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Food and
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Продовольственная и
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de las
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para la
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Agricultura

COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Thirtieth Session

Rome, Italy, 9 - 13 July 2012

Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) of the Committee on Fisheries 2012-2015

Executive Summary

The document contains the draft COFI Multi-year Programme of Work 2012-15 which was prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of COFI as foreseen in the Immediate Plan of Action for FAO Renewal (IPA).

The Committee is invited to:

- Review the draft Multi-year Programme of Work 2012-2015, and make any amendments thereto as appropriate; and
- Approve an agreed Multi-year Programme of Work 2012-2015.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Immediate Plan of Action for FAO Renewal (IPA)¹ stated that:

The Council, Programme and Finance Committees, CCLM, Regional Conferences and Technical Committees will each:

- a) prepare a multiyear programme of work of at least four years duration, once per biennium which will be reviewed by the Council and/or Conference (in accordance with their respective reporting lines);*
 - b) prepare a report of their progress against the Programme of Work once every two years also for review by the Council and/or Conference.*
2. This action was confirmed by the Conference at its 36th Session (November 2009) in endorsing the Report of the CoC-IEE to the FAO Conference on the IPA².
 3. A series of inter-sessional consultations on the preparation of a draft COFI Multi-year Programme of Work 2012-2015 were held between the COFI Bureau and the COFI Secretariat.
 4. The annexed Draft Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) of the Committee on Fisheries 2012-2015 is submitted to the Committee for consideration.

¹ C 2008/4 actions 2.70, 2.71, 2.72

² C 2009 REP CR 4/2009 and Annex D paragraph 72

Appendix 1

Draft Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) of the Committee on Fisheries 2012-2015

OVERALL OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMMITTEE

1. The Committee on Fisheries (COFI) reviews the work programmes of the Organization in the field of fisheries, and their implementation; conducts periodic general reviews of international fishery problems and examines possible solutions through national, FAO, and intergovernmental programmes; reviews specific matters relating to fisheries referred to it by the Council or the Director-General, or placed on its Agenda at the request of Member Nations, and makes recommendations as appropriate.

RESULTS FOR 2012-2015

Review of the World Situation in Fisheries and Aquaculture

2. Result:

- The Conference and the international community at large are provided with updated information and specific advice on the world situation in fisheries and aquaculture and in relation to the specific issues of topical significance addressed during the scheduled sessions

3. Indicators and targets:

- Clear, precise and consensual recommendations that are based on updated information of the world situation in Fisheries and Aquaculture are presented to the Conference as a solid basis for its guidance and decisions.

4. Output:

- Clear, precise and consensual recommendations are favourably considered by Conference and provide a solid basis for its guidance and decisions.

5. Activities:

- The Committee undertakes general discussions on the current world situation in fisheries and aquaculture . Specific issues of topical significance are addressed during the scheduled sessions.

6. Working methods:

- Chairperson liaises with the Secretariat.
- Inter-sessional work by the Bureau, facilitated by the Secretariat to identify topics of significance for agenda setting.

Strategy and Priority Setting, and Budget Planning

7. Result:

- Committee recommendations provide a solid basis for Council's guidance and decisions on strategy, priorities, programmes and budget for the Organization.

8. Indicators and targets:

- Committee promotes the FAO's Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Implementation to solicit responses and reduce obstacles impeding responses.
- Members respond to the FAO Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Implementation, including the Questionnaire regarding the Implementation of Article 11, Post-harvest Practices and Trade as well as the Questionnaire regarding the Implementation of Article 9, Aquaculture Development and provide the FAO with statistics

and other information in fisheries and aquaculture via the Committee, its Sub-Committees and the regional fisheries bodies.

- Clear and specific recommendations are made by the Committee to the Council regarding the strategies, priorities, programmes and budget in fisheries and aquaculture.
- Committee's recommendations made on the pertinent aspects of the Strategic Framework, the Medium Term Plan and the Programme of Work and Budget are reflected in the Council Report.

9. Outputs:

- Report of the Biennial Session of the Committee on Fisheries that provides clear, precise and consensual recommendations for Council on sectoral strategies, priorities, programmes and budgets.

10. Activities:

- Use conclusions and recommendations from the biennial Committee on Fisheries meeting.
- Review decisions and recommendations from the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade and the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, statutory bodies and other relevant organs or institutions.
- Review advice from the Regional Conferences in the area of fisheries and aquaculture.
- Review implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget in fisheries and aquaculture.
- Formulate recommendations on the strategies, priorities, programmes and budget in fisheries and aquaculture.

11. Working methods:

- Close collaboration with the relevant FAO Departments through the Chairperson and the Bureau.
- Chairperson is actively involved in improving the rate of response of Members of the Questionnaires and submission prior to the stated deadlines.
- Chairperson to send a reminder to Regional Conferences' Chairpersons to promote completion and submission of responses of the Questionnaires by Members.
- Chairperson to liaise with Members to identify obstacles impeding responses to the Questionnaires and potential mitigation actions.
- Liaison with sub-committees on Fish Trade and Aquaculture and other statutory bodies.
- Liaison with the Finance Committee on financial and budgetary matters.
- Liaison with the Programme Committee on strategy and priority matters.

Advise on Global Policy and Regulatory Matters

12. Result:

- Committee recommendations provide a sound basis for decisions by the FAO Conference on global policy and regulatory matters.

13. Indicators and targets:

- Member Nations obtain value from the deliberations of COFI, using the advice and recommendations to guide domestic actions and policies as reported by FAO.
- Clear and specific recommendations made in a timely manner by COFI to the Conference regarding global policy and regulatory matters in its areas of mandate.
- Committee's recommendations made on global policy and regulatory matters are reflected in the Conference Report.

14. Output:

- The Committee on Fisheries provides clear, precise and consensual recommendations for Conference on policy and regulatory frameworks or instruments.
- Members of the Committee on Fisheries undertake all necessary action in order to:

- Adopt the International Guidelines for Small Scale Fisheries that draw on relevant existing instruments, complementing the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.
- Proceed as soon as possible to finalize, adopt and implement the Criteria for Flag State Performance according to the Committee's decisions.
- Hasten the rate of ratification, acceptance or approval of the Port States Measures Agreement, in order to bring it into effect as soon as possible.

15. Activities:

- Report to the Conference on global policy and regulatory issues arising out of its deliberations.
- Review the status of relevant international instruments, including codes of conduct in areas of competence for the Committee.
- Consider possible solutions with a view to support concerted action by Members themselves or collectively through FAO and other relevant bodies in areas of competence for the Committee.

EFFECTIVE WORK PLANNING OF COFI

16. Result:

- Committee works effectively and efficiently, in an action-oriented, inclusive way.

17. Indicators and targets:

- Committee agendas are focused and reports are concise; containing specific action-oriented recommendations to both Council and Conference.
- Evaluation of results and implementation of Multi-Year Programme of Work for the Committee.

18. Outputs:

- Multi-Year Programme of Work for the Committee adopted in 2012.
- Progress report on Committee's MYPOW in 2014.
- Improved methods of work in place by 2014.

19. Activities:

- Review Committee's practices and rules of procedure.
- Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including more efficient use of the time available.
- Focus side events on key issues.
- Facilitate coordination with other Technical Committees.
- Work out clear modalities for the election and operation of the Bureau with a view to enhancing continuity between sessions.
- Pay continued attention to effective arrangements for the formulation of agendas and drafting of the final report.

WORKING METHODS

20. The Committee collaborates with statutory and other bodies under FAO auspices, liaises with the Programme Committee on strategy and priority matters, and with the Finance Committee on financial and budgetary matters.

21. It collaborates with other relevant FAO Governing Bodies, takes into account relevant recommendations of the Open-Ended Working Group on measures designed to increase the efficiency of Governing Bodies, including representation (OEWG report submitted to the 37th Conference of June-July 2011),

22. It liaises with other international organizations active in the areas of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

23. It undertakes regular inter-sessional activities facilitated by the Chairperson and the Bureau and with proactive support from the Secretariat.
24. It encourages and facilitates participation of civil society's organizations as observers.
25. The Chairperson liaises with FAO through the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department.