



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN**

**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES POUR
LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153, Rome, Italy. Tel : +39 0657056441. www.gfcm.org

**SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Sub-Committee on Stock Assessment (SCSA)**

WORKING GROUP OF STOCK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY (WGSAM)

**Second meeting of the WGSAM, on basic methods and protocols
to undertake assessments with direct methods**

Tajura (Tripoli), Libya, 2-4 June 2008

Context and Objectives

This is the second meeting of the Working Group of Stock Assessment Methodology (WGSAM) which is planned in the framework of the 2008 activities of the SAC/Sub-Committee on Stock Assessment (SCSA). The meeting, which will focus on basic methods and protocols to undertake assessments with direct methods, is aimed mainly to:

- Identify and propose adequate stock assessment methods to evaluate progress towards implementing the conclusions on MSY of the WSSD (Johannesburg, 2002);
- Identify the data requirements to carry on assessments from the surveys at sea (trawl surveys, echo surveys, eggs-larvae), examine any data deficiencies, look for research needs and search for appropriate ways in addressing them;
- Set a common framework for the harmonization of basic methods, protocols, data format, quality control to execute demersal and pelagic surveys in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea and software to be used to undertake joint assessments with direct methods;
- Produce on a possible GFCM protocol regarding trawl surveys which should take into consideration the MEDITS experience;
- Perform assessment analyses and interpretation of the data obtained from surveys at regional and GSA level, for sustainable exploitation of stock including if possible ecosystem considerations for fisheries management.

Tentative Agenda

1. Opening and arrangement of the meeting
2. Inventory of surveys at sea (trawl surveys, echo surveys, eggs-larvae) performed in the GFCM area aiming to produce assessments of stocks
 - Review of the available information
 - New information submitted at the meeting
3. Assessments of stocks by direct methods
 - Review of outcomes from surveys at sea to be used in assessments
 - Bottom trawl surveys
Indicators (e.g. biomass indices), mortality, trends, reference points
 - Small pelagic surveys (echo surveys, eggs-larvae)
Biomass, spawning biomass, trends and reference points
 - Other surveys (e.g. Hydraulic dredge)
Indicators (e.g. biomass indices), mortality, trends, reference points
 - Data deficiencies and improvement towards the use of surveys at sea for assessments
 - Consideration with regards to EAF
4. GFCM framework for the harmonization of basic methods, protocols, data format and quality control
5. Conclusions and recommendations of the meeting
6. Any other matters
7. Adoption of the report and closure

Information for Participants

1. Date and Venue

Monday, 2 June to Wednesday, 4 June 2008. (Registration starts at 09:00 am on 2 June). Meeting hours will be approximately from 09:00 to 17:30.

The meeting will be held at: Marine Biology Research Center (MBRC) – Tajura, Libya (15 km east of Tripoli).

2. Contact Information

Local host contact details:

Abdul-baset ABUISSA
Tel.: + 218 91 3732870
Fax: + 218 21 3690002
E-mail: abasetabuissa@hotmail.com

SCSA coordinator

Constantina KARLOU-RIGA
Tel.: +30 2104110202
Fax: +30 2104120178
E-mail: fishres@otenet.gr

GFCM Secretariat contact details:

Abdellah Srour (abdellah.srour@fao.org)
Tel.: +39 06 5705 5730
Fax: +39 06 5705 6500

3. Language

Scientific documents can be written in English or French. It is expected that the main working language for the meeting will be English, as no simultaneous translation can be provided.

4. Call for Scientific Papers and Data

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant scientific papers as well as the relevant information on national surveys at sea by using the attached inventory form. The titles, names of authors, abstracts of papers and inventory forms should be submitted to GFCM (GFCM-Secretariat@fao.org) by **20 May 2008**. Authors are also encouraged to submit completed electronic versions of their papers before the meeting in order to make them available on the Internet.

5. Visa requirement for participants.

The participants are invited to send to the local host contact (by E-mail) at the earliest convenience, a scanned copy (clearly readable writing and visible photo) of the passport as well as the following personal information:

- Family name
- First name

- Father name
- Mother name
- Date and place of Birth
- Passport Number
- date of issue
- Validity
- Nationality
- Relevant Libyan Embassy
- Date of previous visit to Libya (if any)

The attention of the participants is drawn on the fact that visa issuing needs about 15 days.

6. Transport:

Local transportation between the Airport and the meeting venue and main hotels will be offered by local meeting organiser. To facilitate this operation, the participants are invited to submit as soon as possible, information on their travel plan.

7. Registration.

Participants are invited to register in advance by using the attached registration form.

8. Hotel Information

The hotels, listed below with priorities, are located at the city center of Tripoli. You are invited to copy the local contact for any message exchange with hotels in order to allow follow up.

BAB AL BAHR HOTEL

Single room 95 Libyan Dinnar
 Double Room 115 Libyan Dinar
 Tel. 00218 21 3350676-710
 Fax 00218 213350711

THE FOUR SEASON HOTEL

Single room 110 Libyan Dinnar
 Double Room 130 Libyan Dinar
 Fax 00218 21 3340164
 Tel. 00218 21 3332151
 00218 21 4442121
 00218 21 4441421
 00218 21 4448996
 Mob. tel. 00218 91 3243486
 E-mail: info@fourseasons.com.Ly

EL KABER HOTEL

Single room 95 Libyan Dinnar
 Double Room 115 Libyan Dinar
 Fax 00218 21 4445959
 Tel. 00218 21 3606781/90
 00218 21 4445940/58
 E- mail alkabir-hotel@ltnet.net

NB. Breakfast is included in the price for all hotels