

October 2004



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Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
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## COMMITTEE FOR INLAND FISHERIES OF AFRICA

### Thirteenth Session

Entebbe, Uganda: 27 – 30 October 2004

### MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CIFA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR LAKE TANGANYIKA

#### CIFA SUB-COMMITTEE FOR LAKE TANGANYIKA

1. The Sub-Committee for Lake Tanganyika at its Tenth Session held in Lusaka, Zambia from 28 to 31 October 2003 discussed a number of issues and made several recommendations on which this document, CIFA/XIII/2004/Info.4, briefly reports.

#### The Status of Lake Tanganyika Fisheries by National Sectors

2. The Sub-Committee agreed to improve information on the resource base and management mechanisms by fulfilling the following:
  - (a) Develop management mechanisms and partnership to strengthen legislation on closed season, closed areas, fish catch quotas, minimum mesh size, control of rift nets, and prohibition of beach seines
  - (b) Update fisheries Acts
  - (c) Establish unified strategies to combat and reduce general insecurity on the lake including gear thefts and pirating
  - (d) Build the capacity of fisheries departments' staff through appropriate training
  - (e) Establish a common legal framework for fisheries activities for all riparian countries; and
  - (f) Establish an International management authority for Lake Tanganyika.

**Application of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in the Management of Lake Tanganyika and for the control and Responsible Use of Alien Species in the Lake Basin**

### **Management of Lake Tanganyika**

3. Members of the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of collaborative management and adopted the following measures:
  - i) promote and support participatory approaches with fishing communities and other important stakeholders to facilitate rapid establishment of co-management;
  - ii) improve and strengthen standardization, control and surveillance with regards to inspection of commercial and artisanal fishing boats;
  - iii) harmonize fisheries policy on the lake in a manner that combines top down and bottom up approaches to ensure broad participation of relevant stakeholders.

### **Control and Responsible Use of Alien Species in the Lake Basin**

4. The Sub-Committee agreed to take the following mitigating actions:
  - i) establish and ad hoc working group to address the issue of alien species in the lake basin;
  - ii) development of a Memorandum of Understanding among the riparian states of Lake Tanganyika; and
  - iii) promote the development of aquaculture using indigenous species from the basin in order to provide an alternative to the culture of alien species

### **Collaboration between FAO and other Lake Tanganyika Partners in fisheries programmes and projects**

5. The Sub-Committee urged the riparian governments of Lake Tanganyika to make efforts to ensure the rapid and positive response to the request of the African Development Bank (AfDB) for renewing application for assistance under the Bank's Lake Tanganyika Fisheries and Biodiversity Management Project. The Secretariat wishes to inform the Members of CIFA that this request has been fulfilled by the four riparian Governments.
6. The Sub-Committee requested for full involvement of FAO and the FishCode programme in the proposed joint regional programme for Lake Tanganyika, now constituted as the Regional Programme for the Integrated Management of Lake Tanganyika. Members of CIFA should note that FAO has taken the necessary action on this request.

### **The future role of the FAO CIFA Sub-Committee in the context of the Lake Tanganyika Convention**

7. The Sub-Committee agreed to examine the possibility of incorporating a structure similar to that of Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) within the Lake Tanganyika Convention and to monitor the process of ratification and implementation of the Convention by the four Member States through appropriate technical advice and assistance.
8. Members of the Sub-Committee concurred to maintain the role of the Sub-Committee under the FAO CIFA Sub-Committee mechanisms as the primary technical fishery advisory body in the Lake Tanganyika region during the transitional period leading to full implementation of the Articles of the convention

**SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE**

9. The Committee is invited to take note of the recommendations of the CIFA Sub-Committee for Lake Tanganyika and recommend future follow-up actions by member countries of the Sub-Committee and FAO.