

November 2018

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Food
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Продовольственная и
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Объединенных
Наций

Organización
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Unidas
para la
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y la
Alimentación

WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC FISHERY COMMISSION (WECAFC)

NINTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP (SAG)

Bridgetown, Barbados, 19-20 November 2018

Recommendations and resolutions to WECAFC 17 for SAG review

1. This document provides recommendations and resolutions from WECAFC Working Groups, to be reviewed by the 9th session of the SAG, for final review and endorsement by WECAFC 17 in 2019.
2. For the purpose of clarity and in line with best practices, the use of WECAFC Resolutions and Recommendations is defined below. Both conform with the WECAFC objective to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources in the WECAFC area and address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by Members, and are legally non-binding.
 - a. WECAFC Recommendations promote harmonized sub-regional or regional fisheries conservation, management and development, establish regional measures, and endorse fisheries management plans for sub-regional or regional implementation.
 - b. WECAFC Resolutions encourage all stakeholders in the WECAFC area to implement or support implementation of sub-regional, regional or international voluntary or binding instruments related to fisheries, or address other issues of common interest.
3. The draft Recommendations shown in paragraph 4 were prepared by technical experts, scientists and policy and decision makers representing the WECAFC members in various (joint) Working Groups and workshops.
4. Draft Recommendations for review include:
 - **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/1** “on the on the management of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster in the WECAFC area”
 - **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/2** “on regional data access and sharing policies”
 - **Recommendation on WECAFC/17/2019/3** “WECAFC Data collection reference framework”
 - **Recommendation on WECAFC/17/2019/4** “the list of priority species in the WECAFC area”

- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/5** “on the management of shrimp and ground fish resources in the WECAFC area”
- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/6** “on the sustainable management of spawning aggregations and aggregating species”
- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/7** “on improved trade in Queen Conch”
- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/8** “on Queen Conch conversion factor”
- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/9** “on IUU in Queen Conch fisheries”
- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/10** “on the monitoring and control of transshipment at sea”
- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/11** “on the application in the region of the technical guidelines on methodologies and indicators for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing”
- **Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/12** “on the marking of fishing gear”

5. Draft Resolutions for review include:

- Resolution **WECAFC/17/2019/13** “on the institutionalization of the CLME+ SAP M&E and SOME reporting mechanism within WECAFC”
- Resolution **WECAFC/17/2019/14** “on the proposed permanent coordination mechanism and associated sustainable financing plan for enhanced integrated ocean governance in the CLME+/WECAFC/Wider Caribbean Region”
- Resolution **WECAFC/17/2019/15** “on the sustainable fisheries interim coordination mechanism and interim coordination mechanism for the sustainable management, use and protection of shared living marine resources in the CLME+ region”

6. Some of the recommendations and resolutions will be passed to the partners in the Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries (ICM), being CRFM and OSPESCA, for their review and subregional endorsement before being presented for final review and adoption to WECAFC 17.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS FOR THE SAG

7. The SAG is invited to review the draft Recommendations and Resolutions and amend them, as appropriate, for final review and adoption by WECAFC 17 in 2019 as non-binding fisheries management Recommendations and WECAFC Resolutions.

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/1

OF THE CRFM/WECAFC/OSPESCA/CFMC CARIBBEAN SPINY LOBSTER WORKING GROUP “ ON THE MANAGEMENT OF CARIBBEAN SPINY LOBSTER IN THE WECAFC AREA”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC),

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

NOTING with concern the ongoing challenges in ensuring sustained harvests of the Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*), while recognizing the ecosystem value of these stocks and the increased need for further development of regional collaboration and harmonization of the management of this important regional resource;

MINDFUL of the high socio-economic importance of the spiny lobster fisheries for the WECAFC area, its contribution to export earnings, employment and coastal livelihoods;

RECALLING the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous People Rights, as in several countries of the region indigenous people conduct lobster fishing;

RECOGNIZING the important step taken by the OSPESCA in updating the Regional Management and Conservation Plan of Caribbean Spiny Lobster, within the framework of the OSPESCA Ecolobster+ sub-project.

RECOGNIZING the St. George’s Declaration on Conservation, Management and Sustainable Use of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) adopted by the CRFM Ministerial Council in 2015, which harmonizes lobster fisheries management measures within the CRFM membership;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the continued efforts by the CRFM members and other major lobster fisheries countries in the WECAFC region to manage lobster fisheries sustainably in their waters;

APPRECIATING the agreement on a Joint Action Plan of CRFM and OSPESCA, concluded in September 2012, which emphasizes the need for joint work on, inter alia, spiny lobster research and sustainable management, and the ongoing work by the CLME+ project, CFMC and WECAFC towards sustainable utilization of the resource;

DEEPLY APPRECIATING the OSPESCA initiative on common assessment methodologies for stock assessment to the entire Caribbean region ;

RECALLING the outcomes of the first meeting of the newly established

FURTHER RECALLING that most WECAFC members have endorsed the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME+) Strategic Action Programme (SAP), including SAP Sub-Strategy 4A, which aims at facilitating the adoption and implementation of an ecosystem approach to the Caribbean spiny lobster fisheries, and RECALLING the inclusion under the UNDP/GEF CLME+Project of dedicated financing to support the implementation of the aforementioned SAP Sub-Strategy;

FURTHER RECALLING Recommendation WECAFC/16/2016/2 “On spiny lobster management and conservation in the WECAFC area”;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the CRFM/WECAFC/OSPESCA/CFMC Caribbean Spiny Lobster Working Group meeting and the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with the provision of Article 6 (h) of the Revised Statutes of the WECAFC the RECOMMENDATION that:

1. WECAFC members and partners implement the elements made available and discussed, in terms of scientific knowledge, methods and relevant measures, management measures that were collectively agreed by the working group and actions under the Strategic Actions Program (SAP) of the CLME+ region;
2. WECAFC Members consider scaling-up the OSPESCA initiative on common assessment methodologies for stock assessment to the entire Caribbean region or wherever relevant in sub-regions with stocks of Caribbean Spiny Lobster.
3. WECAFC members adopt and implement the updated Regional Management and Conservation Plan of Caribbean Spiny Lobster developed by the OSPESCA Ecolobster+ sub- project.
4. WECAFC Members are encouraged to develop and implement Catch Documentation Schemes in accordance with voluntary guidelines adopted or traceability systems for fishery products to improve the traceability of Caribbean spiny lobster products through the value chain and support the combat against illegal fishing, ensure food safety and data generation in support of decision making for fishery management.
5. WECAFC members make the best possible use of the resources available in the CLME + project to support the activities and report on indicators and objectives defined for strategy 4A of the Strategic Actions Program (SAP).
6. WECAFC members follow and adopt the most recent spiny lobster stock identification in the Caribbean, for defining indicators in the Governance Effectiveness Assessment Framework (GEAF). The same approach could be used for fisheries research purposes and regional management measures, e.g. closed seasons.
7. WECAFC members to improve the indicators of the SAP sub-strategy 4A actions, as well as to define the indicators in the GEAF. The Caribbean spiny lobster working group should therefore support the task force appointed at the Second meeting, which should accordingly work with the working group convener, the Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries and the coordination unit of the CLME + project.
8. Establish a sampling program in Colombia, Nicaragua and other countries, if possible, which takes into consideration that the probable presence of the PA1 virus in the region

could have negative effects in fisheries and trade. The virus issue should also have to be considered in the SOMEE report, taking stock of countries' inputs from previous studies and information available on this topic, and with animal health authorities.

9. The spiny lobster working group collaborate with the Regional Working Group on Fisheries Data and Statistics to provide inputs on the Reference Framework Document for Data Collection and ensure the full participation of the spiny lobster working group members.
10. Recognize the progress made in the definition and implementation of a regional fishing traceability standard in the framework of the Ecolobster+ sub-project, which could be associated with the data collection and generation of information for stock assessment purposes.
11. WECAFC members improve the collection of information to develop social indicators and more inclusive participation mechanisms, considering the role played by fishermen, the community, youth, women, indigenous peoples, ethnic groups, among others, is recognized.
12. WECAFC members to include the focus of the UN Declaration on indigenous people in the instruments, methodologies, activities, among others, that are considered or needed with the participation of these actors.
13. WECAFC members to ensure that additional information on Caribbean lobster fisheries is obtained from extra-regional countries, although WECAFC has a specific geographic area and membership.
14. WECAFC members ensure that scientific research on spiny lobster and fisheries is built in integrating the perspectives of decision makers.
15. WECAFC members commit and support the implementation of the agreed work plan.

“ON THE REGIONAL DATA ACCESS AND SHARING POLICIES”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

NOTING that the 16th session of WECAFC held in Guadeloupe, France, 20-24 June 2016, agreed to establish the Regional Fisheries Data and Statistics Working Group (FDSWG) ;

CONSIDERING the identified minimum steps needed to improve the capability of the Commission in becoming a functional management organization as (i) Increase and improve information content on fisheries data and statistics, (ii) Increase accuracy of data and statistics via utilizing agreed practices in data collection, (iii) Develop and implement agreed practices for data sharing and (iv) Identify feasible stock assessment models for the region

PENDING the adoption of the DCRF as WECAFC minimum data requirements to increase and improve information content on fisheries data and statistics

RECOGNISING the need for confidentiality at the commercial and organisational levels for data submitted to the WECAFC;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the FDS-WG and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with Article 6 of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this **RECOMMENDATION** that:

1. Data and statistics submitted by Members of WECAFC are consistent with the principle of data confidentiality as defined in the WECAFC Regional Data Access and Sharing Policies.
2. The implementation of the regional database proceeds in line with the Regional Data Access and Sharing Policies endorsed by the FDS-WG and the SAG

“ON WECAFC DATA COLLECTION REFERENCE FRAMEWORK”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

NOTING that the 16th session of WECAFC held in Guadeloupe, France, 20-24 June 2016, agreed to establish the Regional Fisheries Data and Statistics Working Group (FDSWG);

CONSIDERING the identified minimum steps needed to improve the capability of the Commission in becoming a functional management organization as (i) Increase and improve information content on fisheries data and statistics, (ii) Increase accuracy of data and statistics via utilizing agreed practices in data collection, (iii) Develop and implement agreed practices for data sharing and (iv) Identify feasible stock assessment models for the region;

MINDFUL that qualitative and quantitative improvement of regional data and statistics requires harmonization and standardization at national and regional level with the definition of minimum data requirement in support to evidence based decision-making;

REAFFIRMING the commitment of CARICOM States to improving evidence based decision-making through regional cooperation as expressed in several regional policy documents including the “Strategic Action Programme for the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem”, the CARICOM Strategic Plan, 2015 -2019, the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) and the CRFM Strategic Plan, 2013-2021;

RECOGNIZING the important steps taken by the OSPESCA and CRFM memberships in terms of building capacity for reliable and timely statistics in the past years.

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the continued efforts by the WECAFC members to increase their capacities to collect, analyze and report fisheries data and statistics;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the FDS-WG and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with Article 6 of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this **RECOMMENDATION** that:

3. The Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF) provides sound framework for science based evidence including minimum data requirements to support fisheries management and stock assessment in general and more particularly the monitoring for the Regional Fisheries Management Plans.

4. Each Member of WECAFC adopts and applies the DCRF in its area of authority.
5. Relevant WECAFC subsidiary bodies may draw the attention of the Commission to the possible need for any revision of the DCRF in order to ensure the effectiveness of data collection and analysis.

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/4

“ON THE LIST OF PRIORITY SPECIES IN THE WECAFC AREA”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

NOTING that the 16th session of WECAFC held in Guadeloupe, France, 20-24 June 2016, agreed to establish the Regional Fisheries Data and Statistics Working Group (FDSWG);

CONSIDERING the identified minimum steps needed to improve the capability of the Commission in becoming a functional management organization as (i) Increase and improve information content on fisheries data and statistics, (ii) Increase accuracy of data and statistics via utilizing agreed practices in data collection, (iii) Develop and implement agreed practices for data sharing and (iv) Identify feasible stock assessment models for the region

MINDFUL that qualitative and quantitative improvement of regional data and statistics requires harmonization and standardization at national and regional level with the definition of minimum data requirement in support to evidence based decision-making;

REAFFIRMING the commitment of CARICOM States to improving evidence based decision-making through regional cooperation as expressed in several regional policy documents including the “Strategic Action Programme for the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem”, the CARICOM Strategic Plan, 2015-2019, the Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) and the CRFM Strategic Plan, 2013-2021.

RECOGNIZING the important steps taken by the OSPESCA and CRFM memberships in terms of building capacity for reliable and timely statistics in the past years.

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the continued efforts by the WECAFC members to increase their capacities to collect, analyze and report fisheries data and statistics;

RECALLING that The WECAFC shall cover all living marine resources, without prejudice to the management responsibilities and authority of other competent fisheries and other living marine resources management organizations or arrangements in the area.

ACKNOWLEDGING the WECAFC members challenges to collect data and produce statistics on all living marine resources

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the FDSWG, Species specific WG and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with Article 6 of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this **RECOMMENDATION** that:

6. **Species as defined in the Annex 1 are considered as priority by Members of WECAFC for data collection and reporting to the Commission activities**

List of priority species in the WECAFC area

WECAFC REFERENCE LIST OF SPECIES CATEGORIZATIONS

1. Introduction to list of species

As a preamble, WECACF competence is recalled regarding species and stocks coverage.

“All living marine resources, without prejudice to the management responsibilities and authority of other competent fisheries and other living marine resources management organizations or arrangements in the area.”¹

Commonalities on WECAFC species categorizations can be found among the interest expressed for the importance of monitoring certain species through the historical establishment of species (conch, lobster, flying fish) and/or fisheries (e.g., FAD, deep sea, recreational billfish) working groups and of policies within the region. These initial listings for data reporting have derived from the policy priorities agreed by the Commissions of WECAFC, CRFM and OSPESCA, or other processes such as CITES or the Cartagena Convention (Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) Protocol) – UN Environment, and for which additional data and information are critical for monitoring, reporting, assessment and /or decision-making purposes. As such inclusion into the initial priority list for data collection is rationalized on the basis they support the policy priorities for the various regional Commissions (WECAFC, CRFM, OSPESCA) including informing the various fishery management plans under development. As such these listings further support the interim framework agreed by regional fishery bodies as specified by the 2016 Interim Coordination Mechanism (ICM)² to facilitate, support and strengthen the coordination of actions, among the organizations for sustainable fisheries in the Western Central Atlantic. In particular the ICM specified support for the queen conch, spiny lobster, flying fish, shrimp and groundfish fisheries.

Additionally, it is recognized that other support for species categorization can derive from interest:

- to monitor the high seas straddling/migratory/deep sea species in areas beyond national jurisdiction that would correspond to the WECAFC-as-RFMO mandate (as per WECAFC 16² decision)
- to monitor high seas and deep seas species in preparing for a possible mandate for WECAFC as RFMO, and
- to monitor species identified to other importance to the regional fishery bodies (e.g., CRFM, or OSPESCA), and responding to criteria that would make the sub-regional list distinct from the ICM criteria

Two main levels of priority importance for species reporting are defined for countries:

- **Appendix 2.3.1 Priority species:** these are key species to the region for which States are strongly encouraged to statistical reporting. These key species are defined as follows and are supported on one or more primary bases (i.e., criteria for inclusion):

¹ <http://www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/wecafc/en>

² <http://www.fao.org/3/a-bo086e.pdf>

- **Basis 1:** Species with endorsed fisheries management plans (Conch, lobster, flying fish) and/or for which species working groups have been established by the sub-regional fishery bodies (e.g., Conch, lobster and Flyingfish, shrimp and Groundfish, and sharks and Highly Migratory) (Appendix 2.3.1.1)
 - CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM Queen Conch Working Group
 - OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CFMC Working Group on Spiny Lobster
 - CRFM/WECAFC Flying fish in the Eastern Caribbean Working Group;
 - WECAFC/CRFM/IFREMER Working Group on shrimp and groundfish of the Northern Brazil-Guianas shelf
 - **Basis 2:** Species with existing mandatory reporting to RFMO (here ICCAT-<https://old.iccat.int/en/introduction.htm>): tuna and tuna like species (Appendix 2.3.1.2)
 - **Basis 3:** High Seas and Deep Sea Species falling under a possible mandate of WECAFC as RFMO (Appendix 2.3.1.3)
 - WECAFC Working Group on the management of deep-sea fisheries
 - OSPESCA: Working Group on Sharks and Highly Migratory Species
- **Appendix 2.3.2: Other Reference species:** if a list of reference species by countries are available, countries are encouraged to report for these species lists to WECAFC. Included under this category are species categorized according to the following :
 - **Basis 4:** Commercially targeted and threatened sharks and rays (Appendix 2.3.2.1)
 - OSPESCA/WECAFC Working Group on demersal Sharks
 - WECAFC/CITES/OSPESCA/CRFM/CFMC Working Group on Shark Conservation and Management
 - **Basis 5:** Species for which a specific fishery working group has been established in one of the sub-regional or regional organization or where other specific concerns exist (Appendices 2.3.2.2.a-c)
 - WECAFC/OSPESCA/CRFM/CFMC Working Group on Recreational Fisheries
 - CRFM Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (PWG) – small & large pelagics, sport & recreational fishery
 - CRFM/IFREMER/WECAFC/JICA Working Group on Fisheries using Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs)
 - CRFM Reef and Slope Fisheries Working Group (RSWG)
 - CRFM Continental Shelf Fisheries Working Group (CSWG)
 - CRFM Data, Methods and Training (DMTWG)
 - CRFM/OSPESCA/WECAFC-FAO Regional Working Group on Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing (RWG IUU)
 - CFMC Draft Island Based Fishery Management Plans
 - CFMC/WECAFC Spawning Aggregations Working Group
- **Appendix 2.3.3** provides a list of additional species identified in historical WECAFC works.

The preliminary WECAFC complete species categorization is defined as followed: The **WECAFC reference list of species** will categorize WECAFC species as part of the ‘Priority species’ list or the ‘other Reference species’ list.

The WECAFC priority and reference species categorization refers to the ASFIS classification. This CWP classification is maintained and used by FAO to standardize species of fisheries and aquaculture interest.

See <http://www.fao.org/fishery/collection/asfis/en>. It contains standard (official) names in English, French and Spanish.

The regional species classification is built on the ASFIS structure enriched with regional names in English, Spanish and French.

The proposed structure is the following:

- ASFIS unique 3 alpha code (3 digits) (from ASFIS classification)
- Scientific name (from ASFIS classification)
- FAO Official English name (from ASFIS classification)
- FAO Official French Name (from ASFIS classification)
- FAO Official Spanish Name (from ASFIS classification)

The list of species of major commercial importance defined in the first session of the WECAFC Working Party on Fishery Statistic (1978, in Panama) are also considered in the priority species list (especially for the definition of the shrimp and groundfish species list) and are included under Basis 5.

2. WECAFC Reference Species list

The list of WECAFC Priority Species and other Reference Species is to be established through the process defined by the first meeting of the WG-FDS. In order to facilitate this process, the following list has been developed from the 1978 list of species of high commercial interest and structured taking into account the policy priorities described in the Introductory Preface paragraph above. Supplemental basis for inclusion is provided. Stakeholders are invited to consult this list and confirm among the species which ones should be categorized as Priority species or as Other Reference species

- **Appendix 2.3.1: WECAFC Priority species**

- Appendix 2.3.1.1: Species of key importance for the region - with regional fishery management plans (basis 1).

ASFIS code	Scientific name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis
Species with management plan								
SLC	Panulirus argus	Caribbean spiny lobster	Langouste blanche	Langosta común	Caribbean spiny lobster	Langouste blanche	Langosta común del Caribe	1
FFV	Hirundichthys affinis	Flying Fish	Exocet hirondelle	Volador golondrina	Fourwing flyingfish	Exocet hirondelle	Volador golondrina	1
COO	Lobatus gigas	Queen conch	Strombe rose	Cobo rosado	Queen conch	Lambi	Caracol reina	1
Ground fish (species to be promoted as Priority species upon advice from Species WGs and other Reviewer Stakeholders, can be found in the Other Reference Species listing)								
Shrimps (species to be promoted as Priority species upon advice from Species WGs and other Reviewer Stakeholders, can be found in the Other Reference Species listing)								

Question for reviewers:

Identify the key shrimp and ground fish for the region, and define the sub-region where the species is of importance, and fill out above table

- **Appendix 2.3.1.2:** Species of importance to other regional or subregional fishery bodies and/or mandatory reporting required by an RFMO (e.g., ICCAT) (basis 2)

ASFIS code	Scientific name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis
Tunas (M.1.2.a)								
BFT	Thunnus thynnus	Northern bluefin tuna	Thon rouge	Atún	Atlantic bluefin tuna	Thon rouge de l'Atlantique	Atún rojo del Atlántico	2
YFT	Thunnus albacares	Yellowfin tuna	Thon albacore	Rabil	Yellowfin tuna	Albacore	Rabil	2
ALB	Thunnus alalunga	Albacore	Germon	Atún blanco	Albacore	Germon	Atún blanco	2
BET	Thunnus obesus	Bigeye tuna	Patudo	Patudo	Bigeye tuna	Thon obèse(=Patudo)	Patudo	2
SKJ	Katsuwonus pelamis	Skipjack tuna	Listao	Listado	Skipjack tuna	Listao	Listado	2
BLF	Thunnus atlanticus	Blackfin tuna	Thon à nageoire noire	Atún aleta negra	Blackfin tuna	Thon à nageoires noires	Atún aleta negra	2
LTA	Euthynnus alletteratus	Little tunny	Thonine	Bacoreta	Little tunny(=Atl. black skipj)	Thonine commune	Bacoreta	2
BON	Sarda sarda	Atlantic bonito	Pélamide	Bonito atlántico	Atlantic bonito	Bonite à dos rayé	Bonito del Atlántico	2
FRI	Auxis thazard	Frigate tuna	Auxide	Melva	Frigate tuna	Auxide	Melva	2
BOP	Orcynopsis unicolor	Plain bonito	Palomette	Tasarte	Plain bonito			2
WAH	Acanthocybium solandri	Wahoo	Thazard-bâtard	Peto	Wahoo	Thazard-bâtard	Peto	2

ASFIS code	Scientific name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis
SSM	Scomberomorus maculatus	Spotted Spanish mackerel	Thazard tacheté	Carite pintado	Atlantic Spanish mackerel	Thazard atlantique	Carite atlántico	2
KGM	Scomberomorus cavalla	King mackerel	Thazard barré	Carite lucio	King mackerel	Thazard barré	Carite lucio	2
CER	Scomberomorus regalis	Cero mackerel	Thazard franc	Carite chinigua	Cero	Thazard franc	Carite chinigua	2
BLT	Auxis rochei	Bullet tuna	Auxide	Melva	Bullet tuna	Bonitou	Melva(=Melvera)	2
BRS	Scomberomorus brasiliensis	Serra Spanish mackerel	Serra Spanish mackerel	Thazard serra	Serra Spanish mackerel	Thazard serra	Serra	2
DOL	Coryphaena hippurus	Mahi Mahi/ Common dolphinfish	Coryphène commune	Lampuga	Common Dolphin fish	Coryphène commune	Lampuga	2
CFW	Coryphaena equiselis				Pompano dolphinfish			
KGX	Scomberomorus Spp	Seerfishes nei	Thazards nca	Carites nep				2
Billfishes (M.1.2.b)								
SAI	Istiophorus albicans	Atlantic sailfish	Voilier de l'Atlantique	Pez vela del Atlántico	Atlantic sailfish	Voilier de l'Atlantique	Pez vela del Atlántico	
BUM	Makaira nigricans	Blue Marlin			Blue Marlin	Makaire bleu	Aguja azul	2
WHM	Kajikia albida	Atlantic white marlin			White Marlin	Makaire blanc de l'Atlantique	Aguja blanca del Atlántico	2

ASFIS code	Scientific name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis
SWO	Xiphias gladius	Swordfish			Swordfish	Espadon	Pez espada	2
SPF	Tetrapturus pfluegeri	Longbill spearfish			Longbill spearfish			2
RSP	Tetrapturus georgii	Roundscale spearfish			Roundscale spearfish			2

- **Appendix 2.3.1.3:** High Seas and Deep Sea Species falling under a possible mandate of WECAFC as RFMO (basis 3)

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis

Question for reviewers:

This list is to be filled out – there is no list of species in the ToRs of the High Seas working group. See <http://www.fao.org/3/i8718en/i8718EN.pdf> for the list of sharks from the sharks working group

- **Appendix 2.3.2: Other WECAFC reference species**
- **Appendix 2.3.2.1. Commercially targeted sharks and rays to include threatened species (basis 4).**

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis
CIO	Isogomphodon oxyrinchus	Daggernose Shark	Requin bécune	Cazón picudo sudamericano	Daggernose shark	Requin bécune	Daggernose Shark	
OCS	Carcharhinus longimanus	Oceanic whitetip shark			Oceanic whitetip	Requin océanique	Oceanic whitetip	4
RHN 2.1.1.4	Rhincodon typus	Whale Shark			Whale shark	Requin baleine	Whale shark	4
FAL	Carcharhinus falciformis	Silky Shark			Silky Shark	Requin soyeux	Tiburón jaquetón	4
BTH	Alopias superciliosus	Bigeye thresher shark			Bigeye thresher	Renard à gros yeux	Zorro ojón	4
SMA	Isurus oxyrinchus	Shortfin mako			Shortfin mako	Taupe bleue	Marrajo dientuso	4
POR	Lamna nasus	Porbeagle shark			Porbeagle shark	Requin-taupe commun	Marrajo sardinero	4
BSH	Prionace glauca	Blue shark			Blue shark	Peau bleue	Tiburón azul	4

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis
SPL	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Scalloped hammerhead shark			Scalloped hammerhead	Requin-marteau halicorne	Cornuda común	4
SPK	<i>Sphyrna mokarran</i>	Great hammerhead			Great hammerhead	Grand requin marteau	Cornuda gigante	4
SPZ	<i>Sphyrna zygaena</i>	Smooth hammerhead			Smooth hammerhead	Requin-marteau commun	Cornuda cruz(=Pez martillo)	4
SPQ	<i>Sphyrna tudes</i>	Smalleye hammerhead			Smalleye hammerhead	Requin-marteau à petits yeux	Cornuda ojichica	4
	<i>Rhizoprionodon porosus</i>	Caribbean sharpnose shark			Caribbean sharpnose shark	Requin aiguille antillais	Cazón picudo antillano	4
	<i>Rhizoprionodon lalandii</i>	Brazilian sharpnose shark			Brazilian sharpnose shark			4
	<i>Carcharhinus porosus</i>	Smalltail shark			Smalltail shark			4
CTI	<i>Mustelus canis</i>	Dusky smooth-hound			Dusky smooth-hound	Émissole douce	Boca dulce	4
RPP	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>	Smalltooth sawfish			Smalltooth sawfish	Poisson-scie tident	Requin-marteau halicorne malltooth sawfish	4
RPM	<i>Pristis microdon</i>	Large tooth sawfish			Large tooth sawfish	Poisson-scie grandent	Large tooth sawfish	4
	<i>Aetobatus narinari</i>				Spotted eagle ray (chucho)			4
	<i>Mobula birostris</i>				Giant Oceanic Manta Ray			4
	<i>Dasyatis americana</i>				Sting ray			4
	<i>Narcine bancroftii</i>	Caribbean Electric Ray			Caribbean Electric Ray			4

- **Appendix 2.3.2.2:** Species for which a specific fishery working group has been established in one of the sub-regional or regional organization or where other specific concerns exist (**Basis 5**)

○ **Appendix 2.3.2.2.a:** Small pelagics species

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supp. Basis
AVA	<i>Cetengraulis edentulus</i>	Atlantic anchoveta	Anchois queuejaune	Anchoveta rabo amarillo	Atlantic anchoveta	Anchois queue jaune	Anchoveta rabo amarillo	5
SAA	<i>Sardinella aurita</i>	Round sardinella (Spanish sardine)	Allache	Sardinela atlantica	Round sardinella	Allache	Alacha	5
POM	<i>Trachinotus carolinus</i>	Florida pompano	Pompaneau sole	Pámpano amarillo	Florida pompano	Pompaneau sole	Pámpano amarillo	5
LHT	<i>Trichiurus lepturus</i>	Largehead hairtail	Poisson sabre (de l'Atlantique)	Sable	Largehead hairtail	Poisson-sabre commun	Pez sable	5
LOB	<i>Lobotes surinamensis</i>				Atlantic tripletail	Croupia roche	Dormilona	

○ **Appendix 2.3.2.2.b:** Reef and Slope species

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supporting Basis
Groupers								
GPR	<i>Epinephelus morio</i>	Red grouper	Mérou rouge	Mero americano	Red grouper	Mérou rouge	Mero americano	5
GPN	<i>Epinephelus striatus</i>	Nassau grouper	Mérou rayé	Cherna criolla	Nassau grouper	Mérou rayé	Cherna criolla	5
MAB	<i>Mycteroperca bonaci</i>	Black grouper			Black grouper	Badèche bonaci	Cuna bonací	5
EEU	<i>Epinephelus guttatus</i>	Red hind			Red hind	Mérou couronné	Mero colorado	5
EET	<i>Epinephelus itajara</i>	Goliath grouper			Atlantic goliath grouper	Mérou géant de l'Atlantique	Mero gigante del Atlántico	5

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supporting Basis
						e		
CFJ	Cephalopholis fulva	Coney			Coney	Coné ouatalibi	Cherna cabrilla	5
CFL	Cephalopholis cruentata	Graysby			Graysby	Coné essaim	Cherna enjambre	5
EFD	Epinephelus adscensionis	Rock hind			Rock hind	Mérou oualioua	Mero cabrilla	5
MKT	Mycteroperca tigris	Tiger grouper			Tiger groupe	Badèche tigre	Cuna gata	5
MKV	Mycteroperca venenosa	Yellowfin grouper				Badèche de roche	Cuna de piedra	5
EEY	Epinephelus mystacinus	Misty grouper				Mérou brouillard	Mero listado	5
EEL	Epinephelus flavolimbatus	Yellowedge grouper				Mérou aile jaune	Mero aleta amarilla	5
MKN	Mycteroperca interstitialis	Yellowmouth grouper				Badèche gueule jaune	Cuna amarilla	5
Grunts								
HLI	Haemulon plumieri	White grunt				Gorette blanche	Ronco margariteño	5
SHLU	Haemulon album	White Margate				Gorette margate	Ronco jallao	5
HHI	Haemulon sciurus	Bluestriped grunt				Gorette catire		5
Porgies								
CBD	Calamus bajonado	Jolthead porgy				Daubenet trembleur	Pluma bajonado	5
CFE	Calamus penna	Sheepshead porgy				Daubanet bélier		5
	Calamus pennatula	Pluma porgy				Daubenet Plume		5

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supporting Basis
		Sea bream						5
Squirrelfishes	Holocentrus rufus	Longspine squirrelfish						5
Jacks								
RUB	Caranx crysos	Blue runner				Carangue coubali	Cojinúa negra	5
CVJ	Caranx hippos	Crevalle				Carangue crevalle	Jurel común	5
LJJ	Alectis ciliaris	African Pompano				Cordonnier fil	Pámpano de hebra	5
RRU	Elagatis bipinnulata	Rainbow runner				Comète saumon	Macarela salmón	5
LJN	Lutjanus analis	Mutton snapper	Vivaneau sorbe	Pargo criollo	Mutton snapper	Vivaneau sorbe	Pargo criollo	5
LJP	Lutjanus apodus	Schoolmaster snapper	Vivaneau dentchien	Pargo amarillo	Schoolmaster snapper	Vivaneau dent-chien	Pargo amarillo	5
LJU	Lutjanus buccanella	Blackfin snapper	Vivaneau oreille noire	Pargo sesí	Blackfin snapper	Vivaneau oreille noire	Pargo sesí	5
SNR	Lutjanus campechanus	Northern red snapper	Vivaneau campèche	Pargo del Golfo	Northern red snapper	Vivaneau campèche	Pargo del Golfo	5
LJY	Lutjanus cyanopterus	Cubera snapper			Cubera snapper	Vivaneau cubera	Pargo cubera	5
LJI	Lutjanus griseus	Gray snapper			Grey snapper	Vivaneau sarde grise	Pargo prieto	5
LJJ	Lutjanus jocu	Dogteeth snapper			Dog snapper	Vivaneau chien	Pargo jocú	5
SNC	Lutjanus purpureus	Southern red snapper	Vivaneau rouge	Pargo colorado	Southern red snapper	Vivaneau rouge	Pargo colorado	5
SNL	Lutjanus synagris	Lane snapper	Vivaneau gazon	Pargo bíaiaiba	Lane snapper	Vivaneau gazou	Pargo bíaiaiba	5
LTJ	Lutjanus vivanus	Silk snapper	Vivaneau soi	Pargo de lo alto	Silk snapper	Vivaneau soie	Pargo de lo alto	5
	Pristipomoides aquilonaris	Wenchman snapper						5

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supporting Basis
UPZ	Pristipomoides macrophthalmus	Cardinal snapper						
RPV	Rhomboplites aurorubens	Vermillion snapper				Vivaneau ti-yeux	Pargo cunaro	5
SNY	Ocyurus chrysurus	Yellowtail snapper	Vivaneau queue jaune	Rabirubia	Yellowtail snapper	Vivaneau queue jaune	Rabirrubia	5
ASX	Apsilus dentatus	Black snapper				Vivaneau noir	Pargo mulato	5
EEO	Etelis oculatus	Queen snapper				Vivaneau royal	Pargo cachucho	5
SNC	Lutjanus purpureus	Red snapper			Southern red snapper	Vivaneau rouge	Pargo colorado	5
Parrotfishes								
USU	Scarus coeruleus	Blue parrotfish						5
		Midnight parrotfish						5
USN	Scarus taeniopterus	Princess parrotfish				Perroquet princesse		5
UVT	Scarus vetula	Queen parrotfish				Perroquet périco		5
		Rainbow parrotfish						5
QZV	Sparisoma rubripinne	Redfin parrotfish				Perroquet basto	Loro basto	5
RSY	Sparisoma chrysopteron	Redtail parrotfish						5
	Sparisoma viride	Stoplight parrotfish			Stoplight parrotfish			5
RMF	Sparisoma aurofrenatum	Redband parrotfish			Redband parrotfish	Perroquet tacheté		5
USS	Scarus iserti	Striped parrotfish				Perroquet rayé		5

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Supporting Basis
Surgeon fishes								
AQO	Acanthurus coeruleus	Blue tang surgeonfish				Chirurgien bayolle		5
	Acanthurus bahianus	Ocean surgeonfish						5
	Acanthurus chirurgus	Doctorfish						5
Triggerfishes								
CZT	Canthidermis sufflamen	Ocean triggerfish					Sobaco Iija	5
BLV	Balistes vetula	Queen triggerfish				Baliste royal		5
	Balistes capricus	Gray triggerfish						5
Wrasses								
LCX	Lachnolaimus maximus	Hogfish				Labre capitaine	Doncella de pluma	5
	Halichoeres radiatus	Puddingwife						5
BDR	Bodianus rufus	Spanish hogfish				Pourceau espagnol		5
Angelfishes								
	Holacanthus ciliaris	Queen angelfish						5
	Pomacanthus arcuatus	Gray angelfish						5
	Pomacanthus paru	French angelfish						5

○ **Appendix 2.3.2.2.c: Shrimp species.**

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name	Suppl. Basis
ABS	<i>Penaeus aztecus</i>	Northern brown shrimp	Crevette royale grise	Camarón café norteño	Northern brown shrimp	Crevette royale grise	Camarón café norteño	4
APS	<i>Penaeus duorarum</i>	Northern pink shrimp	Crevette rodché du nord	Camarón rosado norteño	Northern pink shrimp	Crevette rose du Nord	Camarón rosado norteño	4
SOP	<i>Farfantepenaeus notialis</i>	Southern pink shrimp	Crevette rodché du sud	Camarón rosado sureño	Southern pink shrimp	Crevette rose du Sud	Camarón rosado sureño	4
PNT	<i>Litopenaeus schmitti</i>	Southern white shrimp	Crevette ligubam du sud	Camarón blanco sureño	Southern white shrimp	Crevette ligubam du Sud	Langostino blanco sureño	4
PST	<i>Penaeus setiferus</i>	Northern white shrimp	Crevette ligubam du nord	Camarón blanco norteño	Northern white shrimp	Crevette ligubam du Nord	Camarón blanco norteño	4
PNU	<i>Farfantepenaeus subtilis</i>	Southern brown shrimp	Crevette café	Camarón café sureño	Southern brown shrimp	Crevette grise du Sud	Camarón café sureño	4
	<i>Farfantepenaeus brasiliensis</i>	Pink spotted shrimp						
RRS	<i>Pleoticus robustus</i>	Royal red shrimp	Crevette salicoque	Camarón rojo real	Royal red shrimp	Salicoque royale rouge	Camarón rojo real	4
SSH	<i>Plesiopenaeus edwardsianus</i>	Imperial red shrimp		Gamba carabinero	Scarlet shrimp	Gambon écarlate	Gamba carabinero	4
PNB	<i>Penaeus brasiliensis</i>	Redspotted shrimp	Crevette royale rose	Camarón rosado con manchitos	Redspotted shrimp	Crevette royale rose	Camarón rosado con manchas	4
BOB	<i>Xiphopenaeus kroyeri</i>	Atlantic seabob	Cevette seabob	Camarón siete barbas	Atlantic seabob	Crevette seabob atlantique	Camarón siete barbas	4
RSH	<i>Sicyonia brevirostris</i>	Rock shrimp	Crevette ovetgernade	Camarón de piedra	Rock shrimp	Boucot ovetgernade	Camarón de piedra	4

Question for reviewers:

Identify the key shrimps for the region that should be upgraded to the priority list, while defining the sub-region where each specie is of importance, and fill out above table under 2.3.1.1

Appendix 2.3.3: other WECAFC listed species derived from the 1978 species of high commercial interest. Included in respect of possible interest for certain countries and/or for regional biodiversity considerations

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name
SCC	Argopecten gibbus	Calico scallop	Peigne calicot	Peine percal	Calico scallop	Peigne calicot	Peine percal
RQZ	Arca zebra	Turkey wing	Arche zèbre	Arca zebra	Turkey wing	Arche zèbre	Arca cebra
BIH	Bairdiella ronchus	Ground croaker	Mamselle rouio	Corvinata ruyo	Ground croaker	Mamselle rouio	
MHG	Brevoortia patronus	Gulf menhaden	Menhaden écailleux	Lacha escarnuda	Gulf menhaden	Menhaden écailleux	Lacha escamuda
MHA	Brevoortia tyrannus	Atlantic menhaden	enhaden tyran	Laoha tirana	Atlantic menhaden	Menhaden tyran	Lacha tirana
CRB	Callinectes sapidus	Blue crab	Crabe bleu	Cangrejo azul	Blue crab	Crabe bleu	Cangrejo azul
NBR	Caranx bartholomaei	Yellow jack	Carangue grasse	Cojinua amarilla	Yellow jack	Carangue grasse	Cojinua amarilla
CVJ	Caranx hippos	Crevalle jack	Carangue crevalle	Jurel comùn	Crevalle jack	Carangue crevalle	Jurel común
CXR	Caranx ruber	Bar jack	Carangue comade	Cojinua carbonera	Bar jack	Carangue comade	Cojinúa carbonera
OYM	Crassostrea rhizophorae	Mangrove cupped oyster	Huître creuse des Caraïbes	Ostión de mangle	Mangrove cupped oyster	Huître creuse des Caraïbes	Ostión de mangle
OYA	Crassostrea virginica	American cupped oyster	Huître creuse américaine	Ostión americano	American cupped oyster	Huître creuse américaine	Ostión virgínico
YNA	Cynoscion acoupa	Acoupa weakfish	Acoupa toeroe	Corvineta amarilla	Acoupa weakfish	Acoupa toeroe	Corvinata amarilla
SWF	Cynoscion nebulosus	Spotted weakfish	Acoupa pintade	Corvinata pintada	Spotted weakfish	Acoupa pintade	Corvinata pintada
STG	Cynoscion regalis	Gray weakfish	Acoupa royal	Corvinata real	Squeteague(=Gray weakfish)	Acoupa royal	Corvinata real
	Cynoscion jamaicensis	Jamaican weakfish					

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name
YNV	Cynoscion virescens	Green weakfish	Acoupa cambucu	Corvinata cambucú	Green weakfish	Acoupa cambucu	Corvinata cambucú
	Arius sp.	Sea catfish					
SPT	Leiostomus xanthurus	Spot croaker	Tambour croca	Verrugato croca	Spot croaker	Tambour croca	Verrugato croca
WKK	Macrodon ancylodon	King weakfish	Acoupa chasseur	Pescadilla real	King weakfish	Acoupa chasseur	Pescadilla real
CKM	Micropogonias furnieri	Whitemouth croaker	Tambour rayé	Corvinón rayado	Whitemouth croaker	Tambour rayé	Corvinón rayado
CKA	Micropogonias undulatus	Atlantic croaker	Tambour brésilien	Corvinón brasileño	Atlantic croaker	Tambour brésilien	Corvinón brasileño
MUF	Mugil cephalus	Striped mullet	Mulet cabot	Lisa pardete	Flathead grey mullet	Mulet à grosse tête	Pardete
MGU	Mugil curema	White mullet	Mulet blanc	Lisa criolla	White mullet	Mulet blanc	Lisa blanca
MUB	Mugil liza	Lebranche mullet	Millet lebranche	Lebranche	Lebranche mullet	Mulet lebranche	Lebranche
THA	Opisthonema oglinum	Atlantic thread herring	Chardin fil	Machuelo hebra atlántico	Atlantic thread herring	Chardin fil	Machuelo hebra atlántico
NLG	Panulirus guttatus	Spotted spiny lobster	Langouste brésilienne	Langosta moteada	Spotted spiny lobster	Langouste brésilienne	Langosta moteada
NUL	Panulirus laeviscauda	Smoothtail spiny lobster	Langouste indienne	Langosta verde	Smoothtail spiny lobster	Langouste indienne	Langosta verde
MSL	Perna perna	South American rock mussel	Moule roche sud américaine	Mejillón de roca sudamericano	South American rock mussel	Moule de roche sudaméricaine	Mejillón de roca sudamericano
BDM	Pogonias cromis	Black drum	Grand tambour	Corvinón negro	Black drum	Grand tambour	Corvinón negro
BLU	Pomatomus saltatrix	Bluefish	Tassergal	Anchova de banco	Bluefish	Tassergal	Anjova
RDM	Sciaenops ocellatus	Red drum	Tambour rouge	Corvinón ocelado	Red drum	Tambour rouge	Corvinón ocelado
BIS	Selar crumenophthalmus	Bigeye scad	Selar coulisou	Chicharro ojón	Bigeye scad	Sélar coulisou	Chicharro ojón

ASFIS CODE	Scientific Name	Reg En Name	Reg Fr Name	Reg Sp Name	ASFIS en Name	ASFIS Fr Name	ASFIS En Name
MOA	Selene setapinnis	Atlantic moonfish	Musso atlantique	Jorobado lamparosa	Atlantic moonfish	Musso atlantique	Jorobado lamparosa
	<i>Sphyaena barracuda</i>	Great Barracuda					
BAR	Sphyaena spp	Barracuda			Barracudas nei	Bécunes nca	Picudas nep

Question for reviewer:

Are there any species that should be promoted in the WECAFC Other Reference Species list

Do we need to keep this appendix 2.3.3 and enrich it ? Or only a mention is needed indicated that any other species of interest to the country can be reported according to the ASFIS classification ?

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/5

“ON THE MANAGEMENT OF SHRIMP AND GROUND FISH RESOURCES IN THE WECAFC AREA”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC),

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

RECALLING that most WECAFC members have endorsed the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME+) Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and that under its Strategy 6 “Implement EBM/EAF of the Guianas-Brazil continental shelf with special reference to the shrimp and groundfish fishery” the same members are required to “Strengthen the FAO-WECAFC-CRFM sub-regional arrangement for the management of the shrimp and groundfish fisheries, and establish a decision-making capacity for policy formulation and management”;

NOTING the long history of work of WECAFC (since 1975) on shrimp and groundfish resource assessment and biological and economic modeling of shrimp fisheries, that guided the management of

these resources by the members, as well as the more recent CLME project Trans boundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), which demonstrated the current challenges to the sector, including habitat damage and destruction of mangroves, land-based water pollution, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, overexploitation of some resources, piracy, and conflicts between stakeholders within the sector and with other sectors;

REAFFIRMING its commitments, made at the 16th session of WECAFC, to work through the WECAFC/CRFM/IFREMER Working Group on Shrimp and Groundfish in the Northern Brazil-Guianas Shelf to improve sustainability of these fisheries;

MINDFUL of the discussions and outcomes of the latest meeting of the Working Group held in Barbados on the 17th and 18th of May 2018 and that was financed by the REBYC-II LAC and CLME+ projects;

RECOGNIZING the significant contribution of the shrimp and groundfish fisheries to food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation, income generation, and employment for present and future generations in WECAFC area;

REAFFIRMING the need for continued action by all stakeholders to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of the shared shrimp and groundfish fisheries resources in the region based on the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF);

NOTING the concerns of the WECAFC/CRFM/IFREMER Working Group on Shrimp and Groundfish in the Northern Brazil-Guianas Shelf that available and shared information to inform fisheries management and decision-making processes at the sub-regional level has been reduced over the last 15 years. Researchers and fisheries officers have not received the necessary capacity building to carry out such assessments, most management plans are in draft form only and enforcement capacity and collaboration in fisheries management is weak;

NOTING that the lack of recent stock assessments of commercially important species in the North Brazil Shelf cause significant impediment to the sustainable management of shrimp and groundfish fisheries;

ACNOWLEDGING that this capacity building should be contingent on the availability of resources and the means to use the knowledge, abilities, and approaches to stock assessment, bioeconomic analysis and management of fisheries of the North Brazil-Guianas Shelf ecosystem.

RECOGNIZING the need to improve data and information to reduce uncertainties to stock assessment methodologies currently used, to investigate whether stocks are shared or not and to monitor the long-term impacts of the trawl and gillnet fisheries on the stocks;

RECOGNIZING that while certain shrimp and groundfish stocks may not be shared by all countries on the Brazil-Guianas Shelf, there are substantial linkages between the fisheries fleets from the different countries and the ecosystems where these stocks are exploited.

CONSIDERING the opportunities offered by the GEF projects on Sustainable management of bycatch in Latin America and Caribbean trawl fisheries (REBYC II LAC) and on Catalyzing Implementation of

the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+), for introducing and testing shrimp fisheries bycatch reduction technologies and fisheries co-management and for increasing regional collaboration in management of the common and transboundary resources, as well as for combating IUU fishing and building of national capacities;

RECOGNIZING the efforts of the CRFM through its Annual Scientific Meetings and intersessional activities, in facilitating assessment of the commercial seabob fisheries in Guyana and Suriname, the red snapper fishery in Guyana, as well as the shrimp fisheries, including two species of groundfish – the lane snapper and white mouth croaker, in Trinidad and Tobago, to provide information in support of fisheries management decision making;

RECOGNIZING efforts made by France, the IFREMER in French Guiana, and in Brazil to carry out

Genetic analysis of peneaid shrimps and red snapper;

HIGHLIGHTING the continued certification of the Seabob fishery in Suriname and the improvements made by Guyana to seek certification of its seabob fishery,

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the Working Group, CRFM Continental Shelf Fisheries Working Group meetings and the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with the provision of Article 6 (h) of the Revised Statutes of the WECAFC the RECOMMENDATION that:

1. WECAFC members and partners should ensure Shrimp and Groundfish priority species of the North Brazil- Guianas shelf are included in the Regional WECAFC-FIRMS database³.
2. WECAFC, in close collaboration with FAO, CRFM and NOAA and IFREMER build capacity⁴ in the Brazil-Guianas region for periodic stock assessment and bioeconomic analysis of priority fisheries to overcome significant knowledge gaps on the status of stocks.
3. WECAFC, in close collaboration with FAO, CRFM, IFREMER and NOAA develops a common methodology for multispecies shrimp and groundfish stock assessments in the sub-region taking in consideration environmental variables. The process to develop the common methodology requires a data and parameter workshop that includes data preparation to be held before end 2018 and builds capacity among the region to use data limited methods for stock assessment,
4. WECAFC, in close coordination with CRFM and IFREMER should facilitate the provision of samples and mobilize necessary resources to complete population genetic studies required to properly manage stocks of critical shrimp and groundfish species of the North Brazil-Guianas Shelf.
5. WECAFC, in close coordination with CRFM, IFREMER and the Secretariat of the Cartagena Convention, develop a sub-regional shrimp and groundfish fishery management plan for the Northern Brazil-Guianas Shelf countries to be presented to the 18th Session of WECAFC for final review and adoption and is in accordance with the best available scientific evidence;

³ The database should contain raw data of the collected biological and physical/environmental parameters and the required fishery data (catch, effort, length frequencies, etc.), to support outcomes achieved through stock assessments, bio-economic modeling and other relevant information on shrimp and groundfish fisheries for decision making process for the management of these resources in the sub-region. The database outputs concerning state of stocks and fishery management status would be made available through the FIRMS website, applying well-established and agreed protocols for data and information sharing compliant with data policies of the participating countries.

⁴ Specifically, capacity should be built to undertake: (i) robust stock assessments (ii) costs and earnings studies of different fisheries of interest in the country/region, (iii) bioeconomic modelling and analysis of technologically interdependent fisheries (e.g. shrimp and snapper fisheries), (iv) bioeconomic modelling of sequential fisheries with fleets harvesting different components of the population structure (e.g. shrimp fisheries targeted by small-scale and industrial fleets in different stages of their life cycle), and (v) alternative bioeconomic models for different species being targeted (i.e. species with different degrees of mobility) and multi-species fisheries, e.g. groundfish and small-scale fisheries.

6. Members of WECAFC develop and enforce national level shrimp and groundfish fishery management plans, and put in place appropriate legislation in support of a sustainable shrimp and groundfish fishery.
7. WECAFC, in close collaboration with FAO, CRFM, IFREMER and NOAA develops appropriate methodologies for shrimp and groundfish data collection on catch, catch composition (i.e species and sizes), fishing effort (fleet specific, gear specific) and socio-economic data, for initial implementation by the members from 2018 onwards.
8. The Working Group on Shrimp and Groundfish to assist the Regional Working Group on IUU to develop a regional plan of action to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing (RPOA-IUU).
9. The Working Group on shrimp and Groundfish to collaborate with the Regional Working Group on Fisheries Data and Statistics to identify training opportunities for initializing the WECAFC-FIRMS regional database and develop FIRMS inventories.
10. WECAFC, in close collaboration with IFREMER, CRFM, CERMES and Members to evaluate the impact of sargassum on the shrimp and groundfish fisheries and include these fisheries in regional sargassum prediction model and mitigation initiatives.
11. WECAFC to collaborate with OSPESCA and CRFM to develop a regional strategy for management of bycatch in shrimp/bottom trawl fisheries to be completed in a consultative process with the support of REBYC-II LAC project and presented to the 17th Session of WECAFC for its review and endorsement.

“ON THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF SPAWNING AGGREGATIONS AND AGGREGATING SPECIES”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

REAFFIRMING its commitment to support management and implementation of regional strategies and regulations to protect spawning aggregations and aggregating species through the establishment of the WECAFC Working Group on Spawning Aggregations (SAWG) at the 14th session of WECAFC in 2012.

NOTING that many of the un-managed spawning aggregations of grouper and snapper in the Caribbean have seriously declined or disappeared in the last three decades and that immediate action is required to stop further reduction in spawning areas and depletion of the stocks.

MINDFUL that many fishers' livelihoods are dependent at some level on harvest from spawning aggregations but also that these fishers have experience and expertise that could be invaluable in the conservation, management, and possible tourism at such sites and economic alternatives programs for affected fishers should accompany efforts to halt fishing or close areas.

REAFFIRMING the recommendations of the Declaration of Miami (2013) issued at the 1st CFMC/WECAFC/OSPESCA/CRFM Working Group on Spawning Aggregations.

REAFFIRMING and supporting the recommendations and the workplan from the 2nd meeting of the CFMC/WECAFC/OSPESCA/CRFM Working Group on Spawning Aggregations.

NOTING members' commitment to the 2018 SAWG workplan, various planned actions and activities are well underway,

COMMITTED to individually and collectively taking measures and actions to further improve the management and conservation of fish aggregations and aggregating species in the Wider Caribbean Region

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the Working Group and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with the provision of Article 6 (h) of the Revised Statutes of the WECAFC the RECOMMENDATION that:

1. Members of WECAFC identify and determine the status of all known and exploited Fish Spawning Aggregation (FSA) sites of groupers and snappers and inform the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG).
2. Members support development and regional adoption of a management and conservation plan for Nassau Grouper, mutton snapper and other aggregating species.
3. WECAFC Secretariat and Members invest resources and support the standardization of

existing monitoring programs to coalesce them into a unified regional monitoring program that uses standard protocols to share data within a regional database, designed to track the status and trends of aggregations and the species that form them and thus contribute to local, national and regional management efforts.

4. WECAFC Secretariat and Members invest resources to engage fishers more directly in FSA conservation and management including SAWG meeting participation.
5. Members of WECAFC call for international action to protect FSAs, including strengthening enforcement of closed seasons, closed areas, and sales bans during the closed season.
6. Members of WECAFC agree upon and adopt a regional seasonal closure for all commercial and recreational fishing of Nassau grouper (*Epinephelus striatus*), at least for the period 1 December – 31 March.
7. Members of WECAFC not permit any export of Nassau grouper or its products (e.g. roe, fillets) for the duration of the regional seasonal closure.
8. WECAFC Secretariat support an assessment to ascertain the economic value of spawning aggregations and socio-economic impacts of the proposed management measures to inform future management decision-making.
9. WECAFC, CFMC, and as appropriate CRFM, OSPESCA, and CEP-SPAW support the development of a regional Fisheries Management Plan (for national adoption throughout the region) for species forming FSAs (targeting groupers and snappers), in accordance with the best available scientific evidence to be presented to WECAFC Secretariat in 2020.
10. The WECAFC Secretariat will support a regional outreach and communication strategy on conservation and management of FSAs.
11. The WECAFC Secretariat, together with the Members of WECAFC, will seek to mobilize resources to assist the Members in the implementation of research, monitoring, enforcement, and management for FSAs.
12. Members of WECAFC prioritize FSAs areas for monitoring, conservation, and management based on status and institutional capacity for management in each member country.
13. Members of WECAFC conduct FSA assessments and stakeholder consultations, along with local fishers who are presently fishing those aggregations, in part to gather their support and in part to determine suitable economic alternatives to fishers who exploit FSAs.
14. WECAFC Secretariat takes action to assist the country members in the Wider Caribbean Region to implement the above-listed recommendations.

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/7

“ON IMPROVED TRADE IN QUEEN CONCH”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

RECALLING the establishment of the WECAFC Working Group on Queen Conch by WECAFC 14 in 2012;

REAFFIRMING the commitments made by Queen Conch range States at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP16, Bangkok, 3 – 14 March 2013) to implement the Decisions on “ Regional cooperation on the management of and trade in the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*)” agreed at CoP16;

FURTHER REAFFIRMING Recommendation WECAFC/16/2016/1 and the Decisions 17.285 – 17.290 related to queen conch adopted at 17th Conference of the Parties to CITES(CoP17, Johannesburg, 24 September – 4 October 2016),⁵ calling upon WECAFC members to implement the *Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan*;

RECALLING the outcomes of the Third meeting of the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES Working Group on Queen Conch, held in Panama, 30th October- 1st November 2018, which was generously supported by the European Union, NOAA Fisheries and FAO;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the RWG-IUU and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with article 6 of the WECAFC revised statutes this recommendation for measures for improved regulation of trade in queen conch, that:

1. Members of WECAFC should adopt the January 2017 Harmonized System Codes and provide suitable training to customs officers to facilitate a greater control of trade in conch and identification of the conch product.
2. Countries are encourage to incorporate suitable technology (such as custom related technology that will draw attention to importation/exportation of specific products) to enable the detection and enhance control of trade in conch products.
3. Member States be cognizant that CITES Management Authorities are required to make a “Legal Acquisition Finding” before issuing an export permit for queen conch and note that there will be a proposal to adopt a resolution that will provide guidance to CITES Parties on making Legal Acquisition Findings considered at CoP18 (Colombo, Sri Lanka 23 May – 3 June 2019).

⁵ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7818e.pdf>

“ON QUEEN CONCH CONVERSION FACTOR”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

RECALLING the establishment of the WECAFC Working Group on Queen Conch by WECAFC 14 in 2012;

REAFFIRMING the commitments made by Queen Conch range States at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP16, Bangkok, 3-14 March 2013) to implement the Decisions on “ Regional cooperation on the management of and trade in the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*)” agreed at CoP16;

FURTHER REAFFIRMING Recommendation WECAFC/16/2016/1 and the Decisions 17.285 – 17.290 related to queen conch adopted at 17th Conference of the Parties to CITES(CoP17, Johannesburg, 24 September – 4 October 2016), ⁶ calling upon WECAFC members to implement the *Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan*;

RECALLING the outcomes of the Third meeting of the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES Working Group on Queen Conch, held in Panama, 30th October- 1st November 2018, which was generously supported by the European Union, NOAA Fisheries and FAO;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the RWG-IUU and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with article 6 of the WECAFC revised statutes this recommendation that

1. Each WECAFC member country, determines the number of individual queen conch per unit weight at a national level, which is needed for stock assessment purposes.
2. The conversion factor (for the different processing levels within a country) should be used to back calculate the total weight of the animal removed from the shell with all the parts intact without considering the weight of the empty shell.
3. Member countries are urged to report their total conch production/exports as the whole animal weight extracted from the shell to FAO and CITES.
4. Member countries are strongly encouraged to define their various processing levels as soon as possible and the associated conversion factors. Those countries that do not have the conversion factor should either continue using the FAO 7.5 conversion factor, or desist from using the FAO conversion factor but clearly define the level of processing for the conch production.

⁶ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7818e.pdf>

5. A compendium of processing levels, their definitions and associated conversion factors should be prepared for all countries.

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/9

“ON IUU IN QUEEN CONCH FISHERIES”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

NOTING with concern that Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the WECAFC area is estimated to be between 20 and 30 percent of total reported harvests, representing a value of 450 to 750 million USD annually, that IUU fishing has dire implications for the livelihoods of millions of peoples and entails among others, adverse impacts on national economies, food security, and the environment;

MINDFUL of Resolution WECAFC/15/2014/6 “on region-wide support to the implementation of the CRFM “Castries, St Lucia, (2010) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing”;

RECALLING the establishment of the WECAFC Working Group on Queen Conch by WECAFC 14 in 2012;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution WECAFC/15/2014/9 “on the implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement and the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance in the Region”, and particularly the application of the Voluntary Guidelines in areas beyond national jurisdiction;

REAFFIRMING Recommendation WECAFC/16/2016/1 and the Decisions 17.285 – 17.290 related to queen conch adopted at 17th Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP17, Johannesburg, 24 September – 4 October 2016) on the regional plan for the management and conservation of queen conch in the WECAFC area, calling upon WECAFC members to implement the *Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan*⁷;

RECALLING the outcomes of the Third meeting of the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES Working Group on Queen Conch, held in Panama, 30th October- 1st November 2018, which was generously supported by the European Union, NOAA Fisheries and FAO;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the RWG-IUU and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with article 6 of the WECAFC revised statutes, this recommendation for control of IUU fishing in queen conch and fostering regional cooperation, that:

1. Members of WECAFC establish an inventory of fishing vessels of each country for vessels in the queen conch fishery consistent with the FAO Global Record of Fishing Vessels, to be posted on a dedicated webpage.

⁷ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7818e.pdf>

2. Countries with common interest meet to initiate development of arrangements, including binding agreements if possible, among these countries for an effective system for enhanced surveillance and enforcement, which may include among other things data sharing, etc.
3. Member States review their laws and amend, if necessary, to incorporate clauses that will help prosecute foreign poachers.
4. Member States are encouraged to accede/sign and implement the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.
5. Member States establish a mechanism for focal points in countries for the purposes of compiling and sharing with requesting entities information on all aspects of the queen conch fishery (e.g., enforcement, data collection, regulatory framework, capacity building). The list of focal points and other relevant information will be available on a dedicated website.

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/10

“ON THE MONITORING AND CONTROL OF TRANSSHIPMENT AT SEA”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

NOTING with concern that Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the WECAFC area is estimated between 20 and 30 percent of total reported harvests, representing a value of 450 to 750 million USD annually, that IUU fishing has dire implications for millions of peoples' livelihoods and entails among others, adverse impact on national economies, food security, and the environment;

RECALLING that The FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) on its Thirty-Second Session from 11-15 July 2016, expressed the need to “initiate work on transshipments”, believed to be a major issue in IUU fishing;

ACKNOWLEDGING the increased interest of the international community to improve regulatory control over transshipment operations to support sound fisheries management and prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing.

RECOGNIZING that transshipment operations particularly those undertaken at sea are frequently critical to the economic viability of some fisheries, and that if properly monitored and controlled, they should not pose a threat to sound fisheries management

ACKNOWLEDGING that drivers of transshipment at sea are not exclusively economics/logistics in nature, given the fact that IUU operators may seek the best opportunity for transshipment to avoid official scrutiny/regulatory controls , thus enabling eventual detrimental impact on economic development, the marine environment and sustainability of stocks

MINDFUL of the commitment by the WECAFC members to improve their legal and institutional framework required for the exercise of responsible fisheries and in the formulation and implementation of appropriate measures, consistently with the global efforts through the UN, its specialized organizations as well as Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO);

DEDICATED to support the continued efforts by the members to increase Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) in their EEZs and beyond;

COMMITTED to implementing the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU);

RECALLING the outcomes of the third meeting of the Regional Working Group on IUU Fishing (RWG-IUU), held in Barbados in September 2018, which was generously supported by the European Union, GEF and FAO;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the RWG-IUU and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with Article 6 of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this RECOMMENDATION that:

- Alignment of national regulations be promoted to ensure effective monitoring and control of transshipment activities, in line with upcoming FAO guidelines on best practices for regulating, monitoring and controlling transshipment and identify information that should be shared at the regional level to facilitate enforcement of these regulations.

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/11

“ON THE APPLICATION IN THE REGION OF THE TECHNICAL GUIDELINES ON METHODOLOGIES AND INDICATORS FOR THE ESTIMATION OF THE MAGNITUDE AND IMPACT OF ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

NOTING with concern that Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the WECAFC area is estimated between 20 and 30 percent of total reported harvests, representing a value of 450 to 750 million USD annually, that IUU fishing has dire implications for millions of peoples' livelihoods and entails among others, adverse impact on national economies, food security, and the environment;

RECALLING that The FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) on its Thirty-Second Session from 11-15 July 2016 supported the development of technical guidelines on methodologies and indicators by FAO for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of IUU fishing and called for the reliable periodic estimates of IUU fishing, including at the regional level.

MINDFUL of Resolution WECAFC/15/2014/6 “on region-wide support to the implementation of the CRFM “Castries, St Lucia, (2010) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing”

RECOGNIZING the need to strengthen the quality and consistency of IUU estimation studies.

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the need for information, on a regular basis, of the magnitude and impact of IUU activities and progress in combatting IUU fishing globally.

ACKNOWLEDGING that there are very substantial benefits in attempting to quantify the nature and scale of IUU fishing, some of the most common benefits spanning from gauging potential losses suffered by coastal States, addressing uncertainties in stock assessments and planning effective monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) investments for evidence-based policy advice and improvements in socio-economic conditions of legitimate fishers

COMMITTED to implementing the International Plan of action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU);

DEDICATED to support the continued efforts by the members to increase Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) in their EEZs and beyond;

NOTING the challenges in defining IUU fishing;

COGNISANT of the guiding principles set out in the technical guidelines on methodologies and indicators for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, which should be incorporated into study design and implementation irrespective of the methodology used

RECALLING Resolution WECAFC/15/2014/9 “on the implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement and the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance in the Region”, and particularly the application of the Voluntary Guidelines in areas beyond national jurisdiction;

FURTHER RECALLING the outcomes of the third meeting of the Regional Working Group on IUU Fishing (RWG-IUU), held in Barbados in September 2018, which was generously supported by the European Union, GEF and FAO;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the RWG-IUU and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with Article 6 of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this RECOMMENDATION that:

The WECAFC undertake periodic IUU fishing estimations and identify indicators to assess the efficacy of actions to combat IUU fishing in the region. These estimations and indicators should be in line with the Technical guidelines on methodologies and indicators for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of IUU fishing to serve in strengthening their overall credibility, defensibility and practical usefulness to interested stakeholder.

Draft Recommendation WECAFC/17/2019/12

“ON THE MARKING OF FISHING GEAR”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

RECALLING that the objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources within the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and to address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission;

CONSIDERING that gear marking fit within the context of broader fisheries management measures which support sustainable fisheries and healthy oceans, including the reduction, minimization and elimination of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG)

MINDFUL of the Recommendations made by the FAO Expert Consultation on the Marking of Fishing Gear Rome, 4-7 April 2016

COMMITTED to meet obligations under international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (1982 UN Convention), as well as contribute to improved safety at sea by reducing the hazard navigation caused by ALDFG and helping to identify Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing activities

ACKNOWLEDGING the established initiatives, measures and procedures in the region on the marking, tracing and recovery of fishing gears

RECALLING the outcomes of the third meeting of the Regional Working Group on IUU Fishing (RWG-IUU), held in Barbados in September 2018, which was generously supported by the European Union, GEF and FAO;

PENDING the delivery of additional information by the RWG-IUU and the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG);

ADOPTS in conformity with Article 6 of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this RECOMMENDATION that:

- States implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear.

Draft Resolution WECAFC/17/2019/13

“ON THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE CLME+ SAP M & E AND SOME E REPORTING MECHANISM WITHIN WECAFC”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

ACKNOWLEDGING that the officially-endorsed, CLME+ Strategic Action Programme (2015-2025) calls for the periodic reporting of the state of the environment and the state of fisheries in the CLME+ region;

NOTING that WECAFC-FAO is party to the Interim Coordination Mechanism for the sustainable management, use and protection of shared living resources in the CLME+ and thus shares responsibility for SAP implementation;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of the “State of the Marine Environment and Associated Economies in the CLME+ region” report for providing a means to periodically evaluate and assess, in a holistic way, the marine environment, its living marine resources and their ecosystem goods and services, and links with key marine-based economic sectors;

NOTING that WECAFC has endorsed the annotated outline of the SOME E report;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that institutionalizing the SOME E reporting and SAP M&E mechanisms within the organizations of the CLME+ ICM will guarantee regular update of information and facilitate collaboration among the environment and fisheries sectors;

MINDFUL of the importance of information collected, assessed and disseminated through the WECAFC-CRFM-OSPESCA joint Working Groups for the development of SOME E;

RECOGNIZING the relevance of the WECAFC-FIRMS as partnership platform for the development of SOME E and SAP M&E;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the critical need for streamlined arrangements between national reporting on SDG14.4.1, regional reporting such as SOME E, and FAO’s global “State of Fisheries and Aquaculture”;

ADOPTS in conformity with Article 6 (a) of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this RESOLUTION that:

1. WECAFC institutionalizes the SOME E mechanism by including its participation in the regular SOME E report development process in its biennial programme of work including that of the WECAFC-CRFM-OSPESCA Joint Working Groups, and by facilitating alignment between the

SOMEE assessment process and production of the “State of Fisheries and Aquaculture” (SOFIA) Report and other relevant processes at the national, regional, and global levels.

2. WECAFC contributes written content and data for the development of the CLME+ SOMEE report, related to WECAFC’s thematic area of competence and geographic scope of its mandate, through its WECAFC-CRFM-OSPESCA Joint Working Groups, the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) and other mechanisms.

3. Recommend the WECAFC Member States to consider, and provide feedback on draft SOMEE content related to the WECAFC’s area of competence, which will be made available to the WECAFC.

4. WECAFC assist in aspects (including technological) of M&E of the shared living marine resources related to WECAFC’s thematic area of competence and geographic scope of its mandate, through its WECAFC-CRFM-OSPESCA Joint Working Groups, the WECAFC Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) and other mechanisms.

“ON THE PROPOSED PERMANENT COORDINATION MECHANISM AND ASSOCIATED SUSTAINABLE FINANCING PLAN FOR ENHANCED INTEGRATED OCEAN GOVERNANCE IN THE CLME+/WECAFC/WIDER CARIBBEAN REGION”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

ACKNOWLEDGING that the politically-endorsed, CLME+ Strategic Action Programme (SAP) (2015-2025) seeks to contribute to human well-being, socio-economic development, food security and enhanced livelihoods from goods and services provided by the ecosystems within the CLME+ region;

NOTING that CLME+ SAP Strategy 3, Action 3.2 calls for the *“proposal of a Permanent Policy Coordination Mechanism (PPCM), with a clear mandate, which is financially sustainable, geographically inclusive and politically acceptable and which takes into account the principle of subsidiarity”*;

RECOGNISING that the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Interim Coordination Mechanism for the Sustainable Management, Use and Protection of shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems, which consists of the following eight Inter-Governmental Organisations: FAO, UNEP, UNESCO-IOC, CARICOM Secretariat, CRFM, CCAD, OSPESCA, and the OECS Commission, was signed by all eight agencies by December 2017;

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) **ADOPTS** in conformity with Article 6 (a) of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this RESOLUTION that:

1. The WECAFC Secretariat continue to contribute to the process towards identifying a Permanent Policy Coordination Mechanism and a Sustainable Financing Plan for the consolidation of a regional framework for integrated ocean governance in the CLME+/WECAFC/Wider Caribbean region;
2. The WECAFC Secretariat keep WECAFC Member States informed on the progress towards the establishment of a Permanent Policy Coordination Mechanism and a Sustainable Financing Plan for the consolidation of a regional framework for integrated ocean governance in the CLME+/WECAFC/Wider Caribbean region
3. WECAFC Member States undertake consultations at the national level with all relevant stakeholders on the proposed options for a Permanent Policy Coordination Mechanism and a Sustainable Financing Plan towards the consolidation of a regional framework for integrated ocean governance in the CLME+/WECAFC/Wider Caribbean region being further defined under Phase II of the consultancy.

Draft Resolution WECAFC/17/2019/15

“ON THE SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES INTERIM COORDINATION MECHANISM AND INTERIM COORDINATION MECHANISM FOR THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT, USE AND PROTECTION OF SHARED LIVING MARINE RESOURCES IN THE CLME+ REGION”

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC):

ACKNOWLEDGING that the officially-endorsed, CLME+ Strategic Action Programme (SAP) (2015-2025) seeks to contribute to human well-being, socio-economic development, food security and enhance livelihoods from goods and services provided by the ecosystems within the CLME+ region;

MINDFUL of the responsibilities assigned to WECAFC in this 10-year CLME+ SAP in terms of enhancing regional fisheries governance arrangements for sustainable fisheries in the CLME+ Region;

NOTING the significant contributions of the UNDP/GEF Project - *Catalysing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of shared Living Marine Resource in the CLME+ region* towards the facilitation of EAF and EBM for the sustainable and climate-resilient provision of goods and services from shared living marine resources;

RECOGNIZING that the Interim Coordination Mechanism for Sustainable Fisheries was formally established through a Memorandum of Understanding between WECAFC-FAO, OSPESCA and CRFM in January 2016 to enhance regional governance for sustainable fisheries;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the Interim Coordination Mechanism for the Sustainable Management, Use and Protection of shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems, which consists of the following eight Inter-Governmental Organisations: FAO, UNEP, UNESCO-IOC, CARICOM Secretariat, CRFM, CCAD, OSPESCA, and the OECS Commission, was formally established in July 2017 by way of five signatories;

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) **ADOPTS** in conformity with Article 6 (a) of the WECAFC Revised Statutes this RESOLUTION that:

1. WECAFC members continue to promote and support the implementation of the CLME+ SAP and CLME+ Project in their respective countries.
2. WECAFC contributes to, tests, assesses and evaluates the achievements of the Sustainable Fisheries Interim Coordination Mechanism, whilst the region works towards the development of a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation for improved sustainable fisheries management.
3. WECAFC Secretariat apprise the WECAFC Session on the functioning and achievements of the two Interim Coordination Mechanisms (Fisheries and the CLME+ SAP) established with the support of the UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project
4. WECAFC members support and endorse the work of the Interim Coordination Mechanism for the Sustainable Management, Use and Protection of Shared Living Marine Resources in the CLME+ region towards enhanced regional coordination and collaboration for sustainable fisheries and the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment.