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GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE

Third Session

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ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORKS LINKED TO THE GFCM COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE IN THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD 2000-2002

FOLLOW-UP ON THE CONSULTATION OF ARTICLE 9

1. A regional project idea was presented during the Second Session of the Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) held in Rome, Italy, from 13 to 16 June 2000. The Plan of Action presented was not developed further as funding was not identified whether through an interested donor or through the GFCM. Nevertheless, the Plan of Action provided the framework for the selection of the activities implemented, with the limited funds and resources available, by the three CAQ networks. As a result, it has not been possible to act on a series of priority activities including the development of producers' associations or linkage and promotion to existing associations operating in the Mediterranean and Black Sea. Activities focused on interactions of aquaculture and capture fisheries have also been left aside.

2. It is noted that during the intersessional period several countries in the region have taken up the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) with some translating it into their national language. However, comprehensive promotional activities envisaged under the Plan of Action have not been possible.

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE SIPAM NETWORK

Meetings

3. The Information Systems for the Promotion of Aquaculture in the Mediterranean (SIPAM) network has been in full operation and working through the Regional Centre located in

Tunis, Tunisia, and the National Centres in the 16 participating countries. Its activities and work programme are discussed and determined on a yearly basis at the National Coordinators and Steering Committee meetings. The latter met three times in the intersessional period: in Istanbul, Turkey (12 November 2000); in Rome, Italy (17-18 May 2001); and in Rome, Italy (17-18 June 2002).

4. The meetings of the National Coordinators took place in Istanbul, Turkey (8-12 November 2000) and in Rome, Italy (10-12 January 2002).

5. During these meetings the main network activities were discussed. They included the:

- organization and operation of the Regional Centre;
- situation of the data and databases;
- development of the SIPAM portal and sub-portal;
- data collection and delivery at the national level;
- participation of new countries, and
- preparation and approval of activity programmes.

Training

6. The member countries have benefited from the training provided at their request to install and operate the SIPAM software in its various releases. This was done mainly through travel of the Regional Centre staff. Moreover, in Albania, within the framework of the technical assistance of the AdriaMed project, the SIPAM system was installed and operations started. An agreement exists to further support the General Directorate of Fishery in this concern.

7. An ad hoc SIPAM portal maintenance training course was organized in Rome, Italy from 28 to 31 July 2002 for the SIPAM Regional Centre Programmer. The staff of the Italian firm (Ghenesis 2000), contracted to develop the SIPAM portal, and the FAO SIPAM team delivered the course and demonstrated to the SIPAM Programmer how to operate from a remote station. The course was arranged in order to enable the SIPAM Regional Centre to properly and independently update the records and all pages of the SIPAM portal and sub-portals. During the same time the first draft of the SIPAM-on-the-Web technical manual was discussed and prepared. The technical manual was subsequently completed.

SIPAM Portal

8. SIPAM is the only current Mediterranean Information System dedicated to the aquaculture sector. It has a membership of 16 countries. The visibility of the SIPAM database up to the first half of 2002 has, however, been very low, with little dissemination of data outside the SIPAM national contacts. The growth of the Internet provided the opportunity for SIPAM to increase its visibility and to be in a position to offer updated information. This resulted in the creation of the SIPAM portal (www.faosipam.org).

9. The SIPAM portal was designed in a framework of a contract signed between FAO and an Italian web developer company. The service was paid through the Regular Programme budget of the FAO Fisheries Department. The first release of the portal was demonstrated during the Sixth SIPAM Annual Meeting held in Rome (10-12 January 2002). During this meeting the main architectural components of the portal were demonstrated.

10. Following a period of several months the comments communicated by the National Coordinators and the Regional Centre on the design of the web site and its functionality were taken into account and the portal was modified accordingly. The portal was launched and made public in July 2002. It is expected, however, that additional suggestions on modifications and improvements will be received throughout the launch phase of the portal. In aid of the future development and improvement of the SIPAM portal the 'SIPAM National Coordinators forum' was launched as a platform for discussion and exchange of ideas among the National

Coordinators. Furthermore, the foundations for other fora, including technical and national ones, were also laid down. During the last SIPAM Steering Committee meeting in Rome it was agreed that the first two technical fora would be on 'Health' and on 'Marketing and Trade'. These two fora would be up and running as soon as the appropriate and willing moderators were identified.

11. The role of the SIPAM Regional Centre with regards to the maintenance of the SIPAM portal has changed substantially. The regional staff has been engaged in ensuring that correct and relevant information was collected and inserted in the SIPAM web pages. The first version of the SIPAM portal was loaded exclusively with complete and verified data. The work involved in maintaining the SIPAM portal live and update has been demanding, however no additional resources were needed to carry out this task. The work methodology has changed, as the SIPAM Regional Centre now requires a regular and continuous input at the national level, rather than receiving data on an annual basis.

12. The first step of the SIPAM web site, i.e., its development, has been completed and an initial contractual link with the web developers was negotiated by FAO to satisfy complex technical and server maintenance. Action has also been taken towards the expansion phase of the portal, which includes the effective linkage to the FAO Fisheries Global Information System (FIGIS). FIGIS aims at providing policy makers with timely, reliable strategic information on fishery status and trends on a global scale (www.fao.org/fi/figis). Such expansion will enable SIPAM and FIGIS to communicate and exchange data and information, as required. The issue related to the maintenance of the SIPAM portal was raised during the Sixth SIPAM Annual Meeting. The FAO Regular Programme has helped with the initial development phases of the portal and further FAO financial assistance would possibly be granted during the transition period of the autonomous GFCM budget. Other sources of funding may, however, be required.

Sub-Portal Partners

13. The SIPAM portal was designed to host selected entry windows (referred to as 'sub-portals') to partners of interest to the Mediterranean and Black Sea. The main purpose of the sub-portals i.e., macro areas reproducing a 'Souk' logic with windows and shops, is to assist SIPAM web users with the rapid tracing of targeted information relative to the development of aquaculture in the Mediterranean and Black Sea. So far six sub-portals (ASFA - Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts; CIHEAM - International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies; EAS - European Aquaculture Society; EU - European Union; FIGIS - FAO Fisheries Global Information System; and GFCM) have been identified and sub-portals space has been allocated in the SIPAM portal. All of the above partners have agreed to provide, on regular basis, information on their organization and activities of direct relevance and interest to the GFCM.

14. Management and updating of the SIPAM sub-portal pages was raised and discussed during the last SIPAM Steering Committee meeting. Communication with the sub-portal contact points has been the responsibility of the SIPAM Regional Centre. The Regional Centre has initiated action aimed at establishing a regular and dynamic communication flow with all the various partners to ensure a timely and regular supply of news items. In order to assist such communication it has been decided to develop a dedicated and user-friendly software application that would enable all SIPAM sub-portal partners to autonomously update their own sub-portal pages. The development of such application will depend on the availability of funds and the willingness of the partners to take on the task.

15. The expansion of the number of sub-portal partners has been discussed. The SIPAM portal has been purposely designed in its present architecture to easily accommodate more and relevant sub-portal partners. It is expected that more will be added as time progresses and when suitable partners are identified and/or proposed by the National Coordinators. During the last SIPAM Steering Committee meeting it was agreed to add AAPQIS (Aquatic Animal Pathogen and Quarantine Information System) as a new addition to the list of the sub-portal partners. The new AAPQIS Internet site will be released by the end of 2002.

Specialized Databases

16. The Regional Centre completed the filtering of all the SIPAM databases with the aim of preparing the SIPAM web site release, which included only complete records. The results of this screening had been reported to all National Coordinators urging them to complete those records with missing information as well as to check the reliability of all other entries. To date only about 30% of the total existing records have been released through the SIPAM web site. Checking and completing existing records is an on-going exercise and actively pursued by the Regional Centre. The future success of SIPAM greatly depends on the synergistic inputs and collaboration of all concerned and efficient coordination of the SIPAM Regional Centre.

17. *Pathology database* - A revision of the structure of the pathology database was discussed with FAO. It was decided that this area of the SIPAM web site would initially contain the TECAM Survey on Mediterranean Aquaculture Diagnostic Laboratories. This survey was jointly organized by the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) through the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza, Spain, (IAMZ) and the FAO Fisheries Department. This survey will also be made available simultaneously to the public in a dedicated issue of the CIHEAM 'Options Méditerranéennes' series.

18. This area of the SIPAM portal will also have a link to AAPQIS as its new web site, in three languages (English, French and Spanish) and is expected online by September-October 2002 with a new architecture and user-friendly search facilities. Furthermore, it was also decided that the SIPAM portal would host an AAPQIS sub-portal as soon as it became available as a large portion of the information in AAPQIS is applicable and of interest to the Mediterranean region. At this stage the current AAPQIS has yet to develop its 'Mediterranean/Black Sea' chapter. It was therefore agreed during the last SIPAM Steering Committee Meeting that the 'static' information provided by AAPQIS would be complemented with more 'dynamic' information identified and disseminated by SIPAM with the assistance of all the National Coordinators and through a dedicated SIPAM fish health forum.

19. *Marketing database* - During the intersessional period SIPAM has continued to distribute price data on main Mediterranean and Black Sea products based on the information published in the GLOBEFISH European Report. The Regional Centre has also been exploring the possibility of extracting market data (prices and traded volumes) from the Internet sites of several large wholesale markets. The main difficulty reported was the harmonization of the data, which had been entered, in a different format. In order to continue with this service it was decided to include in the SIPAM portal a list of links to the major European fish wholesale markets while the Regional Centre would continue to investigate the possible level of aggregation.

20. *Bibliography database* - Processing and transmittal of new records to ASFA has been progressing slowly. The overall contribution to this database from the SIPAM member countries has been limited although encouraged to contribute bibliographic documentation to enable the SIPAM Regional Centre to fulfil its contribution as part of the ASFA agreement. The importance of the above agreement was emphasized during the last National Coordinators meeting, particularly for non-ASFA member countries, as this would give them a certain visibility.

21. *Legal database* - During the intersessional period the Laws and Regulations database was updated with limited records due to difficulties in the collection of the relevant published national legislation and the preparation of adequate summaries. The possibility of collaborating with the FAO Legal Office was discussed during the Sixth SIPAM Annual meeting during which time it was agreed that a SIPAM link to FAOLEX was desirable also to avoid the 'double' collection of relevant national legislation. All SIPAM National Coordinators were encouraged to send hard or electronic copies of relevant and new laws and regulations to FAO so that they could be inserted in the FAOLEX database. The link to FAOLEX was developed and it is now accessible through the SIPAM portal.

Network Expansion

22. Two missions to Romania and Lebanon have been made by the SIPAM Regional Coordinator to link these countries to the SIPAM Network. Both countries have nominated National Coordinators and installed the SIPAM software. SIPAM was also activated in Albania. Contributions and data input from these countries have been minimal, although it is expected that progress will be made in the next few months. In order to ensure that data is collected and fed to the SIPAM Regional Centre the Regional Coordinator was asked during the Steering Committee meeting to follow-up on this matter and to identify the problems, if any, that selected member countries might be facing.

23. SIPAM was also introduced in Slovenia during a recent mission on matters related to the FAO-AdriaMed project. The opportunity was taken to introduce the SIPAM project to the relevant local authorities and to investigate their interest in participating in the SIPAM Network. The reaction from Slovenia was positive, however it would not be currently in a position to join the network activities due to understaffing of the Department of Fisheries and a series of other immediate priorities focused on joining the EU. It was decided that the participation of Slovenia would be pursued once the local authorities indicate their availability and readiness to join the network.

24. Efforts towards reactivating the participation of Greece have been taken, although a scheduled mission of the SIPAM Regional Coordinator to the Greek Directorate for Aquaculture and Inland Waters would be rescheduled and will be organized after this session of the CAQ, if agreeable to all parties. The Greek authorities have nevertheless informed that they intended to continue their collaboration within the SIPAM network. In addition to the countries mentioned, preliminary actions have been taken to invite both Syria and Israel to join SIPAM.

25. With regard to Spain, the recently created central aquaculture web page (Observatorio Español de Acuicultura – OESA; www.observatorio-acuicultura.cesic.es) as the platform for promotion of aquaculture development in Spain, under the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPYA), was received by SIPAM as a welcoming development. The current OESA priority is the completion of a dynamic information system, which will be known as SIPIA (Sistema de Información y Promoción de la Innovación en Acuicultura). The system will collect a wide range of information including directories on equipment and fish suppliers and producers. Preliminary discussions with the Spanish authorities have been positive with regards to linking SIPIA with SIPAM. It is expected that SIPIA would at some stage be able to feed complete and, at regular intervals, reliable Spanish national data into SIPAM.

Organization of National Networks

26. Both Tunisia and Italy started working towards the creation of the internal networks. In the case of Tunisia it is operative and in Italy two meetings were held in FAO with representatives of various institutions and of the private sector to start the organization of the internal network under the coordination of the national focal points at ICRAM. Developments after these initial meetings, which showed interest on the side of institutes and private sector, have been limited.

SIPAM Regional Centre

27. It was agreed that the SIPAM Regional Centre would contact a local company in order to investigate the possibility, and quantify the funds required, to up-grade the computer network of the Centre. This exercise was deemed necessary in order to enable all regional staff to have direct access to the Internet. Mr Hadj Ali, SIPAM Regional Centre Coordinator, noted that any additional expenses would have to be covered by the project, as he did not envisage additional inputs from the Government of Tunisia at this stage.

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE TECAM AND SELAM NETWORKS UNDER THE COORDINATION OF CIHEAM

28. During this period, five international courses, seminars or workshops have been organized and one technical survey have also been implemented. The above mentioned activities have been organized by the CIHEAM through the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (CIHEAM-IAMZ) with the collaboration of the FAO Fisheries Department.

29. As a result, three proceeding publications have been issued (some from activities implemented before the Second Session of CAQ) and two more are under preparation and will be published shortly in the CIHEAM journal *Options Méditerranéennes*. With regards to participation, the network activities have attracted over 800 participants since 1995. During the intersessional period the participants attending the various activities amounted to 165 (guest lectures not included). The majority of the participants were nationals of the various Mediterranean and Black Sea countries, however participants also attended from Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Ireland, Germany, Jordan, Norway, United Kingdom and the USA. Regarding the participant's profile, the activities have aimed at attracting aquaculture experts from the industry, research institutes, universities and relevant public administrations, in order to favour the exchange of experiences and points of view.

30. Regarding training, the networks have offered, and will continue to do so, activities to professionals from the Mediterranean region where there is lack of training opportunities and expertise in aquaculture. In the selection of candidates for any given activity, and particularly for training courses, special emphasis has been given to ensure participation from Southern Mediterranean and Eastern countries. This included financial support to cover all or part of the expenses such as travel, registration fees, accommodation and food. All training courses, apart from their scientific content, have provided an excellent opportunity for interactions between participants and guest lectures with the expectation of future collaboration. Furthermore, the interest of the private sector to attend the various activities offered has increased. Several requests have been received for selected training courses and seminars to be repeated.

Courses

TECAM Advanced Course on Aquaculture Fish Breeding Programmes

(Zaragoza, Spain, 2- 6 April 2001)

31. The main objective of the course was to acquaint participants with the principles and elements underlying genetic improvement programmes. The course was specially focused on the two main Mediterranean cultured finfish species, namely European sea bass and gilthead sea bream. A total of 32 experts from 10 Mediterranean countries and from the United Kingdom attended the course.

TECAM Advanced Course on Mediterranean Offshore Mariculture

(Zaragoza, Spain, 28 May - 2 June 2001)

32. The aim of the course was to provide participants with the most recent knowledge available of offshore mariculture, with special emphasis on the Mediterranean, and it included sessions on the status of offshore farming, site evaluation, systems review, net technology, management, and economics. A total of 28 experts from 10 Mediterranean and Black Sea countries and from Brazil, Germany and the USA attended the course.

TECAM Advanced Course on Management and Use of Fish Resources in Inland Water Bodies of Mediterranean Countries

(Zaragoza, Spain, 12-16 November 2001)

33. The course counted on the participation of 25 experts from 8 Mediterranean countries. The objective of the course was to provide participants with a modern vision of fisheries planning as an activity to be integrated into basic management, through the adoption of a multidisciplinary approach that optimizes potentials and reduces conflicts. The programme of the course included discussion of plurisectoral objectives as well as the integration of geographical, ecological, sociological, legislative and economic elements of planning as an innovative aspect of inland fisheries management. The applied part of the programme included the presentation of recent techniques in decision-making in fisheries management and the discussion of case studies of Mediterranean countries.

Seminars and Workshops

SELAM Seminar on Methodologies for Seafood Market Studies with the Aim of Introducing New Aquaculture Products - MASMANAP

(Zaragoza, Spain, 21-22 June 2001)

34. The seminar aimed at reviewing the evolution of the main European seafood markets by disseminating the results of the EU Concerted Action MASMANAP project (Methodology for seafood market studies with the aim of introducing new aquaculture products). The seminar was jointly organized with the EU-Concerted Action MASMANAP. A total of 50 experts from 9 Mediterranean and Black Sea countries and from Belgium, Ireland, Norway, and the United Kingdom.

TECAM Advanced Seminar on Mollusc Production in Mediterranean Countries

(Zaragoza, Spain, 27-31 May 2002)

35. The seminar focused on up-to-date information on shellfish culture with particular emphasis on production techniques, site selection and evaluation, management, regulation and legislation. Sanitary control for molluscs and quality control and certification for consumers, as well as economics, market and trade were also integral part of the seminar. The seminar was attended by 32 experts from 12 Mediterranean and Black Sea countries and from Chile, Germany and Jordan.

Technical Surveys

TECAM Survey on Mediterranean Aquaculture Diagnostic Laboratories

36. The Survey was organized as a continuation of previous activities on the field of aquaculture health management. Survey questionnaires prepared in collaboration with experts from FAO Fisheries Department, IFREMER and the University of Compostela (Spain) were distributed to previously identified laboratories. The replies received from 55 key public and private laboratories in different Mediterranean countries were analysed by an ad hoc Working Group that met in Zaragoza (Spain) on 8-9 October 2001.

37. As a result of this project a Directory of Mediterranean laboratories working on diagnosis of fish and shellfish diseases has been prepared. This directory together with a reference report about existing diseases and pathogens and their incidence and distribution in Mediterranean aquaculture will be published in a special volume of the CIHEAM journal *Options Méditerranéennes*. Furthermore, the Directory has been transferred to the SIPAM Network for its inclusion in the SIPAM portal.

Publications of the TECAM and SELAM Networks

Mediterranean Offshore Mariculture. Publication based on the contents of the advanced course of the CIHEAM TECAM Network held in Zaragoza, Spain, 20-24 October 1997. *Options Méditerranéennes, Série B: Etudes et Recherches*. No. 30. Zaragoza: CIHEAM/FAO, 2000. 215 pp.

Recent Advances in Mediterranean Aquaculture Finfish Species Diversification. Proceedings of the seminar of the CIHEAM TECAM Network, Zaragoza, Spain, 24-28 May 1999. *Options Méditerranéennes, Series Cahiers*. Zaragoza: Vol. 47. Zaragoza: CIHEAM/FAO 2000. 394 pp.

Global Quality Assessment in Mediterranean Aquaculture. Proceedings of the workshop of the CIHEAM TECAM and SELAM Networks, Barcelona, Spain, 29 November - 1 December 1999. *Options Méditerranéennes, Series Cahiers*. Zaragoza: Vol. 51. Zaragoza: CIHEAM/FAO/DGPAM, 2000. 149 pp.

Environmental Impact Assessment of Mediterranean Aquaculture Farms. Proceedings of the seminar of the CIHEAM TECAM Network, Zaragoza, Spain, 17-21 January 2000. Eds A. Uriarte and B. Basurco. *Options Méditerranéennes, Series Cahiers*. Zaragoza: Vol. 55. Zaragoza: CIHEAM/FAO, 2001. 214 pp.

Seafood Market Studies for the Introduction of New Aquaculture Products. Proceedings of the seminar of the CIHEAM SELAM Network, Zaragoza, Spain, 21 June 2001. *Options Méditerranéennes, Series Cahiers*. Zaragoza: Zaragoza: EU-Concerted Action MASMANAP/CIHEAM/FAO (In preparation).

Mollusc Production in Mediterranean Countries. Proceedings of the advanced seminar of the CIHEAM TECAM Network, Zaragoza, Spain, 27-31 May 2002. *Options Méditerranéennes, Série Cahier*. Zaragoza: CIHEAM/FAO (In preparation).

Other Activities

First International Symposium on the Domestication of the Bluefin Tuna *Thunnus thynnus thynnus*

(Cartagena, Spain, 3-8 February 2002)

38. Under the support of the European Commission (the 5th RTD Framework Programme - 5FP - Quality of Life Programme) an International Symposium on the Domestication of the Bluefin Tuna (BFT) was held in Spain from 3 to 8 February 2002, at the Campus of the University of Cartagena. The symposium was organized with the support of different institutions, among them: the Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IOE-Spain), the Polytechnic University of Cartagena (Spain), the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI-USA), the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER-France), the Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research (IOLR-Israel), the Spanish Bluefin Tuna Farmers' Association (ASETUN-Spain), and the CIHEAM-IAMZ.

39. The aim of the Symposium was to bring together all sectors directly or indirectly involved in the activities related to the BFT (fishermen, aquaculturists, scientists, representatives from all levels of administration, ICCAT, FAO, etc.). The event aimed at providing a platform that would facilitate discussions on the potential and limitations of culture development of this finfish species. Over 200 experts attended the Symposium from numerous countries worldwide. The proceedings (complete papers of the different contributions and reports of the Symposium and their Workshops) will be published in a special volume of the CIHEAM journal, *Cahiers Options Méditerranéennes*.

Workshop on Mediterranean Fish Nutrition

(Rhodes, Greece, 1-2 June 2002)

40. The workshop, held in Rhodes, Greece, from 1 to 2 June 2002 prior to the Tenth International Symposium on Nutrition and Feeding in Fish (Rhodes, 2-7 June 2002), was organized by the Mediterranean Network on Aquaculture Nutrition, which is supported by the International Centre for Mediterranean Agronomic Studies through the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (CIHEAM-IAMZ). The workshop was attended by more than 80 participants from Mediterranean countries and aimed at: (i) reviewing the current state of knowledge on nutritional requirements of Mediterranean species; (ii) reviewing and discussing aquafeeds manufacturing within the Mediterranean region, and (iii) to hold open discussion between representatives from the production sector and research scientists concerning the above issues and their practical application.

Relations with other Institutions

41. One of the aims of the TECAM and SELAM networks is the building up of a collaboration network between Mediterranean institutions involved in aquaculture. Thus, when organizing activities, CIHEAM-IAMZ actively seek the involvement and participation of relevant national institutions or with existing associations such as the European Aquaculture Society (EAS) and the Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP). The technical and financial collaboration of these possible partners is always sought with the aim to facilitate the success of any activity, as well as to maximize the limited resources of the TECAM and SELAM networks. To this respect, continuous efforts are made in order to offer the possibility of having TECAM and SELAM activities hosted by national institutions.

42. Representatives of CIHEAM are also actively involved in the bodies and activities of the EAS. Joint efforts among the two organizations are encouraged in order to bring together experts from EU and Non-EU Mediterranean countries and their participation in international meetings organized by EAS. In this respect EAS has recently arranged a "Special Membership Offer" to aquaculturists from Non-EU Mediterranean Countries. Furthermore, an ad hoc Mediterranean Committee was recently established by EAS, with the following objectives: (i) recommend activities designed to promote the Society and membership in Non-EU Mediterranean countries; (ii) encourage the founding of national societies or chapters and enhance their association and/or coordination with EAS; (iii) identify themes and proposing activities of interest for the Mediterranean; (iv) propose an EAS policy for the Mediterranean Basin: information, collaboration with south and east countries, seminars, training, and (v) propose actions to identify limiting factors for the development of Mediterranean aquaculture.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS BY THE COMMITTEE

43. The Committee is invited to discuss the programme of work carried out in the intersessional period 2000-2002 by the Networks linked to the GFCM Committee on Aquaculture.