on fishers) and socioeconomic dimension;
- review and further develop the Handbook's tools and resources;
- review and further develop the Handbook's keywords and search terms applicable to all aquaculture-related sections of the Handbook.

61. Mr Massa recalled the aims and the scope of the Handbook on aquaculture statistics as well as the overall process for its finalization. There have been several revisions based on the work done by TG-aquaculture and experts y the main aspects of the review which sought to:

- rearrange the overall structure of the Handbook by shifting and merging chapters as appropriate to improve readability;
- reconsider chapters that were evaluated to be misleading for the purposes of the Handbook;
- widen the contents of the initial chapters by adding new subsections to present the framework of the Handbook (list of tables, figures and annexes, preface, executive summary, why collect aquaculture data, handbook preparation and background, nature and scope, institutional benchmarks);
- replace dated figures with updated infographics and drawings/figures;
- add updated terms and definitions, a practical guidance glossary and related bibliographic references;
- provide updated hyperlinks to relevant documents and websites;
- provide tables with proposals for data collection;
- add highlighted boxes pointing to the core message and interpretations for statistical purpose and ease of reference during data collection.

62. Mr Fabrizio Caruso (FAO) delivered a presentation on the finalized draft of the Handbook providing an overview of the latest changes implemented since the CWP-IS meeting in November 2021 and the thematic sections of the Handbook.

63. The Handbook is structured in seven chapters:

- Chapter 1 Terms and Definitions
- Chapter 2 Accounting and codes for aquatic productions
- Chapter 3 Accounting aquaculture productions
- Chapter 4 Socioeconomic Aspects of Aquaculture
- Chapter 5 Minimum Reporting Requirements for National Statistics on Aquaculture
- Chapter 6 Beyond Minimum Requirements
- Chapter 7 Data collection and planning and Implementing Surveys

64. Mr Caruso provided an overview of updated concepts and definitions as well as the proposed standards for data structure for aquatic production (jointly developed with TG-RH2). He recalled the tools included in the document to improve the possibilities for implementation of the data collection process.

65. Mr Davide Fezzardi (FAO) presented the progress on activities towards an updated international aquaculture farming systems classification for use in aquaculture statistics. He recalled that the improvement of the classification was needed to avoid mismatching reporting for global aquaculture data collection. CWP has been tackling this issue and CWP-26 proposed a preliminary structured list of aquaculture farming systems arranged with hierarchical levels under 12 categories that has been fully incorporated in the Handbook on Aquaculture.

66. CWP-IS stressed that future efforts should focus on developing a reference coding for the classification of farming systems including sub-categories, while periodical adjustments would be needed to meet national needs for data collection in accordance with local conditions and newly emerged culture methods.

67. CWP-IS thanked TG-aquaculture for developing the final draft of the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook and for conducting extensive intersessional consultations including with GFCM, NACA, EUROSTAT, SEAFDEC, SPC and CWP members and observers.

68. Ms Vannuccini noted that the final draft filled an important gap in the CWP Handbook, and that the dual-purpose format of that draft (i.e. a section of the Handbook and a stand-alone publication) would ensure wide-spread dissemination of this important information. She also noted that revisions could be expected from time to time and in order for the Handbook to remain up-to-date with the rapidly evolving and dynamic aquaculture sector. She also noted that the classification on farming systems would require further development, including developing a coding system, and that this could be advanced through a dedicated meeting/workshop and further work during the intersessional period.

69. CWP-IS agreed that the final draft of the aquaculture section was suitable for publication in the Handbook, noting that the Handbook was a living document which has evolved over time in response to developments in capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics and that revisions would be needed from time to time. CWP-IS noted that the final draft could be accompanied by text indicating that this version of the aquaculture section was released for the first time and was open to suggestions and improvements from the CWP community and other users.

70. CWP-IS noted the following points made by participants:

- Mr Simon Wilkinson (NACA) noted that some chapters may require additional information to provide context and that periodic surveys and/or case studies could be used to provide such information. He also noted that the small-scale aquaculture sector was somewhat under-represented in the final draft. While relatively small from an economic perspective, that sector was important for food security in some countries and regions.
- Mr Ilhan Aydin (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Türkiye and invited observer to this agenda item) noted that the final draft provided an important tool to assist with developing the aquaculture sector. He also noted that further work was needed to develop the Handbook's coverage of the small-scale aquaculture sector.
- Mr Ferit Rad (Mersin University, Türkiye and invited observer to this agenda item) noted the importance of the small-scale aquaculture sector and its under-representation in the final draft. He indicated that a widely-agreed definition of that sector was needed and that indicators would need to be developed in order to monitor that sector and assess its importance within a country and/or region.
- Mr Houssam Hamza and Ms Linda Fourdain (GFCM) supported the need for further information on the small-scale aquaculture sector, reiterating the importance of that sector in food security. GFCM also offered assistance in developing and testing spatial information technology. This could include the use of the GFCM Information System for the Promotion of Aquaculture in the Mediterranean (SIPAM) for mapping of water-based farms and the use of GIS technology and spatial planning tools for statistical purposes.
- Mr Stefano Carboni and Ms Maria Cozzolino (IMC and NISEA, Italy and invited observers to this agenda item) praised the work done on the revision of the Handbook and stated that it could be adopted on the basis of current knowledge and for use in a testing phase.
- Mr Taconet noted the draft section on 'Ownership and nationality of production' (CWP-IS/2022/8 Section 2.2.2) may need a minor revision following CWP-IS's consideration of a coding system for water jurisdiction areas and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (Agenda item 5.5). Furthermore, the draft section on employment (Section 4.2.1) could possibly adopt the age groups set according to the ILO guidelines: "Decent work indicators: for producers and users of statistical and legal framework indicators", with categories <15 (for child labor); 15-24 (for youth employment); 24-65; >65, as it has been

requested and adopted for fishers data collection in the WECAFC context. Mr Taconet also noted that the development of an aquaculture data structure based on the same approach as that used for capture fisheries, would enhance the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization framework. For aquaculture data domains which are deemed mature, such development could be considered during the next intersessional period.

71. CWP-IS recalled that particular focus should be given to the collection of data from the small-scale and/or artisanal and family-owned aquaculture sector that is widely recognized as making an important contribution to food security, poverty alleviation and socioeconomic development. To date there is no agreed definition of small-scale aquaculture and therefore it is still difficult to collect specific data and information on this sector and assess its importance.

72. CWP-IS agreed that some revisions proposed by CWP-IS could be easily integrated into the current version of the Handbook, while others will require further consideration in the forthcoming intersessional period.

73. CWP-IS proposed that CWP-27 endorse the publication of the aquaculture section of the Handbook as a living document and consider its implementation as a testing phase. Furthermore CWP-IS agreed that further editing and infographic work would improve the readability and integration of the information presented in the aquaculture section and Handbook generally.

74. CWP-IS discussed the tasks to be undertaken during the forthcoming intersessional phase of TG-aquaculture based on the discussions at this meeting as well as those from the bilateral meetings.

75. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the work of TG-aquaculture and the development of the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook:

Agreements and actions required

- agreed on the proposed draft of the aquaculture section of the CWP Handbook, noting that the Handbook was a living document which has evolved over time in response to developments in capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics and that revisions would be needed from time to time;
- noted that the final draft of the aquaculture section of the Handbook could be accompanied by text indicating that the version was released for the first time and open to suggestions and improvements from the CWP community and other users;
- agreed to refer the concepts, definitions and matters in the bullet points above for endorsement by CWP-27.

Workplan

- develop coding for the classification of farming systems including the sub-categories (intersessionally);
- improve the collection of data in terms of production and market value of commodities from aquaculture such as fry and fingerlings, sturgeon caviar and other traded fish eggs (e.g. trout, salmon), fishery products from aquaponic, etc. (intersessionally);
- develop tools (manuals, guidelines, etc.) to operationalize the aquaculture section of the Handbook such as: (i) how to manage and interpret the collected data; (ii) data analysis; (iii) characterization of trends in aquaculture (intersessionally);
- develop suitable indicators that could be used/applied to monitor aquaculture development, sustainability and production over time with a focus on small-scale aquaculture (intersessionally);

- contribute to the revision of CWP webpages to improve content including, if endorsed by CWP-27, the revised aquaculture section (as soon as possible);
- continue the work in revising the International Standard Statistical Classification for Aquatic Animals and Plants (ISSCAAP) as proposed during CWP-26 in order to assess the impact of the revisions including use of a revised coding system (intersessionally);
- identify targeted case studies including (i) periodic surveys of production losses and practices/causes in different sectors, and (ii) socioeconomic and nutritional impact of small-scale/artisanal production on rural communities (intersessionally).

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE AD HOC TASK GROUP ON “REFERENCE HARMONIZATION” (TG-RH2)

(Agenda item 5.5)

76. Mr Aymen Charef (FAO), TG-RH2 lead, recalled that TG-RH2 had been tasked to:

- develop implementation guidelines of the four endorsed global data structures and their disaggregation;
- further revise and finalize the fishing activity information (or logbook) guidelines;
- develop a geo-coding system for water jurisdiction areas (WJA) including Territorial Seas and Inland Waters.

77. The deliverables and progress on the activities of TG-RH2 was presented as follows:

- Guidelines for the implementation of logbook data for statistical purposes [CWP-IS/2022/3](#)
- Standard for reference data harmonization – Logbook data structure [CWP-IS/2022/4](#)
- Guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization [CWP-IS/2022/5](#)
- Towards a coding system for WJA including Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) [CWP-IS/2022/Pr6](#).

78. Mr Ramm presented a proposal for developing guidelines for the implementation of logbook data for statistical purposes (CWP-IS/2022/3 and CWP-IS/2022/Pr5). The objective of the proposed guidelines was to outline the minimum data requirements needed to implement regional and global capture fisheries statistics using CWP concepts, standard measures, data structures, CWP standards and classifications. The guidelines would expand the current CWP Handbook section on [Logbooks and VMS](#) and identify common information that should be collected in all types of capture fisheries. Regional and national fishery/management authorities would be encouraged to implement these guidelines, or an equivalent approach, to ensure that appropriate standards are implemented and maintained when reporting fishery statistics at national and regional levels in support of CWP’s work and contribution to the sustainable management of fisheries and SDG 14. The proposed guidelines would be consistent with the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and MCS-based standards such as FLUX.

79. Mr Charef recalled that CWP-26 had endorsed three data structures of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization ([Appendix 5 – Annex1 of the 26th session report](#)) namely: Global capture production, catch, and catch & effort. The objective of the standard is to establish standard terminology and statistical concepts to facilitate reconciliation and comparability of information and improve data quality by mainstreaming the data cross-checking. The standard also aims to form the basis of data sharing agreements and to ensure data interoperability for multilateral exchanges.

80. Mr Charef presented the proposed logbook data structure which formed part of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization ([CWP-IS/2022/4](#) and [CWP-IS/2022/Pr4](#)). TG-RH2 has further developed the scope and purpose of logbook guidelines and the related logbook data structure. The current proposal of logbook data structure focuses on the context of CWP's core statistics and can be implemented essentially for needs of national and regional capture fisheries statistics. It is not intended to cover information regarding post-landing operations, prior notifications, transshipments and other fishing activities which do not directly inform capture fisheries statistics.

81. Mr Charef also presented the draft guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization ([CWP-IS-2022-5](#) and [CWP-IS/2022/Pr4](#)). The guidelines were established to put forward core rules and best practices to apply the data structures of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization in various contexts. The pilot use cases of implementation of the standard for data exchange in regional and global contexts are:

- Regional database of the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) which was recently developed to collate and maintain catch and effort statistics at the fishing unit level in six countries in the region.
- FIRMS Global Atlas of Tuna and Tuna-like species that compiles catch and effort statistics from five CWP members responsible for tuna fisheries namely: CCSBT, IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC and WCPFC (and SPC).
- Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF) of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) including main themes of data collection and definition of variables.
- Regional Commission for Fisheries (RECOFI) database which is being designed to collate catch and effort statistics of eight members of the Commission.

82. TG-RH2 requested CWP-IS to consider the following:

- agree on finalizing the guidelines based on the outcomes of TG-Catch and TG-Effort in particular for the concepts of catch type, fishing mode, fishing effort unit;
- consider adding the logbook data structure as part of the guidelines;
- adopt the proposed concept of fishing fleet;
- encourage CWP parties to use the guidelines for data sharing agreements and dissemination of data and related codelists.

83. Mr Emmanuel Blondel (FAO) reported on progress towards a coding system for WJA including ABNJ (CWP-IS/2022/Pr6). The key building concepts and definitions were highlighted, including the UNCLOS area definitions which are reflected in the CWP Handbook section on [Main Water Areas](#), and the use of the ISO3 coding system for countries/territories as the preferred coding system for National Jurisdiction Area (NJA) to be used in combination with UNCLOS area types. He noted that the legal and geographic definition of EEZ was regularly misused by the marine information management community. Mr Blondel recalled the sensitive political nature of the proposed coding system given its necessary characterization of national jurisdiction areas and sovereignty/exploitation rights over maritime areas. He also noted the paucity of supporting material officially endorsed by the UN, in spite of exhaustive research-oriented initiatives on the matter such as the Marine Regions database of maritime boundaries. The initial recommendations were highlighted with emphasis on the need to extend the exercise through participation in UN working groups such as the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information. New requirements and examples were presented to consolidate the coding system methodology, including the needs i) to agree on classification system namespaces (acronyms) to use as base for building codes, ii) to set-up two levels of coding (with/without breakdown), combining

ISO3 codes for NJA identification with UNCLOS area acronyms, iii) to extend NJA breakdown categories to Archipelagic Waters and Extended Continental Shelf areas whenever possible and iv) to evaluate the possible use of breaking down FAO areas into ABNJ.

84. CWP-IS thanked TG-effort for reporting on its work and further developing the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization and associated components.

85. CWP-IS considered the proposed guidelines for the implementation of logbook data for statistical purposes and the following points were noted during discussion.

- The minimum requirements for logbook data in CWP-IS/2022/3 Table 1 represented a conceptual outline of what would be included in the guidelines. The table was prepared for illustrative purposes only and detailed consideration on the logbook data elements would be needed during the development of the guidelines (discussion point initiated by Mr Federizon).
- The advice provided at CWP-26 and subsequent consideration by TG-RH2 had further focused the guidelines on logbook data for statistical purposes and clarified the relationship with the fishing activity concept used in UN/FLUX (discussion point initiated by Mr Taconet).
- Once developed, the guidelines would form part of the CWP's recommended standards, classifications and best practices for the collection of capture fisheries statistics. While CWP parties are encouraged to implement CWP recommendations, these recommendations are not mandatory (discussion point initiated by Ms Voges).

86. CWP-IS agreed to retain the term *logbook* in the context of CWP core statistics, as a method to record fishing activities and collect statistical information for capture fisheries. The group also agreed that the proposed guidelines would focus on the minimum logbook data requirements based on CWP standards and focusing on CWP objectives, and would only cover elements that inform capture fishery statistics.

87. CWP-IS reviewed the capture fisheries diagram for logbook and agreed that this collates concepts from both the catch diagram and fishing effort diagram and therefore recommended to pursue a modular approach that re-uses other conceptual diagrams as building blocks.

88. CWP-IS approved the proposed logbook data structure for inclusion in the guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization.

89. CWP-IS discussed the concept of *fishing fleet* which had been developed at CWP-IS/2021 in the context of (but not limited to) t-RFMOs and the FIRMS Global Atlas of Tuna and Tuna-like species. The concept uses the ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 codes or UN Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use which is known as M49 (refer Handbook section on [country or area](#)). TG-RH2 proposed to broaden the concept so that it was applicable to all fisheries (i.e. not limited to tuna fisheries).

90. The definition of *fishing fleet* was further revised during the meeting and the following definition was agreed by CWP-IS: "A group of fishing vessels authorized to conduct fishing operations in a convention area/area of competence of an international or regional fisheries organization, and whose fishing operations and catches of species under the organization mandate are the responsibility of, and accounted for, by a political entity or sub-entity recognized by the corresponding organization."

91. CWP-IS also discussed the suitability of the M49 code list in lieu of the ISO3 country codes for use with this concept. The group agreed that, due to practical issues, the M49 coding system is not recommended as the standard codelist for the fishing fleet concept. Instead, CWP-IS agreed that the ISO3 codelist was the recommended primary standard codelist, duly extended to account for any specificity requested by the context.

92. CWP-IS also agreed to publish the first version of the proposed document on the guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization. This is a living document that will be continually edited and updated based on outcomes of use cases and CWP activities. It will be published under the section on 'Sharing practices' of the CWP website.

93. CWP-IS discussed the development of a coding system for WJA. CWP-IS recognised the sensitivity of this topic and possible ramifications of the coding system beyond the mandate of the CWP. However, a coding system was necessary in order to develop an authoritative spatial reference for water areas relevant to statistics.

94. CWP-IS agreed that further consideration needs to be given to the proposed coding system and that any implication beyond CWP is fully explored and understood before such a system is implemented. This would require consultations with other agencies (paragraph 85).

95. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the work of TG-RH2 and the development of logbook guidelines and the logbook data structure:

Agreements and actions required

- agreed to retain the term *logbook* (*sensu stricto* 'Logbook data for statistical and scientific purposes') in the context of CWP core statistics, as a method to record fishing activities and collect statistical information for capture fisheries;
- agreed that the proposed logbook guidelines would outline minimum logbook data requirements using CWP standards and focusing on CWP objectives, and only cover elements that informs capture fishery statistics;
- reviewed the FIRMS' definition of fishery and agreed that this is closely aligned to CWP objectives and includes five thematic approaches, two of which (*métier* and *production system*) are well suited to the logbook perspective;
- agreed that the capture fisheries diagram for logbook collates concepts from both the catch and the effort diagram and recommended to pursue a modular approach that includes other conceptual diagrams as building blocks;
- agreed to refer to CWP-27 for the endorsement of the capture fisheries diagram for logbook and its underlying definitions;
- agreed to refer to CWP-27 for its consideration of the concepts, definitions and matters in the bullet points above.

Workplan

- if endorsed by CWP-27, include the capture fisheries concept diagram in the CWP Handbook (as soon as possible) while considering how to further modularize its structure (intersessionally);
- if endorsed by CWP-27, publish the logbook data structure on the CWP website ('Sharing practices' section) (as soon as possible) and include this structure in the guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization (intersessionally);
- draft a workplan for the development of the logbook guidelines (intersessionally);
- further refine the capture fisheries diagram for statistical purposes in close collaboration with TG-catch and TG-effort (intersessionally).

96. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the work of TG-RH2 and the development of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization:

Agreements and actions required

- agreed on the potential of the four proposed data structures to support use cases ranging from implementation of data collection systems to data sharing agreements;
- agreed to refer to CWP-27 for the endorsement of a revised definition of *fishing fleet* which takes into account the inputs received from CWP-IS (e.g. extension to fishery support vessels);
- agreed that, due to practical issues, the M-49 coding system is not recommended as the standard codelist in support of the fishing fleet administrative/political entity definition, and recommended using the ISO3 codelist as the primary standard duly extended to account for any specificity requested by the context;
- agreed to refer these matters to CWP-27 for consideration;
- agreed to publish the document ‘Guidelines for the implementation of the CWP standard for reference data harmonization’ (CWP-IS/2022/5).

Workplan

- if endorsed by CWP-27, implement the revised definition of *fishing fleet* (as soon as possible);
- publish Version 1.0 of the guidelines for the implementation of the CWP Standard for Reference Harmonization for the four data structures under the section on ‘Sharing practices’ of the CWP website (intersessionally);
- update these guidelines based on the implementation of use cases and outcomes of TG-effort and TG-catch for the concepts of *catch type*, *fishing effort type* and *fishing mode* (intersessionally);
- further elaborate the metadata section in the guidelines to describe data sets, classifications and code lists as a basis for a CWP catalogue (intersessionally).

97. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the work of TG-RH2 and the development of a geo-coding system for WJA:

Agreements and actions required

- reviewed the concept of WJA which encompasses ABNJ and NJA and agreed with the proposed approach of further characterizing NJAs for geo-referencing purpose using existing CWP definitions;
- while noting that the term EEZ is sometimes used as a substitute for NJA, it was agreed that further work is required to promote the adoption of NJA by CWP parties;
- agreed on the proposed methodology for assigning unique codes to areas of relevance, and noted that this includes a multi-level classification that leverages (when possible) ISO3 codes to refer to countries and territories, and which could take advantage of FAO statistical areas for further refinements;
- acknowledged that care should be taken when explicitly referring to geospatial definitions of maritime boundaries (and in particular EEZ);
- agreed to the need to establish an ad hoc Task Group dedicated to geospatial matters;
- agreed to refer to CWP-27 the matters in the bullet points above for consideration.

Workplan

- adapt the CWP Handbook pages regarding the updated understanding of WJA;
- further engage in UN initiatives and working groups of relevance (UN-GGIM and UNCLOS) (intersessionally);
- provide feedback to the marine geospatial experts' community about CWP exercises (intersessionally);
- if endorsed by CWP-27, draft the ToRs and initiate arrangements to establish an ad hoc Task Group on geospatial matters with the objective to 1) develop a complete coding system for WJA, and 2) address other geospatial issues of relevance to CWP and its members (as soon as possible).

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE AD HOC TASK GROUP ON BEST PRACTICES FOR STREAMLINING STATISTICAL DATA WORKFLOW AND CONFIDENTIALITY ISSUES (TG-WORKFLOW)

(Agenda item 5.6)

98. Ms Stefania Savoré (FAO) presented the progress and the activities of TG-workflow on best practices for streamlining statistical data workflow and confidentiality issues (CWP-IS/2022/6, CWP-IS/2022/Pr.7). The TG is co-led by Ms Savoré and Ms Adrienne Egger (FAO) and the main objectives of the work are to:

- review the statistical data workflow of CWP parties and observers and other relevant cases involved in capture fisheries and aquaculture, and identify general issues and constraints which may lead to discrepancies and replications in statistical data and undue data reporting burden on member countries;
- review statistical data confidentiality requirements and rules of CWP parties and other relevant organizations;
- develop best practice guidelines for streamlining the reporting mechanisms and workflow for capture fishery and aquaculture statistics and for reducing the overall data reporting burden on member countries;
- develop best practice guidelines for the implementation of statistical data confidentiality requirements, which protect data confidentiality while promoting comprehensive, transparent and timely dissemination and exchange of statistical data.

99. Results of the questionnaire circulated to all CWP parties were analysed for the workflow and confidentiality areas. Ms Savoré reported that since CWP-IS/2021, six additional respondents had completed the questionnaire, bringing the total number of respondents to 16 out of the 19 organizations contacted. The questionnaire results show that most organizations share many practices both in terms of workflow and confidentiality. However, other elements such as deadlines for data submission, estimation processes implemented to fill data gaps, and levels of aggregation at which masked data is shared, vary among organizations.

100. TG-workflow also conducted bilateral meetings between FAO and the TG members to further analyse and discuss practices currently in place. While reducing data discrepancies and alleviating the burden on data providers appeared as a common concern, TG members reported on a number of obstacles towards further streamlining workflows. These included legal and calendar constraints, and differences in the level of data granularity needed. The bilateral meetings highlighted that TG members have little scope for enforcing data confidentiality rules, as these are defined by the data providers and often legally binding. However, TG members showed interest in exploring common approaches on how to disseminate data while ensuring confidentiality requirements are met.

101. Mr Taconet highlighted two points (i) the reference harmonization work on guidelines should be promoted regarding streamlining statistical data workflow since the aim is to strengthen and enforce the use and consideration of global concepts and mappings. Both technical groups could jointly work on how to promote these global concepts and classifications. (ii) with regards to the issue of confidentiality in the context of catch concepts and unrecorded catch, thought should be given on how to treat any unrecorded or unreported catch.

102. Ms Vannuccini noted that bilateral discussions are needed to better understand the confidentiality approach followed by CWP members, as differences are significant between organizations and therefore it is important that these are captured. With more information in this regard, TG-workflow can discuss a common confidentiality approach (for example including elements such as time limitations before confidential data are released in the public domain). This discussion is important as there is an increasing number of countries providing confidential data.

103. Mr Palma noted that ICCAT may use preliminary catch estimations to complete official data provided by member states. These preliminary catch estimates are usually proposed by one of the Scientific Committee's Species Groups and the estimates are subsequently adopted by the Scientific Committee and published as provisional statistics (i.e. temporary estimates which require complete revision by the ICCAT parties) after each Commission annual meeting. Each record in the ICCAT annual nominal catches (known as Task 1) is classified as either reported or estimated. The estimations are categorized according to the methodology used (e.g. carry overs based historical trends, catches obtained from specific species composition ratios, trade statistics, adopted from other sources such as FAO, ICES, GFCM, NAFO, etc.). The set of elements characterizing Task 1 estimates is part of the ICCAT coding system which is continually evolving to accommodate other types of estimations.

104. CWP-IS thanked TG-workflow for reporting on its work and agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to its work including further consideration of confidentiality issues:

Agreements and actions required

- agreed to further expand the coverage of the questionnaire in order to obtain a more comprehensive overview of the different practices in place in all CWP member organizations;
- agreed to analyze these practices in more detail, involving the organizations that display more similarities in terms of data collection and confidentiality procedures;
- agreed that a number of obstacles create difficulties in developing guidelines for the harmonization of statistical workflow, although there is willingness to work towards their achievement, even partial;
- acknowledged that the CWP concepts and standards should be adhered to as much as possible, and that CWP members should communicate and coordinate between themselves concerning new data collection programmes/plans, or for the production and validation of overlapping datasets. In addition, CWP members should actively strive for coherence and comparability between data collection standards;
- agreed the need to explore ways to disclose confidential data in the public domain, and to develop common approaches in this regard between CWP members.

Workplan

- further investigate options to develop confidentiality best practice guidelines, in particular for confidentiality standards (intersessionally);
- further discuss potential ways to facilitate and encourage the dissemination of confidential data and establish a common confidentiality approach, initially by collecting information on confidentiality rules and standards of CWP members (intersessionally);

- for CWP members who have not yet filled in the questionnaire on data workflow and confidentiality, submit responses for inclusion in analysis (as soon as possible).

FOR INFORMATION

(Agenda item 6)

SDG indicators relevant to fisheries and aquaculture

(Agenda item 6.1)

105. Mr Charef provided an update on the monitoring and reporting of SDGs relevant to fisheries and aquaculture statistics and, in particular, SDG 14 (to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources) and the indicators under FAO custodianship (CWP-IS/2022/Pr10, refer also CWP-IS/2021 report, paragraphs 108-111). There are four SDG 14 indicators under FAO custodianship and FAO is responsible for assessing gaps in national capacity, providing technical support and facilitating assessments and reporting. Mr Charef presented updated results on trend assessment and distance to target.

106. FAO's role within the SDG framework is to establish partnerships with inter-governmental organizations and regional bodies (e.g. CWP parties) to coordinate efforts, achieve interrelated goals and provide support to countries in order to a) improve statistical capacities to produce, use and disseminate high quality official statistics and SDG data, b) enhance national inter-institutional coordination to invigorate the production of SDG indicators, and c) monitor indicators and coordinate efforts at regional and global level to align with regional SDG indicators frameworks and to achieve interrelated goals.

107. FAO's SDG portal (<https://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/en/>) provides a snapshot of FAO's work on SDG (background information, publications, events) and progress in monitoring the 21 indicators under FAO custodianship and five indicators where FAO is a contributing agency. In addition, FAO eLearning (www.fao.org/elearning) offers a series of free multilingual online courses to foster country adoption of best practices in data collection, analysis, and reporting of 21 SDG indicators.

Online data reporting platform for fisheries statistics

(Agenda item 6.2)

108. Mr Palma reported on the development of the ICCAT Integrated Online Management System (IOMS) (CWP-IS/2022/ICCAT) and the outcomes of the 2022 Intersessional meeting of the Commission's Working Group on Online Reporting and Technology (https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2022/REPORTS/2022_WG_OR_TENG.pdf). IOMS aims to replace the current ICCAT-database system and was first released in production in August 2021 (version 1.0, experimental phase) with functionality limited to the submission by CPCs of the 2021 annual reports (scientific and compliance components). The modules currently under development include the vessel record manager (vessel registration, authorizations by fishery, chartering arrangements, carrier vessels, transshipment authorizations, etc.) for which ICCAT has adopted the UN/FLUX for unattended submissions and updates of European Union vessel information. IOMS is expected to change the way of working within the ICCAT community and will have reporting implications that will require structural changes to the ICCAT database. Two important aspects of the IOMS may have a positive impact on the CWP work in the long term:

- the integration through ‘mapping’ of CWP standard coding system in the ICCAT-DB (and therefore in the IOMS on database migration process);
- adoption of the UN/FLUX for vessels data exchange with EU Member States.

109. Mr Palma also reported on the ongoing implementation of dashboards (currently for statistics and tagging information) and their recent use to complement the reports and data files already shared with scientists and other ICCAT stakeholders. These dashboards provide an improved visual and interactive interface to query the data, making the search more intuitive and easier.

110. Mr Olivier Roux (IOTC) reported on the development of the IOTC Electronic Monitoring and Reporting Information System (e-MARIS) (CWP-IS/2022/Pr11). IOTC, like other RFMOs, requires that its CPCs report specific information throughout the year, according to IOTC regulations, management & conservation measures and other decisions. Over time the amount of reporting requirements has increased significantly and this has become a burden for both CPCs and the IOTC Secretariat. The aim of e-MARIS is to replace the current manual process with a web-based centralized system that will allow CPCs to report their information and help the IOTC Secretariat in assessing the compliance status of each CPC. e-MARIS currently covers: Information calls, reporting by CPCs, submission review and Compliance assessment, production of reports and other compliance products. The development was funded by the World Bank under the SWIOFish project, started in July 2019 and the application is expected to enter production in August 2022. e-MARIS is a web application built using React and Java and running on the Google Cloud platform. It is built as three components:

- an administration console which allows management of users (IOTC & CPCs), configuration of the application, etc.;
- a management console which allows the Secretariat to create, schedule and manage requirements, information collection campaigns and report templates, as well as to manage running campaigns and assess compliance of submissions;
- a reporting console which allows CPCs to consult the calendar of requirements, report information according to their own internal processes, follow the status of their submissions and compliance, etc.

111. CWP-IS congratulated ICCAT and IOTC on these initiatives which had taken different approaches to developing web-based workflows and structured electronic data formats for exchanging data and reporting information. CWP-IS noted that these initiatives shared objectives with the CWP’s current work on developing data structure and streamlining workflows.

112. CWP-IS noted that both systems tracked changing requirements over time using the notion of *lineage* which linked parent-child requirements as these evolved from year to year in each Commission meeting cycle.

113. WCPFC and IATTC expressed interest in collaborating with both ICCAT and IOTC to develop their own web-based workflows and formats for exchanging data and reporting information.

114. CWP-IS invited ICCAT and IOTC as well as WCPFC and IATTC to further collaborate in the context of the work of TG-RH2 and TG-workflow.

115. CWP-IS considered the following items and actions in support of the development of online data reporting platforms for fisheries statistics:

- explored the possibility for CWP to collect information on the best practices, streamlined workflows and lessons learnt from the two systems developed by IOTC and ICCAT;
- agreed this could be achieved initially within the context of the TG-workflow and TG-RH2 which deal with several of the aspects touched upon by the two initiatives;
- noted the interest expressed by several agencies to engage in further discussions regarding these topics.

Towards statistical definition of small-scale fisheries

(Agenda item 6.3)

116. Ms Savoré provided an update on the work to develop a statistical definition of small-scale fisheries (SSF) using a matrix scoring approach to characterize the scale of fishing units. The initial work was presented at CWP-26 in 2019 and updated at CWP-IS in 2021. The need to identify SSF operations span the dimensions of governance (policy, legislation, access and tenure), economics (taxation, subsidies, special preferences) and fishery management (regulation, gears, zoning). There are broader implications beyond the national level, which relate to international policies and strategies. At a global level, soft definitions limit comparison between countries and regions, while there is no individual metric with a cut-off point capable of distinguishing between small-scale and larger-scale fisheries or fishing operations.

117. A fishery characterization matrix approach was developed to provide a systematic method for characterizing the scale of a fishery. The matrix is intended to enable the objective identification of fisheries or fishing operations that may be considered small-scale and contribute to a better quantification of the number of such fisheries, their catches and the issues that relate to their operations. The matrix scoring approach was applied within the “Illuminating Hidden Harvests” (IHH) global study of SSF. The IHH study considered approximately 3000 fisheries from 58 countries including fisheries in the WCFC region and individual fisheries were scored using the matrix. The fisheries in the study were those considered to be SSF within their national contexts. The interim conclusions of the study indicate the following:

- rapid and objective classification of fishing operations based on multiple characteristics is possible;
- the matrix is helpful in data poor fisheries, where comprehensive, statistical fleet data may not be collected or available;
- deeper analysis of the IHH data is expected to yield some more concrete conclusions regarding the utility of the matrix approach as a tool for identifying key features of SSF at national level.

118. An overview of the discussions from CWP-IS in 2021 was provided and CWP parties were encouraged to:

- test the SSF Matrix for the characterization of fisheries;
- consider establishing an ad hoc Task Group at CWP-27 to further progress work on SSF;
- consider the need for translation of the matrix methodology (currently in English only).

119. Mr Fiorellato confirmed that IOTC is looking forward to better characterizing the SSFs operating in the region and is committed to testing the methodology with the help of five members which have already confirmed their availability to trial the matrix approach. Mr Fiorellato also highlighted the need to discuss the establishment of a dedicated TG to further the work on the characterization of SSF.

120. Mr Taconet suggested that following the phase of organizational-based testing of the matrix (paragraphs 119 and 120), the work should step into testing the methodology's capability to separate statistics according to small-scale and large-scale fisheries, at national and/or regional level.

121. CWP-IS agreed the following items, actions and workplan related to the work on SSF:

Agreements and actions required

- encouraged further testing of the SSF Matrix for the characterization of fisheries;
- considered establishing an ad hoc Task Group to further progress work on SSF;
- requested CWP-27 to discuss the endorsement of the Matrix methodology by CWP.

Work flow

- IOTC agreed to test the matrix and report results at the next CWP-IS meeting (intersessionally);
- if endorsed by CWP-27, development of the ToRs of an ad hoc Task Group to develop work on the characterization of SSF (intersessionally);
- further discuss the endorsement of the SSF Characterization Matrix methodology (intersessionally).

Regional workshops and global conference on fisheries data collection and fisheries statistics

(Agenda item 6.4)

122. Ms Vannuccini noted that this year FAO reached an important milestone in fisheries and aquaculture statistics with many of the FAO statistical dataset now spanning seven decades (1950-2020) of data, the longest time-series of any statistical dataset published by FAO. This occasion provides an opportunity to reflect on the way fisheries statistics are being collected, analysed and utilized in regional and global statistics. As part of these activities, FAO is organizing three regional workshops and a global conference on fisheries data collection and fisheries statistics. The workshops will cover the Americas (12-13 July 2022), Asia and Pacific (26-27 July 2022), Africa, Mediterranean and Middle East (13-14 September 2022). The global conference will be held in late 2022.

123. Ms Vannuccini indicated that the objectives of this initiative are to:

- discuss challenges related to data collection, and share experiences on activities being carried out, and identify solutions and priority needs at the country level.
- raise awareness and understanding of the tools and methodologies utilized in capacity building activities in fisheries data collection and statistics.
- engage and promote dialogue between national fisheries agencies, national statistics offices, potential donors and international organizations.

124. CWP-IS thanked Ms Vannuccini for providing information on the forthcoming regional workshops and global conference. Interested CWP parties were encouraged to contact the Secretariat for further information.

Emerging needs for statistical standards

(Agenda item 6.5)

125. Mr Yann Laurent (FAO) reported on the growing demand for statistics and needs for standards to increase knowledge on fishing and fishery sectors including stock assessment, socioeconomics, monitoring the impact of fisheries on biodiversity and the fight against IUU fishing. International standards were notably lacking in the following areas:

- indicators for stock status determination in data poor situations, including the use of length-frequency data, are often included in national and RFMO data collection frameworks;
- development of knowledge in socioeconomics including the characterization of SSFs, assessing the investment and operational costs in fisheries, monitoring the impact of, and adaptation to climate change and for disaster risk management;
- development of knowledge on fisheries ecosystems including a broader definition of area-based management and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem (VME), common definitions and standards for endangered, threatened and protected species;
- Fight against IUU fishing including standards for vessel registries and the listing of IUU fishing vessels.

126. CWP-IS thanked Mr Laurent for presenting this update and recalled that t-RFMOs had established the Tuna.org website (<https://www.tuna-org.org/>) to share tuna-related information and protocols amongst CPCs including:

- length-frequency data based on available data collection frameworks and including the work of WCPFC in developing a standard for regional use;
- compliance matters using established licensing requirements;
- data exchange based on regional protocols such as UN/CEFACT FLUX and SDMX;
- fight against IUU fishing including IUU fishing vessels lists, using guidelines from the Port State Measures.

127. CWP-IS also recalled the proposal discussed during CWP-IS/2021 to establish a dedicated task group under CWP to review current practices and standards, identify requirements for new standards to address emerging needs for statistics, and assess the feasibility of developing new global standards.

128. CWP-IS encouraged CWP parties to work towards identifying emerging priorities for global standards such as standards for the dissemination of length-frequency and other biological data and conversion factors or establishing a standard annual period for use in capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics.

129. CWP-IS considered the possibility of establishing an ad hoc Task Group to address emerging needs for statistical standards. Alternatively, CWP-IS agreed that this work could be achieved within the context of TG-RH2. This matter was referred to CWP-27 for further consideration.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(Agenda item 7)

130. No item was discussed under this Agenda item.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

(Agenda item 8)

131. The agreements, actions and workplan for the work of the ad hoc Task Groups and related work were agreed by CWP-IS during the meeting and are placed in each of the agenda items of this report. Due to time limitation, the report was finalised after the meeting and was adopted by correspondence.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

(Agenda item 9)

132. Prior to closing the meeting, Ms Vannuccini recalled that Mr Massa, current vice-chair of the CWP, CWP-AS Coordinator and TG-aquaculture lead had retired from GFCM and had continued his CWP role as a FAO Consultant under the CWP Secretariat with the agreement of GFCM. Ms annuccini sought confirmation of the interest of GFCM to continue acting as CWP-AS Coordinator and TG-aquaculture lead. Mr Hamza confirmed GFCM's continued support of CWP and in its interest to continue in this role.

133. Ms Vannuccini also sought confirmation from Mr Fiorellato on his interest and that of IOTC to continue acting as CWP-FS Coordinator in the intersessional period. Mr Fiorellato confirmed IOTC interest and his personal willingness to continue this role on behalf of IOTC.

134. Ms Vannuccini also advised that Ms Jennifer Gee (FAO) had indicated her unavailability to continue as the vice-coordinator of CWP-FS. In addition, the vice-coordinator role for the CWP-AS was vacant. Interest in filling these roles was sought from the CWP membership. No nominations were received during the meeting. CWP-IS encouraged nominations for these positions. In the interim, CWP-IS noted that TG leads may be available to assist CWP-AS and/or CWP-FS coordinators if needed.

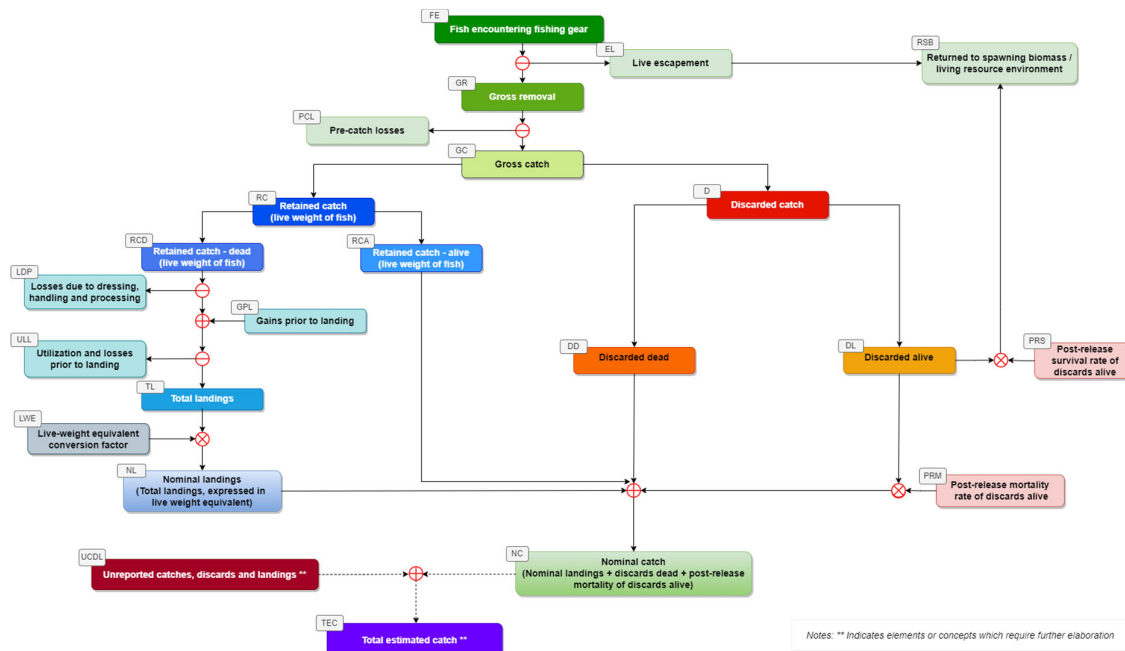
135. In closing the meeting, Mr Fiorellato on behalf of CWP-IS thanked all participants for their engagement in the meeting across the multiple time zones spanned by the online sessions and for participants' extensive and detailed contributions to the work of the TGs during the intersessional period. Mr Fiorellato also thanked the CWP Secretariat for its support and organization of the meeting.

136. Ms Vannuccini thanked Mr Fiorellato and Mr Massa in their excellent work as CWP-IS Chair and Vice-Chair respectively, and for their efforts in maintaining the momentum and attention during the online sessions. She also thanked participants for their time and dedication to the meeting. This meeting of CWP-IS and CWP-IS/2021 had provided valuable review and feedback to the work of the TGs and other intersessional work and set up an extensive workplan for the intersessional period leading up to the next session of CWP.

137. The meeting concluded on 24 June 2022 at 14.30 hour CEST.

Revised catch concept diagram

Figure 1. Revised catch concept diagram drafted during the meeting. The elements of the diagram will be defined in an accompanying glossary (refer Table 1, [CWP-IS/2022/1](#)). A number of elements (notably *unreported catches*, *discards* and *total estimated catch*) may need further consideration as part of the intersessional activities.



APPENDIX 6

**Report of the Intersessional Meeting of the Aquaculture and Fisheries
Subject Groups of the Coordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics**

**Twenty-eighth meeting of the Fisheries Subject Group and
Seventh Meeting of the Aquaculture Subject Group**

25 November 2021

The report is available here:

<https://www.fao.org/3/cb9063en/cb9063en.pdf>

This document contains the report of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics (CWP) and intersessional meetings of the Aquaculture Subject Group (CWP-AS) and Fishery Subject Group (CWP-FS) which were held in hybrid form in person in Rome, Italy and online, 2–5 November 2021 and 20–24 June 2022. The

CWP provides a mechanism to coordinate the statistical programs conducted by intergovernmental organizations including regional fishery bodies with a remit for fishery statistics. CWP-AS and CWP-FS conducted joint meetings to review the progress made and develop work plans for the next intersessional period. The Session reviewed this work and agreed actions and revised work plans for the CWP ad hoc task groups.

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