

January 2008



GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE



GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Thirty-second Session

Rome, Italy, 25-29 February 2008

ARRANGEMENTS WITH PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

BACKGROUND

1. Article VIII of the GFCM Agreement provides that the “Commission shall cooperate closely with other international organizations in matters of mutual interest”. At its 31st session, the Commission addressed the issue of using instruments such as MoUs to strengthen the implementation of joint programme or activity with selected partner organizations. The GFCM was informed that a number of broad agreement on cooperation had already been subscribed between the FAO and these Partners. With regard to the adoption and signature of specific instruments, the Commission underscored that this might have policy or financial implications and decided to postpone to the 32nd session the consideration of the draft MoUs presented by the IUCN, as well as of any other proposals that might be made by other partner organizations.

2. During the intersessional period, in addition to the confirmation of interest from IUCN, the CIHEAM/IAMZ and the UNEP/RAC-SPA expressed their willingness to enter into such arrangements with the GFCM and drafted, together with the GFCM Secretariat draft MoU proposals which, after being reviewed by the FAO Legal Office, are herewith enclosed as a complement to document GFCM/XXXII/2008/4, for consideration by the Commission.

MEMORANDUM
BETWEEN
FAO – THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
AND
IUCN – THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION¹

ON COOPERATION ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN REGION

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), acting on behalf of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), and IUCN –The World Conservation Union, hereafter referred to as the Parties;

RECALLING that the primary goals of the GFCM, a commission established by international agreement under the Constitution of FAO, is to promote the development, conservation and management of living marine resources, and to formulate and recommend conservation and management measures;

RECALLING that the mission of the IUCN in the Mediterranean region is to influence, encourage and assist Mediterranean societies in achieving both the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and sustainable development;

ACKNOWLEDGING that both GFCM and IUCN are committed to the implementation of the Barcelona Convention, and are supportive of the Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean Region;

AGREE to cooperate in the following areas:

1. Development and participation in the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Mediterranean region;
2. Formulation of sustainable development frameworks and guidelines for Mediterranean Aquaculture;
3. Cooperation in the identification of a representative network of Mediterranean marine restricted fishing areas, including for sensitive habitat of deep sea ecosystems, pelagic ecosystems, and in High Sea ;

¹ Represented by the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation

4. Strengthening of scientific evidence on issues of common interest and jointly develop as appropriate new fields of investigations, especially in relation to by-catch, protection of emblematic species, and allocation of fishing effort;
5. Development and reinforcement of communication partnerships and links between the marine environment and fisheries, including marine aquaculture, in the Mediterranean.

The nature of the activities may include, but will not necessarily be restricted to:

- Organization, participation in and collaboration on joint initiatives, that may include research and conservation projects, reports, seminars, conferences or other processes related to the programmes of work;
- Collaboration in the publication and dissemination, in relevant international fora, of the Mediterranean experience and achievements in marine conservation;
- Exchange of information on technical issues of common interest; and
- Dissemination of awareness of the Parties' activities within their respective networks.

The Parties will agree on annual plans of work, to be developed in the light of the Parties' own respective annual work programmes, in order to identify relevant areas of synergy.

Where necessary, the GFCM and the IUCN may establish individual arrangements for specific activities and individual projects.

Any activities under this Memorandum of Cooperation will be subject to the availability of financial resources.

The technical focal points for the implementation of this Memorandum of Cooperation and the monitoring of any activities undertaken for its implementation will be:

- the Executive Secretary, on behalf of the GFCM;
- the director of the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, in coordination with the IUCN Global Marine Programme, on behalf of IUCN.

Each Party agrees that any documents or correspondence prepared or communicated between under this Memorandum of Cooperation will be of a restricted nature and will not be released into the public domain, except upon prior agreement.

The publication of documents or communications under this Memorandum of Cooperation will be made jointly, and in accordance with such conditions as the Parties may define.

This Memorandum of Cooperation will come into force on the date of its signature by the second-and-last Party, and will remain in force until 31 December 2010. Prior to the expiration date, this Memorandum of Cooperation may be:

- (a) terminated by either Party upon 3 (three) month's written notice given to the other Party, or
- (b) extended or modified through the Parties' mutual written agreement.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized to do so, have signed this Memorandum of Cooperation in two originals in the English language.

Date:

*For the Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations*

Date:

*For IUCN – The World Conservation
Union*

Alain Bonzon

Executive Secretary

**General Fisheries Commission for the
Mediterranean**

Margarita Astralaga

Director

**IUCN Centre for Mediterranean
Cooperation**

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

BETWEEN

THE GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (GFCM),
OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

AND

THE REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS
(RAC/SPA)

OF THE

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN (MAP)

ON COOPERATION ON FISHERIES AND BIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN REGION

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), acting on behalf of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), and the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) of MAP, hereafter referred to as the Partners;

RECALLING that the primary goals of the GFCM, a commission established by international agreement under the Constitution of FAO, is to promote the development, conservation and management of living marine resources, and to formulate and recommend conservation and management measures in the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and connecting waters;

RECALLING that the mission of the RAC/SPA in the Mediterranean region, as one of the Regional Activity Centres of MAP is to act as Secretariat of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA/BD Protocol) of the Barcelona Convention (UNEP-MAP) and, through it, encourage and assist Mediterranean countries in achieving the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal natural resources;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the GFCM is also engaged in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention, and is supportive of the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean Region, for whose implementing-encouragement the RAC/SPA is the responsible body;

HAVING REGARDS of the close linkage between fisheries management and biodiversity conservation;

NOTING that RAC/SPA has been duly authorized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to enter into this Memorandum of Cooperation;

AGREE to cooperate in the following areas:

6. Development and participation in the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries in the Mediterranean region;

7. Identification of marine sensitive habitat of ecosystems, either coastal sea, pelagic, benthic or of the deep sea;
8. Formulation of sustainable development frameworks and guidelines for coastal areas management ;
9. Strengthening of scientific evidence on issues of common interest and jointly develop, as appropriate new fields of investigations applied to marine conservation, especially in relation to the protection of emblematic species;
10. Development and reinforcement of communication partnerships and links between the marine environment and fisheries in the Mediterranean.

The nature of the activities may include, but will not necessarily be restricted to:

- Organization, participation in and collaboration on joint initiatives, that may include research and projects, reports, seminars, conferences or other processes related to issues of common interest in the programmes of work of each Partner;
- Collaboration in the publication and dissemination, in relevant international fora, of the Mediterranean experience and achievements in monitoring marine environment;
- Exchange of information on technical issues of common interest; and
- Dissemination of awareness of the Parties' activities within their respective networks.

The Partners will agree on annual plans of work, to be developed in the light of the Partners' own respective annual work programmes, in order to identify relevant areas of synergy.

Where necessary, the GFCM and the RAC/SPA may establish individual arrangements for specific activities and individual projects, such as the ones within the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem, which will be subject to addenda to this MoC.

Any activities under this Memorandum of Cooperation will be subject to the availability of financial resources.

The focal points for the implementation of this Memorandum of Cooperation and the monitoring of any activities undertaken for its implementation will be:

- the Executive Secretary, on behalf of the GFCM;
- the Director, on behalf of the RAC/SPA, UNEP-MAP.

The publication of documents or communications under this Memorandum of Cooperation will be made jointly, and in accordance with conditions and formats that the Parties may define.

This Memorandum of Cooperation will come into force on the date of its signature by the both Partners. It shall remain in effect, unless terminated by 90 days' written notice by either Party, or replaced by another agreement. Unless otherwise stipulated at the time, termination of this MoC shall not affect the rights and duties of the Parties under any written instrument being executed at the time of termination.

Nothing in this Memorandum of Cooperation or in any document related thereto shall be construed as a waiver of the privileges and immunities of FAO.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized to do so, have signed this Memorandum of Cooperation in two originals in the English language.

Date:

*For the Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations*

Alain BONZON

Executive Secretary

**General Fisheries Commission for the
Mediterranean**

Date:

For the RAC/SPA

Abderrahmen GANNOUN

Director

**Regional Activity Centre for Specially
Protected Areas – *UNEP-MAP***

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
(GFCM),**

**OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS**

AND

**THE MEDITERRANEAN AGRONOMIC INSTITUTE OF ZARAGOZA
(IAMZ)**

**OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ADVANCED MEDITERRANEAN
AGRONOMIC STUDIES (CIHEAM)**

**FOR COOPERATION ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), acting on behalf of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), and the CIHEAM, acting on behalf its Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (IAMZ), hereafter referred to as the Partners;

RECALLING that the primary goals of the GFCM, a commission established by international agreement under the Constitution of FAO is to promote the development, conservation and management of living marine resources, and to formulate and recommend conservation and management measures in the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and connecting waters;

RECALLING that the mission of the IAMZ, as one of the Agronomic Institute of CIHEAM is to provide training, conduct research and promote international cooperation in agriculture and rural development, including in fisheries and aquaculture, in the Mediterranean Basin;

ACKNOWLEDGING the Agreement on Cooperation signed on the 31st of January 2005 between the FAO and the CIHEAM and willing to develop related action and activities in support to the “sustainable management of Mediterranean fisheries and aquaculture”;

HAVING REGARD to the close linkage established over more than two decades, especially in the strengthening and improvement of fisheries and aquaculture training and research networks, as well as the development of specific related programmes;

AGREE to pursue and strengthen their cooperation, especially in the following areas and priority activities and under the following modalities:

Article 1. Areas of Cooperation

The cooperation will concentrate on training related to the development and promotion of fisheries and aquaculture research and information :

- 1.1 Joint organization and implementation of Advanced Courses, Workshops, Study teams and Seminars on subjects of common interest, with the duration and nature of such courses to be determined by consultation.
- 1.2 Development of learning training modules and of information and pedagogical materials and organization of in-service training and study tours.
- 1.3 Development of joint regional research projects of mutual interest to be supported by Institutions' own funds or by potential donors.
- 1.4 Exchange of transfer of scientific and technical information in the form of publications, reports and other documents and joint publication of documents resulting from activities carried out within the framework of the present agreement.

Article 2. Operational Arrangements

- 2.1 Each course, seminar or workshop to be carried out jointly shall be the subject of a specific protocol to be agreed upon by the GFCM Executive Secretary and the IAMZ Director, or the officials they will delegate to this effect.
- 2.2 Each specific protocol will set forth the related material aspects of the joint action, principally with regard to each ones' contribution to the estimated budget and to the allotment of responsibilities in the implementation.
- 2.3 The focal points for the implementation of this MoU for Cooperation and the monitoring of any activities undertaken for its implementation will be:
 - the Executive Secretary, on behalf of the GFCM;
 - the Director, on behalf of the IAMZ.

Article 3. Review and Renewal of the Agreement

3.1 This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect for a period of two years on the date of its signature by both Partners. It shall be automatically renewed terminated by 90 days' written notice by either Party, or replaced by another agreement.

3.2 Unless otherwise stipulated at the time, termination of this MoU shall not affect the rights and duties of the Parties under any written instrument being executed at the time of termination.

Article 4. Privileges and Immunities

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding or in any document related thereto shall be construed as a waiver of the privileges and immunities of FAO.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized to do so, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in two originals in the English language.

Date:

Date:

For the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

For the IAMZ

Alain Bonzon

Luis Esteruelas

Executive Secretary

Director

General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean

Instituto Agronomico Mediterraneo de Zaragoza – CIHEAM