

November 2018

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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
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WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC FISHERY COMMISSION (WECAFC)
NINTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP (SAG)
Bridgetown, Barbados, 19-20 November 2018
Latest work plans of selected (joint) Working Groups

1. **OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CFMC WORKING GROUP ON CARIBBEAN SPINY LOBSTER**
2. **REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING**
3. **CFMC/WECAFC/OSPESCA/CRFM WORKING GROUP ON SPAWNING AGGREGATIONS**
4. **CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES WORKING GROUP ON QUEEN CONCH**
5. **WECAFC/CRFM/OSPESCA FISHERIES DATA AND STATISTICS WORKING GROUP**
6. **WECAFC/CRFM/IFREMER WORKING GROUP ON SHRIMP AND GROUND FISH IN THE NORTHERN BRAZIL-GUIANAS SHELF**

**WORK PLAN OF THE OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CFMC
REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON CARIBBEAN SPINY
LOBSTER (RWG-CSL)**

The RWG-CSL will carry out the following activities in 2018–2019 period:

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
1. 2nd meeting of the GTR-LEC in the Dominican Republic	21–23 March 2018	WECAFC + OSPESCA (as coordinator): meeting supported by NOAA and the CLME + Project
2. Finalization, publication and dissemination of the 2nd Meeting report	May 2018	WECAFC Secretariat and OSPESCA
3. Additional review of the draft Caribbean Lobster Fisheries Regional Management Plan	April 2018	RWG-CSL in coordination with OSPESCA / WECAFC Secretariat
4. Finalization of the Regional Management Plan	April – May 2018	OSPESCA
5. Support and contributions for the preparation of the SOME Report, in particular the chapter on the Ecosystem Approach to Spiny Lobster Fisheries, and follow-up the Strategic Actions Program (PAE) implementation.	April – December 2018	RWG-CSL in coordination with OSPESCA and the CLME + PCU
6. Review of indicators for SAP monitoring and evaluation, and the Governance Effectiveness Assessment Framework (GEAF)	April – September 2018	RWG-CSL in coordination with OSPESCA and the CLME + PCU
7. Provide inputs for the Research Strategy, Fisheries Section, with a focus on priority research requirements for the EAF for spiny lobster.	April – September 2018	RWG-CSL in coordination with OSPESCA and the CLME + PCU
8. Provide input for the consultancy on the Regional Governance Framework and its Sustainable Financing Plan	April – December 2018	RWG-CSL in coordination with OSPESCA and the CLME + PCU

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
9. Presentation of recommendations generated by the 2 nd Meeting for review / discussion and adoption by CRFM, OSPESCA and WECAFC	April – June 2018	Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries (supported by CLME+)
10. Presentation to the 9th. meeting of the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) to review the recommendations	November 2019	OSPESCA + WECAFC secretary
11. Sampling in selected countries for the PaV1 lobster virus	July – December 2018	Interim Coordination Mechanism FAO-CRFM-OSPESCA with support of CFMC
12. Organization of the 3rd Meeting of the RWG- CSL	March 2019	WECAFC + OSPESCA (as coordinator): support and place of the meeting AD
13. Present inputs and comments to the Reference Framework for Data Collection (DCRF) document, and participation of some members in the WECAFC statistics working group workshop in the FIRMS framework	April – May 2018	RWG-CSL in coordination with FIRMS/FAO with the support of NOAA and CFMC

**UPDATED WORK PLAN OF THE REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON
ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING
(RWG-IUU)**

The RWG-IUU will carry out the following activities in the 2018–2020 period:

Activity	Timeframe	Responsible	Status	Proposed activity end date
Develop a draft regional plan of action to combat IUU fishing (RPOA-IUU)	Rescheduled to 2018	RWG IUU coordinated by the WECAFC Secretariat	Ongoing	
Organization of the 3 rd meeting of the RWG-IUU – focus on the RPOA-IUU finalization	26-28 September 2018	WECAFC + CRFM (as convener): meeting supported by EU-DG Mare funded project, the CLME+ project sub-project for shrimp and groundfish and REBYC II LAC	Meeting held	
Design and carry out a review study to assess the nature and extent of IUU fishing in the WECAFC region	2019	Convener + WG members	Had previously been postponed pending development[/finalization] of FAO methodological guidelines	March 2019
Finalization of the study proposal Determining cost effective measures to combat IUU fishing, and approaching of potential resource partners	2019	Convener + CRFM	Concept note developed; develop and finalise proposal	Dependent on outcome of assessment of the extent of IUU
Submission of advice and recommendations generated by the 3 RWG-IUU meetings for review/discussion	October 2017 – January 2019	Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries (CLME+ supported)	Recommendations from 1 st and 2 nd meetings and the outcomes of 3 rd meeting to be submitted to ICM once	In time for WECAFC 17

and approval within CRFM and OSPESCA			clarified	
Reporting to the 9th meeting of the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) for review of advice and recommendations	November 2018	Convener WECAFC Secretariat +	Recommendations from RWG IUU 3rd meeting submitted to SAG for endorsement	November 2018
Encourage/support alignment of national regulations, to ensure effective monitoring and control of transshipment activities, with FAO guidelines for regulating, monitoring and controlling transshipment.	2018 to 2020	Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries; WG Members	New activity pursuant to outcome of RWG IUU 3	End 2020; WECAFC 17
Identify information that should be shared at regional level to facilitate enforcement of transshipment regulations	2018 to 2019	Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries; WG Members	New activity pursuant to outcome of RWG IUU 3	Mid 2019
Encourage/support alignment of national regulations, with voluntary guidelines for marking of fishing gear.	2018 to 2019	Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries; WG Members	New activity pursuant to outcome of RWG IUU 3	Mid 2019
Develop an IUU Vessel List for the region, using internationally applied criteria and procedures, and arrange with TM Tracking for	September 2018	WG Members with WECAFC, CRFM, OSPESCA and TM Tracking	To be determined	Probable review of the FAO Standard Specifications for the Marking and Identification of Fishing Vessels for

maintaining the list				the updated
Develop and finalise RPOA IUU	January 2019	WG Members with WECAFC, CRFM, OSPESCA, Consultant(s)	New activity pursuant to outcome of RWG IUU 3	Submission to WECAFC 17 in April 2019
Develop NPOAs - IUU based on the RPOA-IUU and inform FAO/WECAFC after adoption	2018 to 2020	WG members	ongoing	Dependent on completion of RPOA; end 2020
Develop protocols for “cooperation in monitoring, control and surveillance to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing” under the Caribbean Community Common Fishery Policy and OSPESCA, respectively	2018 to 2020	CRFM, OSPESCA plus relevant WG members; supported by WECAFC Secretariat	To be determined	Pursuant to [and dependent on finalization of] RPOA; by May 2020?
Organize exchange of information and study tours for WG members to learn about successful and best-practice approaches in MCS and fisheries inspection in general	2018-2020	WG members, facilitate by the CRFM, OSPESCA and WECAFC Secretariats	To be determined	

**WORK PLAN OF THE OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CFMC
REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON SPAWNING
AGGREGATIONS (SAWG)**

The SAWG will carry out the following activities in 2018–2020 period:

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
1. Convene the 2nd meeting of the SAWG in Miami	27-29 March 2018	WECAFC + CFMC as coordinator; meeting supported by NOAA <i>Completed</i>
2. Finalization, publication and dissemination of the report from March Meeting	November 2018	WECAFC + CFMC as coordinator; (Moe, Heyman, Young, Bolden, Rolon) <i>Nearly completed</i>
3. Develop draft Regional Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) for Nassau grouper and other FSA-forming species	January 2019	CFMC (Sadovy, Azueta, Prada and Lindeman, and SAWG Members) <i>Nearly completed</i>
4. Finalization of the Regional FMP for aggregating species	2020	CFMC (Sadovy, Azueta, Prada and Lindeman, and SAWG Members)
5. Support contributions for the SOME E Report	December 2018	Heyman, funding dependent
6. Draft regional cooperative monitoring protocol, database and data management systems to characterize and monitor FSAs	December 2019 (funding dependent)	Heyman and WG Members, funding dependent
7. Final cooperative monitoring program and database	December 2020	Heyman and WG Members, funding dependent
8. Conduct a regional and national status and needs assessment of FSA sites in the WECAFC region	2019 - 2020	CFMC and NOAA (W. Heyman, C. Young, S. Bolden, J. Azueta, R. Claro and others as appropriate; funding dependent)
9. Presentation of recommendations generated	April – June 2018	Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
by the 2 nd Meeting for review / discussion and adoption by CRFM, OSPESCA and WECAFC		Fisheries (supported by CLME+)
10. Presentation to the meeting of the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) to review the recommendations	November 2019	WECAFC secretary
11. Develop communications strategy and tools for FSA conservation and management including two short videos about the urgency to protect FSAs.	2019-2020	CFMC (support to A. Salceda, Beluga Smile and SAWG communications subcommittee) <i>work in progress</i>
13. Mobilize resources from bilateral and international agencies to assist Members of WECAFC	2018-2020	WECAFC, CFMC, NOAA, SAWG members, and others
14. Organization and planning of the 3rd Meeting of the SAWG	2019	WECAFC + CFMC
15. Share technical capacity to identify FSAs in regions where FSAs have not been documented or characterized (e.g. Eastern Caribbean)	2019-2020	WECAFC; L. Reynal; funding dependent
16. Maintain the SAWG network intersessional communications by regularly posting FSA news and events to the GCFI, CAMPAM, and other lists	June 2018	FWRI (Acosta) <i>completed</i>

**WORK PLAN OF THE CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES WORKING GROUP
ON QUEEN CONCH (QCWG)**

The QCWG will carry out the following activities in 2019–2021 period:

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
1. Finalization, publication and dissemination of the Report of the WG meeting in Panama (in hard copies and on-line on http://www.strombusgigas.com/index.htm and at www.WECAFC.org ; including the national summary reports)	February 2019	CFMC and FAO with inputs from meeting participants
2. Provide technical and scientific advice to national governments in the region to support the implementation of CITES COP 17 Decisions and WECAFC 16 recommendation WECAFC/16/2016/1 and any relevant decisions that are adopted at the 18 th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES and WECAFC 17	January 2019 – December 2021	WG members
3. Report on progress with the implementation of relevant CITES and WECAFC decisions, and the outcomes of the Working Group – at the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • next meeting of the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG), November 2018; - • 17th session of WECAFC, April/May 2019; • 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, May/June 2019; • 31st meeting of the Animals Committee, January 2020 	In advance of deadlines for reporting required	CITES/Fisheries authorities of QC range States attending these meetings (as appropriate); CITES and WECAFC Secretariats
4. Translate the <i>Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan</i> that was adopted at WECAFC 16 into French and Spanish, disseminate for review, and publish upon completion	January 2019	WECAFC Secretariat
5. Continue increasing awareness and building capacity among fishers on Safety-at-Sea, in particular addressing risk management in compressed air diving for Queen Conch; fisher organizations should be engaged as much as possible for these activities	January 2019 onwards	NOAA Fisheries/CFMC and FAO with the fisheries authorities in the region
6. Continue review and consideration of options for the development of a transparent "chain of custody" procedure to track catches from their catch location to their eventual destination	January 2019 onwards	NOAA Fisheries/CFMC with CITES, WECAFC/FAO and the authorities in the region

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
7. Further advance and monitor the implementation of the <i>Regional Queen Conch Management and Conservation Plan</i> that was adopted by WECAFC 16, CRFM, OSPESCA and CFMC at appropriate levels	January 2019 onwards	CFMC, WECAFC, and CRFM, OSPESCA and the WG members
8. Encourage countries to implement the <i>Regional Queen Conch Management and Conservation Plan</i> as called for by WECAFC 16	January 2019 – December 2021	CFMC, WECAFC, CRFM, OSPESCA and WG members (national fisheries and CITES authorities)
9. Support national level consultations as needed to discuss Working Group proposed management and conservation measures for building awareness, increasing buy-in and contributing to compliance	January 2019 onwards	WG members (national fisheries and CITES authorities)
10. Support national authorities and fisherfolk organizations to implement the <i>Regional Queen Conch Management and Conservation Plan</i>	January 2019-December 2021	WG members (national fisheries and CITES authorities), CRFM, OSPESCA, CITES, CFMC, FAO/WECAFC
<p>11. Operationalize the Scientific and Statistical Sub-Group (SS Sub-group) established in the <i>Regional Queen Conch Management and Conservation Plan</i> that will be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying countries that lack national conversion factors for queen conch meat, analyzing available data, assisting with development of national conversion factors for these countries, and reporting back to the Working Group on these factors for their consideration. • Review of existing queen conch NDFs and guidance in order to develop a simplified template for making non-detriment findings for queen conch, in consultation with the CITES Animals Committee, dissemination of the template to the Working Group membership for their consideration, and supporting selected countries in applying the templates and sharing the results at the regional level. 	<p>Draft template: November 2018 - March 2019</p> <p>Results and application of template: June 2019 and onwards</p>	CFMC/WECAFC, SS Sub-group membership, CITES
12. The CFMC will hire a consultant to compile existing information and educational resources, with the appropriate authorization and permission, that	January-December 2019	CFMC/WECAFC Secretariat

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
could be used to meet the objectives of the Working Group		
13. Consult with the CLME+ project to identify queen conch fishery needs that can be incorporated into a possible next phase of the CLME+ project and explore potential opportunities for collaboration specifically with respect to contributions to the State of the Marine Environment and Associated Economies (SOMEE) reporting mechanism and the Strategic Action Program Monitoring and Evaluation framework	November 2018 – December 2019	CFMC, the WECAFC Secretariat too and/or the relevant sub-regional partners (CRFM, OSPESCA)

**WORK PLAN OF THE WECAFC-CRFM-OSPESCA
WORKING GROUP ON FISHERY DATA AND STATISTICS
(WECAFC FDS-WG)**

The FDS-WG will carry out the following activities in 2018–2019 intersessional period:

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
1. Consolidate the species list , and share it with the various stakeholders and importantly with National authorities before final submission to WECAFC-SAG (Action item DCRF-3)	June 2018- November 2018	FDS-WG convener
2. Consultation among their members to finalize their respective list of Priority and Other Reference species (Action item DCRF-1).	November 2018- January 2019	CRFM (June Master), OSPESCA (Ms. Jeanette Mateo), and WECAFC (Ms. Yvette DieiOuadi for the complementary countries)
3. Finalize DCRF priority species list (from DCRF-1) and provide feedback (Action item DCRF-2), i. <u>Coordinate with species working groups</u> to ensure final species listings are finalized. ii. Identify timing of working groups such to timely incorporate all input into the Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF) document (e.g. CLME+ Shrimp and Groundfish next meeting planned for May 2019, iii. <u>Coordinate with WECAFC Secretariat to organize virtual meeting of the SAG (March 2019)</u> to seek final input and comment of review of DCRF to further finalize DCRF, logbook guidelines and data access and sharing guidelines for dissemination to WECAFC 17th Commission.	June 2018-March 2019	FDS-WG convener (Nancie Cummings), WECAFC Secretariat, FIRMS Secretariat
4. Follow-up with their respective Legal offices on the feasibility of delineation of areas , according to options presented in the Report of the 1 st Meeting of the FDS-WG or other identified area delineations as identified relevant (Action item DCRF-4)	January 2019- March 2019	FAO, and CRFM and OSPESCA Secretariat
5. <u>Consult with its members regarding delineations of FAO sub-areas</u> in the Central American – Caribbean sub-region (Action item DCRF-5)	April 2019 – July 2019	OSPESCA
6. <u>Consult the species WGs regarding delineations of FAO sub-areas</u> (Action item DCRF-6)	April 2019 – July 2019	FDS-WG convener
7. Provide the mappings of their national vessel categories to the agreed regional Fleet segment categories of the DCRF (Action item DCRF-7)	November 2018 - January 2019	FDS-WG members

ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE
8. Contribute to the CWP survey on the “ <u>International Standards Statistical Classification of Fishing Vessels (ISSCFV)</u> ” and provide general comments through WECAFC, CRFM and OSPESCA (Action item DCRF-8). Survey references documents http://www.fao.org/3/a-bt983e.pdf / ISSCFV by GRT categories: http://www.fao.org/3/a-bt982e.pdf	June 2018-May 2019 (the survey has been dispatched, and completed)	FDS-WG members
9. Finalize/consolidate comments to ISSCFV through the task force and WECAFC regional / CRFM / OSPESCA sub regional focal points based on analysis of countries’ responses to activity “Mapping of national vessel categories to the fleet segments proposed in the DCRF” (Action item DCRF-9)	February 2019-May 2019	WECAFC-FIRMS Task Force
10. Explore best practice section for implementation of the logbook guidelines : This could be in the form of Case studies or Pilot projects (Action item LOG-1)	October 2018-May 2019	WECAFC-FIRMS regional focal point (Ms. Nancie Cummings) and FDS WG Jamaica representative (Ms. Anginette Murray)
11. Preparation template to collect feedback on logbook implementation experience and to organize the distribution, filling-out and analyzing of this template from all the WECAFC Members. (October 2018) (Action item LOG-2)	October 2018-May 2019	WECAFC-FIRMS regional focal point (Ms. Nancie Cummings) and FDS WG Jamaica representative (Ms. Anginette Murray)
12. Conduct testing of the “Matrix on small scale fisheries” matrix with its members, and to consolidate the feedback (Action item MSSF-1). Reference documents: WECAFC/FDSWG/I/2018/6 and WECAFC/FDSWG/I/2018/Ref.19	June 2018-May 2019	FDS WG CRFM representative, June Masters
13. Liaise with the 3 CLME+ sub-projects to identify opportunities of funding regarding the regional training workshop for data upload in the RDB (Action item RDB-1)	June 2018-May 2019	WECAFC Secretariat through its Task Force
14. Liaise with the USA and France to explore possibilities of automatic reporting to the RDB (Action item RDB-2)	June 2018-May 2019	WECAFC Secretariat through its Task Force

<p>15. Work on the mobilization of funding resources with the goal to strengthen few national data systems among WECAFC members (Action item RDB-3).</p> <p>i. Trinidad and Tobago, Nov.2018 – Dec.2019, FAO/JPN-228 and CC4FISH</p> <p>a. R training / system training workshops March 2019</p> <p>b. data collection design workshop, May 2019</p> <p>c. Pilot of revised data collection, July 2019- 6 months scale</p> <p>ii. New data collection / information system design:</p> <p>a. Suriname, February 2019, Rebyc-LAC</p> <p>b. Guyana, February 2019, CLME+ (tentative)</p> <p>c. St Lucia and Grenada, Q1 2019, CC4FISH (tentative)</p> <p>d. 2 other countries to be identified under CC4FISH (Nov. 2019)</p> <p>e. 2 other countries to be identified under WECAFC-FIRMS 3 (May 2019)</p>	<p>June 2018- Dec. 2019</p>	<p>FAO, CRFM and OSPESCA</p>
<p>ii. FIRMS Inventories and RDB training and Decision Support System (DSS) Implementation (Action item FIRMS-1)</p> <p>i. Develop supplemental training on FIRMS inventories for the region.</p> <p>iii. Coordinate with FIRMS sub regional focal points to obtain updates on already published inventories (January – March 2019)</p> <p>iv. Identify synergies with the regional training on RDB (with possible support from regional projects as already highlighted) (January – March 2019)</p>	<p>June 2018- May 2019</p>	<p>FIRMS Secretariat , FIRMS regional and sub regional Focal point (N. Cummings, J. Masters, J. Mateo)</p>
<p>16. Coordinate with WECAFC-SAG chairperson and FIRMS Secretariat for the upload of stock status information in FIRMS (Action item FIRMS-2)</p>	<p>June 2018- May 2019</p>	<p>WECAFC chairperson (also FDS member)</p>
<p>17. Venue of second Fisheries Data and Statistics Working Group meeting</p>	<p>September 2019</p>	<p>WECAFC Secretariat</p>

WORK PLAN

WECAFC/CRFM/IFREMER WORKING GROUP ON SHRIMP AND GROUND FISH IN THE GUIANAS-BRAZIL SHELF (WGS GF)

The joint Working Group intends to carry out the following activities in 2018-2020:

Activity	Timeframe	Responsible
1. Finalization, publication and dissemination of the Report of the WG meeting in Barbados September 17-18 2018	September 2018	CRFM/IFREMER/WECAFC and FAO with inputs from meeting participants
2. Provide technical and scientific advice to national governments and WECAFC Commission	May 2018– December 2020	WG members;
3. Report to the: -17th session of WECAFC, January – March 2019 – 9th meeting of the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG), November 2018.	As deadlines for reporting require	WECAFC Secretariat
4. Support formulation of sub-regional plan for IUU fishing in Guianas-Brazil Shelf by attending IUU meeting and providing inputs to drafting process	May- October 2018	Working Group with Support from CLME+
5. Collaborate with the Data and Statistics Working Group to respond to the requirements presented at the Working Group’s meeting - Identify focal points for provision of shrimp and groundfish data	December 2018 July 2018	Working Group Members supported by IFREMER/CRFM and WECAFC
6. Formulate draft sub-regional management plan for shrimp and groundfish in Guianas-Brazil Shelf	December 2019	Working Group with Support from CLME+ and Members
7. Reactivate Stock assessment work: - Data Prep and Parameter workshop - Training in stock assessment for WG Countries - Carry out planned periodic stock assessments	Fall 2018 for trainings. Stock assessment for priority species March 2019	IFREMER/ CRFM/WECAFC in collaboration with NOAA, IDB, CLME+ and FIRMS

8. Collaborate and provide inputs for the execution of an Investment Plan for Investment in EAF management	December 2019	IFREMER/CRMF/WECAFC with support from IDB, REBYC-II LAC, CLME+ and CC4FISH
9. Develop draft Regional Strategy on Shrimp by-catch and introduce to 17 th Session of WECAFC.	January 2019	Working group Members with Support from CRFM/WECAFC/IFREMER and REBYC II LAC
10. Review and suggest inputs, targets and indicators for the CLME + SAP and contribute to the shrimp and groundfish indicators of the GEAF framework	December 2018	Working Group Members.
11. Develop communications and work strategy between working group members for inter-session period - Including common work-space and document repository	August 2018	CRFM/IFREMER and WECAFC to suggest, members to endorse
12. Next Session of Working Group-intersessional meeting	March 2019	IFREMER in collaboration with WECAFC /CRFM