



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN**

**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES POUR
LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



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SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sub-Committee on Marine Environment and Ecosystems (SCMEE)

Sub-Committee on Stock Assessment (SCSA)

Transversal Working Group on by catch/incidental catches

FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy), 15-16 September 2008

Context and objectives

In the framework of the SAC activities for 2008, a SCMEE/SCSA transversal Working Group on by-catch/incidental catches is scheduled to be held in Rome, Italy, from 15 to 16 September 2008. This meeting will be organized back to back with the ByCBAMS meeting (Rome, 17-18 September 2008) and in collaboration with the relevant partners (IUCN, ACCOBAMS, RAC/SPA).

The objectives of the meeting as adopted by the Scientific Advisory Committee and amended during the preparatory phase are the following:

- Evaluation of by-catch and fishing mortality for threatened species (chondrichthyans, turtles, seabirds, cetacean),
- Technology for reducing/avoiding by-catch
- Evaluation and improvement of survival after escapement,
- Implementation of mitigating measure (smart gear incentive program, etc).

Draft Agenda

- 1. Opening , arrangement of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**
- 2. Evaluation of by-catch and fishing mortality for threatened species in the Mediterranean**
 - **Protocol for data/information collection**
- 3. Technology for reducing/avoiding by-catch**
- 4. Evaluation and improvement of survival after escapement**
- 5. Implementation of mitigating measure**
- 6. Any other matters**
- 7. Conclusions and recommendations**
- 8. Adoption of the report and closure**

Information for Participants

1. Date and Venue

Monday, 15 September and Tuesday, 16 September 2008. (Registration starts at 08:45 am on 15 September). Meeting hours will be approximately from 09:00 to 17:30.

The meeting will be held at: FAO HQs (Meeting room: **Canada**; Building: **A**; floor : **3rd**), Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153, Rome, Italy.

2. Contact Information

SCMEE coordinator

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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 information

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant documents as well as information on the topics to be addressed by the meeting. The titles, names of authors, abstracts of papers should be submitted to GFCM (GFCM-Secretariat@fao.org) by **28 August 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. Registration.

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

6. Hotel Information

Information on hotels located close to FAO HQs, could be found through the GFCM website: www.gfcm.org