



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

COMMITTEE FOR INLAND FISHERIES OF AFRICA

Thirteenth Session

Entebbe, Uganda: 27 – 30 October 2004

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INLAND FISHERIES OF AFRICA

INTRODUCTION

1. The Committee for Inland Fisheries of Africa (CIFA), at its Twelfth Session (Yaounde, Cameroon, December 2002) made some recommendations on which action has been taken by the Secretariat. This document briefly reports only on actions that are not discussed under other agenda items. The relevant paragraph numbers of the Report of the Twelfth Session are given in brackets.

INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Awareness should be created among funding institutions about the feasibility of commercial aquaculture as an economically viable and bankable activity. The Committee underlined the need for each country to have a strategy for aquaculture development (paragraph 17).

2. Two studies have been initiated to raise awareness among funding institutions on the feasibility of commercial aquaculture as an economically viable and bankable activity. One seeks to determine the contribution of commercial aquaculture to food security, poverty alleviation and economic growth and development in 8 Sub-Saharan African countries and 5 Latin American countries. Its promotional objective is to show donor/funding institutions that commercial aquaculture can significantly affect the livelihoods of communities by contributing to food security, poverty alleviation and economic growth, thereby increasing the likelihood of getting their support for the development of the sector. The results will be ready for publication in July 2005. The second will assess the comparative advantage of selected commercial aquaculture species in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia. The objective is to provide existing and potential investors, as well as the financial institutions, with information on the competitive position of economically important species in existing and potential international markets. The findings of the study could also serve as a guiding tool to policy makers in their decision on what fish industry to promote and for which consumers. The report of this latter study will be available to users in September 2005.

3. Regarding the need for each country to have a strategy for aquaculture development, efforts have been made and are still under way to assist countries, on request, develop policies, strategies and/or plans for aquaculture development. Examples are Cameroon, Zambia, Madagascar, Angola, Senegal and Ghana.

Riparian countries of Lake Tanganyika resolve, support, and speed up the establishment of an intergovernmental fishery body for Lake Tanganyika as soon as possible (paragraph 24).

4. The Sub-Committee for Lake Tanganyika at its Tenth Session held in Lusaka, Zambia from 28 to 31 October 2004 discussed a number of issues and made several recommendations on which document CIFA/XIII/2004/Inf.5 briefly reports.

The Committee was informed that the Second Session of the Sub-Committee would be held in August 2003 in Norway (paragraph 31)

5. The Second Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) Sub-Committee on Aquaculture was held in Trondheim, Norway, from 7 to 11 August 2003 at the invitation of the Government of Norway. It was attended by 127 participants, including 97 delegates from 64 Members of FAO, by two observers from one non-Member Nation of FAO, by a representative from one specialized agency of the United Nations and by 12 observers from six intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations. 24 African delegates from 20 African countries attended the session as compared to 14 delegates from 12 countries that attended the first session. A summary of the Session will be provided later for your information.

The Committee recommended that:

- i. further action should be taken to promote the use of GIS and RS in aquaculture and fishery development;*
- ii. partnerships and collaborative activities should be established among institutions, sub-regions and regions and other groups possessing relevant sources of information;*
- iii. workshops should be convened to address the issues related inter alia to the effective cooperation and collaboration mechanisms, and the maintenance of the AWRD. It was suggested that the outcome of these workshops would provide elements to develop pilot project proposals;*
- iv. projects should be developed on the use of GIS and RS in responsible fisheries.
(paragraph 38)*

6. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) recently expressed interest in using the African Water Resources Database (AWRD) and FAO is collaborating with them on the development of the database.

7. The AWRD data, tools and publication are at a stage of review for completion and future use. The AWRD was developed from information collected from the field to enhance and expand the old database. A workshop on the AWRD is being planned for January 2005. The forum will provide inputs on the user needs, which can be used for the formulation of pilot projects related to the AWRD.

Countries should have a clear and comprehensive strategy for the development of their aquatic resources and promote integrated resource management, as well as integrated catchment (water basin) and community management for aquatic resources including such inter-disciplinary action as integrated irrigation agriculture (IIA) (paragraph 42).

8. The elaboration of national strategic frameworks to guide aquaculture development has become a priority for FAO. Following the 12th CIFA, FAO collaborated with the Government of Cameroon and the World Fish Centre to develop the prototype for such a framework; this having been endorsed by a National Workshop of Stakeholders in December 2003. Through Technical Cooperation Programmes, FAO assisted Zambia and Madagascar in developing similar frameworks. An analogous intervention in Angola is planned for early 2005. In parallel to assistance with national strategic frameworks, FAO organised two related regional workshops: FAO-WARDA Workshop on Integrated Irrigation Aquaculture (IIA) (Bamako, Mali, 4-7 November 2003) and FAO-ICLARM Workshop On Small-Scale Aquaculture In Sub-Saharan Africa: revisiting the aquaculture target group paradigm (Limbe, Cameroon, 23–26 March 2004). These workshops served as fora to discuss regional commonalities which can be adopted to mutual advantage through the strategic framework processes.

Indigenous species with proven aquaculture potential should be genetically improved through research and domesticated with proven capacity for brood stock management (paragraph 55)

9. The Inland Water Resources and Aquaculture Service has contacted partners in Asia and international donors to help develop a breeding and genetic resource management manual and training course; work is in progress.

Relevant codes of practice, guidelines and conventions be adapted and applied for future introductions as a precautionary measure to prevent potential negative impacts, and countries should incorporate and adapt relevant international guidelines and codes of practice for responsible introductions into their national legislation with technical guidance from FAO and other international organisations. (paragraph 55)

10. The Inland Water Resources and Aquaculture Service, with the assistance of the FishCode Programme, acting on the recommendation of the tenth session of the FAO CIFA Sub Committee for Lake Tanganyika (Lusaka, Zambia, October 2003), developed a Memorandum of Understanding between the four lacustrine countries on the responsible use and control of alien species in fisheries within the Lake Tanganyika Basin and will submit it for their consideration at the current CIFA meeting. Additionally, FIRI with additional support from the FAO Netherlands Partnership Programme has organized a one day seminar on elements of technical guidelines addressing alien species in Africa during the current CIFA session.

SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

11. The Committee is requested to note the progress reported and make recommendations as deemed appropriate.

12. The Committee may also wish to discuss actions taken at the national level on those recommendations addressed to Member Governments.