

## **Meeting of the Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group**

**FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy**

**23-27 February 2015**

Recognizing the role of the Global Record in the concerted fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), at its 31<sup>st</sup> Session, in June 2014, reiterated its support for the continued development of the “Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels” (Global Record) by FAO and commended the Organization on the preparation of a strategy document and the demonstration of the system prototype. Some Members recognized the need for the establishment of an advisory committee to clarify outstanding issues and to find a solution for the long-term financing of the Global Record Programme (Paragraphs 40 and 41 of the COFI 31 report).

At its third meeting on 3 December 2014, the COFI Bureau welcomed the proposal by the Secretariat that a Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group be established to take up the role of the advisory committee mentioned above. The COFI Bureau endorsed the draft terms of reference for this Working Group (Annex 1).

The meeting of the Working Group will be held at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy, from 23 to 27 February 2015. The meeting is informal and open-ended and all FAO Members and Observers are invited to participate. FAO Members are encouraged to nominate experts who could contribute technically to the meeting, as appropriate. Delegates and other participants will be responsible for the expenses associated with their travel to and attendance at the meeting.

No binding decisions will be taken at the meeting. Any recommendations arising from the meeting will serve to guide the Secretariat on the continued development of the Global Record. Progress on the Global Record will be presented to the thirty-second session of COFI in 2016 for review.

The meeting will be held in English only.

A provisional agenda for the meeting can be found in Annex 2. Meeting documents shall be prepared by the Secretariat and posted on the FAO website prior to the meeting. In order to minimize the environmental impact of FAO's processes and to contribute to climate neutrality participants are kindly requested to bring copies of meeting documents to the meeting and to refrain from asking for additional copies.

The Manager, Global Record Programme, shall act as Secretary of the WG.

Further information can be obtained from [FI-Global-Record@fao.org](mailto:FI-Global-Record@fao.org) and from the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department Website at: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/40694/en>

**Draft Terms of Reference for the  
Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group**

In order for the Global Record Programme (“the Programme”) to obtain guidance on outstanding issues including finding a solution for the long-term financing of the Global Record, the establishment of a Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group (hereinafter referred to as the WG) is proposed with the following terms of reference:

1. Provide guidance on legal and technical aspects and to guide the development of the application and secure its applicability and utility at global level. Particularly in the following critical matters:
  - a. Define the most appropriate approach for the management of the Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI).
  - b. Evaluate the possibilities for expansion to phases 2 and 3, in particular for the UVI (feasibility study).
  - c. Evaluate the need for an Expert Consultation (followed by a Technical Consultation) to start the process for developing an international instrument to govern the rules and procedures for participation in the Programme and provide the framework to define minimum requirements for the Global Record in line with the PSMA.
  - d. Provide advice with regards to the development of standards and mechanisms for data exchange.
2. Provide the opportunity for expression of the views of national and regional administrations, as well as external entities, which may act as data providers or system users, and facilitate the exchange of practical information on their working modalities and information systems in place.
3. Put forward suggestions on data and functionality useful in the fight against IUU fishing.
4. Identify key areas and Member States, in particular developing States, and regions for capacity building.
5. Set up a financial mechanism for the long-term sustainability of the project.
9. Discuss other relevant issues.

**Provisional agenda for the meeting of  
the Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group**

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1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
3. Adoption of the agenda and arrangements for the meeting
  - a. Consideration of the draft terms of reference for the Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group
4. Background, state of affairs and strategy for the development of the Global Record
5. Scope and data requirements for the Global Record
  - a. Scope of the Global Record
  - b. Options for the management of the Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI)
  - c. Review of the Core Information Modules (data fields)
  - d. Data and functionality that could be useful in the fight against IUU fishing
6. System development, operational rules and data exchange mechanisms
  - a. System prototype demonstration
  - b. Data providers and system users
  - c. Submission procedures, standards and mechanisms for data exchange
7. Governance framework for the Global Record and links to international voluntary and binding instruments
8. The way forward
  - a. Establishment of the Global Record Core Technical Group
  - b. Roadmap for the functioning of the Global Record
  - c. Consideration of a funding mechanism to support the development and management of the Global Record (options for the long-term financing)
9. Any other matters
10. Adoption of conclusions of the meeting
11. Date and place of the next meeting of the Global Record Informal Open Ended Working Group
12. Closure of the meeting