

January 2010

E



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

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

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная
организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

SUB-COMMITTEE ON FISH TRADE

Twelfth Session

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 26-30 April 2010

MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 11 OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES

SUMMARY

This document introduces the questionnaire monitoring implementation of article 11, Post-harvest Practices and Trade, of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code). The Sub-Committee is invited to comment on the proposed questionnaire monitoring implementation of the trade-specific components of the Code. The Sub-Committee is also invited to comment on the proposed timing for distribution of the questionnaire and analysis of the results.

This document is printed in limited numbers to minimize the environmental impact of FAO's processes and contribute to climate neutrality. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and to avoid asking for additional copies. Most FAO meeting documents are available on the Internet at www.fao.org

W0000

INTRODUCTION

1. Options for monitoring implementation of article 11 of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) were discussed at the eleventh session of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade (the Sub-Committee), where it was agreed that a separate questionnaire should be developed to monitor implementation of article 11 of the Code. The Sub-Committee requested that the questionnaire be biennial.
2. The Twenty-Seventh Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) agreed that the Sub-Committee should take responsibility for monitoring the implementation of article 11 of the Code.
3. This document introduces the questionnaire monitoring implementation of article 11 of the Code.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

4. The questionnaire monitoring implementation of article 11 is attached in Annex 1. The questionnaire is divided in 4 parts:
 - Responsible fish utilization;
 - Responsible international trade;
 - Laws and regulations relating to fish trade; and
 - Emerging issues.
5. The section on responsible fish utilization corresponds to article 11.1 of the Code. The section on responsible international trade corresponds to article 11.2 of the Code. The section on laws and regulations relating to fish trade corresponds to article 11.3 of the Code. The emerging issues section is designed to allow the respondent to identify new and emerging issues.
6. The questionnaire will be distributed in electronic format. The proposed questionnaire will be made available using MS Excel. This will enable returns to be analyzed without being re-entered manually.
7. The Sub-Committee is invited to identify the questionnaire's recipients.
8. The questionnaire will be distributed in early 2011. The results of the questionnaire will be compiled for discussion at the next session of COFI:FT in 2012.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

9. COFI expressed support for the proposal to consider the development by the Secretariat of electronic options for reporting on the overall implementation of the Code. Members requested that FAO take into consideration the different capacity levels in countries to ensure that developing countries were not disadvantaged.
10. Depending on the outcome of the electronic option being considered to report on the overall implementation of the Code, the Sub-Committee may eventually wish to consider the option of integrating the trade-specific component of this questionnaire with the overall questionnaire.

SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

11. The Sub-Committee is invited to:
 - Comment on the proposed questionnaire;
 - Identify the questionnaire's recipients;
 - Comment on the proposed timing for distribution of the questionnaire and analysis of the results; and
 - Take note of the option to integrate the trade-specific component of this questionnaire with the overall questionnaire monitoring implementation of the Code.

ANNEX 1

FAO Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
Implementation and emerging issues related to article 11: Post-harvest Practices and Trade
Introduction

This questionnaire monitors the progress in implementing article 11 of the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries at the country level. Respondents should attempt to answer ALL questions.

Answering questions

All answers provided come in the form of a tick in a box, or written text. Except for the emerging issues and current challenges questions, which prompt the respondent for a yes/no answer, all answers to be ticked off work on the basis of a benchmarking scheme which enables the respondent to provide an answer along a gradient. Questions may not be altered.

Benchmarking system

The benchmarking system follows the following principles; any answer falls into a gradient from 1 to 5, where 1 is the lowest, and 5 is the highest. Where a question is not applicable to the national context, the first box should be ticked, and no other box should be ticked for the same question (in the same row). For every question, only one tick should be placed.

Benchmarks and what they stand for

	in percentage values	in implementation terms	in qualitative terms
1	0 - 20%	not implemented, or just started	not at all, or very little
2	20 - 40%	some done, but still largely insufficient	some, but not much
3	40 - 60%	about half of what is needed has been done	some, underway, quite substantial
4	60 - 80%	much of the needs addressed, but incomplete	much, or to a large extent
5	80 - 100%	almost all is done, or complete	very much, or completely
n/a	<i>not applicable</i> : does not apply to the nat. context, and forfeits all other answers to same question		

Submission of filled questionnaire

Please save filled questionnaire by adding your country name into the file name, and e-mail back to: william.emerson@fao.org.

Status of implementation of Code provisions on Post-harvest Practices and Trade (article 11)

No.	Benchmarking criteria	n/a	1	2	3	4	5
Responsible fish utilization							
1	To what extent do the following measures related to safety and quality assurance systems for fisheries products apply?						
a	A national policy on safety and quality assurance system is formulated and adopted						
b	Legislation in support of a safety and quality system is promulgated and enforced						
c	An enabling institutional environment (e.g. a Competent Authority) is established and fully operational						
d	Inspection services are carried out						
e	Accredited laboratory services are established and fully operational						
f	A national environmental and/or residue monitoring plan is enforced						
g	HACCP-based quality management systems are in place						
h	Standards for safety and quality of products in the domestic markets are set, monitored and enforced						
i	Traceability requirements are implemented						
j	A national food standard body is in place						
k	National standards are harmonized with the Codex Alimentarius standards						
l	Active participation in the Codex Alimentarius and other international standard setting bodies						
m	Please identify current challenges related to safety and quality assurance systems:						
2	Which of the following measures have been taken in the post-harvest sector?						
a	Measures are taken to assess and reduce post-harvest losses						
c	Value addition is promoted, especially for small-scale fisheries						
c	Environmental impacts of post-harvest activities are monitored and addressed effectively						
d	Human consumption of fish is actively promoted						
e	Please identify current challenges in the post-harvest sector:						

Responsible international trade							
3	Do the following statements apply to the trade regime for fisheries products in your country?						
a	Measures are in place to verify that fish products originate from legal fishing operations and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture						
b	Measures are in place to ensure that trade in fish products does not undermine fisheries management measures						
c	Statistics on international trade in fish and fisheries products are collected, disseminated and exchanged in a timely manner with relevant national and international institutions						
d	The impacts of fish exports on food security and income are monitored						
e	Please identify current challenges related to international trade:						
Laws and regulations relating to fish trade							
4	Do the following statements apply to the legal framework for trade in fisheries products?						
a	Laws and regulations are developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders						
b	Laws and regulations are simple and transparent in their wording and structure (easily understandable)						
c	Changes to trade laws and regulations provide for sufficient transitional periods, derogations and other similar arrangements						
d	Changes to trade laws and regulations are notified to the WTO, interested States and other relevant international organizations						
e	The national regulatory framework is harmonized with internationally recognized provisions on fish trade and the safety and quality requirements						
f	Please identify current challenges related to laws and regulations:						

Emerging issues in the implementation of Code provisions on Post-harvest Practices and Trade (article 11)

a	Ecolabel and certification requirements	Yes	No
b	IUU regulations	Yes	No
c	Traceability requirements	Yes	No
d	Others?		
Comments:			