

February 2005



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

E

## GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

### Twenty-ninth Session

Rome, Italy, 21-25 February 2005

### SUMMARY REVIEW OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED THROUGH THE COLLABORATION OF SAC/SCISS AND THE FAO FIRMS/FIGIS

1. The Fisheries Department information, data and statistics activities are now driven under the framework of the Strategy for improving information on the status and trends of capture fisheries (Strategy-STF). Global inventory of stocks and fisheries, participation in the Fisheries Global Information System (FIGIS), protocols for data exchange and development of information partnerships such as the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) are among the 9 interacting components forming the Strategy-STF framework. These activities are supported by the Fishcode Strategy-STF project.
2. FIRMS is a network of information for reporting on fishery resources status and trends. The FIRMS partnership agreement has been launched in February 2004 with 5 Regional Fishery Commissions (Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)) and FAO including its statutory bodies. The second FIRMS Steering Committee will take place at the end of February 2005 in Copenhagen and will welcome two additional partners Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) and Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC). The development of the FIRMS web-based module has started in July 2004 and is planned to be completed by the end of 2005. The inventories of stocks, resources and fisheries of the partners now start to populate the system and constitute the basis for reporting on the status and trends of stocks and fisheries.
3. During the intersession, the cooperation with GFCM/SAC through the Sub-committee on information and statistics (SCIS) was pursued with FIRMS/FIGIS. This included the extension of the inventory of Mediterranean stocks and the groundbreaking work of a Mediterranean inventory of fisheries. The list of shared stocks monitored by GFCM which now counts 17 stocks has been completed by 58 Resources/stocks corresponding to the priority species set-up by GFCM/SAC. Table 1 presents the inventory as it stands today. This inventory will be loaded in the FIRMS web-based module during the next few weeks and linked with the GFCM web-site.
4. A pilot inventory of fisheries has been carried out in the Adriatic sea in close collaboration with ADRIAMED, taking advantage of the pilot work on Operational Units completed by this project in October 2004. The comparative analysis of FIRMS methodology of

For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.

Most FAO meeting documents are available on Internet at [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

global inventory of fisheries (top-down approach) and GFCM approach to identification of Operational Units (bottom-up approach) (see table 2) revealed that the two approaches are compatible with respect to data standards and mostly complementary: Operational Units are defined for management purpose at a rather detailed level whereas the Fishery units identified by FIGIS-FIRMS from available bibliographic references are generally defined at higher level of aggregation. These conclusions open good perspectives towards the goal of being able to feed the FIRMS Mediterranean Fisheries inventory and the related status and trends reporting from the Operational Units work. These results will be presented to the next SAC/SCIS meeting in view of a possible generalisation of the approach to the whole Mediterranean.

5. While this work will be led to a more mature stage enabling to evaluate the conditions under which these information flow can be sustained, it is anticipated that the collaboration should then be formalised with GFCM/SAC through a full partnership arrangement.

**Table 1: joint GFCM-FIGIS/FIRMS inventory of Resources/Stocks in the Mediterranean**

FIGIS Marine Resource Title	Bio geographi c type	Marine Region
All demersal resources - Mediterranean Sea	R	Mediterranean Sea
Hake stock - Mediterranean and Black Sea (nothing on Black Sea)	R	Mediterranean and Black Seas
Merluccius merluccius - Gulf of Lions	S	Gulf of Lions
Merluccius merluccius - Gulf of Lions	S	Gulf of Lions
Merluccius merluccius - Sicilian Channel	S	Sicilian Channel
Merluccius merluccius - Sicilian Channel	S	Sicilian Channel
Merluccius merluccius - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Merluccius merluccius - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Merluccius merluccius - Northern Alboran	S	Northern Alboran
Merluccius merluccius - Balearic Islands	S	Balearic Islands
Merluccius merluccius - Northern Spain	S	Northern Spain
Merluccius merluccius - North Tyrrhenian and Corsica	S	North Tyrrhenian and Corsica
Merlangius merlangus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Mullus barbatus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Mullus barbatus - Northern Alboran	S	Northern Alboran
Mullus barbatus - Northern Spain	S	Northern Spain
Mullus barbatus - Southern Alboran	S	Southern Alboran
Mullus barbatus - Sardinia	S	Sardinia
Mullus barbatus - Corsica and Sardinia	S	Corsica and Sardinia
Mullus surmuletus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Mullus surmuletus - Balearic Islands	S	Balearic Islands
Mullus surmuletus - Corsica and Sardinia	S	Corsica and Sardinia
Boops boops - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Spicara flexuosa - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Micromesistius poutassou - Adriatic	S	Adriatic Sea
Micromesistius poutassou - North Tyrrhenian and Corsica	S	North Tyrrhenian and Corsica
Mustelus mustelus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Lophius budegassa - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Lophius piscatorius - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Pagellus bogaraveo - Alboran Sea and Straits of Gibraltar	S	Alboran Sea and Straits of
Pagellus erythrinus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Solea vulgaris - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Platichthys flesus italicus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Trigla lucerna - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Trigloporus lastoviza - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Trisopterus minutus capelanus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Scyliorhinus canicula - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Squalus acanthias - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Nephrops norvegicus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Nephrops norvegicus - Central Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Nephrops norvegicus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Nephrops norvegicus - North Tyrrhenian and Corsica	S	North Tyrrhenian and Corsica
Palinurus elephas - Corsica and Sardinia	S	Corsica and Sardinia
Palinurus elephas - Sicily channel	S	Sicily Channel
Palinurus mauritanicus - Sicily channel	S	Sicily Channel
Parapenaeus longirostris - Southern Alboran	S	Southern Alboran
Parapenaeus longirostris - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Aristeus antennatus - Northern Alboran	S	Northern Alboran
Aristeus antennatus - Balearic Islands	S	Balearic Islands
Aristeus antennatus - Northern Spain	S	Northern Spain
Aristaeomorpha foliacea - Sardinia	S	Sardinia
Eledone cirrhosa - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Eledone moschata - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Octopus vulgaris - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Sepia officinalis - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Pecten jacobaeus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea

FIGIS Marine Resource Title		Marine Region
All Resources in Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO Statistical area 37)	R	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Large pelagic resources - Mediterranean and Black Sea	R	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Thunnus alalunga - Mediterranean and Black Sea	S	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Thunnus thynnus - Mediterranean and Black Sea	R	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Xiphias gladius - Mediterranean and Black Seas	S	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Coryphaena hippurus - Mediterranean and Black Sea	S	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Coryphaena hippurus - Western Mediterranean	S	Western Mediterranean
Prionace glauca - Mediterranean and Black Sea	S	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Isurus oxyrinchus - Mediterranean and Black Sea	S	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Lamna nasus - Mediterranean and Black Sea	S	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Small pelagic resources in Mediterranean and Black Sea	R	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Sardina pilchardus - Adriatic Sea	S	Northern and Central Adriatic
Sardina pilchardus - Adriatic Sea	S	Northern and Central Adriatic
Illex coindetti - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Sardina pilchardus - Northern Alboran	S	Northern Alboran
Sardina pilchardus - North of Northern Spain	S	Northern Spain
Sardina pilchardus - South of Northern Spain	S	Northern Spain
Sardina pilchardus - Southern Alboran	S	Southern Alboran
Sardina pilchardus - Aegean Sea	S	Aegean Sea
Trachurus mediterraneus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Trachurus trachurus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Sprattus sprattus - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Anchovy stock - Mediterranean and Black sea	R	Mediterranean and Black Sea
Engraulis encrasicolus - Gulf of Lions	S	Gulf of Lions
Engraulis encrasicolus - Adriatic Sea	S	Northern and Central Adriatic
Engraulis encrasicolus - Adriatic Sea	S	Northern and Central Adriatic
Engraulis encrasicolus - Northern Alboran	S	Northern Alboran
Engraulis encrasicolus - Northern Spain	S	Northern Spain
Engraulis encrasicolus - Aegean Sea	S	Aegean Sea
Pomatomus saltatrix - Gulf of Gabes	S	Gulf of Gabes
Scomber scomber - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea
Loligo vulgaris - Adriatic Sea	S	Adriatic Sea

LEGEND
High level resource units (from FAO Regional Review)
GFCM shared stocks
Resources / Stocks for priority species
other candidate Resources / Stocks

**Table 2: Adriatic sea: results of the comparative analysis between the list of Operational Units established by ADRIAMED, and the inventory of fisheries elaborated according to the FIGIS/FIRMS methodology**

Operational Units identifier	FIGIS/FIRMS Fishery Title
	Italian pelagic fishery
ITA17PTM01, ITA17PTM02	Northern Adriatic midwater pair trawl fishery
ITA17PS01, ITA17PS02	Northern Adriatic Purse seine fishery
ITA17PS03	Northern Adriatic Purse seine tuna fishery
ITA17LL01	Northern Adriatic Longline tuna fishery
ITA18PS01	Southern Adriatic Purse seine fishery
ITA18PTM01	Southern Adriatic Midwater pair trawl fishery
	Slovenian pelagic fishery
SVN17PS101, SVN17PS102	Purse seine small pelagic fishery
SVN17PTM01	Midwater pair trawl small pelagic fishery
	Croatian pelagic fishery
HRV17PS01, HRV17PS02, HRV17PS03	Purse seine small pelagic fishery
HRV17PT01, HRV17PT02	Midwater pair trawl small pelagic fishery
	Albanian pelagic fishery
ALB18PS01, ALB18PS02	Purse seine small pelagic fishery
	Montenegrin small pelagic fishery
SCG18PS01, SCG18PS02	Seines small pelagic fishery
	Italian demersal fishery
	Northern Adriatic Italian demersal fishery
ITA17HMD01, ITA17HMD02, ITA17HMD03, ITA17HMD04, ITA17HMD05, ITA17HMD06, ITA17HMD07, ITA17HMD08, ITA17HMD09,	Hydraulic mec-dredge fishery
ITA17MG01, ITA17MG02, ITA17MG03	Minor gear fishery
ITA17OTB01, ITA17OTB02, ITA17OTB03, ITA17OTB04, ITA17OTB05, ITA17OTB06, ITA17OTB07, ITA17OTB08, ITA17OTB09	Bottom otter trawl fishery
	Southern Adriatic Italian demersal fishery
ITA18HMD01, ITA18HMD02	Hydraulic mec-dredge fishery
ITA18NK01, ITA18NK02	Minor gear fishery
ITA18OTB01, ITA18OTB02, ITA18OTB03	Bottom otter trawl fishery
ITA18NK03	Southern Adriatic Italian polyvalent vessel fishery
	Slovenian demersal fishery
SVN17GNS01, SVN17GNS02	Set gillnet fishery
SVN17GNS01, SVN17GNS02	Bottom otter trawl fishery
HRV17OTB01, HRV17OTB02, HRV17OTB03, HRV17OTB04, HRV17OTB05, HRV17OTB06	Croatian demersal fishery
	Montenegrin demersal fishery
SCG18OTB01, SCG18OTB02, SCG18OTB03	Bottom otter trawl fishery
SCG18GNS01, SCG18GNS02	Set gillnet fishery
SCG18NK01, SCG18NK02	Minor gear fishery
	Albanian demersal fishery
ALB18TB01, ALB18TB02, ALB18TB03, ALB18TB04	Bottom trawl fishery
ALB18GEN01, ALB18GEN02	Gillnet and entangling net fishery
ALB18LX01, ALB18LX02	Hooks and lines fishery
ALBNK01	Minor gear fishery
ALBNK02	Albanian polyvalent vessel fishery

#### LEGEND

Data from ADRIAMED reports

Data from operational unit approach