FAO Council
Resolution 1/159 (2018)
amendment to the

STATUTES

of the COMMISSION FOR SMALL-SCALE AND ARTISANAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (COPPESAALC)

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Commission is to promote the management and sustainable development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of FAO and the voluntary guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries and other applicable additional instruments adopted by FAO.

In addition, the Commission shall:

a) foster the development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture as an instrument of support to food security;
b) pay special attention to small-scale and artisanal fisheries and small-scale aquaculture;
c) be able to establish coordination and cooperation relations with other international organizations in thematic areas of mutual interest.

Interpretation and application of these statutory provisions shall take place in accordance with the principles and rules of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its related instruments.

2. Membership

The Commission shall be open to all Member Countries and Associate Members of the Organization which are serviced by the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. It shall be composed of those eligible Member Countries and Associate Members which notify the Director-General of their desire to be considered as Members, and meet the required conditions therefore.

3. Functions

The functions of the Commission are:

a) to support the formulation of national and regional policies and plans for the management and development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, with due consideration of the social, economic, cultural and environmental aspects of the Member Nations;

b) to promote and coordinate studies for the management and sustainable development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, as well as national and regional programmes of research and development related to such activities;

c) to foster the sustainable development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture;

d) to promote, at regional level, activities aimed at protecting ecosystems related to small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, including, as the case may be, appropriate restocking actions;

e) to promote application of the ecosystems approach and implementation of adequate certification and biosafety measures in small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture;

f) to identify the social, institutional and economic factors that hold back the development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, and recommend measures that will contribute to improving the quality of life of stakeholders;

g) to collaborate in the management and the economic and social assessment of recreational and cultural fishing and its development;

h) to promote the implementation of good management practices and sustainable technologies in small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the voluntary guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries;

i) to promote good post-catch and post-harvest practices, and good marketing practices for products of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, in accordance with internationally accepted sanitary and food safety standards;

j) to contribute to the building of institutional capacity and to the development of human resources through training, extension and technology transfer in areas of competence of the Commission, in collaboration with national and regional institutions;

k) to assist in the generation, dissemination and exchange of data, information and statistics on small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture;

l) to help Member Countries, upon their request, with the management and sustainable use of transboundary stocks under their respective national jurisdictions;

m) to collaborate with Member Countries in the formulation of national and regional plans and projects to be executed in cooperation with those Member Countries, and with other sources of international cooperation, in order to attain the objectives set out in the previous paragraphs;

n) to promote the updating and harmonization of national legislations on small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture;

o) to mobilize monetary and non-monetary resources to facilitate the activities of the Commission and to create, if necessary, one or more trust funds to receive voluntary contributions for that purpose;

p) to foster collaboration among Member Countries of the Commission, and between the latter and international bodies;

q) to draw up the Commission's plan of work; and

r) to provide assistance to any requesting Member Country in developing any other functions that could lead to the attainment of the above objectives, related to the management and sustainable development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture in the respective national jurisdictions.

4. Subsidiary bodies

The Commission may establish Technical Committees, Working Groups and such other subsidiary bodies as may be required for the effective discharge of its functions in accordance with FAO regulations.

b) The establishment of any subsidiary body shall be subject to the determination by the Director- General that the necessary funds are available in the relevant chapter of the budget of the Organization. Before taking any decision involving expenditure in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies, the Commission must have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.

5. Reports

The Commission shall submit to the Director-General reports on its activities and recommendations at appropriate intervals so as to enable the Director-General to take them into consideration when preparing the draft Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization or other submissions to the Organization's Governing Bodies. The Director-General shall bring to the attention of the Conference through the Council any recommendations adopted by the Commission which have policy implications or which affect the programme or finances of the Organization. Copies of each report of the Commission will be circulated to Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and international organizations for their information as soon as they become available.

6. Secretariat and expenses

a) The Secretary of the Commission shall be appointed by the Director-General and shall be administratively responsible to him. The expenses of the Secretariat of the

Commission shall be determined and paid by the Organization within the limits of the relevant appropriations in the approved budget of the Organization.

b) With a view to promoting the development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, the Organization may also establish trust funds comprising voluntary contributions from the Members of the Commission or from private or public sources, and the Commission may advise on the use of such funds which shall be administered by the Director-General in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

c) Expenses incurred by representatives of Members of the Commission, their alternates or advisers, when attending sessions of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies, as well as the expenses of observers at sessions, shall be borne by the respective governments or organizations.

7. Observers

a) Any Member Country or Associate Member of the Organization that is not a Member of the Commission but has an interest in the development of small-scale and artisanal fishery or aquaculture activities in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean may, upon prior request, be invited by the Director-General to attend meetings of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies in an observer capacity.

b) States which, while not Member Nations or Associate Members of the Organization, are Members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency may, upon their request, and with the approval of the Council of the Organization, be invited to attend meetings of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies in an observer capacity in accordance with the provisions relating to the granting of observer status to nations adopted by the Conference of the Organization.

8. Participation of international organizations

Participation of international organizations in the work of the Commission and relations between the Commission and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization, as well as the rules on relations with international organizations adopted by the Conference or Council of the Organization.

9. Rules of Procedure

The Commission may adopt and amend its own rules of procedure which shall be in conformity with the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization and with the Statement of Principles Governing Commissions and Committees adopted by the Conference. The rules of procedure and amendments thereto shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General.