

REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR FISHERIES (RECOFI)
Working Group on Aquaculture (WGA)
Seventh Meeting
Doha, Qatar, 26–28 April 2016
PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

Monday, 25 April 2016

Arrival of participants. Informal hotel lobby meeting at 20:30

Tuesday, 26 April 2016

Morning - 09:00 hours

1. **Opening of the meeting**
2. **Adoption of the agenda and arrangements of the meeting.** *For decision*
3. **Main outcomes of the Sixth meeting of the RECOFI Working Group on Aquaculture (WGA) and of the Eighth session of the Commission.** *For information*

The WGA Secretariat will summarize the outcomes of the Sixth meeting of the WGA and the recommendations and its work plan adopted by RECOFI at its Eighth session.
4. **WGA intersessional programme of work and budget for the biennium 2015–2016.** *For discussion and recommendations*

Implementation of WGA technical activities adopted by the Commission at its Eighth session and overview of the activities conducted since the Sixth WGA.
5. **Status review of aquaculture development by country - brief country presentations.** *For discussion and recommendation*

Updating of the National Aquaculture Sector Overviews (NASO), FAO National Aquaculture Legislation Overview (NALO) and NASO maps. The WGA Focal Points will be invited to present their NASO reports, highlighting recent developments in the aquaculture sector, including emerging issues and national priorities along with status of updating or preparation of the following FAO-RECOFI products: NASO, NASO maps and NALOs prior to the Ninth RECOFI session in May 2017.
6. **Implementation of the RECOFI recommendation on minimum data reporting on aquaculture.** *For discussion and recommendation*

The representative from the RAIS Regional Centre will report on the information received from the countries in relation to the binding recommendation RECOFI/8/2015/1 on “*Minimum Reporting on Aquaculture Data and Information*”. The WGA will be invited to present the status of aquaculture data and information reporting based on the recommendation. The WGA will discuss how best to implement the recommendation through the assistance of the FAO Statistics and Information Team and discuss constraints and future developments towards timely aquaculture data reporting.

Afternoon - 14:00 hours

Implementation of the RECOFI recommendation on minimum data reporting on aquaculture. *For discussion and recommendation (Cont'd)*

7. **Outcome of the RECOFI-WGA training course on risk analysis for aquatic animal introduction.** *For discussion and recommendation*

A brief summary of the outcomes of and recommendations generated from the “Training Course on Risk Analysis for Aquatic Animal Introduction” held from 2 to 4 November 2015 in Muscat, Oman, will be provided.

The WGA will be invited to review and endorse the recommendations and propose any follow-up action.

8. **Outcome of the round-table meeting on RECOFI regional aquatic biosecurity programme.** *For discussion and recommendation*

The updated *Revised Plan for Implementation of the RECOFI Aquatic Animal Health Management Programme* prepared during the round-table meeting held on 5 November 2015 in Muscat, Oman, will be presented. The WGA is requested to discuss the programme itself and the identified regional activities. The WGA is also requested to discuss the poor response (3 of 8 countries) by the National Focal Points (NFP) in the request for updating of the FAO self-assessment survey questionnaires and in providing an indication of national progress towards completing the activities outlined in the 2008 implementation plan (2 of 8 countries) as well as the low participation by RECOFI countries in the meeting (only Iran IR, Oman and UAE). Poor response by NFP and low participation by RECOFI Member countries are major constraints to making progress in further updating of the RECOFI Regional Aquatic Animal Health Management Programme and in its implementation including the conduct of future training activities.

Wednesday, 27 April 2016

Morning - 09:00 hours

Outcome of the round-table meeting on RECOFI regional aquatic biosecurity programme. *For discussion and recommendation (Cont'd)*

9. **From Zero to a Million: The development of the Norwegian cage aquaculture industry.** *For information*

In view of the growing regional interest in cage aquaculture the invited speaker, Mr Johán H. Williams, Specialist Director, Department for Fisheries and Aquaculture, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries (Norway), will present the Norwegian experience with the development of its cage aquaculture industry. The speaker will highlight challenges and constraints faced by the country over the years, but mainly focus on actions and decisions taken that have helped the industry grow to its current status.

10. **Marine spatial planning for the Gulf (RECOFI) area: principles, perspectives and opportunities.** *For discussion and recommendation*

The Secretariat will present a brief summary of a draft publication on “Marine spatial planning for the Gulf (RECOFI) area”. The WGA will be invited to review and endorse the draft publication and discuss how best to implement actions through the technical assistance of the FAO.

11. **Follow-up on the Regional Aquaculture Information System (RAIS).** *For discussion and recommendations*

Will also cover:

- Implementation of RAIS communication strategy
- RAIS data/information collection and submission

WGA Focal Points will be invited to present the status of their national databases, discuss constraints and future developments towards enhancing RAIS at the national and regional level.

Afternoon - 14.00 hours

Follow-up on the Regional Aquaculture Information System (RAIS). *For discussion and recommendations (Cont'd)*

12. **Expansion of the RAIS into a RECOFI Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Information System: implications for RAIS and requirements.** *For discussion and recommendation*

The Secretariat will report the outcome of the Working Group on Fisheries Management (24–26 November 2015, Kuwait) with regard to the establishment of a regional database and information centre to strengthen the Commission and support fishery management and aquaculture development in the region. The regional centre will be based in Kuwait and initial budget will be secured through an FAO/Kuwait cooperation agreement. The WGA is requested to review and endorse the proposal.

13. **Any other matter**

Will also cover:

- Update on the implementation of the FAO Blue Growth Initiative in the NENA region
- Enhancing the role of the RECOFI-WGA Focal Points
- Adopted TORs of the RECOFI-WGA Focal Points
- RECOFI-WGA Focal and Alternate Focal Points

14. **Date and place of the Eighth WGA meeting**

15. **Adoption of the report**

Thursday, 28 April 2016

Morning - 09:00 hours

16. **Field day** *(To be organized by the hosting country. Details to be made available).*

**For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.
Most FAO meeting documents are available on Internet at www.fao.org**